

The Environmental Law Center presents

Hot Topics in Environmental Law Summer 2011 Brown Bag Lecture Series

VERMONT LAW SCHOOL

THURSDAY, JUNE 2

Saving the Lions and Tigers of the Sea: The Campaign to Stop Shark Finning

Michael Sutton, Monterey Bay Aquarium

A campaign is now underway, including a new bill in California, to outlaw the trade in shark fins and remove the main incentive for the ruthless killing of sharks worldwide.

TUESDAY, JUNE 7

Assessing National Energy Security Performance With an Energy Security Index

Benjamin Sovacool, Institute for Energy and the Environment, Vermont Law School

This talk will conceptualize energy security, discuss ways to quantify and measure it, and then evaluate national performance among a sample of 18 countries through the use of an integrated energy security index/scorecard.

THURSDAY, JUNE 9

Don't Bogart Me: Planning and Regulating for the Cultivation and Dispensing of Medical Marijuana

Dwight Merriam, Land Use Group, Robinson & Cole LLP

Given the wide variation in state enabling laws and local ordinances, there has been much controversy, uncontrolled activity, and unexpected consequences with medical marijuana.

TUESDAY, JUNE 14

Climate Change in the Supreme Court: Round Two

John Echeverria, Environmental Law Center, Vermont Law School, and Patrick Parenteau, Environmental and Natural Resources Law Clinic, Vermont Law School

In Round One, *Massachusetts v. EPA* set in motion EPA regulations aimed at reducing GHGs. In Round Two, the Second Circuit upheld the right of the states to pursue their claims in *Connecticut v. AEP*. This panel will also feature the Honorable Peter Hall, judge on the Second Circuit and author of the opinion under review by the Supreme Court.

THURSDAY, JUNE 16

Carbon Capture and Sequestration in the EU

Javier Garcia-Lomas Gago '10, Perez Moreno LLP and University of Seville

Find out about the legal framework for the CCS Directive that has been recently passed by the EU, and how the EU Member States have implemented this directive.

TUESDAY, JUNE 21

Is the Kyoto Protocol Dead?

Dan Bodansky, Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, Arizona State University

What is the current status of the international climate change regime, and how might the regime develop going forward?

THURSDAY, JUNE 23

Surface Coal Mining in Appalachia

Kevin S. Minoli, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

This lecture presents an overview of the different statutes, regulations, and recent efforts by the federal government to ensure these operations are in compliance.

TUESDAY, JUNE 28

Conservation Easements: When Perpetual Isn't Forever

Jessica Jay '97, Conservation Law, PC

This talk examines the judicial, legislative, and administrative practices developing in response to the amendment and termination of perpetual conservation easements.

THURSDAY, JUNE 30

Reimagining an Entire Industry: Voluntary Standards as a Path to Market Transformation

Roger Platt, U.S. Green Building Council

Hear the story of how the U.S. Green Building Council launched the LEED certification system and helped to catalyze a green building revolution.

TUESDAY, JULY 12

Building a Resilient Agricultural System to Adapt to Climate Change

Mary Jane Angelo, University of Florida, Levin College of Law

What is the extent to which our current agricultural system is equipped to adapt to global warming changes? Are changes to our existing agricultural policies and laws warranted to facilitate such adaptation?

THURSDAY, JULY 14

Comparing Catastrophes: Gulf Blowout versus Fukushima Diichi

Richard Harris, National Public Radio News

An NPR correspondent presents a comparison and contrast on how the BP Deepwater Horizon and Fukushima Diichi nuclear plant disasters were handled by the governments, corporations involved and the news media.

TUESDAY, JULY 19

The Proposed Pebble Mine in the Heart of the World's Largest Sockeye Salmon Fishery

Peter Van Tuyn '89, Besseney & Van Tuyn, LLC

Come learn about this epic battle between proponents and opponents of the Pebble mine, and the cutting edge legal issues that define the debate.

THURSDAY, JULY 21

Chevron in Ecuador

Lawrence Hurley, Greenwire

A reporter shares his look at the ever-shifting morass of litigation over oil pollution in Ecuador that has now dragged on for 18 years both locally, in U.S. courts, and before international arbitrators.

TUESDAY, JULY 26

Deepwater Horizon Disaster: Causes, Consequences—and Cures

Jacqueline Weaver, University of Houston Law Center

The Exxon Valdez oil spill resulted in laws requiring double-hulled tankers; what has the Deepwater Horizon spill brought forth in terms of a new legal framework, and is it adequate?

THURSDAY, JULY 28

Internationalizing the Public Trust Doctrine

Michael Blumm, Lewis & Clark Law School

This discussion reviews the public trust doctrine's developments and its likeliness to supply environmental protection for all natural resources.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 2

The Application of Environmental and Food Laws to a Genetically Modified Food System

William Eubanks '08, Meyer Glitzenstein & Crystal

This talk highlights recent efforts to apply novel statutory mandates to laboratory-created foods as an attempt to ensure meaningful public participation in and transparent oversight of our collective food system.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 4

Sustainable Development in Afghanistan

Lea Swanson, U.S. Agency for International Development/Afghanistan

This lecture presents a look at some of the challenges and opportunities for integrating environmental and social commitments into economic growth programs in Afghanistan.

