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NDLS Communicator: Week of 06.28.21

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Religious Liberty Summit Recap. In Memoriam: Professor Smithburn. Happy Fourth!

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NDLS Communicator

Week of 6.28.21

Good morning! We are sorry for the delay in sending the Communicator this week. The Law School hosted the inaugural Religious Liberty Summit on Monday and Tuesday. Read more about the event below, and catch up on other Law School news. We wish you and your families a safe and happy Fourth of July!

The Latest News

Notre Dame Law School hosts Religious Liberty Summit

— JUNE 28-29 —

The Notre Dame Religious Liberty Summit



The Law School's Religious Liberty Initiative hosted the inaugural Notre Dame Religious Liberty Summit this past Monday and Tuesday, June 28-29. The Summit brought together the foremost thought leaders on religious liberty in the United States and around the world.

You can watch many of the sessions on ND Law's YouTube channel. See the speakers and links [here](#).

The Deseret News wrote about the Summit [here](#) and [here](#).

Nury Turkel receives first Notre Dame Prize for Religious Liberty



The first Notre Dame Prize for Religious Liberty was given to Nury Turkel of the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom at the Religious Liberty Summit on Monday.

The Religious Liberty Initiative honored Turkel for his inspired advocacy on behalf of Muslim Uyghurs in China. Watch a video about Turkel's life and work [here](#).



In Memoriam: Professor J. Eric Smithburn

Notre Dame Law Professor Emeritus J. Eric Smithburn — a leading scholar in family law and a compassionate advocate for disadvantaged children and families — passed away June 18. He was 76.

Read more about Smithburn's life and impact on his colleagues and students [here](#).

Supreme Court cites four Notre Dame Law professors in one day



Four Notre Dame Law School faculty members were cited in U.S. Supreme Court decisions on June 17. Read more [here](#).



Professor Diane Desierto to lead the ND Law's human rights program

Diane Desierto, an expert in human rights and international law, joined Notre Dame Law School in January 2021 as professor of law and faculty director for the Law School's LL.M. Program in International Human Rights Law. Read more about Diane [here](#).



Exoneration Justice Clinic hires Kevin Murphy '14 J.D. as first staff attorney

Notre Dame Law School's Exoneration Justice Clinic has hired its first staff attorney, Notre Dame Law School alumnus and former Jenner & Block litigator Kevin Murphy '14 J.D. Read more [here](#).



Sam Bray to testify before Presidential Commission on the Supreme Court

Sam will testify before the Presidential Commission on the Supreme Court of the United States today, June 30. The panel, Case Selection and Review at the Supreme Court, will begin at 1:30 p.m. EST. View the commission meeting [here](#).

In addition, Sam's recent article, "The Mischief Rule," was featured on the Legal Theory Blog as the Download of the Week and called "highly recommended." See the post [here](#).



Rick Garnett quoted in the news about Fulton Supreme Court case

Rick writes for First Things, "[After Fulton, Religious Foster Care Agencies Still Vulnerable](#)."

He was also quoted by other news outlets including: Los Angeles Times: "[Supreme Court rules for Catholic foster care agency in Philadelphia, citing discrimination](#)."

Time: "[Supreme Court Sides With Catholic Agency in LGBTQ Foster Care Case—But Avoids Major Religious Freedom Questions](#)"

USA Today: "[Religious freedom vs. LGBTQ rights: Supreme Court sides with Catholic foster care agency](#)."



Perspective: Why constitutional originalism is not partisan

Stephanie Barclay writes for Deseret News. Read her piece [here](#).



Carter Snead interviewed in Wall Street Journal

Carter discusses his book, "What It Means to Be Human," and what the pandemic year has revealed about our understanding of humanness. Read the interview in the piece, "Why Shutdowns and Masks Suit the Elite," [here](#).

Student News



ND Law doctoral student elected to UN committee on enforced disappearances

Juan Pablo Albán Alencastro, doctoral candidate at Notre Dame Law School and student affiliate of the Klau Center for Civil and Human Rights, has been

elected to be a member of the UN Committee on Enforced Disappearances.
Read more [here](#).

Dear faculty and staff,
We want to share your scholarship and other news and accomplishments with the ND Law community. If you have a new research piece, receive an award, or have anything else to share please let us know. You can email news [here](#).

Around the Watercooler

Farewell! Good Luck!

Our friend and colleague, **Mark McKenna**, leaves the Law School today. Mark has been at ND Law since 2008. We wish him all the best in his new position at UCLA Law School.

In addition, we wish a happy retirement to **Sharon Bacon** in admissions and **Sandra Klein** from the Kresge Library.

Please stay in touch with your Notre Dame Law School family. We will miss you all!

Fourth of July Observed

The Law School will be closed on Monday, July 5, in observance of Independence Day.

Happy Birthday



Jake Baska- July 1

We would like to celebrate your birthday too! We need your permission first, so please fill out the form [here](#).

Document Your Complete Vaccination

Have a great week!



Contact Theresa Fry with suggestions, comments, and content.
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