

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW BULLETIN

SPRING
2018

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VERMONT
LAW SCHOOL

SUMMER FIELD STUDY COURSE BRINGS STUDENTS TO SOUTHEAST ASIA

A 2018 summer field study course on Environmental Governance in the Developing World will offer VLS students the opportunity to study and travel to Cambodia and Vietnam. The course is co-taught by [William Schulte](#), Assistant Director of VLS's [U.S.-Asia Partnerships for Environmental Law](#), and Professor [Yanmei Lin](#).

The field study portion of the course provides students an opportunity to observe firsthand some of the challenges to implementing strong environmental governance in Southeast Asia. The 2017 trip included visits to local law firms and NGOs, observation of a village community collaborative planning process, and a forest hike through some of the most remote and biodiverse habitat of Cambodia. As Schulte explains, "it was truly an eye opening experience that gave us a deep appreciation for some of the difficulties that countries in the developing world face in pursuing sustainable development."

The centerpiece of the visit to Cambodia was a field trip to a village within the Prey Lang Forest, the largest remaining lowland

evergreen forest in Southeast Asia. Students observed a community meeting organized by local activists to discuss a collaborative management framework, including detailed maps, and what implementing Collaborative Management would mean for the local community.

The highlight of the Vietnam segment was a visit to the Trang An UNESCO World Heritage site in Ninh Binh Province, south of Hanoi. Trang An is a complex of karst limestone peaks with waterways, ancient temples, and some small villages throughout the valleys. Schulte says, "in addition to the incredible scenery, this visit gave us an appreciation for what successful eco-tourism could look like as a solution to protecting unique areas such as this."

In 2018, Schulte and Lin look forward to continuing to work with these partners and



Students hike to the top of Phnom Chi in Cambodia

support them in their mission to implement strong environmental governance. 🌿

"IT WAS TRULY AN EYE OPENING EXPERIENCE THAT GAVE US A DEEP APPRECIATION FOR SOME OF THE DIFFICULTIES THAT COUNTRIES IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD FACE IN PURSUING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT."

—WILLIAM SCHULTE

14TH ANNUAL NORMAN WILLIAMS LECTURE IN LAND USE PLANNING AND THE LAW



THOMAS MITCHELL DISCUSSES RACIAL DISPARITY IN PROPERTY OWNERSHIP

Thomas Mitchell delivered the 14th Annual [Norman Williams Distinguished Lecture in Land Use Planning and the Law](#) on April 12 at VLS. Mitchell, who serves as Interim Dean and Professor at Texas A&M University School of Law, discussed "How to Address Racial Disparity in Property Ownership." He addressed how legislative reform of property laws that negatively impact disadvantaged property

owners in disproportionate ways can be achieved, although there are often significant barriers that stymie such reform efforts for such property owners. He drew upon his experience serving as the reporter (principal drafter) for the Uniform Law Commission of the Uniform Partition of Heirs Property Act, a uniform act enacted into law in ten states thus far, as a case study of how such reform can be achieved working with elite legal actors and activists at the local and state level. Mitchell also co-directs the Program in Real Estate and Community Development Law at Texas A&M. 🌿

at left: "For Kathy" by Erin L. Robinson

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CENTER

[Center for Agriculture and Food Systems](#)

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[Institute for Energy and the Environment](#)

[New Economy Law Center](#)

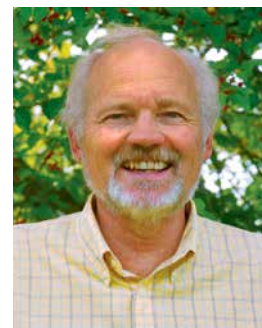
[U.S.-Asia Partnerships for Environmental Law](#)

[Water and Justice Program](#)

PARENTEAU AND SCANLAN AWARDED FULBRIGHT FELLOWSHIPS

Two VLS professors have been awarded Fulbright Fellowships. [Patrick Parenteau](#) will spend the fall 2018 semester at University College Cork, Ireland. He will teach a comparative law seminar on citizen suits in the U.S. and European Union. While there, he will develop a model environmental law clinic for University College Cork to become the first law school in Ireland to offer one. Parenteau teaches Climate Change and the Law and Extinction and Climate Change at VLS. He has been the Director of the Environmental Law

(continued on page 3)



Patrick Parenteau

FROM THE ASSOCIATE DEAN

GREETINGS FROM VERMONT

From our little corner of the world, Vermont Law School students and faculty are engaging in the work of learning and advancing environmental law and policy across the globe. I am amazed at the ability of this generation of students to see beyond the constraints of borders, culture, and language as they explore opportunities to develop better ways to protect the environment and public health.

