The Recent Rise of New Niche International Dispute Resolution Hubs: Miami, Mauritius, and Prospects for Hawaii

The September 2014 New York Times article "Cities Compete to Be the Arena for Global Legal Disputes" reported that after the rise of Miami as the niche hub for US-Latin America international disputes, other US cities such as Atlanta, LA, San Francisco, Dallas, Houston, Chicago, and Washington now seek to follow suit as more niche-defined international dispute resolution centers. The June 2014 Global Legal Post article also reported on the establishment of similar centers for Africa-related disputes in the island nation of Mauritius (the London Court of International Arbitration-Mauritius International Arbitration Centre), the Cairo Regional Centre for International Commercial Arbitration in Egypt, and the Kigali International Arbitration Centre in Rwanda.

This lecture will discuss the recent proliferation of niche international dispute resolution centers around the world and the operational, functional, technical, and informational infrastructure and resources behind their development, in order to give some context to any preliminary examination of the prospects for Hawaii as another potential hub for US-Asia-Pacific disputes, considering the increasing US private sector engagement with Asia through the forthcoming Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (between the US, Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, and Viet Nam) and deepening of US investment, trade, and business transactions with the ten members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Economic Community (Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Cambodia, Myanmar, Laos, Viet Nam) to be formally declared in January 2016.

Lecture by Ms. Lucy Reed

Ms. Reed’s international experience is extensive. She sat on the Eritrea-Ethiopia Claims Commission and directed the Claims Resolution Tribunal for Dormant Accounts in Switzerland. Before joining the firm, she was the first general counsel for the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization and, while with the US State Department, the US agent to the Iran-US Claims Tribunal.

Lucy is co-author of A guide to the SIAC Arbitration Rules (OUP), the Guide to ICSID Arbitration(Kluwer) and The Freshfields Guide to Arbitration: Clauses in International Contracts(Kluwer), all aimed at in-house counsel.

She is rated Band 1 for international arbitration by Chambers Global (2014) and Chambers Asia Pacific (2014), and is consistently in the top tiers of arbitration practitioners in Chambers USA and the Legal 500 US.

Moderator: Dr. Diane Desierto, Professor of Law & ALIC Co-Director

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Hawaii Supreme Court

William S. Richardson School of Law
University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa

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The ASEAN Law & Integration Center at the University of Hawai‘i William S. Richardson School of Law responds to the urgent need for continuous top-tier research and capacity building on legal, regulatory, and policy reforms involved in all aspects of ASEAN integration. It is the only institution in the United States legal academy to date that is specifically dedicated to supporting the analysis, assessment, development, and innovation by the ASEAN Member States in the process of creating and establishing “ASEAN Law”, “ASEAN jurisprudence”, and “ASEAN institutions” for the Southeast Asian single market.

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