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Former UN War Crimes Prosecution Attorney to Speak

Boston College Law School

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2010 NEWS ARCHIVE

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Newton, MA--Boston College Law School’s International Law Society, along with the Owen M. Kupferschmidt Holocaust and Human Rights Project, will be holding a special event in the Law School’s East Wing building, room 115A, on Friday, November 5, 2010 from 12:00-1:00 pm. “Ending Impunity: The Investigation and Prosecution of the Srebrenica Genocide” will feature Professor Mark Vlasic, formerly of the World Bank and UN War Crimes Tribunal, who will describe the investigation and prosecution of the Srebrenica genocide case - the first ever European genocide conviction.

Mark V. Vlasic is an adjunct professor of law at Georgetown University Law Center, a senior fellow at Georgetown’s Institute for Law, Science & Global Security, and a partner at Ward & Ward PLLC, where he heads the firm’s international practice. A public sector specialist at the World Bank Group, Mark served as the head of operations of the STAR Secretariat, a presidential initiative to help developing countries recover stolen assets from past dictators.

Before joining the Bank, he served as a White House Fellow and special assistant to the Secretary of Defense (focused on foreign policy issues), helped advise the President’s Special Envoy to Sudan, and was awarded the Secretary of Defense Medal for Exceptional Public Service by Secretary Robert Gates. Prior to his government service, Mark practiced law in the litigation, international trade and public policy practice groups at Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP, and served on the Slobodan Milosevic and Srebrenica genocide prosecution trial teams at the United Nations War Crimes Tribunal in The Hague.

Mark has taught the Iraqi judges that tried Saddam Hussein, provided commentary to CNN, FOX News, CBS and NPR, and been published by the Washington Times, Foreign Policy, The New Republic, the Yale Journal of International Affairs, theGeorgetown Journal of International Affairs, The Tax Lawyer, USA Today, Legal Times, the Huffington Post, the Toronto Star, the San Francisco Chronicle, the Cayman Financial Review, the Ventura County Star, and the Sudan Tribune.

A U.S. Army officer, he has been attached to Capitol Hill and the Defense Attaché Office at the U.S. Embassy in The Hague, and was awarded the Army Commendation Medal. Mark studied business, theology and government at Georgetown University while on an Army ROTC scholarship, and received his Juris Doctorate, cum laude, from Georgetown University Law Center. He holds a Certificate in International Law from The Hague Academy of International Law and conducted post-doctorate research at Universiteit Leiden as a NAF-Fulbright Scholar to the Netherlands.

Mark is a member of the Bars of California, the District of Columbia, and the Supreme Court of the United States, and is a term member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information, please contact Jaya at velamaka@bc.edu.