In Asia, students in the Environmental Governance in the Developing World class traveled to **Cambodia** and **Vietnam** in the summer to learn how to help local NGOs in their mission to implement strong environmental governance. Students assisted our U.S.-Asia Partnerships for Environmental Law in providing environmental adjudication training for **Chinese** judges.

In Europe, students in the International Climate Change Law class attended the COP23 Conference of the Parties in Bonn, **Germany**, as a non-governmental observer delegation, and supported a least developed country in the COP negotiations. Our Environmental Tax Policy Institute is a supporting partner of the Global Conference on Environmental Taxation, to be held in Madrid, **Spain**, in 2018. Professor Pat Parenteau was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to University College Cork, **Ireland**, where he will teach and develop a model environmental law clinic.

Closer to home, energy students and faculty visited **Cuba** on a study tour in the fall to learn how the Cuban legal system works, with a focus on renewable energy law and policy. Students will travel to Port-au-Prince, **Haiti**, as part of a new spring break service trip in hopes of establishing a VLS-Haiti initiative to provide ongoing legal aid in environmental law and human rights to local organizations.

Enjoy reading about the many ways our students and faculty are learning and working to make the world a better place.

Sincerely,



David K. Mears

CLINIC SUPPORTS RESIDENTS IN LONG- RUNNING BATTLE AGAINST ROCK CRUSHING OPERATION

In December 2017, Neighbors for Healthy Communities (Neighbors), with the support of the VLS's [Environmental and Natural Resources Law Clinic](#) (ENRLC), achieved their latest victory in a six-year battle against polluting industry in Graniteville, Vermont. Susan Baird of the District 5 Environmental Commission issued a jurisdictional opinion stating that North East Materials Group (NEMG) must obtain a permit under Act 250 (Vermont's statewide land use law) for a rock crusher it has been operating at the Rock of Ages quarry.

NEMG operated the crusher for nearly a year without an Act 250 permit, claiming that the crusher was "grandfathered" as part of the pre-existing Rock of Ages quarry. A development in existence before the 1970 enactment of Act 250 is exempt from permitting, unless there is a substantial change to that preexisting development. NEMG did not present enough evidence to show that crushing was historically part of the Rock of Ages quarry.



Elizabeth Tisher (center) with
ENRLC clinicians Maggie Galka '18
and Jack Wadleigh '18

"The introduction in 2017 of a crushing operation at the Smith Quarry is a cognizable change that has the potential to result in neighboring landowners experiencing significant adverse noise, dust, and traffic impacts," wrote Baird in the opinion. She further found it "inconceivable" that NEMG should be able to "site a crusher at any location on a tract with no requirement to mitigate its impact on adjacent landowners."

This was not the first rock crusher for which NEMG claimed the grandfathering exemption. NEMG operated another crusher without an Act 250 permit from 2010 to 2016.

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Crushing operation in action in Graniteville

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The mission of the Environmental Law Center is to educate for stewardship, to teach an awareness of underlying environmental issues and values, to provide a solid knowledge of environmental law, and to develop skills to administer and improve environmental policy.

This is a publication of the Environmental Law Center. We welcome your questions, comments, corrections, article proposals, and updates.

