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## Albert Awarded Hessel Yntema Prize

Boston College Law School

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2010 NEWS ARCHIVE

08/27/10

Newton, MA--Boston College Law School Professor Richard Albert has been awarded the 2010 Hessel Yntema Prize. The prize, which was established in 1991, is given annually by the American Society of Comparative Law (ASCL) to a scholar under the age of 40 to recognize "the most outstanding article" on comparative law.

The ASCL awarded the prize for Professor Albert's article entitled "The Fusion of Presidentialism and Parliamentarism," which may be downloaded here: <http://ssrn.com/abstract=1424084>.

The abstract of Professor Albert's article states:

No question of constitutional design is more intensely debated than whether emerging democracies should adopt presidential or parliamentary systems. This is an important debate but it misses a critical point about constitutional design - namely that the structural differences between presidentialism and parliamentarism conceal much more than they reveal. In this Article, I demonstrate precisely how conventional accounts of the structural differences between presidentialism and parliamentarism actually obscure their functional similarities.

Albert specializes in constitutional law, democratic theory and comparative constitutional law. Prior to joining the faculty at Boston College Law School, Professor Albert represented Fortune 500 companies as a corporate attorney at the international law firm of Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom LLP and served as a clerk to the Chief Justice of the Canadian Supreme Court.

Professor Albert is a Senior Research Fellow at the Canadian Council for Democracy and a Distinguished Academic Associate at the Centre for Law and Religion at Cardiff Law School in the United Kingdom. He also volunteers for several charities and not-for-profit organizations, including the Special Olympics, YMCA-YWCA, Black Achievers Program, and the League of Women Voters. For more on Professor Albert, please visit his [faculty webpage](#).