2011-12 Report on Activities

Hennick Centre for Business and Law at York University

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In its third year of operations, the Hennick Centre for Business and Law remained focused on its goal of advancing engagement at the intersection of business, law, and public policy, with a focus on anchoring such activities at the Osgoode and Schulich faculties and in the joint degree program. In doing so, the Centre continued to be active along its three primary dimensions: service to students, scholars and professionals.
The Hennick Centre initiated or co-sponsored 14 events this year, all focused on deepening brand awareness, credibility, and thematic focus. Our programming attracted participants from law, business and academia and touched on important and relevant issues for today’s economic climate. We are grateful to the sponsors, funders, and collaborators whose support of and involvement in the following events played an integral role in advancing the Hennick Centre:

**EVENTS**

**JD/MBA Alumni Association Wine & Cheese Reception**  
**May 18, 2011**  
The Hennick Centre and the Osgoode-Schulich JD/MBA Alumni Association jointly organized a wine and cheese reception for all graduates of the JD/MBA program. The Osgoode-Schulich JD/MBA Alumni Association is committed to fostering a community where alumni can jointly pursue mutually shared interests and issues, thereby facilitating the professional and personal development of all graduates of the JD/MBA program at York University.

**Institutional Investor Education Foundation Roundtable - Shareholder Democracy in Canada: Good, Bad, or Unimportant?**  
**May 26, 2011**  
A diverse group of corporate governance experts, industry and investor representatives, and other professionals took part in a roundtable discussion on the future of shareholder democracy in Canada. Poonam Puri, Co-Director of the Hennick Centre, moderated the discussion. In particular, the discussion addressed several contemporary issues including: shareholder advisory votes on executive compensation or ‘say on pay’ provisions, director elections and issues of slate and majority voting practices, and lastly, the status of the proxy voting system in Canada.

**Intuition, Deliberation and Good Judgment: Lecture with Jeffrey Rachlinski, Cornell University Law School**  
**September 29, 2011**  
This presentation reviewed the evidence and research on how intuitive processes can adversely affect judgment in the courtroom, boardroom and beyond, and how to facilitate more deliberative, and more accurate, judgments.

**Hennick Centre Open House**  
**November 3, 2011**  
For a third consecutive year the Hennick Centre held an open house for faculty, staff and students on November 3rd at the Schulich School of Business. Attended by more than 30 guests, the event is designed to provide an opportunity for JD and MBA students to learn more about the joint JD/MBA program and the Hennick Centre’s initiatives.

**Hennick Centre Medal for Career Achievement Luncheon and Keynote Address by Tye Burt, CEO, Kinross Gold Corporation**  
**November 25, 2011**  
The 2011 Hennick Medal was awarded to Tye Burt, President & CEO, Kinross Gold Corporation. Mr. Burt’s achievements were recognized at an invitation-only luncheon that preceded his keynote address at the Schulich International Case Competition.

**Book Launch - “The Payment Order of Antiquity and the Middle Ages: A Legal History,” by Benjamin Geva, Osgoode Hall Law School**  
**January 19, 2012**  
The Hennick Centre, Osgoode Hall Law School Research Office, and the Nathanson Centre on Transnational Human Rights, Crime and Security co-sponsored the launch of Professor Benjamin Geva’s new book. The book traces the evolution of money, payment mechanisms and the law that governs them, from developments in Ancient Mesopotamia, Ancient Greece, Rome, and Greco-Roman Egypt, through Medieval Europe and post-Medieval England. Doctrine is examined in Jewish, Islamic, Roman, common and civil laws.
January 20, 2012
Professor Howell Jackson, James Reid Jr. Professor of Law, Harvard Law School, and distinguished panelists spoke on the role of public and private enforcement in today’s capital markets, including the impact of the recent Supreme Court of Canada decision on the national securities regulator, US and Canadian approaches to no-contest settlements, and the relationship between public and private enforcement in Canada and the US.

The Davies Fund for Business Law Lecture with The Honorable Leo E. Strine, Jr., Chancellor, Delaware Court of Chancery
February 2 & 3, 2012
The Hennick Centre was pleased to welcome The Honorable Leo Strine, Jr., Chancellor of the Delaware Court of Chancery, as the guest speaker at our Davies Fund for Business Law Lecture. In a number of speaking engagements over two days, including the annual JD/MBA Students’ Association Conference, Chancellor Strine spoke to students, jurists, lawyers and business leaders on seminal topics related to corporate governance.

