

Education Law Association Announces Winner of National Award for Scholarly Legal Writing Impacting Education Law

DAYTON, Ohio, Oct 12, 2008 - The Education Law Association (ELA) will present its *Steven S. Goldberg Award for Distinguished Scholarship in Education Law* at its 54th Annual Conference being held in San Antonio, TX, November 19-22, 2008. Top government officials and legal and educational scholars from across the country will convene for this event.

The *Steven S. Goldberg Award* is presented annually in recognition of an outstanding article, book, book chapter, or other form of scholarly legal writing and recognizes a work of scholarly excellence that impacts education law. The award was established in memory of and was endowed by one of ELA's long-term members, Steven S. Goldberg, who taught education law for many years at Arcadia and Rutgers Universities.

This year's award goes to James E. Ryan, J.D., University of Virginia School of Law, for his article entitled "Standards, Testing, and School Finance Litigation," published in the *Texas Law Review* in 2008 (Vol. 86, Pg. 1223).

"'Standards, Testing, and School Finance Litigation' by James Ryan exceedingly meets the criteria for the Goldberg Award. It is a well researched article combining the education finance issues of adequacy, equity, comparability, and the academic standards requirements of No Child Left Behind. The reader is presented with a very clear picture that standards can be manipulated and have little place in determining whether students are receiving an appropriate education, and more, whether the state is financially supporting its responsibility for such an education. It is ground-breaking research!" commends Professor, Philip T.K. Daniel, J.D., Ed.D., William and Marie Flesher Professor of Educational Administration, The Ohio State University.

Ryan has worked relentlessly, recognizing the value of education and stating, "Education has transformed my life, and my own experience has made me intensely interested in figuring out ways to allow others disadvantaged by our current educational system to have an experience like my own." Ryan has co-authored articles on school finance, school desegregation, school choice, school governance, a right to preschool, and the No Child Left Behind Act, which have appeared in the Harvard, Yale, Michigan, Virginia, California, and New York University Law Reviews.

James Ryan received his A.B. from Yale University and his J.D. from Virginia in 1992. He was also awarded a prestigious Gibbons Fellowship that provided the opportunity to work on New Jersey school finance litigation. In 1998, Ryan joined the faculty of the University of Virginia Law School, in 2004 he was appointed Academic Associate Dean, and in 2007 served as a visiting professor at Harvard Law School.

Established in 1954, the Education Law Association (ELA) is a national nonprofit 501(c)(3) member association located at the University of Dayton. ELA promotes interest in and understanding of the legal framework of education and the rights of students, parents, school administrators, school boards, and school employees in public and private K-12 educational institutions, as well as higher education.

For further information, visit www.educationlaw.org.

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