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BBI Chair & University Professor Blanck on Lecture Tour in Japan

Peter Blanck, University Professor & Chairman of the Burton Blatt Institute (BBI) at Syracuse University, will be Distinguished Visiting Professor at Hokusei Gakuen University, Sapporo, Japan in June and July 2009. Blanck will lecture from the new 2nd edition of his book "Disability Civil Rights Law and Policy: Cases and Materials". Blanck is also lecturing at Kobe Law School, a leading university located in Kobe, Hyogo, Japan, on the future of disability law.

In addition, Blanck will be the guest lecturer on the impact of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) on the employment of persons with disabilities to the Japan Association of Employment of the Elderly and Persons with Disabilities, an independent administrative agency under the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare in Tokyo. He will meet with key Japanese officials and representatives of the Cabinet Office, the Employment Security Bureau of the Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare, the Japan Association for Employment of the Elderly and Persons with Disabilities, the Japan Federation of Bar Association, Nippon Keidanren (national federation of employers' organizations), the Japan Trade Union Confederation (RENGO), Japan Society of Vocational Rehabilitation, and researchers on disability law and policy.

The purpose of these meetings is for the associations to learn from experiences and observations of the ADA, including the role of the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunities Commission and the legal system in the United States. Additionally, government officials and experts will examine these issues with Blanck in preparation for ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Blanck will also address the Japan Disability Forum, which is a national network of disability organizations for persons with disabilities to promote the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities as well as an anti-discrimination law for persons with disabilities in Japan. Blanck also will make a special lecture for undergraduate students at Hokusei Gakuen University.

BBI takes its name from Burton Blatt (1927-85), a pioneer advocate for people with disabilities. With partners and multiple satellite offices in New York City, Washington, D.C., Atlanta and Tel Aviv, BBI works nationally and internationally to advance the civic, economic and social participation of persons with disabilities in a global society. For more information, visit <http://bbi.syr.edu>.

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