



2017  
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2018

# ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

VL  
VERMONT  
LAW SCHOOL

FOR THE COMMUNITY AND THE WORLD

**CENTER FOR AGRICULTURE  
AND FOOD SYSTEMS**

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL  
RESOURCES LAW CLINIC**

**ENVIRONMENTAL TAX  
POLICY INSTITUTE**

**INSTITUTE FOR ENERGY  
AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

**U.S.-ASIA PARTNERSHIPS  
FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LAW**

**NEW ECONOMY LAW CENTER**

**WATER AND JUSTICE  
PROGRAM**

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# THE ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CENTER AT VERMONT LAW SCHOOL

Since its establishment in 1973, Vermont Law School has educated thousands of students on the basis of one ideal: provide an expansive and challenging legal education rooted in a commitment to civic values. VLS is a place where a dedicated and distinguished faculty cultivate a learning environment rich in cooperative spirit.

The Environmental Law Center, founded in 1978, has the largest graduate environmental law program in the country, consistently ranked among the best by U.S. News & World Report. The program emphasizes student engagement with real-world problems and the development of responsive environmental policy.

Ours is a multidisciplinary program in law, policy, science, economics, and ethics for lawyers, law and graduate students, government officials, teachers, scientists, and citizen activists. The program addresses the need for environmental leaders who are skilled in working with environmental and public policy issues within the framework of the legal system—leaders prepared to meet the environmental challenges of the 21st century.

“ALMOST EVERY ISSUE BEARS ON THE ENVIRONMENT IN SOME WAY, AND SOME OF THE MOST CRITICAL ISSUES ARE ONES WE DON’T EVEN THINK OF AS ENVIRONMENTAL—POLITICAL REFORM, SOCIAL JUSTICE, AND EQUITY.”

—GUS SPETH,  
Senior Fellow



# ENVIRONMENTAL DEGREE PROGRAMS

In addition to the traditional Juris Doctor degree, Vermont Law School offers a number of master's degrees, LLM degrees, joint degrees, dual degrees with other academic institutions, certificate programs, and the renowned Summer Session program. These programs range from the Master of Environmental Law and Policy, which VLS has awarded to over 2,500 students since the program's inception in 1978, to the LLM in Energy Law and Master of Energy Regulation and Law programs, which welcomed their first students in fall 2013. The master's degrees may be completed in as little as one year or up to five years. Students have the choice and flexibility to complete a master's or LLM degree on campus or online.



Over the past four decades, scores of VLS graduates from all degree programs have worked at the EPA

## MASTER'S DEGREES

- The [Master of Environmental Law and Policy](#) (MELP) program is designed for students who want to develop expertise in environmental law and policy while obtaining interdisciplinary training in science, economics, and public advocacy.
- The [Master of Energy Regulation and Law](#) (MERL) program responds to opportunities presented by the rapid growth of the clean energy sector, as well as the environmental challenges associated with traditional energy production and transmission, by offering intensive training in energy law, regulation, markets and policy analysis.
- The [Master of Food and Agriculture Law and Policy](#) (MFALP) is designed for students who want to develop the legal infrastructure needed to support sustainable food and agriculture systems.

## LLM DEGREES

- The [LLM in Environmental Law](#) offers post-JD students the opportunity to prepare for a career practicing environmental law with a private firm, as a public interest environmental litigator, or in academia.
- The [LLM in Energy Law](#) allows those with a JD degree to specialize in the law of clean energy, regulation, markets and the environment.
- The [LLM in Food and Agriculture Law](#) allows students to take advantage of our extensive food and agriculture law curriculum and develop a deep specialty in an important area of environmental law.

## JOINT DEGREES

Vermont Law School students may combine the JD with a Master's or LLM degree to develop expertise in environmental, energy, or food and agriculture law.

- [JD/Master of Environmental Law and Policy](#)
- [JD/Master of Energy Regulation and Law](#)
- [JD/Master of Food and Agriculture Law and Policy](#)
- [JD/LLM in Environmental Law](#)
- [JD/LLM in Energy Law](#)
- [JD/LLM in Food and Agriculture Law](#)

"A LEGAL EDUCATION CAN PREPARE YOU TO DO ALL SORTS OF THINGS, NOT JUST WORK IN A COURTROOM OR WITH STACKS OF PAPER."

—SCOTT CULLEN, JD'96, Executive Director,  
GRACE Communications Foundation

## DUAL DEGREE PROGRAMS



Vermont Law School students can combine a JD or Master's degree with degrees from other institutions.

- 1 [JD/Master of Environmental Management](#) with the **Yale University School of Forestry and Environmental Studies**
- 2 [JD/Master of Philosophy](#) with the Department of Land Economy at the **University of Cambridge**
- 3 [JD, LLM, or Master's/ Sustainable Entrepreneurship MBA](#) with the **University of Vermont School of Business Administration**
- 4 [MELP/Master of Science in Natural Resources](#) with the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources at the **University of Vermont**
- 5 MELP/MBA with the Tuck School of Business at **Dartmouth College**

## SUMMERS-ONLY MASTER'S PROGRAM

JD students from any other law school may earn a [master's degree](#) from Vermont Law School with one summer of classes, one summer externship, and at least one online course. Special arrangements with the law schools at Boston College, Elon University, Northeastern University, Quinnipiac University, the University of South Carolina, and the University of South Dakota allow those students to transfer additional JD credits to the master's degree and earn the degree at a lower cost.

## CERTIFICATES

Certificates are a tangible indication that students have mastered a specific subject area. The environmental program at Vermont Law School offers the following certificates:

- [Certificate in Climate Law](#)
- [Certificate in Energy Law](#)
- [Certificate in Food and Agriculture Law](#)
- [Certificate in Land Use Law](#)
- [Certificate in Water Law](#)

## SUMMER SESSION

Vermont Law School's [Summer Session](#) is nationally recognized for its impressive range of courses taught by VLS professors and leaders from national and international nonprofit environmental groups and research centers, consulting firms, federal and state agencies, academic programs at other law schools, and private practice. Attendees include VLS JD, LLM, and Master's students; JD students from other law schools; nonlaw graduate students; teachers; citizen advocates; practicing attorneys; planners; and state and federal agency personnel. Summer Session also includes the popular Hot Topics in Environmental Law lecture series.

## CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION (CLE)

Nondegree educational opportunities are available through the VLS Summer Session. Practicing attorneys can take summer courses or attend our summer lecture series for CLE credit.

## VERMONT JOURNAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

The [Vermont Journal of Environmental Law](#) (VJEL) is entering its seventeenth year of publishing on all facets of environmental law. The journal staff seeks to provide a forum for enlightened discussion on the emerging environmental issues affecting our local, regional, and global communities. The journal is published exclusively online. VJEL is about environmental discourse and environmental action, and online publication greatly embodies both. Please visit <http://vjel.vermontlaw.edu/>.

"AT VLS THEY EMBED IN YOU THE ETHIC OF ZEALOUS ADVOCACY FOR YOUR CLIENT, AND AT THE SAME TIME, THEY TELEGRAPH THAT OUTCOMES REQUIRE COLLABORATION AND RESOLVING COMPETING DEMANDS."

—ADAM NECRASON JD/MELP'96, Founder and Managing Partner, Sirotkin & Necrason, PLLC



# CENTER FOR AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS

The [Center for Agriculture and Food Systems](#) at Vermont Law School houses the most comprehensive sustainable food and agriculture law and policy program in the country. Building on Vermont's reputation for food innovation and ethos of environmental and social sustainability as well as VLS's own legacy of producing food advocates and entrepreneurs, the Center is developing the next generation of food and agriculture advocates who are changing food systems nationally and internationally for the better. As part of its mission, the Center also produces free resources for the food and farm community that marry the law with leading-edge legal design. The Center benefits from an experienced legal and advocacy team, including [Laurie Ristino](#), Director; [Laurie Beyranevand '03](#), Senior Faculty Fellow for Food Law and Policy; and [Emily Spiegel](#), Assistant Professor. The team has expertise in multiple areas relating to sustainable food systems, including environmental law, food law and policy, animal law, agroecology, urban planning, and international food security, to create a robust and comprehensive program.