The Transformative Role of General Counsel in the Legal Profession with David Wilkins, Harvard Law School Vice Dean, Global Initiatives on the Legal Profession, Director, Program on the Legal Profession
February 10, 2012
Professor David Wilkins and a distinguished group of panelists engaged in a discussion of the transformative role of general counsel in the legal profession and how this has and will continue to impact the legal and business units of corporations as well as law firms.

Responsible Business Dialogue Series: The Case for Leverage-Based Business Responsibility for Human Right with Stepan Wood, Osgoode Hall Law School
January 31, 2012
The Hennick Centre continues to support the Responsible Business Dialogue Series at the Schulich School of Business. At this event, Professor Stepan Wood of Osgoode Hall Law School argued that leverage is a source of responsibility where there is a morally significant connection between the company and a rights-holder or rights-violator, the company is able to make a contribution to ameliorating the situation, it can do so at modest cost, and the threat to human rights is substantial.
Responsible Business Dialogue Series: Corporate Crime and Accountability with Norm Keith, Gowling, Lafleur & Henderson LLP
February 28, 2012
The presentation focused on the trend in establishing more criminal and regulatory offences for corporations and whether prosecution is the most effective way to achieve corporate accountability, including a new model of policy making using the victim-vulnerability harm matrix.

Green Growth: Entrepreneurship and Ethanol Keynote Address and Q & A with Kenneth Field, Chairman & Founder, GreenField Ethanol Inc., and Cam Di Prata, Executive VP & Head of Corporate and Investment Banking, National Bank Financial
March 21, 2012
Mr. Field and Mr. Di Prata shared their views on growing and investing in leading edge green businesses such as GreenField Ethanol. The keynote speeches were followed by the premiere screening of the film “FREEDOM”, a question and answer session and a networking reception.

IP Osgoode Speaker Series: Copyright and the Music Industry with Robert Levine, Author of “Free Ride,” and Brett Danaher, Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania
March 22, 2012
The Hennick Centre was pleased to lend its support to the presentation by Robert Levine on his book, Free Ride: How the Internet is Destroying the Culture Business and How the Culture Business Can Fight Back and Professor Brett Danaher on his work, The Effect of Graduated Response Anti-Piracy Laws on Music Sales: Evidence from an Event Study in France.

Critical Research Laboratory in Law & Society Lecture with Nicholas Rathod, Assistant Director, US Consumer Financial Protection Bureau
March 27, 2012
Nicholas Rathod is the Assistant Director for Intergovernmental and International Affairs at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau in Washington, DC. He previously served as the Associate Director for Intergovernmental Affairs for the Obama-Biden Transition team, the Political Director for Governor Eliot Spitzer (NY), and Senior Manager of State and Regional Affairs for the Center for American Progress. Mr. Rathod spoke on the role of legal policymaking from the White House to the CFPB and participated in a question and answer session.

Book Launch - “Corporate Catalyst” by Tony Griffiths, Chairman, Novadaq Technologies
April 2, 2012
Tony Griffiths gave insight into the many boardroom and corporate battles that he both fought and witnessed through the nearly six decades of his productive and colourful career. The event attracted many working and studying in business and those who wanted to know more about what happens behind the scenes in the executive suites.
STUDENTS

A key commitment of the Hennick Centre for Business and Law is providing opportunities for education and professional development to students at Osgoode Hall Law School and the Schulich School of Business. In addition to its support of the annual JD/MBA Students’ Association Conference and the “Lunch With” Series, the Centre also supports a number of activities and initiatives for JD/MBA students as part of its commitment to promoting and growing the joint program, and interdisciplinary scholarship.

**JD/MBA Students’ Association Annual Conference**
The Hennick Centre had another strong year of providing support to the JD/MBA program as well as business and legal education generally. Of note, the Centre secured Chancellor Strine as the keynote speaker for the 15th annual JD/MBA Students’ Association Conference. The conference had record attendance and received favourable coverage in the national media.

**“Lunch With” Series**
The Hennick Centre also continued its support of the JD/MBA Students’ Association “Lunch With” Series. This year, JD/MBA students had the opportunity to engage in an informal conversation with Howard Wetston, Chair of the Ontario Securities Commission. The event took place on March 14, 2012 and was hosted by the OSC.

**Course Offerings**
The Centre’s innovative “Art of the Deal” and “Investor Protection” seminars, both of which remained popular with law and business students for a third year running, offer the invaluable opportunity for students to address real world business and legal problems with the guidance of senior practitioners.