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CENTER

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© 2018 Vermont Law School Environmental Law Center
Edited by: Anne Linehan | Design: Wetherby Design | 03/18, .7K
Photographs by: William Schulte, Becca Milasczewski, Craig Thedwall, Rob Bossi, istockphoto.com

Printing: R.C. Brayshaw & Company, Inc., environmentally certified to the Forest Stewardship Council Standard. Printed on 100-lb. Mohawk Options PC 100 text. This paper is manufactured entirely with non-polluting, wind-generated energy, using 100% post-consumer recycled fiber, is Process Chlorine-Free, and is certified by Green Seal and SmartWood to the Forest Stewardship Council Standard.



Dr. Conrado Moreno and VLS students in Cuba

STUDENTS ENJOY ENERGY STUDY TOUR TO CUBA

VLS's [Institute for Energy and the Environment](#) led a renewable energy study tour to Cuba in the fall 2017 semester. Sixteen students and faculty members learned about Cuban culture; how the legal system works in Cuba, with a focus on how foreign companies can do business there; and renewable energy law and policy.

With the support of **Dr. Conrado Moreno** and his students at the Universidad Tecnológica de la Habana and Professor **Natacha Mesa**

Tejeda of the Universidad de la Habana Law School, as well as the Centro de Estudios Martianos, the group from VLS spent a week exploring Havana and western Cuba. They learned about solar technology and policy and enjoyed the view of Havana from the rooftop of the home of the president of the NGO Cubasolar, and examined biogas and solar energy systems on farms outside the city. Planning is underway for a return trip in 2018. 🌿

STUDENTS REPRESENT VLS AT MOOT COURT COMPETITION

VLS's Native American Law Students Association (NALSA) Moot Court Team of **Kira Kelley '18** and **Samantha Doyle '19** represented VLS at the 26th Annual National NALSA Moot Court Competition at Arizona State University Law School, March 3–4. The competition was held at the new ASU Beus Center for Law and Society in Phoenix. Professor [Hillary Hoffmann](#) coached the team. This year's problem was highly complex, involving a choice of law question, arguments about federal v. state v. tribal jurisdiction, and the common law doctrines governing tribal sovereign immunity and tribal corporate immunity.

Sarah Munger '18, **Sabrina Camboulives '18**, and **Matthew Arnold '18** advanced to the quarterfinals at the National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition at Pace Law School, February 24–25. Sabrina Camboulives was awarded Best Oralist of the competition. This year's problem stood out as the toughest in the history of the competition, as recognized by all the returning judges. The team was coached by [Lizzie Tisher](#), Staff Attorney and Fellow at the [Environmental and Natural Resources Law Clinic](#). 🌿

PARENTEAU AND SCANLAN (continued from page 1)

Center and the Director of the [Environmental and Natural Resources Law Clinic](#) (ENRLC). He is currently Senior Counsel at the ENRLC.

[Melissa Scanlan's](#) fellowship will take her to the University of Alicante Law School, Spain, for 2019. She will advise on environmental law curriculum development for their master's program, mentor master's students on thesis development, provide guest lectures, and conduct research on the environmental impact of cooperatives in Spain, the country with the largest cooperative sector in the world. Scanlan directs the [New Economy Law Center](#) at VLS,

and has been the Director of the Environmental Law Center. She teaches Legislation and Regulation, New Frontiers in Environmental Policy, and Watershed Management and Protection. 🌿



Melissa Scanlan

ENERGY INSTITUTE ANNOUNCES NEW INTERNATIONAL FELLOWS

The [Institute for Energy and the Environment](#) (IEE) has added two new international fellows to its team. [Anna Butenko](#) has joined the IEE as Senior Fellow for European Energy Law and Policy, and [Arturo Brandt](#) has joined as Senior Fellow for Latin American Climate and Energy Law and Policy. They will collaborate with the IEE faculty, staff, and students to strengthen the reach and depth of the IEE's clean energy law and policy program in Europe and Latin America. The collaboration will include opportunities for academic, policy research, and cultural exchanges of knowledge and experience.

Ms. Butenko was the Fulbright-Schuman Innovation Scholar at IEE in the fall of 2017. She is carrying out her doctoral research in energy law and economics at Amsterdam Centre for Energy of the University of Amsterdam, and at Tilburg Law and Economics Center of Tilburg University, the Netherlands. Her research focuses on regulatory responses to innovation in the energy sector.

