March 30, 2016

Raw Politics or Constitutional Duty? The Historical Role of the US Senate in Confirming Nominees to the Federal Judiciary

Time: 12:00pm - 1:00pm
Location: Gittis 214

Please join the Federalist Society in welcoming Judge Milan D. Smith of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit to discuss this timely issue of the Senate’s historical role in confirming nominees to the federal judiciary.

Chik-fil-A will be served.

The sudden death of Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia has sparked heated debate not over who should be his replacement but rather the process by which his replacement should be chosen. The Constitution is abundantly clear about the basics – the President has the power to nominate “Judges of the Supreme Court” with their confirmation contingent upon the “Advice and Consent of the Senate.” What the Constitution is silent on, however, is the proper course of action when the Senate’s advice is that the next President should fill the vacancy. With the Court likely to split 4-4 on many of the major cases this term, the resolution of this issue has the potential to decide the course of Constitutional law for years to come.

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