**Other Student Events**
Hennick Centre faculty were active in supporting and hosting student events at both Osgoode and Schulich. For example, Ed Waitzer hosted a lunch discussion on the outlook for law firms with members of the Osgoode Business Law Society.
ALUMNI

The Hennick Centre has played an integral role in the launch of the first formal Osgoode-Schulich JD/MBA Alumni Association. The establishment of this alumni network is a key step to promoting the JD/MBA program and will involve more graduates of the program in the Hennick Centre’s activities and initiatives. As part of its ongoing commitment to expanding and engaging this network of former JD/MBA students, the Hennick Centre again sponsored and hosted an Alumni Wine & Cheese Reception on May 18, 2011 and provided support for the annual Alumni Association dinner on October 16, 2011.

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP AND PUBLIC POLICY

The Hennick Centre had a strong media presence again this year. The Centre’s news stories and mentions received national and international coverage in such publications as the National Post, the Globe and Mail and the Financial Times, with the Hennick Centre’s directors regularly contributing to the op/ed pages.

The Hennick Centre’s directors were active in publishing scholarly papers for a range of journals and periodicals, as well as presenting their papers at numerous events held around the world.

Ed Waitzer continues his research project on fiduciary standards for pension fund trustees under a grant received from the Rotman School of Management’s International Centre for Pension Fund Management.

Poonam Puri is completing her book on the asset-backed commercial paper financial crisis for which she received funding under the Walter L. Gordon Research Fellowship in 2010-11. She is also continuing with her research on sustainable development and the global banking industry that is supported by a grant from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

James Darroch remains active with the Toronto Financial Services Alliance, a public/private initiative that promotes Toronto as a premier financial center and serves as the Co-Director of the Financial Services Leadership Program at CIBC.
OTHER INITIATIVES

The Hennick Centre continues to make inroads in developing linkages between the law and business faculties. This year the Centre worked with Schulich to incorporate the presentation of the Hennick Medal for Career Achievement into the inaugural Schulich International Case Competition in Sustainability. The Hennick Medal for Career Achievement was awarded to Tye Burt, LLB ’83, President & CEO of Kinross Gold Corporation, at a luncheon event followed by Mr Burt delivering the keynote address at the case competition, which also served to launch Schulich’s new MBA specialization in Global Mining Management. Both events showcased the nexus between business and legal training to the next generation of leaders in business and law.

The Hennick Centre, along with Osgoode Professional Development and the Schulich Executive Education Centre, is considering re-launching its Certificate in Business for Lawyers, a 13-week course with nine modules to help practicing lawyers learn valuable business skills.

ON THE HORIZON

This year represented a period of transition for the Hennick Centre. In the fall of 2011, Tanya Bowes was appointed the Associate Director. In addition to organizing programming, she has been reaching out to key stakeholders and exploring ways to grow the Centre both within and outside York University.

The Centre has made progress in laying roots but the real opportunities lie ahead. In the coming year, we look to deepen student experiential learning related to business and law, increase the engagement of practitioners on issues that matter to the legal, business and public policy communities, and find ways to further capitalize on the intellectual capital at Osgoode and Schulich.

We will also begin to engage stakeholders in longer-term projects designed to ensure the Hennick Centre’s long-term impact and sustainability goals.

Since its inception, the Hennick Centre has very much appreciated the contribution of its Advisory Council members. We are particularly appreciative of the active leadership and support provided by Jay Hennick and Mickey Cohen. We look forward to the Advisory Council’s participation as the Centre develops more policy-focused initiatives and our sustainability strategy going forward.
Our People

Executive Committee
James Darroch, Co-Director, Hennick Centre
Dezsö J. Horváth, Dean, Schulich School of Business
Tom Johnson, Faculty Director of the JD/MBA Program from Osgoode
Peter Macdonald, Faculty Director of the JD/MBA Program from Schulich
Patrick J. Monahan, Vice-President Academic & Provost, York University
Poonam Puri, Co-Director, Hennick Centre
Lorne Sossin, Dean, Osgoode Hall Law School
Edward J. Waitzer, Director, Hennick Centre

Directors
Edward J. Waitzer, Director
Poonam Puri, Co-Director
James L. Darroch, Co-Director
Tom Johnson, Faculty Director of JD/MBA Program
Peter Macdonald, Faculty Director of JD/MBA Program

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The Hennick Centre for Business and Law looks forward to working with you to make next year a success.
Please visit www.hennickcentre.ca for more information.