Mr. Brandt, a VLS graduate with an LL.M. in Environmental Law, will teach Global Energy Law and Policy at VLS in the summer of 2018. He is the Latin American Representative for Tradition Green, a UK Company in the environmental commodities marketplace, including carbon credits and renewable energy certificates. He also serves as a consulting attorney with Vial Serrano Law Firm, advising on issues related to environmental law. 🌿



Arturo Brandt and IEE Director Kevin Jones in Santiago, Chile

ENERGY INSTITUTE COLLABORATING WITH UVM ENVIRONMENTAL STUDENTS

VLS's [Institute for Energy and the Environment](#) (IEE) is collaborating with undergraduate students from the University of Vermont in Professor **Jody Prescott's** Energy Law and Climate Change course. Each of the undergrads has been assigned applied research questions from the IEE's client-based clean energy projects. Students are researching issues related to low income access to community solar, clean transportation, offshore wind policy, Caribbean energy resilience, and energy data privacy issues. The UVM class visited the IEE in February, and IEE faculty will lecture at UVM this spring. Last year, UVM student **Rachel Bowanko** served as one of the IEE's first Clean Energy Advocacy interns. The IEE will again host two undergraduate environmental studies or sciences students as interns for summer 2018. 🌿

HEALTHY FOOD POLICY PROJECT SHOWCASES INNOVATIVE INITIATIVES

VLS's [Center for Agriculture and Food Systems](#) (CAFS) is part of a collaborative group that launched a national Healthy Food Policy Project (HFPP) in the fall of 2017. The project identifies and elevates local laws and policies that promote access to healthy food and contribute to strong local economies, improved environmental quality, and health equity. The project, which focuses on socially disadvantaged and marginalized groups, is available at www.healthyfoodpolicyproject.org.

The Healthy Food Policy Project is funded by the National Agricultural Library, Agricultural Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and represents a four-year collaboration of CAFS, the Public Health Law Center at Mitchell Hamline School of Law, and the Rudd Center for Food Policy & Obesity at the University of Connecticut.

"We are thankful to the USDA National Agricultural Library for supporting the Healthy Food Policy Project, enabling us to shine a light on laws and policies that support access to healthy food in communities across the United States," said Professor [Laurie Ristino](#), CAFS director. "This project also highlights the benefits of working nationally with a transdisciplinary team of topnotch collaborators."

The Healthy Food Policy Project website provides resources for advocates, local policymakers, and local public health agencies in their quest to champion healthy food access in their communities. The site contains a curated, searchable database of local healthy food policies that have been analyzed by HFPP partners, a crosswalk of local laws and policies organized by food system category and type of law, and case studies that showcase healthy food policy initiatives around the country. 🌱



FARMERS MARKET LEGAL TOOLKIT PROVIDES FREE RESOURCES FOR COMMUNITIES

The [Center for Agriculture and Food Systems](#) (CAFS) at Vermont Law School, Farmers Market Coalition, and Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont have launched an online Farmers Market Legal Toolkit, a free resource to support building resilient and accessible markets throughout the U.S. The toolkit, created with support from the United States Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture, is available at farmersmarketlegaltoolkit.org.

"The Farmers Market Coalition and Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont were ideal partners for this project because they work every day with markets and understand their practical needs," said VLS Assistant Professor [Emily Spiegel](#). "Vermont Law School students worked closely with them to ensure that the toolkit was tailored toward the most relevant legal issues facing market leaders. The toolkit provides market managers with accessible resources to understand the legal issues their market may encounter and plan proactively to minimize legal risk."

The toolkit responds to recurring questions from farmers market managers as they

make decisions to build and grow their markets. Topics covered include how different business structures would affect their organizations, what types of legal risks exist and how to manage them, and how to make local food available and accessible for all community members. Included among the toolkit

resources are best-practice recommendations for managing common risks and accepting Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits.

Toolkit users can review case studies to see how other markets have addressed issues. Featured markets include Webb City Farmers Market in Missouri, Capital City Farmers Market in Vermont, Durham Farmers Market in North Carolina, and Crescent City Farmers Market in New Orleans.

