Editor’s Foreword

With this issue the second half-century of the Journal begins. Like a bride it carries something old and something new and, in the best tradition of scholarship, something borrowed – with fully footnoted attributions. The old, however, itself is always new: Our annual review of US judicial developments in the choice of law remains as current as it is useful. The long-time contributor of this welcome perennial, Dean Symeon Symeonides, deserves the thanks of the Society and of the profession worldwide for continuing to bear this responsibility. The other principal articles reflect in substance and in methodology those elements that may well mark the foreseeable future of comparative law. The states and economies in transformation have contributed much to the change of direction of this field of scholarship over the past decade and a half, and probably will continue to provide much subject matter for us in the years to come. The same may be said for the new interdisciplinarity of the field; it is no accident that three of the four contributions reflect that development, especially marked in its introduction of economic analysis to law, though neither Clark nor Berkowitz/Pistor/Richard are limited to that aspect of the social sciences. We trust that the Journal's readers, many of whom already have welcomed these new directions, will see in these selections the confirmation of its and its Board of Editors' belief that broadening the methodological range of legal analysis deepens and strengthens its value.

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