Lectures at Montpelier

FRIDAY, JUNE 3

Out of Sight but Not Out of Mind

David Mears '91, Commissioner, Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

Vermont's groundwater faces multiple threats, from contamination to overuse. What changes and strategies to Vermont's groundwater protection rule are under consideration by the Department of Environmental Conservation?

FRIDAY, JUNE 10

Let the Sunshine In: Trends in Transparency

Don Kreis, Institute for Energy and the Environment, Vermont Law School

This talk will focus on how well Vermont is doing when it comes to holding energy and environmental decision makers publicly accountable.

FRIDAY, JUNE 17

The Politics of Fish and Wildlife

Patrick Berry, Commissioner, Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department

Mr. Berry will discuss the interplay of politics and policy in the legislative, regulatory and resource management arenas.

FRIDAY, JUNE 24

Let Water Pay for Water

Randy Hill, Office of Wastewater Management, U.S. EPA

The water resource management policies of the United States and France are compared.

Tuesdays and Thursdays | 12:00–1:00 p.m. | Oakes Hall Room 007 | Vermont Law School, South Royalton

Fridays | 12:00–1:00 p.m. | Vermont Historical Society Museum | 109 State Street, Montpelier

Each lecture is worth one VBA CLE credit. Lectures are free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Courtney Collins at 802-831-1371 or ccollins@vermontlaw.edu.

Hot Topics in Environmental Law

Summer 2011 Brown Bag Lecture Series

Hot Topics in Environmental Law — Summer 2011 Lecturers

Mary Jane Angelo is a professor of law at the University of Florida, Levin College of Law. She is the 2011 Agricultural Distinguished Scholar at Vermont Law School.

Patrick Berry is the commissioner of the Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department. He previously served as VLS's director of Governmental Affairs and Environmental Advancement.

Michael Blumm is the Jeffrey Bain Faculty Scholar and professor of law at Lewis and Clark Law School. He is the 2011 Environmental Distinguished Scholar at Vermont Law School.

Dan Bodansky is a professor of law at the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University. He is the 2011 International Environmental Distinguished Scholar at Vermont Law School.

John Echeverria is a professor at Vermont Law School. He teaches Legal Adaptations to Global Warming Impacts.

William Eubanks '08 is an associate attorney with Meyer Glitzenstein & Crystal.

Javier Garcia-Lomas Gago '10 is an attorney at law with Perez Moreno LLP and an adjunct professor of law at the University of Seville.

Richard Harris is an award winning journalist with National Public Radio News. He is one of the 2011 Media Fellows at Vermont Law School.

Randy Hill is the deputy director of the Office of Wastewater Management at U.S. EPA. Prior to that, he was the deputy director of EPA's Office of Civil Enforcement.

Lawrence Hurley is a legal reporter for Greenwire, where he focuses on litigation relating to energy and the environment. He is one of the 2011 Media Fellows at Vermont Law School.

Jessica Jay '97 is a founding partner of Conservation Law, PC, a law firm devoted to ensuring the permanence of land conservation through perpetual conservation easements.

Don Kreis is the associate director of Vermont Law School's Institute for Energy and the Environment. Previously, he was general counsel of the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission.

David Mears '91 is the commissioner of Vermont's Department of Environmental Conservation. Prior to his appointment, he served as the director of the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Clinic at Vermont Law School.

Dwight Merriam founded Robinson & Cole's Land Use Group, representing land owners, developers, governments, and individuals in land use matters.

Kevin S. Minoli is the assistant general counsel for Clean Water Act Scope and Implementation within the EPA's Office of General Counsel.

Patrick Parenteau is the senior counsel to the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Clinic and professor of law at Vermont Law School. He teaches Climate Change Litigation.

Roger Platt is the senior vice president of Global Policy and Law at the U.S. Green Building Council, managing policy and legal aspects related to the LEED green building certificate program.

Benjamin Sovacool is a visiting professor and project leader for Global Energy Justice at Vermont Law School's Institute for Energy and the Environment.

Michael Sutton is a member of the California Fish and Game Commission, which is charged with implementing the Marine Life Protection Act.

Lea Swanson is a foreign-service officer for the U.S. Agency for International Development in Afghanistan.

Peter Van Tuyn '89 is partner at Besseney & Van Tuyn, LLC, and counsels and represents conservation groups, Alaska Native tribes, villages and corporations, and community groups concerning the full spectrum of environmental issues in Alaska.

Jacqueline Weaver is the A. A. White professor of law at the University of Houston Law Center, and has coauthored three books on oil and gas energy and the environment.

Artwork: Last Light, Lake Champlain. Pastel.
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