"Markets constantly contact us for the type of legal assistance that this toolkit covers," said **Darlene Wolnik**, a senior researcher with the Farmers Market Coalition. "Since a primary mission of markets is to offer community spaces open to one and all, it is vital that they are as inviting as possible but also imperative that they are designed to protect the organization, vendors, and shoppers by reducing any risks. We think this site will offer markets that type of help." 🌱

"THE FARMERS MARKET COALITION AND NORTHEAST ORGANIC FARMING ASSOCIATION OF VERMONT WERE IDEAL PARTNERS FOR THIS PROJECT BECAUSE THEY WORK EVERY DAY WITH MARKETS AND UNDERSTAND THEIR PRACTICAL NEEDS. VERMONT LAW SCHOOL STUDENTS WORKED CLOSELY WITH THEM TO ENSURE THAT THE TOOLKIT WAS TAILORED TOWARD THE MOST RELEVANT LEGAL ISSUES FACING MARKET LEADERS. THE TOOLKIT PROVIDES MARKET MANAGERS WITH ACCESSIBLE RESOURCES TO UNDERSTAND THE LEGAL ISSUES THEIR MARKET MAY ENCOUNTER AND PLAN PROACTIVELY TO MINIMIZE LEGAL RISK."

—EMILY SPIEGEL



VLS STUDENT OBSERVER DELEGATIONS AT COP23

Students in VLS's International Climate Change Law class attended the COP23 Conference of the Parties in Bonn, Germany, in November 2017. The students learned about international climate change law and policy through both theory and first-hand observation. They represented VLS as a non-governmental observer delegation at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's (UNFCCC) annual COP. The delegation was led by Professor [Tracy Bach](#), Director of VLS's [International and Comparative Law Program](#).

The three-credit course is organized around two components: a weekly class for the full semester and one week of onsite experiential learning at COP23. While onsite at the COP, VLS delegation members attended official sessions and side events, followed negotiation issues, and blogged about their observations and analyses



Students in the COP23 delegation with Professor Tracy Bach

at vlscoop.vermontlaw.edu. VLS students also engaged in service learning by supporting a least developed country (Myanmar) in the COP negotiations through pre-COP briefing memos, COP session note taking, and daily briefings. 🌿

NEW ECONOMY LAW AND POLICY FORUM

The [New Economy Law Center](#) at VLS, under the direction of Professor [Melissa Scanlan](#), hosted a series of four events aimed at articulating what the new economy is and illuminating how to build local economic resilience, how to encourage more people to run for office, and how to strengthen democracy through laws related to campaign finance.

The first event, on October 5, featured **Gar Alperovitz**, former Lionel R. Bauman Professor of Political Economy at the University of Maryland, co-chair of The Next System Project, and co-founder of The Democracy Collaborative, discussing "What is the New Economy?"

"Localize It!" was a two-day event at VLS on October 21–22, co-sponsored by a local organization called Building a Local Economy. Panelists, including [Gus Speth](#), **Francis Moore Lappe** of Small Planet Institute, and **Helena Norberg Hodge** of Local Futures, discussed

improved localization of our economy, culture, democratic institutions, systems of energy, health and education, movements for justice, and other areas of intersection.

On November 11, VLS hosted "Energize Democracy," a workshop on how to run for office. The workshop was organized by **Kathleen Falk**, VLS's Douglas Costle Chair Visiting Professor of Law and former Regional Director of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The panels featured a number of current and former elected officials, including former Vermont Governor **Madeleine Kunin**. Nearly 2,000 people watched the livestream of this event.

The final event in the series featured **Zephyr Teachout**, an Associate Professor of Law at Fordham University, discussing Campaign Finance Reform on November 20. 🌿



Speakers and attendees at the Localize It! conference

VLS OFFERS ENVIRONMENTAL ADJUDICATION TRAINING IN CHINA

VLS's [U.S.-Asia Partnerships for Environmental Law](#) (PEL), together with ClientEarth and the Supreme People's Court of China (SPC), supported a training on Environmental Adjudication for 138 Chinese environmental judges. The training, which was held at the National Judges College in Beijing from November 28 to December 2, 2017, fostered fruitful cross-cultural dialogue and nurtured new relationships between Chinese judges and foreign legal experts.

