

Editor's Note

This is an exciting time at the *Journal of International Media and Entertainment Law*. First, our next symposium, entitled *Freedom of Information Laws on the Global Stage: Past, Present and Future*, is now a firm go for November 4, 2016 at Southwestern Law School in Los Angeles. Timed to commemorate the 250th anniversary of Sweden's freedom of information law—the world's first—and the 50th anniversary of the U.S. government's FOIA, this conference will bring a “who's who” of top international scholars together to present on a diverse range of topics relating to access to government records and sunshine laws around the world. David Kaye, U.N. Special Rapporteur on the Promotion and Protection of the Right to Freedom of Opinion and Expression, will be our keynote speaker. Conference papers will be published in the *Journal* and in an associated Southwestern Law School publication, the *Journal of International Law*. If you would like to speak at the conference without submitting a paper, please contact us at jimel@swlaw.edu. All speakers will receive free registration to the conference and discounted accommodations at the conference hotel. For more details about attending *Freedom of Information Laws on the Global Stage*, including the receipt of continuing legal education credit, please go to <http://www.swlaw.edu/globalFOIconference>.

We are also excited about the articles we are publishing in this volume. “*Konate v. Burkina Faso: An Analysis of a Landmark Ruling on Criminal Defamation in Africa*,” by Matt J. Duffy, assesses the significance of the rare case, in the African Court of Human and People's Rights, in which the judicial body upheld the rights of journalists over those of public figures. Duffy, a professor at Kennesaw State University, is a prolific scholar of journalism in print and online. “Is There Anybody Out There? Analyzing the Regulation of Children's Privacy Online in the United States of America and the European Union . . .” by Nachson Goltz, a scholar at Osgoode Hall Law School at York University in Canada, offers a carefully calibrated analysis of regulation of children's privacy online. Goltz uses Eberlein et al.'s Transnational Business Governance Framework to critique the commodification of personal information collected in the United States of America and the European Union. In “Contrasting the Feasibility of À La Carte Television in Canada and the United States,” author Daniel Spitz examines the growth of subscription video on demand (SVOD) and the transition to non-linear television viewing in both countries. Spitz, an emerging scholar with a transnational entertainment law practice, concludes

that hybrid basic tiers with optional à la carte services may strike the balance between the needs of the cable industry and consumers in an increasingly fragmented marketplace. Rounding out this issue is “Big Tobacco Blows Smoke on Public Health Initiatives: Using Trademark Law to Prevent International Changes to Cigarette Packaging” by Caile Morris. Morris, a Law & Policy Fellow at the Association of Research Libraries, frames the U.S. public health debate about cigarette warning labels in light of global battles over trademark and branding related to cigarette packaging.

Finally, I would like to note that the *Journal of International Media and Entertainment Law* is entering a new phase. Beginning with this issue, the *Journal* will be published by the Donald E. Biederman Entertainment and Media Law Institute of Southwestern Law School, in association with the American Bar Association’s Forum on Communications Law and the Forum on Entertainment and Sports Industries. Other than some changes in the *Journal*’s front-matter, the content of this issue and our mission going forward remain the same. Indeed, I look forward to continuing input and feedback from a broad range of *Journal* subscribers, including those in both of our constituent ABA Forums.

Michael M. Epstein
Supervising Editor