## CENTER INITIATIVES

- Launch one of the first [food and agriculture law clinics](#) in the nation pioneering development of legal solutions to support diversified, sustainable food systems through research, strategic partnerships, and creative media
- Improve access to farmland by new farmers through the Land Tenure Project, which provides legal resources and tools for new and beginning farmers
- Reduce food waste through the National Gleaning Project, which provides a unique hub to help expand gleaning organizations in order to reduce food waste and food insecurity
- Elevate local food law and policy innovations through the Healthy Food Policy Project
- Advocate for migrant dairy workers through a bilingual legal guide explaining worker rights

"AT THE CENTER FOR AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS, WE ARE SEIZING THE TRANSFORMATIONAL OPPORTUNITY OF THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE MOVEMENT BY PROVIDING AN INNOVATIVE EDUCATION IN POLICY AND LAW, WHICH IS TRAINING THE NEXT GENERATION OF ADVOCATES AND ENTREPRENEURS."

—LAURIE RISTINO, Director, Center for Agriculture and Food Systems

# INSTITUTE FOR ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT



The [Institute for Energy and the Environment](#) is a national and world energy policy resource with an advanced energy law and policy curriculum focused on the energy policy of the future. The Institute serves as a center for graduate research on the clean energy sector, with a year-round student-staffed Energy Clinic, working on legal and business models for renewable energy development. Students learn how to work with and improve America's legal system in order to help humanity meet the challenges created by the energy sector. The IEE's faculty includes, [Kevin Jones](#), the Institute's Director and Professor; [Jeannie Oliver LLM'15](#), Assistant Professor and Staff Attorney for the [Energy Clinic](#); and [Mark James LLM'16](#), Assistant Professor and Senior Fellow with the Institute. The Institute is also staffed by a program coordinator, two student fellows, and approximately twenty JD, LLM, and master's students who serve as research associates and clinicians.

## INSTITUTE AND ENERGY CLINIC PROJECTS

- Developing legal models promoting community solar ownership and working with local community organizations on solar project development
- Research funded by the U.S. Department of Energy on data privacy policies governing use of customer solar and energy efficiency data
- Authoring books such as *The Electric Battery: Charging Forward to a Low Carbon Future*, *A Smarter, Greener Grid: Forging Environmental Progress from Smart Energy Policies and Technologies*, and *Global Energy Justice*
- Analyzing the barriers to low income solar ownership and advocating for climate justice
- Publications on climate refugees, community choice aggregation, smart cities and microgrids, federal tax incentives for small scale hydro, electric vehicle charging policy, and the analysis of divergent solar net metering reforms in California and Nevada

"OUR PASSION AND SPECIAL TRAINING IS CONCERNED WITH THE ENERGY POLICY OF THE FUTURE. THAT'S OUR STRENGTH—AND THAT'S WHERE WE'RE PLACING OUR GRADUATES."

—KEVIN JONES, Director, Institute for Energy and the Environment



The Summer 2016 ENRLC team

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES LAW CLINIC

Since 2003, the [Environmental and Natural Resources Law Clinic](#) has provided hands-on learning opportunities for law students, achieving environmental protection goals and representing clients who otherwise would not have the resources for legal representation. The clinic provides a structured, supportive setting in which students develop skills in environmental advocacy, litigation, administrative processes, and client interaction. A faculty of experienced environmental attorneys and professionals work closely with the student teams on each case or project, including [Jill Witkowski Heaps](#), Director; [Ken Rumelt](#), Senior Attorney; [Patrick Parenteau](#), Senior Counsel; [Rachel Stevens](#), Staff Attorney; [Lizzie Tisher](#), LLM Fellow; [Mason Overstreet '17](#), LLM Fellow; and [Monica Litzelman](#), Litigation Paralegal. The students have worked on an impressive array of matters in various federal and state courts, including the Vermont and United States Supreme Courts.

## CLINIC PROJECTS

- Represent at trial residents of Graniteville, Vermont, suffering from excessive dust and fumes caused by an asphalt plant and rock crushers sited in their community
- Support clean water nationally by weighing in on federal litigation seeking a clean-up plan for West Virginia streams poisoned by runoff from coal fields
- Advise environmental non-profits and the legislature on next steps to better address harms from toxic pollution like PFOA contamination
- Partner with overburdened communities to provide them with access to justice as they fight pollution
- Assist the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council in compiling advice to EPA's Office of Water on considering environmental justice concerns in water and wastewater infrastructure financing
- Advocate for stricter state regulation of toxic pesticides sprayed in communities and waterways around Vermont
- Protect residents in Williston, Vermont, from lead contamination in their soil and surface water
- Join the Connecticut River Conservancy in the relicensing process of several hydropower dam facilities along the Connecticut River

"WORKING AT THE CLINIC HAS GIVEN ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO USE MY KNOWLEDGE, MAKE PROFESSIONAL CONNECTIONS, IMPROVE MY RESEARCH AND WRITING SKILLS, AND WORK ON ISSUES THAT FUEL MY PASSION. THE HANDS-ON LEARNING THAT WE EXPERIENCE AT THE ENRLC IS PREPARING US FOR OUR FUTURES AS ATTORNEYS. THE CLINIC EXPERIENCE IS EDUCATIONAL AND INSPIRING. DAILY, IT CONFIRMS THAT I CHOSE THE RIGHT CAREER PATH."

—TRISTAN J. DURAND '18

# U.S.-ASIA PARTNERSHIPS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

The [U.S.-Asia Partnerships for Environmental Law](#) is

a collaborative program to advance environmental and energy law and policy in

China and throughout Asia. The goal of the partnership, which is supported by a number of public and private organizations, is to strengthen the rule of law in environmental protection and to build capacity among individuals and academic, government, and private-sector institutions to solve environmental problems.

At its inception in 2006, the partnership's goals were to strengthen the capacity of Chinese education, government, and civil society sectors to become effective environmental problem solvers; to improve China's policies, laws, and regulations to advance the development of environmental law in China; and to enhance municipal, provincial, national, and international networks in China to advance best practices in environmental protection and energy regulation. Building upon the success it has achieved in China, the partnership has expanded its geographic scope in an effort to respond to the environmental governance needs of the region. [Siu Tip Lam](#), a former assistant attorney general in the Environmental Protection Division of the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office, is the Director. The program's staff includes Professor [Yanmei Lin](#), Associate Director; and [William J. Schulte LL.M.'14](#), [Yu Zhuang '13](#), and [Xiaoyu Zhang LL.M.'16](#) as Assistant Directors; along with two fellows; two support staff, and VLS faculty advisors.



## NEW ECONOMY LAW CENTER

The [New Economy Law Center](#) is a community of law and policy scholars who are part of the New Economy movement that has emerged to provide an alternative system where ecological integrity, social justice, and vibrant democracy are central. Gus Speth and Melissa Scanlan co-founded the center in 2015 to engage students and faculty at VLS and throughout the world. While the movement is informed by and engaged with the work of multiple disciplines, the center is focused on the development of law and policy. The scholars and lawyers involved share ideas, best practices, and curricula to educate the next generation of leaders in policy and law. The center sponsors symposia, scholarship, and internships to create a lively forum for exploring the role of policy and law in transitioning to a new economy. [Melissa Scanlan](#) directs the center, working closely with VLS senior fellows [Gus Speth](#), [Kevin Jones](#), [Laurie Ristino](#), [Laurie Beyranevand](#), [Patrick Parenteau](#), and [Jennifer Taub](#).

## CENTER INITIATIVES

- Many of the Center fellows collaborated on a new book designed for courses in environmental studies, policy, law or economics: *Law and Policy for a New Economy: Sustainable, Just, and Democratic*, Melissa K. Scanlan, ed., Edward Elgar (2017)
- Provided a four-part series of directed readings in Summer 2017, called "Getting to the Next System: Conversations with Gus Speth," that delved into various aspects of the transition to a new system of political economy
- Launched the "VLS New Economy Law and Policy Forum, a Speaker Series on Building a Sustainable, Just, and Democratic Future," a global education platform to engage the public at VLS and online. This fall it features events on system change, invigorating local economies, running for elected office, and reforming funding of political campaigns.

