

U of T student wins Stikeman Elliott LLP prize for best technology law paper

“The Case against Copyright Protection of Non-literal Elements of Computer Software” tackles head-on, one of today's most vexing questions in technology law - the appropriate way of protecting innovation in the pervasive field of computer software.

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Toronto - Stikeman Elliott LLP and the Centre for Innovation Law and Policy are delighted to announce that Christopher Heer is the first recipient of the Stikeman Elliott LLP Prize for the best paper in technology law at the University of Toronto.

The winning paper, “The Case against Copyright Protection of Non-literal Elements of Computer Software,” tackles head-on, one of today's most vexing questions in technology law - the appropriate way of protecting innovation in the pervasive field of computer software.

The author’s tightly reasoned argument – that copyright protection should be limited to literal infringements – serves as a lightning rod for further informed and lively debate on the issue of how best to protect the legal interests of those who innovate in this field,” said Richard Brait, head of Stikeman Elliott LLP’s Technology Group.

Mr. Heer, who will graduate with his LL.B. in 2004, will be working with mentors at Stikeman Elliott LLP to revise his paper for publication. Meanwhile, Mr. Heer’s paper will be posted in the Working Papers series section of the centre’s website at www.innovationlaw.org.

Stikeman Elliott LLP established the annual prize and will award \$2,000 annually to the student who produces the best paper in technology law at the University of Toronto in a given academic year. The Centre is grateful to Stikeman Elliott LLP for its encouragement of emerging scholars.

Stikeman Elliott LLP is a 400-lawyer firm with an international reputation for sophisticated practice in all areas of business law, including related litigation at all levels of Canadian courts. The Technology Group at Stikeman Elliott LLP provides a full range of legal services for technology-related matters in order to help clients identify, adjust to, and capitalize on valuable new opportunities in the global marketplace.

Congratulations to Christopher Heer on his outstanding achievement.

For more information, contact Carol Oblak, Centre for Innovation Law and Policy at (416) 978-3724 or Donna Proia, Stikeman Elliott LLP at (416) 814-7969.