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Foreword

Mary Abigail Edwards

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Foreword	
Cover Page Footnote International Law; Commercial Law; Law	

FOREWORD

Eritrea, a small country in the Horn of Africa, declared its independence from Ethiopia in 1993 after a thirty-year war. The war left Eritrea's infrastructure, as well as many of its most vital institutions, destroyed. Among these was Eritrea's only university, the University of Asmara, which had been virtually dismantled during the conflict with Ethiopia. To help in the process of rebuilding, the University of Asmara developed partnerships with a number of universities worldwide, including the University of North Carolina in the areas of law and the social sciences.

The University of Asmara is considered to be a key component in the reconstruction and development of Eritrea. Over the past several years. UNC faculty have taught in various curricula at the University of Asmara, including law, history, political science, and Professors Richard A. Rosen and Donald T. journalism. Hornstein, members of the UNC Law School faculty, served as Fulbright Fellows in the University of Asmara Law Program. Here at the University of North Carolina, Professor Bereket H. the "Father of the Eritrean Selassie—considered to be Constitution"—is a member of the Africa-African American Studies Department. Junior instructors from Eritrea are also pursuing Masters and Ph.D. degrees at UNC in fields such as journalism, anthropology, public administration, and geography.

In recognition of the ongoing partnership between UNC and the University of Asmara, the Board of Editors devotes this issue entirely to Eritrea, its historical foundations, the development of its legal system, and the current political issues confronting its citizens. Publishing an entire issue on Eritrea would not have been possible without Professors Bereket H. Selassie, Richard A. Rosen, and Thomas R. French. In sincere appreciation, we dedicate Issue 24:2 to them.

Mary Abigail Edwards Editor-in-Chief

