Building the Civilization of Arbitration - Introduction

Thomas E. Carboneau, Penn State Law

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Abstract
The U.S. Supreme Court's work product has generated a large and growing arbitration bar. It also has finally begun to stimulate a greater volume of academic activity on the topic of arbitration. The work of legal practitioners and academics, along with the courts' decisional law, are "Building a Civilization of Arbitration" that codifies advances and grapples with the controversial aspects of law-in-the-making. The Penn State Dickinson School of Law takes great pride in welcoming a distinguished group of lawyers and law teachers to the pages of its Law Review. They are the leaders in the field of arbitration. Their contributions identify the settled law and evaluate it from a variety of analytical, intellectual, and institutional perspectives.

The symposium investigates a wide variety of cutting-edge topics, ranging from recent landmark cases to investment arbitration and including the reform of the Federal Arbitration Act (FAA), the concept of private ordering in international commercial arbitration (ICA), empirical developments in consumer arbitration, third-party interests in arbitration, various provocative comparative law developments—the role of courts in national arbitration laws, a lucid evaluation of the Russian Federation’s statist concept of arbitration, an equally insightful comparison of Canadian and United States consumer arbitration, and an evaluation of an important recent book on ICA.

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11112345 British Civilization provides a comprehensive introduction to a wide range of aspects of contemporary Britain, including its country and people, politics and government, education, the economy, the media, arts and religion. This fifth edition of this highly praised textbook has been comprehensively updated and revised. This is a time of affirmation and trepidation for the law of arbitration. Last term, the U.S. Supreme Court decided Hall Street Associates, LLC v. Mattel, Inc., holding that contract freedom in arbitration was not absolute and that the grounds in FAA § 10 were "exclusive." This term, the U.S. Supreme Court granted certiorari to three arbitration cases. It has rendered two opinions already that signify the Court's continuing support for and approval of arbitration. In Vaden v. Discover Bank, the Court resolved a circuit split by endorsing the "look through" approach to determine whether federa...