

The Law School Observer

Brian Leiter

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR for the annual wrap-up of the major faculty moves in the legal academy for the past year. Here are this year's "top ten" based on their significance for either the hiring school or the losing school.

Heidi Hurd and **Michael S. Moore** from the University of San Diego to the University of Illinois. Two years ago, this jurisprudential couple moved from Penn to San Diego, and now are moving to Illinois, where Hurd will be Dean. A major catch for Illinois, both as additions to the faculty – Moore, for example, is now clearly, along with **Thomas Ulen**, one of the two leading senior figures on the faculty – and for the Deanship, where Hurd is especially well-positioned to lead Illinois in a more interdisciplinary scholarly direction.

Yale Kamisar from the University of Michigan to the University of San Diego. Preeminent authority on criminal procedure, Kamisar will now be half-time at both Michigan and San Diego. This hiring coup helps offset the loss of Hurd and Moore for San Diego.

Annelise Riles from Northwestern University to Cornell University. The unhappiest law faculty on the planet continues to bleed top scholars, including three this year. (For the good news at Northwestern, see below.) Riles turned down an appointment in Berkeley's Anthropology Department to accept the offer at Cornell Law School.

Paul Robinson from Northwestern University to the University of Pennsylvania. One of the leading senior scholars in criminal law in the United States, he fills the gap created when **Michael Moore** (above) left Penn for San Diego two years ago.

Ronald Rotunda from the University of Illinois to George Mason University. Prominent constitutional lawyer and authority on legal ethics, Rotunda is one of the most frequently cited legal scholars in the nation. He trades places, in effect, with **Larry Ribstein** in corporate law, who moves from George Mason to Illinois this same year.

Lawrence G. Sager from New York University to the University of Texas, Austin.

Brian Leiter is Joseph D. Jamail Centennial Chair in Law, Professor of Philosophy, and Director of the Law & Philosophy Program at the University of Texas at Austin, and Visiting Professor of Philosophy at University College London.

Eminent constitutional theorist, Sager played a major role in the transformation of NYU over the last two decades. His hiring gives Texas – which already boasts **Philip C. Bobbitt**, **William E. Forbath**, **Douglas Laycock**, **Sanford Levinson**, **Lucas A. Powe, Jr.**, and **Ernest A. Young**, among many others – one of the two strongest constitutional law faculties in the United States.

Henry E. Smith from Northwestern University to Yale University. One of the most able legal scholars of his generation, Smith has written on tax law, criminal law, and property.

Steven D. Smith from the University of Notre Dame to the University of San Diego. Well-known and prolific constitutional lawyer and legal theorist, his move helps offset San Diego's loss of Hurd and Moore.

Martin Stone from Duke University to Cardozo Law School. One of Duke's few

interdisciplinary scholars, he now joins one of the nation's strongest contingents of law and philosophy scholars (including **Scott J. Shapiro** and **Edward Stein**) at Cardozo.

Gordon Wood from the History Department at Brown University to Northwestern University. Distinguished, senior historian of the American colonial period, he joins the law faculty at Northwestern. Northwestern also hired (part-time and jointly with philosophy) another senior scholar, the well-known philosopher **Charles Taylor**, who is in his 70s and retired from McGill. These appointments break new ground for law schools, not because the faculty in question don't have JDs (that is now quite common), but because neither scholar really works at the intersection of law *and* the other discipline; both are simply prominent scholars *in the other discipline*. Is this the wave of the future? 