**"THE LAW MUST GROW TO MEET NEW SOCIETAL CONCERNS, SOMETIMES LEADING, SOMETIMES LAGGING, BUT ALWAYS THERE TO IDENTIFY AND PROVIDE THE NEW GUIDANCE AND NORMS THAT ARE NEEDED."**

—GUS SPETH, Senior Fellow and Co-Founder  
of the New Economy Law Center at VLS

## PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS

- Provide environmental governance training in Myanmar, to give stakeholders a range of legal and policy tools that can be adopted to provide broad scale protection of the country's key biodiversity areas
- Launch an Environmental Mission Scholars program to provide experiential training to young legal professionals from China to become environmental advocates and stewards
- Train stakeholders, including judges and prosecutors, to apply and enforce environmental laws and take steps to increase the role prosecutors could play in civil enforcement of environmental laws
- Provide opportunities for VLS students to work on cutting-edge research projects relating to environmental issues in China and throughout Southeast Asia
- Provide opportunities for regional dialogues among stakeholders to share experiences and lessons learned in developing an effective environmental governance system in light of the local conditions





## WATER AND JUSTICE PROGRAM

The [Water and Justice Program](#) focuses on water law, environmental justice, and policy initiatives to further shared use of water as a public, common-pool resource. Student research associates contribute to reports, conference presentations, legal analyses, and articles to support the program's work. A cohort of the nation's leading water law professors and lawyers constitute this program, including [Jack Tuholske](#), who directs the program, and [Melissa Scanlan](#), faculty fellow. Students often work directly with NGO staff or attorneys for a "hands on" practical experience.

### PROGRAM PROJECTS

- Continue public interest water research and advocacy, with a special emphasis on fostering application of the public trust doctrine, by working with local, regional, and national NGOs to further public rights in water
- Partner with the University of Toledo School of Law to publish a report entitled "Moving Forward: Legal Solutions to Lake Erie's Harmful Algal Blooms"
- Advance the creation of the Great Lakes Trail, a bi-national walking trail that will circumnavigate the Great Lakes coastline
- Supervise students interested in the water law curriculum, which includes courses in Water Resources Law, Water Quality, and Watershed Management and Protection, as well as the new [Certificate in Water Law](#)

**"EXPANDING DEMANDS FOR WATER, COMBINED WITH ANTICIPATED REDUCTIONS IN WATER SUPPLY IN MANY PARTS OF THE COUNTRY DUE TO CLIMATE CHANGE, REQUIRE MORE EFFECTIVE PUBLIC GOVERNANCE OF PUBLIC WATER RESOURCES."**

—JOHN ECHEVERRIA, Professor of Law

## ENVIRONMENTAL TAX POLICY INSTITUTE

The [Environmental Tax Policy Institute](#) analyzes the ways in which taxation can be used to address environmental problems. By serving as a resource for the public and private sectors, nongovernmental organizations, the press, and academia, the Institute seeks to better inform the public policy debate about the role of environmental taxes at the federal, state, and local levels. [Janet E. Milne](#), the Institute's director, has devoted her career to matters involving taxation, the legislative process, and the environment. She has taught environmental tax policy at VLS since 1994.

### INSTITUTE PROJECTS

- Cosponsor of the Global Conferences on Environmental Taxation; the 18th Global Conference will be held in Tucson, Arizona, in September 2017
- Analysis of proposals for carbon taxes at the state level, including bills introduced in Northeastern states, Oregon, and Washington, as well as the relationship between carbon taxes and cap-and-trade programs
- Sharing of knowledge about other countries' use of carbon taxes
- Development of *The Handbook of Research on Environmental Taxation*, edited by Janet E. Milne and Mikael Skou Andersen, and *Environmental Taxation and the Law*, edited by Professor Milne
- Research on how environmentally related taxes might help finance climate change adaptation, published as "Storms Ahead" in the *Vermont Law Review*
- Sponsor of public sessions on "Conservation Easements and the IRS: What Does 'In Perpetuity' Mean?," to allow landowners and easement holders to hear directly from an IRS supervisory attorney

## LAND USE LAW

Sustainable development, ecology planning, siting of energy installations, permitting processes, and the scope of eminent domain: the legal and planning aspects of these current issues are part of Vermont Law School's extensive [land use curriculum](#). Our courses include Ecology, Ecosystem Conservation Strategies, Environmental Dispute Resolution, Land and the Law of Takings, Land Conservation Law, Land Transactions and Finance, Land Use Regulation, Law of Ecosystem Management, Public Lands Management, and Watershed Management and Protection. VLS hosts the annual Norman Williams Distinguished Lecture in Land Use and Planning Law and co-hosts the annual conference on Litigating Takings Challenges to Land Use and Environmental Regulations.

Our land use faculty are advocates and scholars. Professor [John Echeverria's](#) casebook, *Land Use Regulation: Cases and Materials*, 5th edition (with Daniel Selmi et al), is forthcoming in 2017. Professor [Sean Nolon's](#) article, "Bargaining for Development Post-Koontz: How the Supreme Court Invaded Local Government," appears in the 2016 *Zoning and Planning Law Handbook*. Professor [Janet Milne](#) used Hurricane Sandy as a case study in her 2016 article "Storms Ahead" (*Vermont Law Review*), advocating for environmental taxes that can help communities as they invest in adapting to climate change.



**“INTERNATIONAL INEQUITY BROUGHT ME TO LAW SCHOOL, AND I SEE CLIMATE CHANGE AS THE MOST SERIOUS THREAT OUR SPECIES HAS EVER FACED. I PLAN TO FIGHT TO PROTECT THE MOST VULNERABLE FROM THE RESOURCE ABUSES OF THE MOST POWERFUL.”**

**—JULIA MUENCH RUMBERG JD’18**, former Peace Corps Volunteer in Kenya, VLS Environmental Mission Scholar

# INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND POLICY

Environmental issues are global issues. The unique opportunities at Vermont Law School prepare our graduates to be leaders in [international environmental law and policy](#). A curriculum of over one dozen international environmental courses is further enhanced by study opportunities through our partnerships with leading foreign universities. Hands-on learning through experiential courses, externships, and clinics rounds out the academic experience.

## CUTTING-EDGE COURSES

- Earth Law
- Environmental Governance in the Developing World
- Global Energy Law and Policy
- International Investment Arbitration and the Environment
- International Trade and the Environment
- Peace, War, and the Environment

## EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING THROUGH COURSES, EXTERNSHIPS, AND CLINICS

- In the Applied Human Rights course, students work on issues of human rights and the environment through research projects with NGOs and inter-governmental organizations like Earthrights International
- In the International Climate Change course, students serve on VLS’s observer delegation, attending the COP and supporting a LDC state party delegation to engage in the UNFCCC negotiations through a service-learning partnership
- In JD Semesters in Practice and Masters Externships, students have interned for a variety of international environmental law actors, including the UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Secretariat of the Aarhus Convention in Geneva; Refugee Legal Aid Project in Cairo; Food and Agricultural Organization of the UN (FAO) Legal Office in Rome; and Sternberg Reed Solicitors in London

## EDUCATION ABROAD OPPORTUNITIES

- International Dual Degree with University of Cergy-Pontoise in Paris: Dual JD/M1 and M2 Degrees, with eligibility to sit for the bar exams in U.S. and France
- International Dual Degree with University of Cambridge: Dual JD/MPhil in Environmental Policy
- Semester exchanges at University of Cergy-Pontoise, Paris; McGill University Faculty of Law, Montreal; University of Paris 1 (Panthéon-Sorbonne); and University of Trento (Italy)





Fall 2017 entering JD and master's students visit the Vermont state capitol

## ENVIRONMENTAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Thirty years ago VLS launched one of the nation's first programs to teach the skills of dispute resolution—negotiation, mediation, and arbitration—that provide highly effective methods of achieving client needs by cooperation outside of the courtroom. Through courses such as Environmental Dispute Resolution, Negotiation, and International Investment Arbitration and the Environment, the Dispute Resolution Clinic, competitions, externships, and research the VLS Dispute Resolution Program offers instruction to students from across the globe. [Sean Nolon](#) is the director of the program. Courses are taught by experienced practitioners and accomplished scholars including Nolon; [Marcos Orellana](#), Director of the Human Rights and Environment Program at The Center for International Environmental Law; and [Cathy Costantino](#), Counsel at the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC).

