Visiting Professor Seminar Series

Legal Solutions to the Global Health Crisis

Visiting Professor: Professor William Fisher, Harvard Law School

Many developing countries are already facing or will soon face health crises arising from the increasing incidence of communicable and non-communicable diseases. Professor Fisher will explore potential legal and market-based interventions to mitigate the human and economic toll of such diseases. Particular attention will be paid to ways in which pharmaceutical companies, governments, and NGOs might contribute, individually or collaboratively, to the alleviation of the crisis. He will consider the possibility of using incentive schemes (such as prize systems or patent pools), licensing mechanisms, pricing mechanisms, and treaty arrangements to overcome existing constraints, and outline the limitations of each approach.

Chair: Associate Professor David Lindsay, Faculty of Law, Monash University

The Monash Law School offers the subject Copyright X - which deals with US copyright law - in conjunction with Professor Fisher and the Harvard Law School. Monash University and Harvard Law School

Copyright X: Monash (LAW5448) - Tuesdays, 2 February-26 April (except 29 March) 6:00pm - 8:00pm

About the presenter

Professor Fisher received his undergraduate degree (in American Studies) from Amherst College and his graduate degrees (J.D. and Ph.D. in the History of American Civilization) from Harvard University. Between 1982 and 1984, he served as a law clerk to Judge Harry T. Edwards of the United States Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit and then to Justice Thurgood Marshall of the United States Supreme Court. Since 1984, he has taught at Harvard Law School, where he is currently the Wilmer Hale Professor of Intellectual Property Law and the Director of the Berkman Center for Internet and Society. His academic honors include a Danforth Postbaccalaureate Fellowship (1978-1982) and a Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences in Stanford, California (1992-1993).