THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA’S

PENN PROGRAM IN ETHNIC CONFLICT

Andrew W. Mellon Sawyer Seminar on Power-Sharing in Deeply Divided Places

AND THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA LAW SCHOOL

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW SEMINAR SERIES

Present

Professor Samuel Issacharoff
New York University

“Legal Bases of Power-Sharing”

Tuesday, October 2, 2007
12 Noon
245A Silverman Hall
University of Pennsylvania Law School
Philadelphia, PA 19104

Samuel Issacharoff, Reiss Professor of Constitutional Law at New York University School of Law, focuses on civil procedure, law and economics, constitutional law particularly with regard to voting rights and electoral systems, and employment law. He is one of the pioneers in the law of the political process, where his *Law of Democracy* casebook and dozens of articles have helped to create a vibrant new area of constitutional law.

In his lecture, Professor Issacharoff will focus on emerging democracies, which in recent years have tended to rely on strong constitutional constraints to curtail the prospect of excess majoritarianism. In turn, they have relied on constitutional courts to enforce limits on what politics can undertake. The talk will address two issues. The first is the role of constitutionalism as a substitute for more formalized forms of power-sharing that characterized earlier experiments in consociation. The second is the difficulty that courts have in adjudicating cases that present first-order challenges to the composition of the polity.

The Andrew W. Mellon Sawyer Seminar on Power-Sharing in Deeply Divided Places explores power-sharing and evaluates its role as a standard prescription for protracted conflicts in deeply divided territories, especially when there are antagonistic self-determination claims.