Dispute resolution skills are critically important to environmental professionals. The complex nature of environmental disputes, the involvement of multiple parties, and the overlapping legal jurisdictions characteristic of environmental disputes mean that every dispute resolution technique must be considered.

**"DISCOURAGE LITIGATION. PERSUADE YOUR NEIGHBORS TO COMPROMISE WHENEVER YOU CAN. POINT OUT TO THEM HOW THE NOMINAL WINNER IS OFTEN THE REAL LOSER—IN FEES, EXPENSES, AND WASTE OF TIME."**

**—ABRAHAM LINCOLN**

## ENVIRONMENTAL EXTERNSHIPS

An integral part of our environmental degree programs is gaining real-world experience through externships. Our Master's, LLM, and joint degree students explore environmental law, science, and policy in a wide variety of settings both locally and worldwide. In the Semester in Practice program and the Judicial Externship program, JD students spend a full semester off campus in a governmental, public interest, or private legal setting under the direct supervision of an experienced attorney or judge.

### RECENT EXTERNSHIPS

- Center for International Environmental Law
- Conservation Law Foundation
- EarthJustice
- EarthRights International
- Environmental Defense Fund
- Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- Food and Water Watch
- Midwest Environmental Advocates
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- Natural Resources Defense Council
- RiverKeeper
- Texas Water Development Board
- The Hershey Company, Corporate Social Responsibility Department
- U.S. Department of Justice, Environmental Enforcement Section
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Maritime Administration (MARAD)
- Western Environmental Law Center

# THE CURRICULUM

## ADMINISTRATIVE LAW +

The implementation of legislative policy through administrative agencies

## ADVANCED ENVIRONMENTAL LEGAL RESEARCH

The most useful, efficient strategies and resources for environmental law research

## AGRICULTURAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

The regulatory and incentive-based programs that affect our agricultural crops, as well as the environmental impacts of these programs

## AIR POLLUTION LAW AND POLICY

A detailed reading of the Clean Air Act and an exploration of the major statutory provisions

## ALTERNATIVE FUELS AND RENEWABLE ENERGY ☉

The local, state, and federal laws and policies that govern transition to renewable energy sources

## ANIMAL LAW

The laws, doctrines, and policies that address human interactions with animals

## CERCLA LAW AND POLICY

A study of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act

## CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE LAW +

How existing laws may address climate change and how new, more comprehensive laws may be fashioned

## CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION ☉

The legal, policy, and economic issues in our attempt to mitigate our carbon footprint and reduce greenhouse gasses

## CLIMATE CHANGE: THE POWER OF TAXES

How tax systems can be used to reduce greenhouse gases and develop more environmentally compatible technologies

## COMMUNICATIONS, ADVOCACY, AND LEADERSHIP +

The skills to advocate, counsel, investigate, persuade, research, and educate

## COMPARATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL LAW RESEARCH SEMINAR

A research and writing seminar that provides a framework for students to engage in comparative environmental law research

## CULTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

A cross-cultural study of the interaction of humans and the environment with legal anthropology

## EARTH LAW

The inherent rights of all people and the natural world to exist, thrive, and evolve, and how systems can be implemented to advance true sustainability

## ECOLOGY

A field course on an integrative science that can provide insight into many contemporary environmental problems

## ECOSYSTEM CONSERVATION STRATEGIES

Successful landscape scale conservation projects, their implementation strategies, and innovative legal arrangements

## ENERGY LAW AND POLICY +

Key issues in American energy policy, and ways to ease the strains that the policy puts upon environmental sustainability

## ENERGY REGULATION, MARKETS, AND THE ENVIRONMENT +

The legal, economic, and structural issues involved in both energy regulation and energy markets, focusing on electricity

## ENVIRONMENTAL BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS

Liability, diligence, and drafting issues in complex environmental business transactions

## ENVIRONMENTAL CONFLICT MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS DESIGN

The theory, principles, and practices of conflict management systems design for environmental lawyers and practitioners

## ENVIRONMENTAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION +

Alternative dispute resolution processes for resolving complex, multiparty environmental disputes

## ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS AND MARKETS +

How market-based tools to protect the environment work, their basic assumptions, and the challenges they face during implementation

## ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT AND COMPLIANCE

The theory and practice of enforcement of the federal pollution control laws

## ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS SEMINAR

The foundations of environmental reasoning: intrinsic value theory, biocentrism, ecofeminism, deep ecology, and spirituality

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH LAW SEMINAR

An examination of the field of environmental health, including toxic torts, lead poisoning, food protection, and pesticides

## ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Discrimination and justice concerns about the benefits and burdens of environmental protection and natural resource management

## ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD

The challenges to developing and implementing strong environmental governance systems in the developing world

## ENVIRONMENTAL LAW +

The law pertaining to environmental issues such as population, economic growth, energy, and pollution

## EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

The role of the principles of European environmental law in environmental regulation and EU techniques for environmental management

## EXTINCTION AND CLIMATE CHANGE +

The ecological, social, and ethical consequences of climate change and various legal and policy options to address it

## FEDERAL REGULATION OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ☉

An overview of the Farm Bill and other laws that affect growing policy, animal husbandry, and food production

## FOOD REGULATION AND POLICY

Current policies regarding food regulation and how to effectively advocate for policy changes

## FOOD SYSTEM JUSTICE AND SUSTAINABILITY +

The policies and programs that could help create a Good Food environment



### GLOBAL ENERGY JUSTICE

How justice theory can help people make meaningful decisions about the production, delivery, use, and effects of energy

### GLOBAL ENERGY LAW AND POLICY

Energy policy frameworks, policies implementing global and regional climate commitments, and emerging issues outside of the U.S

### GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY +

The legal landscape of global hunger

### INDIAN TRIBES AS GOVERNMENTAL STEWARDS OF THE ENVIRONMENT

Statutes that accord tribes a role as governmental partners in the implementation of federal environmental programs

### INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE LAW +

A study of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and its Kyoto Protocol; students represent VLS at COP as members of its Observer Delegation

### INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND POLICY

The structure and basic principles of international environmental law and policy

### INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT ARBITRATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Sustainable development, international law, investment, human rights, and the environment

### INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The intersection and frequent clash between trade liberalization and environmental protection

### INTRODUCTION TO THE LAW AND POLICY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD, AND THE ENVIRONMENT +

A survey of American law affecting agriculture and food and the traditional divisions between agriculture, food, and environmental regulation

### LAND CONSERVATION LAW

The legal issues around donation of conservation easements and private/public partnerships for land conservation

### LAND USE REGULATION

The traditional legal controls available to regulate the use of land, including local zoning ordinances and subdivision regulations

### LAND TRANSACTIONS AND FINANCE

How land is divided and transferred, including an introduction to the title system, title insurance, and land contracts

### LAW OF ANIMALS IN AGRICULTURE

The laws and market pressures affecting the conditions of farmed animals

### LAW AND POLICY OF LOCAL FOOD SYSTEMS +

A study of policies that affect distribution of food and state-level initiatives to bolster local food markets

### LEGAL ADAPTATIONS TO GLOBAL WARMING IMPACTS +

The legal challenges raised by the unavoidable need for our society to adapt to the impacts of global warming

### LOCAL FARM AND FOOD LAW

The nuts and bolts of providing legal services to farmers and food entrepreneurs

### THE MODERN FARM BILL

An introduction to the breadth of policies and legal authorities included in the Farm Bill

### NATIVE AMERICANS AND THE LAW +

The constitutional, statutory, and jurisprudential rules of law which make up the field of Federal Indian Law

### NATURAL RESOURCES LAW +

The statutes and regulations governing the management of the federal lands and their resources

### NEW FRONTIERS IN ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

The idea that a new American environmentalism is needed and with it new environmental policy and law

### OCEAN AND COASTAL LAW

The natural components of estuarine, coastal, and marine ecosystems and some of the conservation issues confronting them

