INTRODUCTION TO THE SPECIAL REPORT

In May 2008, the Center for Transactional Law and Practice at Emory University School of Law, under the direction of Professor Tina L. Stark, debuted its inaugural transactional law conference, “Teaching Drafting and Transactional Skills—The Basics and Beyond.” A collection of the presentations and remarks made at that conference was the subject of a Transactions: The Tennessee Journal of Business Law Special Report in the Spring of 2009, a report that generated an unusually large number of requests for reprints and extra copies nationwide.

In June 2010, Professor Stark and the Center held the second transactional law conference, “Transactional Education: What's Next?” This second biennial conference was, again, well-attended and included over fifty-eight presentations from leading transactional law professors and practitioners across the country.

Working with Professor Stark, Transactions: The Tennessee Journal of Business Law has again collected and published the proceedings of that second conference so that a wider audience might benefit from the presentations and discussions that took place. To expedite the publication, the recordings of each session were transcribed. Transactions edited each transcribed presentation to improve readability and remove distractions. During the editorial process, the Transactions editorial staff sought to preserve the informal tone of the presentations rather than replacing it with the more formal tone of a traditional law review article. The conference speakers were also involved in the editorial process. Ultimately, almost all of the conference sessions were transcribed and edited into articles acceptable to the speakers and the editorial board of Transactions. These articles comprise this Special Report.

The University of Tennessee College of Law’s Clayton Center for Entrepreneurial Law, which sponsors Transactions, has endeavored to blend skills and substance training into the College of Law’s business law curriculum for over fifteen years. Through its Concentration in Business Transactions, Transactions, and its visiting professor program (which recruits experienced, practicing attorneys to act as full-time visiting professors of law), the Clayton Center seeks to improve the training of business lawyers in both transactional and litigation practice. We thank Professor Stark for giving us the opportunity to make this contribution to the literature.

We hope that you find these articles interesting, enjoyable, and useful, and that the ideas expressed by the conference speakers will aid in teaching transactional skills to law students.

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