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Student Article to be Published in *Modern American*

FORT WORTH, Texas – 3L Craig Novak’s article “Material Support to Terrorists or Terrorist Organizations: Asylum Seekers Walking the Relief Tightrope,” will be published in the *Modern American*, a law journal of American University Washington College School of Law.

“Craig’s success is well-deserved, and he is a great representative of the caliber of students at Texas Wesleyan University School of Law,” Interim Dean Cynthia Fountaine said. “His paper effectively dealt with a complex legal issue, and we are proud of the work he has done and the recognition he is receiving.”

Professor Huyen Pham was Novak’s faculty advisor on the paper, which was originally written for her Refugee and Asylum seminar. Pham said that Novak’s paper successfully analyzed the complicated issue of material support for terrorists and terrorist organizations.

“U.S. law bars anyone who has provided material support to terrorist or terrorist organizations from seeking asylum here,” Pham said. “The problem is that ‘material support’ has been defined so broadly that many innocent and deserving asylum seekers have been caught up in this prohibition. Craig’s paper analyzes the limited exceptions that the REAL ID Act has provided to the material support bar and provides practical advice to attorneys representing asylum seekers facing this bar.”

Novak said he selected his topic in the interest of notifying immigration practitioners of the benefits available for their clients. The harsh provisions of anti-terrorism laws create difficulties for attorneys seeking asylum protection for clients, and Novak’s paper illustrates how these laws have changed over the last several years and created such problems for people.

Novak’s article will appear in the fall of 2008.

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