### OIL AND GAS PRODUCTION AND THE ENVIRONMENT +

The major contracts used to explore for and produce oil and gas in the U.S. and internationally

### PEACE, WAR, AND THE ENVIRONMENT

International environmental law, the law of armed conflict, and international humanitarian law

### PUBLIC HEALTH IMPLICATIONS OF U.S. AGRICULTURE AND FOOD POLICY

Diverse public health issues and the debate about food systems and sustainability

### PUBLIC LANDS MANAGEMENT: MONTANA FIELD STUDY

Montana provides the venue for a comparative study of the competing legal mandates and diverse philosophies of federal land management

### REGULATING THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT

The interaction of state, federal, and international regimes in the regulation of the marine environment

### RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECT FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT

Legal and policy issues associated with the development and project financing of renewable energy projects

### RISK ASSESSMENT

A course about science and law, taught from the perspective of a scientist

### SCIENCE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LAW +

The science most relevant to environmental law, including climate science, air and water pollution, toxicology, and endangered species management

### THREE ESSENTIALS OF THE ELECTRIC GRID

Fundamental legal, engineering, and business knowledge for energy professionals

### WATER QUALITY

The Clean Water Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, and the Ocean Dumping Act

### WATER RESOURCES LAW

The allocation of water among competing claimants—for consumptive uses, waste disposal, recreation, and other purposes

### WATERSHED MANAGEMENT AND PROTECTION

An “ecosystem approach” to the study of watersheds and the laws that attempt to restore and maintain their ecological integrity

+ Available online and on campus

Available online only

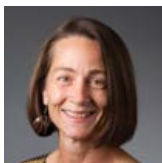
# ENVIRONMENTAL FACULTY

The environmental faculty members at Vermont Law School are teachers who know the law, work at their craft, and care about their students; scholars who challenge conventional wisdom and push the envelope of knowledge; and professionals who respect environmental values, enjoy what they do, and devote their talents to making the world a better place.

## **TRACY BACH**

### **PROFESSOR OF LAW; DIRECTOR, INTERNATIONAL AND COMPARATIVE LAW PROGRAM**

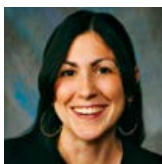
MA, JD, University of Minnesota; BA, Yale University. She clerked for the Honorable Harriet Lansing of the Minnesota Court of Appeals. In 2002, Professor Bach was a visiting professor at the National University of Rwanda Faculty of Law in Butare, Rwanda. She specializes in health care law and international human rights, especially concerning genocide. She teaches Climate Change and the Law and International Climate Change Law, and leads the VLS Observer Delegation at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change each year.



## **LAURIE BEYRANEVAND '03**

### **ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW; SENIOR FELLOW FOR FOOD LAW AND POLICY, CENTER FOR AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS**

JD, Vermont Law School; BA, Rutgers College. Before joining the faculty at VLS, she was a staff attorney with the Disability Law Project of Vermont Legal Aid, Inc. She has served as a judicial law clerk to the Honorable Marie E. Lihotz, PJFP, in New Jersey and in the Office of the Vermont Attorney General, Environmental Unit. She was appointed to serve on the Food and Drug Law Institute's Academic Programs Committee for a three year term beginning in 2014. Professor Beyranevand teaches Food Regulation and Policy, the Advanced Food Writing Seminar, Administrative Law, and Regulating the Marine Environment.



## **RICHARD O. BROOKS**

### **PROFESSOR OF LAW EMERITUS**

LLB, Yale University; PhD, Brandeis University; BA, MA, University of Chicago. The founding director of the Environmental Law Center and former executive director of Thames Valley Council for Community Action, Inc., he is the author of *Ecology and Law*; coauthor of the environmental law book, *Green Justice*; author of a book on planning law, *New Towns and Communal Values*; and author of a comprehensive book on Act 250, Vermont's landmark development-control law.



## **MICHAEL DWORKIN**

### **PROFESSOR OF LAW; FOUNDING DIRECTOR, INSTITUTE FOR ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

JD, Harvard Law School; BA, Middlebury College. He is past chair of the Vermont Public Service Board. He clerked for the D.C. Court of Appeals and represented U.S. EPA in appellate litigation. He has served as chair of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment. He is coauthor of *Global Energy Justice: Principles, Problems and Practices* (Cambridge 2014). Professor Dworkin teaches Energy Law and Policy, Global Energy Justice, and the Advanced Energy Writing Seminar.



## **STEPHEN DYCUS**

### **PROFESSOR OF LAW**

LLM, Harvard University; BA, LLB, Southern Methodist University. Former visiting professor, U.S. Military Academy, West Point, and visiting scholar, Natural Resources Defense Council. Former member of the Vermont Water Resources Board. Professor Dycus cowrote the case book, *National Security Law*, and is the author of *National Defense and the Environment*. He is coauthor of *Counterterrorism Law*, 3rd ed. (2017).



## **JOHN D. ECHEVERRIA**

### **PROFESSOR OF LAW**

JD, Yale University; MSF, Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies; BA, Yale College. He was the executive director of the Georgetown Environmental Law and Policy Institute at Georgetown University Law Center from 1997–2009. He has produced several books and numerous articles on the private property rights issue, land use management, and natural resource management. He is organizing the 20th annual conference on Litigating Takings Challenges to Land Use and Environmental Regulations in 2017. He teaches Water Resources Law and Legal Adaptation to Global Warming Impacts.



## **DAVID FIRESTONE**

### **PROFESSOR OF LAW**

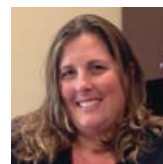
JD, Harvard University; BS, Wayne State University. Former attorney, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; visiting fellow in the faculty of laws, King's College, England; and seminar leader for the U.S. Information Agency in Eastern Europe, Austria, and Micronesia. The fifth edition of his book *Environmental Law for Non-Lawyers* was published in 2014. He teaches Environmental Law.



## **JILL WITKOWSKI HEAPS**

### **ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF LAW; DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES LAW CLINIC**

JD, Washington University in St. Louis; BA, University of Notre Dame. She joined the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Clinic in 2017 with a robust background as a clinical educator, having served as Deputy Director of the Tulane Environmental Law Clinic for several years. She has served as Director of the Choose Clean Water Coalition, bringing together more than 200 organizations across the Chesapeake Bay watershed working together for clean water, and as Legal Clinic Director and Waterkeeper at San Diego Coastkeeper.





**HILLARY HOFFMANN**  
**PROFESSOR OF LAW**

JD, S.J. Quinney College of Law at the University of Utah; BA, Middlebury College. She clerked in the Natural Resources Division of the Utah Attorney General's office and for Chief Judge Dee V. Benson in the United States District Court for the District of Utah. She practiced real property and natural resources law at Fabian & Clendenin, PC, in Salt Lake City, Utah. Her article "Fracking the Sacred: Resolving the Tension between Unconventional Oil and Gas Development and Tribal Cultural Resource Protection," appeared in the *Denver Law Review* (2017). She teaches Indian Tribes as Governmental Stewards of the Environment, Native Americans and the Law, and Natural Resources Law.



**MARK JAMES LLM'16**  
**ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF LAW; SENIOR FELLOW, INSTITUTE FOR ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

LLM in Energy Law, Vermont Law School; JD, University of Ottawa. He served as an IEE Global Energy Fellow from 2014 to 2016. His current work explores privacy protections for data generated by smart meters and rooftop solar arrays. His prior work includes leading a research team on a multi-year SunShot Plug and Play project to commercialize adhered solar PV panel technology and researching federal hydropower production tax credits. He teaches Energy Law and Policy and Alternative Fuels and Renewable Energy.



**KEVIN JONES**  
**PROFESSOR OF ENERGY TECHNOLOGY AND POLICY; DIRECTOR, INSTITUTE FOR ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT**

PhD, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute's Lally School of Management and Technology; Masters, LBJ School of Public Affairs, University of Texas at Austin; BS, University of Vermont. Dr. Jones has been the Director of Power Market Policy for the Long Island Power Authority and the Director of Energy Policy for the City of New York. His book *The Electric Battery* was published in 2017. He teaches Energy Regulation, Markets, and the Environment and Environmental Economics and Markets.



