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The New World

Brandon M. Stump

West Virginia University College of Law

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WEST VIRGINIA LAW REVIEW

THE NEW WORLD

Generations ago, explorers set out in the American West looking for new land and opportunity. In 2009 our explorers and pioneers are innovators who choose to create new worlds in the form of digital and virtual media instead of exploring the world as it currently exists.

As with each new exploration and discovery, legal scholars begin to examine the issues unique to the new discovery, and the creation of digital media has started a scholarly discussion on the role of law in the digital world. Accordingly, I am proud to present Volume 112's discussion on the role of the law in new and changing virtual and digital worlds. In this issue of the WEST VIRGINIA LAW REVIEW, we present the "Digital Entrepreneurship: The Incentives and Legal Risks" symposium, which was held at the West Virginia University College of Law on March 27, 2009. The symposium was designed and planned by the Executive Board of Volume 111 of the WEST VIRGINIA LAW REVIEW.

In this issue, scholars and professors begin to examine the constantly new and changing worlds of digital media – from Facebook to Avatars – and how the rule of law fits into these "new worlds."

Every year in American law schools students learn how the United States Constitution came into existence, how and why judicial review exists, and how our laws have shaped American society. Similarly, the discussion contained in this issue examines how the rule of law can shape the digital realm, how to create business in virtual worlds, and the role of justice and fairness in access to technology.

Each new digital technology and world created in the 21st Century will continue to create new questions for lawyers and scholars about the roles of justice, fairness, and order as they relate to digital worlds. And I am proud that the WEST VIRGINIA LAW REVIEW is one of the first publications to begin answering some of these questions.

The staff and Executive Board of Volume 112 of the WEST VIRGINIA LAW REVIEW would like to thank Prof. Michael Risch for the passion and expertise he contributed to the symposium through his role as advisor, presenter, and author. Additionally, we would like to thank all of the professors and scholars who presented at the symposium for their contributions to the law and society.

Brandon M. Stump
Editor-in-Chief

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