February 23, 2015

Dear Colleague:

American University Washington College of Law Center for Human Rights & Humanitarian Law (Center), the American Society of International Law’s Lieber Society on the Law of Armed Conflict (ASIL) and the American Red Cross International Humanitarian Law team are pleased to announce the Fifth Annual International Humanitarian Law Student Writing Competition.

The Competition seeks submissions of student-written academic papers focused, this year, on the topic of *The Intersection of International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and Gender*. Papers may be submitted by any student currently enrolled in a law degree program in the United States or abroad. The purpose of the Competition is to enhance scholarship and deepen understanding among students in this important area of international law. The winning author will receive a $500 cash prize and a one-year ASIL student membership. The winning author will also have the opportunity to present his or her paper through a virtual conference with a panel of experts.

This Competition is part of a multi-pronged initiative to expand and support the teaching and study of IHL among both students and professors in which the Center, ASIL and the American Red Cross have been deeply involved. In 2007, the Center published a study with the International Committee of the Red Cross on *Teaching International Humanitarian Law in US Law Schools* (available at www.WCLCenterforHR.org). The study identified a growing need for resources to support and expand the teaching of IHL among law faculty, but also a desire to support the interest of students in learning about IHL. The IHL Student Writing Competition promotes and supports student interest and deepening scholarship in IHL by providing students with a tangible way to become more directly involved in the global discourse around IHL.

Please find enclosed a poster that provides further details about the Competition and directs students to the Center’s website (www.WCLCenterforHR.org) for comprehensive rules, submission guidelines and award information. **The deadline for submissions is October 7, 2015 at 11:59 pm EST.** Please share this information with your students and colleagues. Please contact us with any questions at TeachingIHL@wcl.american.edu or 202-274-4180.

Sincerely,

Claudio Grossman  
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Mark Agrast  
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