**SIU TIP LAM**  
**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW; DIRECTOR, U.S.-ASIA PARTNERSHIPS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LAW**

JD, Northeastern University School of Law; AB, Harvard University. She was an assistant attorney general in the Environmental Protection Division of the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office, where she handled a variety of cases enforcing environmental laws and regulations. She worked as a litigation associate at the Boston law firm of Brown, Rudnick, Freed & Gesmer. She teaches Environmental Law.



**MARK LATHAM**  
**PROFESSOR OF LAW**

JD, University of California—Berkeley; BSN, Illinois Wesleyan University. Prior to joining the VLS faculty, he was a partner and chair of the environmental practice group at Gardner, Carton, and Douglas (now Drinker, Biddle and Reath) in Chicago and Washington, D.C. He specializes in a wide range of environmental issues that arise in corporate and commercial real estate transactions and brownfields redevelopment. He teaches Environmental Issues in Business Transactions.



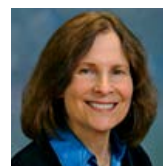
**YANMEI LIN**  
**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW; ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, U.S.-ASIA PARTNERSHIPS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LAW**

LLM, New York University; Master of Law, Fudan University; BA, Fudan University. Professor Lin was a program officer for the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative's China program for more than 3 years, managing and implementing projects in the areas of environmental law, open government information, and civil society development in China. Prior to that, she was a lecturer and researcher for China Institute of Environment and Resources Protection in Minority Areas at the Central University for Nationalities. She teaches the Comparative Environmental Law Research Seminar and Environmental Governance in the Developing World.



**REED ELIZABETH LODER**  
**PROFESSOR OF LAW**

PhD, Boston University; JD, University of Connecticut; AB, MA, Boston University. She clerked for the Honorable Thomas P. Smith of the United States District Court in Bridgeport, Connecticut. She then practiced law at the firm of Peckham, Lobel, Casey and Tye, in Boston, while teaching at Boston College Law School. Professor Loder joined the VLS faculty in 1989. Her article "Animal Dignity" appeared in *Animal Law* (Lewis and Clark, 2017). She teaches Animal Law and Ethics, Environmental Ethics, and Moral Philosophy for Professionals.



**THOMAS MCHENRY**  
**PROFESSOR OF LAW; PRESIDENT AND DEAN**

JD, New York University Law School; MSF, Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies; BA, Yale College. He is a former partner at Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher in Los Angeles, where he practiced general environmental law with an emphasis on air quality, climate change, hazardous waste, environmental diligence, land use, and energy issues. He served as a law clerk to the Honorable Lawrence K. Karlton, Chief United States District Judge of the Eastern District of California, in Sacramento.



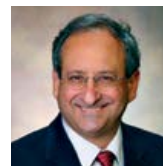
**DAVID MEARS '91**  
**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW; ASSOCIATE DEAN OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL LAW PROGRAM; DIRECTOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CENTER**

JD, MSEL, Vermont Law School; BS, Cornell University. From 2010 to 2015, he served as the commissioner of the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation. He has worked in the U.S. Department of Justice; for the State of Texas as energy and environment policy director; for the Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission; for the Texas Office of the Attorney General as senior assistant attorney of the Ecology Division; and in the Washington State Office of the Attorney General. Mears served as director of the ENRLC in 2009–10 and 2015–16. He teaches CERCLA.



**MARC MIHALY**  
**PROFESSOR OF LAW**

JD, University of California—Berkeley; BA, Harvard University. He is the founding partner of the environmental law firm of Shute, Mihaly and Weinberger in San Francisco, where his practice emphasized environmental, regulatory, land use, appellate law, and complex negotiations. He was the President and Dean of Vermont Law School from 2012 to 2017. He teaches Land Transactions and Finance.

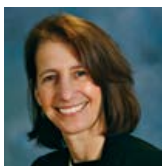


# ENVIRONMENTAL FACULTY

## **JANET E. MILNE**

### **PROFESSOR OF LAW; DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENTAL TAX POLICY INSTITUTE**

JD, Georgetown University Law Center; BA, Williams College. She has served as an attorney for the Washington Post, as an attorney with the Washington firm of Covington and Burling, and as Senator Lloyd Bentsen's staff member responsible for tax, international trade, and health care issues. She is a co-editor of *Green Fiscal Reform for a Sustainable Future* (2016). She teaches Climate Change: The Power of Taxes and Land Use Regulation.



## **SEAN NOLON**

### **PROFESSOR OF LAW; ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS; DIRECTOR, DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROGRAM**

JD, Pace University School of Law; BA, Cornell University. In his positions as director of the Land Use Law Center and as executive director of the Theodore W. Kheel Center on Environmental Solutions at Pace University School of Law, he designed and implemented curricular offerings as well as web-based services to facilitate distance learning. He served as an associate at Melito & Adolfsen, coordinating litigation in environmental cases and class actions. Professor Nolon teaches Environmental Dispute Resolution.



## **JEANNIE OLIVER LL.M. '14**

### **ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF LAW; STAFF ATTORNEY, ENERGY CLINIC**

LL.M. in American Legal Studies, LL.M. in Environmental Law, Vermont Law School; LL.B., University of Auckland. She served as a judge's clerk at the New Zealand Court of Appeal; as legal counsel for the New Zealand Commerce Commission; and in private practice in a corporate law firm in Auckland. Most recently, she was a staff attorney at the Vermont Department of Public Service where she focused on renewable energy facilities.



## **PATRICK A. PARENTEAU**

### **PROFESSOR OF LAW; SPECIAL COUNSEL, ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES LAW CLINIC**

JD, Creighton University; LL.M., Environmental Law, George Washington University; BS, Regis College. Former commissioner, Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation; general counsel for the New England Regional Office of U.S. EPA; vice president for conservation, National Wildlife Federation; environmental counsel with Perkins Coie in Portland, Oregon; and former director, Environmental Law Center at VLS. His article "A Bright Line Mistake: How EPA Bungled the Clean Water Rule" appears in *Environmental Law* (2016). Professor Parenteau teaches Climate Change and the Law, Extinction and Climate Change, and Water Quality.



## **CRAIG M. PEASE**

### **PROFESSOR OF SCIENCE AND LAW**

PhD, University of Chicago; BA, MS, University of California—Los Angeles. He was a member of the zoology faculty of the University of Texas at Austin from 1986 to 1998. He contributed to the Balcones Canyonlands Conservation Plan in Texas. He served on peer review panels for the U.S. EPA and the National Science Foundation and as an expert witness in federal court trials. He joined the VLS faculty in 1998. Professor Pease teaches the LL.M. Graduate Seminar, Risk Assessment, and Science for Environmental Law.



## **LAURIE RISTINO**

### **ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW; DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS**

JD, University of Iowa; MPA, George Mason University; BA, University of Michigan. Before joining VLS, she was a senior counsel with the Office of the General Counsel, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) in Washington, DC. She is an expert on the conservation title of the farm bill, and advised on the implementation of the 2002 and 2008 farm bills, as well as the run-up to the 2013 farm bill. Her book, *A Changing Landscape: The Conservation Reader*, (with Jessica Jay '97) was published in 2016. She teaches Agricultural Environmental Law and Introduction to Law and Policy of Agriculture, Food, and the Environment.



## **KENNETH RUMELT LL.M. '12**

### **PROFESSOR OF LAW; SENIOR ATTORNEY, ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES LAW CLINIC**

JD, St. Louis University; LL.M., Vermont Law School; BA, University of Colorado. He has worked as a contract attorney with firms in St. Louis, Missouri and Denver, Colorado on toxic tort claims. Before law school, Mr. Rumelt spent two years as an intern with the EPA National Hazardous Waste and Superfund Ombudsman in Washington, D.C. Prior to joining the VLS faculty, Professor Rumelt served as a clinic fellow with the ENRLC. He teaches Environmental Law.



