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Assistant Dean of Admissions

# Professor Ammori leads new telecom and cyberlaw courses at Law College

**M**arvin Ammori is no stranger to life in the Midwest. And with the development of its new Space and Telecom Law Program, Ammori feels right at home as a new assistant professor, teaching in telecommunications and cyber law at the Law College.

“I’m from the Midwest and I like Midwestern campuses like UNL,” Ammori said. “Lincoln reminds me of Ann Arbor, a town I love, and where I went to college. I like Lincoln’s coffee shops and just about everything in the Haymarket area. The people are remarkably friendly and gracious. And the opportunity for me to be involved

with our new Space and Telecom Law Program is amazing.”

Ammori grew up in the suburbs of Detroit. The son of immigrants, Ammori went on to distinguish himself in education,

graduating Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Michigan and, after spending a year in Paris, cum laude from Harvard Law School.

After law school, Ammori spent a year in Chicago at Kirkland & Ellis working in litigation and private equity. He then went on to a fellowship at Yale and then another at Georgetown.

Ammori said he was drawn to teaching because of the unique opportunities one has as an academic.

“In the beginning, teaching appealed to me because I liked debating competing ideas, some pretty theoretical,” Ammori said. “Now I am less interested in theoretical questions and more interested in the how the law affects people – how we can shape the law to improve lives. Telecommunications law affects how people communicate with their loved ones, how businesses interact with their customers and suppliers, and how citizens inform one another and organize politically. A few obscure laws can have a huge impact.”

Ammori said the



FCC Chairman Kevin Martin and Professor Marvin Ammori in Washington D.C.

# FACULTY NEWS



From left to right: Columbia law professor Tim Wu; Verizon's Tom Tauke (formerly a member of Congress); Comcast's David Cohen; Harvard law professor Yochai Benkler and Professor Marvin Ammori attend an FCC hearing. The hearing centered on whether Comcast Corp., in providing Internet access to consumers, could block innovative technologies that compete with Comcast's television services. The commission upheld Ammori's argument that consumers have the right to access all lawful content and technologies on the Internet.

opportunity to come to Nebraska to teach in the new Space and Telecom Law program is a great fit for his scholarly interests and ambitions.

"Most law schools do not even offer telecom law classes. But here I can teach totally in my area," Ammori said. "I teach domestic telecom law, international telecom law, cyberlaw and mass media. The University's support for this program has been wonderful."

Before coming to Nebraska, Professor Ammori practiced in Washington, D.C., where he was most recently the general counsel for Free Press, a national, nonpartisan organization working to reform the media. Ammori was centrally involved in many of the most prominent media and Internet policy debates, including network neutrality, broadcast

ownership limits, children's media rules, wireless policy and access for all Americans to high-speed Internet. Advised by and supported by academics, technologists and other public interest advocates, he was the lead counsel for consumer groups and scholars in related FCC proceedings (prompted by filings he authored) that resulted in a landmark decision regarding Internet freedom and FCC jurisdiction.

Ammori had his first introduction to the Law College students last year, while handling cases at Free Press in D.C., when he taught mini-courses in Cyber Law and Domestic Telecommunications Law. Ammori said he has enjoyed getting to know the students.

"I'm pleased to say they attend class more often than I did," Ammori said.

"They're very eager and very sharp."

Ammori said he is excited about the opportunities the new program will provide for the Law College students.

"I hope we produce successful, influential lawyers and that, soon enough, this program will provide instant credibility to its graduates," Ammori said.

Ammori also said he has enjoyed getting to know the faculty.

"It's one of the reasons I was excited to join the faculty," Ammori said. "Everyone is friendly and very knowledgeable, with great advice for a young professor, and have been tremendously helpful as we build the new Space and Telecom program."