Five foreign experts, including VLS Professor **Jack Tuholske**, gave lectures on topics relating to China's environmental adjudication: the important role of the judiciary, U.S. EPA enforcement tactics, medical monitoring for environmental remedies, contaminated land management, and compensation mechanisms for natural resource damages.

The foreign experts, together with ClientEarth and PEL staff, also visited the Fourth Intermediate Court of Beijing. They learned about environmental cases recently accepted and adjudicated by the municipal court and witnessed first-hand the operations of a local Chinese court.

"These experiences have deepened my understanding of the Chinese legal system and my respect for the effort that the Chinese government is putting forth to address its serious air, water, and soil pollution problems," Tuholske said. 🌿



2018 TOP 10 ENVIRONMENTAL WATCH LIST

Vermont Law School environmental faculty and editors of VLS's [Vermont Journal of Environmental Law](#) (VJEL) have published the 2018 "Vermont Law Top 10 Environmental Watch List," highlighting critical law and policy issues they believe will escalate in the coming year. The list, in its eighth year, features articles co-authored by VLS students and faculty on topics ranging from the Trump administration's reduction of national monuments to the threat of nuclear war.

"A central question occupying environmental lawyers of all stripes is the degree to which the current federal administration, under the leadership of President Trump, his cabinet, and EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt, will disrupt federal environmental and natural resources policies constructed over the past five decades," said Associate Dean [David Mears](#), director of the Environmental Law Center at VLS, in his introduction to the list. "The one common thread across all of the topics covered on this Top 10 list is that lawyers and the courts will play a major role in determining the extent to which President Trump's environmental agenda is implemented."

The Top 10 Environmental Watch List, written with a lay audience in mind, is available online at watchlist.vermontlaw.edu. 🌿

2018 TOP 10 ENVIRONMENTAL WATCH LIST

- 1 Houston, This is Harvey: Hurricanes are Hazardous**
vjel.vermontlaw.edu/topten/houston-harvey-hurricanes-hazardous/
- 2 Fuel Efficiency Standards Trumped?**
vjel.vermontlaw.edu/topten/fuel-efficiency-standards-trumped/
- 3 States Filling the Void on Climate Change**
vjel.vermontlaw.edu/topten/states-filling-void-climate-change/
- 4 Pulling the Teeth Out of the Endangered Species Act**
vjel.vermontlaw.edu/topten/pulling-teeth-endangered-species-act/
- 5 Nuclear War: The War Our Planet Won't Survive**
vjel.vermontlaw.edu/topten/nuclear-war-war-planet-wont-survive/
- 6 The President's Monumental Mistakes**
vjel.vermontlaw.edu/topten/presidents-monumental-mistakes/
- 7 Trump's Wall: Adios to Environmental Law?**
vjel.vermontlaw.edu/topten/trumps-wall-adios-environmental-law/
- 8 Energy Infrastructure Siting Authority**
vjel.vermontlaw.edu/topten/energy-infrastructure-siting-authority/
- 9 Solar Trade Tariffs**
vjel.vermontlaw.edu/topten/solar-trade-tariffs/
- 10 Permitting Natural Gas Pipelines: Must FERC Take Climate Change Into Account?**
vjel.vermontlaw.edu/topten/permitting-natural-gas-pipelines-must-ferc-take-climate-change-account/



VERMONT JOURNAL
of ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

DISTINGUISHED SUMMER SCHOLARS 2018

Vermont Law School invites leaders in the fields of environmental, energy, agriculture, and international environmental law to serve as Distinguished Summer Scholars in residency during the VLS [Summer Session](#). Each Distinguished Summer Scholar delivers a public lecture, participates in informal social events on campus, and is available to meet with students individually. These distinguished visitors are a significant intellectual resource for our summer students and also offer valuable networking opportunities.