## **CHRISTINE RYAN**

### **ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF LAW; ENVIRONMENTAL LAW LIBRARIAN**

MA, Dartmouth College; MS in library science, Simmons College; BA, University of Connecticut. She is an experienced legal research instructor. She has created and continues to expand the VLS Environmental Law Research Guide, which links to carefully selected Internet resources that support the practice of environmental law. She develops the environmental law collection of electronic resources and books for VLS, and provides information services to the VLS community. She published LibGuide, "Archived Environmental Information Deleted from Federal Government Web Sites," in 2017. Ms. Ryan teaches Advanced Environmental Legal Research.





### **MELISSA SCANLAN**

#### **PROFESSOR OF LAW; DIRECTOR OF THE NEW ECONOMY LAW CENTER**

JD, MS, University of California—Berkeley; BA, Catholic University of America. Prior to joining VLS, she was the University of Wisconsin Law School's Water Law and Policy Scholar. She received a competitive Equal Justice Works Fellowship and an Echoing Green Fellowship to found and direct Midwest Environmental Advocates, Wisconsin's first non-profit environmental law center. From 2013 to 2017, she was the Associate Dean for the Environmental Law Program and Director of the Environmental Law Center at Vermont Law School. She is the editor of *Law for the New Economy: Sustainable, Just, and Democratic*, (2017). She teaches Legislation and Regulation, Watershed Management and Protection, and New Frontiers in Environmental Policy.



### **JESSICA SCOTT '10**

#### **ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF LAW**

JD, Vermont Law School; BS, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service. She was an Attorney Advisor at U.S. EPA's Office of General Counsel from 2010–14, where she advised the Agency on international environmental legal issues, including human rights and the environment and environmental governance, and counseled on the Clean Air Act. She was a fellow with the ABA's Rule of Law Initiative in Beijing and a delegate to the National Committee on United States-China Relations Environmental Law Professionals Exchange in China. She teaches Air Pollution Law and Policy, International Environmental Law and Policy, and Legislation and Regulation.



### **JAMES GUSTAVE SPETH**

#### **SENIOR FELLOW**

JD, Yale University; M.Litt, Oxford University; BA, Yale University. He was the dean of Yale's School of Forestry and Environmental Studies from 1999–2009. Before that, he served as administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and chair of the UN Development Group. He was founder and president of the World Resources Institute; professor of law at Georgetown University; chairman of the U.S. Council on Environmental Quality; and senior attorney and cofounder of the Natural Resources Defense Council.



### **EMILY SPIEGEL**

#### **ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF LAW**

JD, Duke University; BS, Georgetown University School of Foreign Service. Before joining the Center for Agriculture and Food Systems at Vermont Law School in 2017, she was a consultant and law fellow at the Duke University Environmental Law and Policy Clinic; a Development Law Service Intern at the Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome, Italy; and an International Agricultural Development Specialist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Foreign Agricultural Service.



### **RACHEL STEVENS LLM'16**

#### **ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF LAW; STAFF ATTORNEY, ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES LAW CLINIC**

LLM in Environmental Law, JD, Master of Environmental Law and Policy, Vermont Law School; BA, University of Georgia. She previously worked as a law clerk at Stack & Associates P.C., a boutique environmental law and land use law firm in Atlanta; at the Witcher Law Firm in Decatur, Georgia; and as an intern at the Office of the Georgia Capital Defenders. At Vermont Law School, she received the Clinical Legal Education Association Outstanding Student Award.



### **JACK TUHOLSKE**

#### **PROFESSOR OF LAW; DIRECTOR, WATER AND JUSTICE PROGRAM**

JD, University of Montana. As a private practitioner in Montana, he specializes in public interest environmental litigation throughout the West. In recognition of his work on behalf of public interest groups, he was awarded the Kerry Rydberg Award in 2010 by the University of Oregon Public Interest Environmental Law Conference. As a Fulbright Scholar in 2009, he taught courses in climate change and comparative environmental law at the University of Ljubljana in Slovenia. Professor Tuholske teaches Climate Change Mitigation, Natural Resources Law, Public Lands Management, and the Montana Field Study.



### **JOAN VOGEL**

#### **PROFESSOR OF LAW**

MA, JD, University of California—Los Angeles; BA, George Washington University. She has presented widely on topics of legal pluralism, new teaching methods in labor law, tort reform, and on the "Lemon Laws." She has served as chair of the Law and Anthropology and the Labor and Employment Law sections of the Association of American Law Schools. Professor Vogel teaches Culture and the Environment.



### **L. KINVIN WROTH**

#### **PROFESSOR OF LAW EMERITUS**

LLB, Harvard University; BA, Yale University. He came to VLS as dean in 1996, after having served as dean of the University of Maine School of Law. As reporter and consultant to the Vermont Supreme Court's rules advisory committees since 1969, he has drafted many of Vermont's rules of procedure, evidence, and professional and judicial conduct, including rules to implement the expanded jurisdiction of the Environmental Court.



**"THE NATION'S LEADING ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAM IS BUILT ON THE REMARKABLE DEPTH AND BREADTH OF ITS FACULTY"**

**—MELISSA K. SCANLAN**, Associate Professor of Law,  
Director of the New Economy Law Center

# ADJUNCT, ONLINE, AND SUMMER FACULTY

## CHRISTOPHER ADAMO '04

The Modern Farm Bill  
Former Chief of Staff, White House Council on Environmental Quality

## DON BAUR

Ocean and Coastal Law  
Partner, Perkins Coie, LLP

## GLENN BERGER '78

Three Essentials of the Electric Grid  
Retired Partner, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP

## BETH BOEPPLE

Local Farm and Food Law  
Attorney, BCM Environmental & Land Law, PLLC

## JAMES CHEN

Environmental Economics and Markets  
Justin Smith Morrill Chair in Law, Michigan State University

## JONATHAN COPPES

The Modern Farm Bill  
Clinical Assistant Professor of Law and Policy, University of Illinois

## CATHY COSTANTINO

Environmental Conflict Management Systems Design  
Counsel, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC)

## MICHAEL COTE MELP'10

Climate Change Adaptation in Human Systems  
Climate Adaptation Specialist, ECDIT

## CORMAC CULLINAN

Earth Law  
Director, Cullinan & Associates

## TOM DUNN

Three Essentials of the Electric Grid  
President and CEO, Vermont Electric Company

## TIM EICHENBERG

Ocean and Coastal Law  
Former Chief Counsel, San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission

## WILLIAM EUBANKS II LLM'08

Public Health Implications of U.S. Agriculture and Food Policy  
Partner, Meyer Glitzenstein & Eubanks LLP

## KEVIN FOY

Environmental Law  
Associate Professor, North Carolina Central University School of Law

## RACHEL ASLIN GOLDWASSER '07

Energy Regulation and the Environment  
Executive Director, New England Conference of Public Utilities Commissioners

## BARRY E. HILL

Environmental Justice; Administrative Law; Communications, Advocacy and Leadership  
Visiting Scholar, Environmental Law Institute

## RANDOLPH HILL

Environmental Enforcement and Compliance  
Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of International and Tribal Affairs, U.S. EPA

## JESSICA JAY '97

Land Conservation Law  
Founding Partner, Conservation Law, P.C.

