

貿易法專題研究
Seminar on International Trade Law
Key Challenges to the Multilateral Trading System
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February 2008

Description and Requirements:

1. This is going to be a simulated academic conference. The students are supposed to participate in the conference and present their papers.
2. There is an academic institution “Asian Center for WTO and International Law and Policy” which is to host an academic conference on “Key Challenges to the Multilateral Trading System” this semester. The center issued an announce calling for papers. The center is holding a conference on this issue mainly because it has observed the prolonged and difficult Doha negotiations, the rapid growth of the number of regional trade agreements, and the development of many other international instruments (in the fields of health, environment, culture, etc.) having important linkages with the WTO. The challenges to the WTO are immense. There is an urgent need for scholars to gather together to have in-depth explorations on these issues and to hammer out possible ways of coping with these challenges. The center welcomes papers on any topics related to the conference. Paper proposals are due by 26 February 2008. A paper proposal should be no more than 400 words. It should include the proposed topic, the main problems and their importance, and the suggested solution or your main arguments.
3. You are a research fellow having interest in this field and intend to submit your proposal.
4. In the first week of our class (19 February 2008), I will explain the whole process and the possible areas to write your proposals and papers.
5. After the first session, you will have to decide a topic for your proposals. You will submit your proposals when we meet in the second week (26 February 2008). (Please bring enough copies of your proposal to the class so that every participant will have one in hand for effective discussion.) And on the same day, you will serve as a committee member to discuss and to decide whether to accept the proposals. For those proposals being rejected, the students of these proposals will have to resubmit their proposals again the next week.

6. We will also decide the sequence of the presentations based on our “committee meeting” decision on 26 February.
7. Starting from 3 March, we will start our “conference” sessions. For each session, we will have two papers presented. I will also invite two participants serving as the “discussants” each time to make observations or comments on the papers or merely to present their views on the issues discussed. We also need a volunteered chairperson (or a person nominated by me) to moderate each session.
8. The course will be fully conducted in English. Participants are expected to come to the class regularly and to actively participate in the discussions.