The Environmental Law Scholar is [Shi-Ling Hsu](#), the D'Alemberte Professor of Law and Associate Dean for Environmental Programs at Florida State University College of Law. He is an expert in the areas of environmental and natural resource law, climate change, law and economics, and property. He has published in a wide variety of legal journals and recently published a book, *The Case for a Carbon Tax: Getting Past our Hang-ups to Effective Climate Policy* (Island Press 2011).

The Energy Law Scholar is [Natacha Teresa Mesa Tejada](#), Professor of Law at the University of Havana, Cuba. Professor Mesa Tejada is an expert in the area of commercial law. She recently edited and published a book, *Foreign Investment: A Vision from the Law* (2016). In addition to teaching, she works as an external consultant at the International Law Firm of Havana, and she provides assistance to a Cuban company that produces and commercializes electric power generated through solar panels.

The Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems Scholar is [Andrea Freeman](#), Assistant Professor of Law at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa William S. Richardson School of Law. Her scholarship is focused on the intersection of critical race and class theory with issues of food policy, health, gender, and consumer credit. Many of her articles examines how racially neutral food-related law, policy, and government action disproportionately harm marginalized communities.

The International Environmental Law Scholar is [Tseming Yang](#), Professor of Law and a Bannan Institute Scholar at Santa Clara University, where he teaches environmental law and other related courses. Over the past two decades, his research and writing has revolved around various areas of U.S., international, and comparative environmental law and governance, including environmental justice, climate change, and other international environmental treaties, and China's environmental law and governance system. His current research focuses on the varying approaches to environmental governance and sustainability across the world. 🌿