## BENJAMIN JONES '12

Climate Change and the Law  
Senior Global Energy Fellow, Vermont Law School

## ROSS JONES '00

Science for Environmental Law; Natural Resources Law; Environmental Law  
Research Assistant Professor, Dartmouth College

## MARTHA JUDY

CERCLA Liability and Cleanup  
Professor of Law, Vermont Law School

## KIT KENNEDY

Three Essentials of the Electric Grid  
Director, Energy and Transportation Program, Natural Resources Defense Council

## TOM LAUTZENHEISER

Ecology  
Central/Western Regional Scientist, Massachusetts Audubon Society

## WILLIAM LOGUE

Mediation  
Independent mediator, facilitator, consensus builder, and trainer

## CATHERINE MACKENZIE

Peace, War, and the Environment  
Fellow and Director of Studies in Law, University of Cambridge

## AMY MANZELLI

Local Farm and Food Law  
Attorney, BCM Environmental & Land Law, PLLC

## ANNA MARHOLD

Global Energy Law and Policy  
Assistant Professor, Senior Researcher, Tilburg Law and Economics Center, Tilburg Law School

## CLAYTON MITCHELL

Alternative Fuels and Renewable Energy  
Partner, Revolution Energy LLC

## DAVID MURASKIN

Food System Justice and Sustainability  
Food Safety and Health Attorney, Public Justice

## MARCOS ORELLANA

International Investment Arbitration and the Environment  
Senior Attorney and Director, Human Rights and the Environment Program, Center for International Environmental Law

## ROBERT V. PERCIVAL

Comparative U.S.-China Environmental Law  
Robert F. Stanton Professor of Law, Director of the Environmental Law Program, University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law

## AARON PAGE

International Investment Arbitration and the Environment  
Managing Attorney, Forum Nobis PLLC

## WALTER POLEMAN

Ecology  
Senior Lecturer, Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources, University of Vermont

## SARAH REITER '13

Environmental Dispute Resolution  
Associate Director, Office of Career Services, Vermont Law School

## CARI RINCKER

Law and Policy of Local Food Systems  
Owner, Rincker Law, PLLC

## CHRIS ROOT

Three Essentials of the Electric Grid  
Chief Operating Officer, Vermont Electric Power Company

## DOUGLAS RULEY

Environmental Law  
Senior Attorney, Southern Environmental Law Center

## YVONNE SCANNELL

European Environmental Law  
Professor Emerita, Trinity College, Dublin

## WILLIAM J. SCHULTE LLM'15

Environmental Governance in the Developing World  
Assistant Director, U.S.-Asia Partnerships for Environmental Law, Vermont Law School

## CARRIE SCRUFARI LLM'16

Introduction to the Law and Policy of Agriculture, Food, and the Environment  
Assistant Professor of Law, Vermont Law School

## ADRIENNE SOLER

Legislation and Regulation Survey; Communication, Advocacy and Leadership  
Associate Professor of Law; Associate Director of Online Learning, Vermont Law School

## HOLLY STOUT LLM'14

Climate Change, Extinction, and Adaptation  
Attorney, California Department of Water Resources, California Water Commission

## KERIANN STOUT

Communication, Advocacy and Leadership  
Assistant Director, Academic Success Program, Vermont Law School

## MIKE SUTTON

Ocean and Coastal Law  
Former Vice President, Pacific Flyway, National Audubon Society

## PHILIP TABAS

Ecosystem Conservation Strategies  
Special Advisor, North America Conservation Region, The Nature Conservancy

## JOHANNA THIBAUT LLM'15

Energy Law and Policy; Oil and Gas Development and the Environment; Alternative Fuels and Renewable Energy  
Associate, Plains Justice

## PAMELA VESILIND '08

Law of Animals in Agriculture; Global Food Security and Social Justice; Federal Regulation of Food and Agriculture  
Attorney, Vesilind Law Firm

## JACQUELINE WEAVER

Oil and Gas Production and the Environment  
A.A. White Professor of Law, Emerita, University of Houston Law Center

## DAVID A. WIRTH

International Trade and the Environment  
Professor of Law, Boston College Law School

## STEVEN M. WISE

Animal Rights Jurisprudence  
President, Nonhuman Rights Project

# SPECIAL EVENTS AND GUESTS

**SEPTEMBER 12, 2017:** The [Douglas Costle Lecture](#) will be delivered by visiting professor Kathleen Falk, former Regional Director of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

**SEPTEMBER 22-23, 2017:** The eighth annual [Colloquium on Environmental Scholarship](#) offers the opportunity for environmental law scholars to present their works-in-progress and recent scholarship.

**SEPTEMBER 27-29, 2017:** The 18th [Global Conference on Environmental Taxation](#), co-sponsored by VLS's Environmental Tax Policy Institute, will take place in Tucson, Arizona.

**OCTOBER 5-6, 2017:** The 20th annual [Litigating Takings Challenges to Land Use and Environmental Regulations](#), co-sponsored by VLS, will take place at University of Minnesota Law School.

**OCTOBER 20, 2017:** The [Vermont Journal of Environmental Law Symposium](#) addresses the legal complications related to the country's transition to a low-carbon energy future.

**NOVEMBER 11, 2017:** [Energize Democracy: How to Run for Office](#) is a nonpartisan workshop sponsored by the New Economy Law Center.

**APRIL 12, 2018:** The fourteenth annual **Norman Williams Lecture on Land Use Planning and the Law** will be delivered by Thomas W. Mitchell, Professor of Law at Texas A&M University.

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The Environmental Law Center's [Distinguished Environmental Summer Scholars](#) spend two weeks meeting with students and faculty and presenting lectures on their current work. The 2017 scholars were:

**SARA BRONIN**—Thomas F. Gallivan, Jr., Chair in Real Property Law and Faculty Director, Center for Energy and Environmental Law, University of Connecticut School of Law

**KEITH HIROKAWA**—Associate Professor of Law, Albany Law School

**MICHELLE NOWLIN**—Clinical Professor of Law and Supervising Attorney, Duke Environmental Law and Policy Clinic

**JONATHAN ROSENBLUM**—Professor of Law and Director, Environment and Sustainability Program, Drake University Law School

**QIN TIANBAO**—Professor of Law, Director of Research Institute of Environmental Law, and Associate Dean for Research and International Affiliations, Wuhan University School of Law

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Since 2003, [Environmental Law Media Fellows](#) have been spending two weeks attending Summer Session classes and giving lectures as part of our Hot Topics in Environmental Law brown bag lecture series. The 2017 fellows were:

**LISA HYMAS**, Media Matters for America

**RENEE SCHOOF**, Bloomberg BNA

**PETER SCHWARTZSTEIN**, freelance journalist

The **Norman Williams Distinguished Lecture in Land Use and Planning Law** series brings nationally recognized speakers to VLS. Featured speakers have included:

**2017: UMA OUTKA**, Professor of Law, University of Kansas School of Law, "Shifting Energy Landscapes"

**2016: PATRICIA SALKIN**, Dean and Professor of Law at Touro Law Center, "Gaming the Future: A Winning Strategy for Land Use and Sustainable Development"

**2015: MICHAEL GERRARD**, the Andrew Sabin Professor of Professional Practice, Associate Chair of the Earth Institute, Columbia Law School, "Climate Change and Land Use Law: A Strategy to Avoid the Worst Impacts"

**2014: LEE ANN FENNELL**, Max Pam Professor of Law and Herbert and Marjorie Fried Research Scholar at the University of Chicago Law School, "Co-location, Co-location, Co-location: Land Use and Housing Priorities Reimagined"

**2013: ROBERT L. LIBERTY**, Director of the Urban Sustainability Accelerator at Portland State University, "Rising to the Land Use Challenge: How Planners and Regulators Can Help Sustain Our Civilization"

**2012: VICKI BEEN**, Professor and Director of the Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy, NYU School of Law, "Explaining the Motivations Behind Land Use Regulation: New York City's Rezoning of Almost One Quarter of Its Land"

**2011: BILL MCKIBBEN**, Schumann Distinguished Scholar at Middlebury College and Founder of 350.org, "The Most Important Number in the World"

**2010: MARY NICHOLS**, Chair of the California Air Resources Board, "Sustainable Communities for a Sustainable State: California's Efforts to Curb Sprawl and Cut Emissions"

**2009: JOSEPH L. SAX**, James H. House and Hiram H. Hurd Professor of Environmental Regulation, Emeritus, University of California Berkeley, Boalt Hall, "The Property Rights Sweepstakes: Has Anyone Held the Winning Ticket?"

**2008: JEROLD S. KAYDEN**, Frank Backus Williams Professor of Urban Planning and Design, Harvard University Graduate School of Design, "For Whom the Bell Tolls: Reflections on Eminent Domain, Constitutional Review, and Public Attitudes"

**2007: WILLIAM CRONON**, Frederick Jackson Turner & Vilas Research Professor of History, Geography, and Environmental Studies, University of Wisconsin—Madison, "Saving Nature in Time: The Rebirth of Environmentalism"

**2006: JOHN D. ECHEVERRIA**, executive director of the Environmental Law and Policy Institute at Georgetown University Law Center, "From a 'Darkling Plain' to What?: The Regulatory Takings Issue in U.S. Law and Policy"





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