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LAWWITHOUTWALLS RECEIVES INNOVATIVE CURRICULUM AWARD FROM INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LAW SCHOOLS

LawWithoutWalls Receives Innovative Curriculum Award from International Association of Law Schools

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A paper about <u>LawWithoutWalls</u> by <u>Professor Michele DeStefano</u>, Founder and Director of LawWithoutWalls, has been chosen by the selection committee for The Faculty Innovative Curriculum Awards by the International Association of Law Schools. The award was presented at the 2015 IALS Annual Meeting in October at the IE University Law School in Segovia, Spain.

DeStefano is thrilled that LawWithoutWalls and the entire LWOW team was recognized in this way. "It is a testament to the LWOW team, the 30 law and business schools and all the individuals around the globe in our community about the importance and effectiveness of cross-disciplinary global collaboration."

DeStefano accepted the award and presented her Innovative Teaching Techniques in Globalizing the Law School Curriculum at the annual meeting.

"Despite what many say, the truth is, legal education is changing and this award demonstrates that legal academics around the world are dedicated to implementing new techniques and honing new skills in order to better prepare lawyers for the globalized marketplace and to change the way lawyers partner with business professionals to solve problems."

The International Association of Law Schools is an independent organization of legal educators whose membership includes over 170 law schools from more than 45 countries. IALS was established in 2000.

LawWithoutWalls, now in its sixth year, is a part-virtual collaboratory that brings together more than 750 students, faculty, practitioners, academics, entrepreneurs, business and law students, and venture capitalists from around the world. They work together to innovate legal education and practice, to engage in a dialogue on pressing issues facing the legal profession, collaboratively solve legal problems, and develop the skillsets needed to thrive in the new, global legal marketplace.

"On behalf of Miami Law, I am proud of Michele and the LWOW team's win," said <u>Patricia D. White</u>, Dean of the Law School. "LWOW truly exemplifies innovation in legal education, and puts into practice important goals, skills, and tools vital to the growth and continued success of the legal profession worldwide."

In addition to spearheading LawWithoutWalls, DeStefano presents regularly on innovation, teaming, collaboration, compliance and ethics, technology and education, and litigation funding. She teaches courses on the changing legal profession, law, technology, and innovation, civil procedure, professional responsibility, and compliance and ethics. She is also a visiting faculty member at Harvard Law School and Guest Faculty in Harvard Law School's Executive Education program and Affiliated Faculty at Harvard Law School's Center for the Legal Profession. Recently, the American Bar Association recognized DeStefano as one of ten 2013 Legal Rebels.

DeStefano is an expert in entrepreneurship and innovation in the law. Her scholarship focuses on the growing intersections between law and business and legal innovation.