The International Legislative Drafting Institute responds to a worldwide demand on legislative drafting personnel for new laws supporting the emergence of free market economies and democratic forms of government. The Institute will meet June 9-20, 2014 at Tulane Law School in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Institute training is designed for both lawyer and nonlawyer drafters — the people who actually research and write legislative instruments. Members of legislative bodies and representatives of non-governmental organizations will also find the training helpful as they “learn by doing” through drafting exercises and hear “how we did it” from speakers and other participants.

Countries entering the global marketplace and adapting to democratic influences at home and abroad need new laws regulating the environment, economic development, labor relations, and other aspects of the free trade regime. The Institute meets these needs with a curriculum of lectures, readings, drafting exercises, site visits, computer research, and “roundtable” discussions.

The training emphasizes the importance of public participation and describes an appropriate role for interest groups and individuals in the legislative process. Guest lecturers drawn from the ranks of legislative drafters, university professors, agency personnel, and legislators emphasize the practical application of good drafting techniques.

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

New Orleans is one of America’s most historic cities. Nestled ninety miles inland from the mouth of the Mississippi River, the site attracted the attention of French explorers, who settled at a bend in the river that gives the “Crescent City” its nickname. The world-famous French Quarter and other historic neighborhoods, the city’s restaurants and musical venues, the streetcars and riverboats and numerous other historic attractions draw visitors from all across the globe.

New Orleans is a fascinating mix of multi-cultural influences. The earliest residents came from France, Spain, England, and Africa. Subsequent waves of immigration from Ireland, Italy, Latin America, and the Caribbean contributed to the diversity of New Orleans’ food and music. The city’s varied cuisine features crawfish, gumbo, etouffee, jambalaya, beignets, muffulettas, red beans and rice, grillades and grits, and more. Its musical offerings are equally varied, including jazz, Latin, Cajun, classical, zydeco, reggae, gospel, and the blues. As we say in New Orleans, “Laissez les bon temps roulez!”

2014 International Legislative Drafting Institute

June 9 - 20, 2014
New Orleans, Louisiana, U.S.A
The Institute draws together an international faculty who are experienced in the legislative process. Many of the speakers are legislative staff members with direct responsibility for the preparation of legislative instruments. Most training presentations are “close to the ground,” immediately applicable to drafters in their legislative practice.

The instruction emphasizes how to draft legislation, presenting techniques that can be applied to diverse substantive areas. Presentations listed below have consistently been included on the Institute's curriculum.

Plain Language Drafting  Drafting for Compliance with International Trade Agreements
Bilingual and Multilingual Drafting  Drafting Governmental Codes of Ethics
Ethics and Politics of Drafting  Drafting Open Meetings & Public Records (“Sunshine”) Laws
Managing a Drafting Office  Drafting Election Laws
Preparing a Drafting Manual  Drafting Criminal Laws

“Public participation” is the unifying theme and consistent message of the Institute. Speakers emphasize the importance and legitimacy of formulating legislative policy “in the sunshine,” where members of the public affected by proposed legislation can observe and participate in the process.

Instruction is in English, but non-English speaking delegations have successfully participated in the Institute with translated materials and simultaneous interpretation of lecturers’ remarks. If interested, contact The Public Law Center (TPLC), which organizes the Institute and numerous other international training events each year. (See back panel for contact information.) TPLC has conducted training through interpreters of Albanian, Arabic, Bulgarian, Georgian, Moldovan, Mongolian, Russian, Spanish, and other languages. The Center has conducted tailored training programs in the United States as well as distant training events in Central and Eastern Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Caribbean.

Visit our website at http://www.law.tulane.edu/idli for more detailed information about the curriculum and speakers or to register online without obligation. You may also enjoy reading on our website remarks delivered by our 2009 Institute honoree, Garth C. Thornton: “Reflections on a Career in Legislative Drafting.” You can find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com. By clicking on the “Like” button next to the International Legislative Drafting Institute’s profile, you will be notified when new content is uploaded on our page.

FEES AND FUNDING

Tuition for the two-week training is $4,000.00 U.S., which covers the cost of all lectures, reading materials, drafting exercises, a welcoming reception, some meals, instructional site visits, and a graduation reception. We recognize that tuition and travel costs may present a challenge to some applicants. Check our website for information about funding sources that have assisted other applicants in attending the Institute.

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) distributes information about the Institute to its field offices. Contact your local USAID Mission Office directly about possible funding for the Institute.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Participants stay at the Sheraton New Orleans on historic Canal Street, across from the Vieux Carre and steps away from the Mississippi River, Harrah’s Casino, world-class shopping, musical entertainment, award-winning restaurants, and much more. The Sheraton underwent a $45 million enhancement in the first quarter of 2013. Guests in the newly renovated rooms will enjoy free local phone calls and Wi-Fi, plus access to the Fitness Center and the Sheraton Club Lounge, which provides morning and afternoon refreshments. For more information about amenities at the Sheraton Club Level, visit http://www.sheratonneworleans.com/sheraton-club.

The special hotel rate of $115.00 U.S. per night (plus 13% sales tax and $3.00 occupancy fee) covers single or double occupancy and is available only until May 23, 2013. Contact Denise Sevalia for reservations at 504.595.6237 or via email: Denise.Sevalia@Sheraton.com.

THE SHERATON NEW ORLEANS

500 Canal Street
New Orleans, Louisiana 70130
Phone: 504-525-2500
Fax: 504-595-5550

Come Celebrate the Institute’s 20th Anniversary!

The 2014 Institute will mark 20 years since we first launched the international training program in 1995. We plan a very special celebration with a full educational agenda plus many of the enjoyable events that make a visit to New Orleans unique and memorable. We hope our earlier Institute graduates will return for a refresher course and experience the many new speakers and topics that have enriched the curriculum in recent years.

The special hotel rate of $115.00 U.S. is guaranteed only until May 23, 2014, so register early!