RECENT PUBLICATIONS

LAW, JUSTICE, DEMOCRACY, AND THE CLASH OF CULTURES: A PLURALIST ACCOUNT. By Michel Rosenfeld. New York, N.Y.: Cambridge University Press. 2011. Pp. v, 324. $36.99. The post-Enlightenment, liberal democratic world faces many challenges, including global terrorism and religious fundamentalism. In his new book, Professor Michel Rosenfeld builds upon previous work and argues that “comprehensive pluralism” (p. 11) best enables society to address these issues. To make his case, Professor Rosenfeld closely engages with the thinking of canonical philosophers from Kant and Hegel to Rawls and Habermas. Professor Rosenfeld first develops his theory of comprehensive pluralism, which “is inherently more open to equality” and “more open to difference than is liberalism” due to its embrace of both the individual and the group without privileging one over the other (p. 79). He then examines varying conceptions of liberalism and their applications to this increasingly “globaliz[ed] and balkaniz[ed]” world (p. 12), concluding that none strikes the necessary balance between individual and community as well as comprehensive pluralism does. Professor Rosenfeld’s in-depth analysis contributes both to the scholarly debate over how best to advance the liberal project and to the important practical discussion of how to approach the pressing issues of modern times.

WAR TIME: AN IDEA, ITS HISTORY, ITS CONSEQUENCES. By Mary L. Dudziak. New York, N.Y.: Oxford University Press. 2012. Pp. 3, 221. $24.95. A decade after 9/11, and following the official cessation of hostilities in Iraq, War Time serves as a critical reminder that many basic legal and political issues surrounding the War on Terror remain unresolved. Examining twentieth-century U.S. conflicts as well as the War on Terror itself, Professor Mary Dudziak asks whether the current conflict should be classified as a war; whether the conflict is over, given that both the troops and the legal tools justified as necessary to the conflict are still deployed; and, if the conflict is not over, what markers will signify its end. As Professor Dudziak notes, answering these questions is crucial, as war has traditionally been considered an extraordinary time in which exceptional legal, political, and military actions can be taken. The book, however, has implications beyond recent events. Emphasizing that both “time” and “state of war” are elastic concepts, War Time explores how the United States, its politicians, and its courts have for the last century defined what it means to be at war.