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Welcome (Symposium on Framework Laws--The Key to Sustainable Development in the Americas)

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Welcome

DEAN RICHARD L. OTTINGER

Professor Nolon is the fifth representative of Pace Law School to travel to Argentina to work with the Fundación Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (FARN).¹ Professors Miller and Robinson, who will speak in a moment, and I have had that pleasure, as has our graduate, John Garrison, who is now continuing his studies in Mexico on a Fulbright Scholarship.

This collaboration with FARN, and with Argentina, continues today, as we videotape presentations to be shown at a seminar of business and environmental leaders in Buenos Aires. They, like so many of us, are seeking ways of using legal standards and systems to achieve the sustainable use of land and natural resources.

This is a subject of deep interest to our law school. We have established one of the top environmental studies centers in the United States. In addition, we operate a nationally recognized energy law project, land use law center and international commercial law institute. Our interest is global and broad, focusing on the legal issues involved both in resource use and conservation and on applications at the local, national and international level. We take this broad approach for a simple reason: it is the approach that our graduates will have to take as they practice law in the global market and environment. For these reasons, I am pleased that Professor Nolon is continuing to discuss with FARN how our collaboration can continue and become even more productive.

We are grateful to the Argentine office of McKinsey and Company for providing technical and financial support for the seminar on sustainable development to be conducted in Bue-

1. This is translated as the Foundation on the Environment and Natural Resources.

nos Aires, where this video will be shown. We are also grateful to Ciba for its generous support of our Land Use Law Center's innovative work with the law of sustainable development. Our thanks go, as well, to the Lincoln Center in Argentina for helping Professor Nolon with the organization and presentation of the seminar there.

I am hopeful that this collaboration with FARN, McKinsey and Company, the Lincoln Center and Ciba, represents just a beginning for this joint project. In the long-term, we would like to co-host a regular global seminar on the best practices in the field of sustainable development. We are also interested in developing a network of legal scholars and practitioners committed to working together to develop new legal systems, which coordinate natural resources, to meet the needs of the future and to preserve them in sufficient abundance for future generations.

We are anxious to learn of the results of the deliberations in Argentina and to continue to work together, at both ends of the American continents, on these important legal issues.