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Shi-Ling Hsu



Natacha Teresa Mesa Tejada

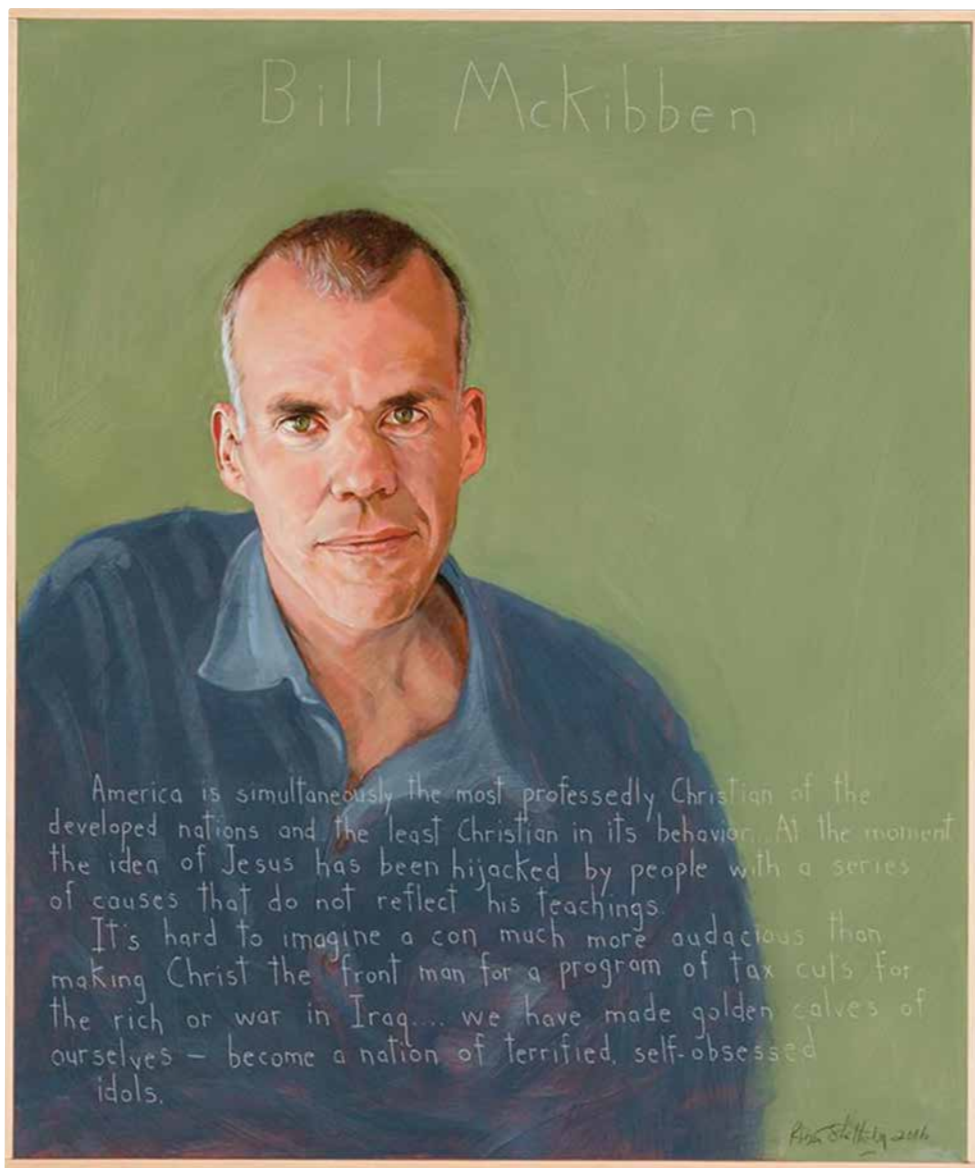
© Joanne H. Lee/Santa Clara University



Andrea Freeman



Tseming Yang



above: "Bill McKibben," painting by Robert Shetterly; top right: "Sherri Mitchell," painting by Robert Shetterly



BILL MCKIBBEN SPEAKS AT VLS

Author and activist **Bill McKibben**, founder of the global organization 350.org, read from his first novel, *Radio Free Vermont: A Fable of Resistance*, at an event called "Art and the 'Truth-Tellers'" at VLS on March 3. As part of the same program, **Sherri Mitchell** read from her just-released first book, *Sacred Instructions: Indigenous Wisdom for Living Spirit-Based Change*. Mitchell is the founding Director of the Land Peace Foundation, co-host of the podcast *Love (and Revolution) Radio*, and an indigenous rights activist and peacemaker.

Robert Shetterly, a social justice activist and artist, has a project called "Americans Who Tell the Truth: Models of Courageous Citizenship." The event included a display of some of the 180 portraits that make up the collection. Two of the "truth-tellers" are Sherri Mitchell and Bill McKibben.

The program was sponsored by WFVR (Royalton Community Radio), BALE (Building A Local Economy), 350Vermont, and VLS's [New Economy Law Center](#). 🌱

VLS ANIMAL LAW SOCIETY NAMED STUDENT ANIMAL LEGAL DEFENSE FUND CHAPTER OF THE YEAR

The Animal Legal Defense Fund (ALDF) named the Animal Law Society at VLS a 2017 Student Animal Legal Defense Fund Chapter of the Year. ALDF selected the VLS student group, which tied for the award with a chapter at the University of Otago in New Zealand, from among 195 chapters in the United States and 24 chapters around the world.

VLS students accepted their award during the annual Animal Legal Defense Fund Student Convention and Animal Law Conference in Portland, Oregon. "We are honored to receive this prestigious award and continue the growth of animal law at Vermont Law School," said **Will Lowrey JD'18**, co-chair of the VLS Animal Law Society during the award year, 2016–2017.

The Animal Law Society at Vermont Law School is committed to providing a forum for education, advocacy, and scholarship aimed at protecting the lives and advancing the interests of animals through the legal system, and raising the profile of the field of animal law. The Animal Legal Defense Fund files lawsuits to protect animals from harm, provides legal assistance and training to prosecutors to ensure that animal abusers are punished, supports tough animal protection legislation and fights legislation harmful to animals, and provides resources and opportunities to law students and professionals to advance the emerging field of animal law. 🌱



VLS STUDENTS TO PROVIDE LEGAL AID IN HAITI

Vermont Law School students traveled to Port-au-Prince, Haiti, in March as part of a new VLS-Haiti Development Initiative to provide legal aid in environmental law and human rights to local organizations. The VLS-Haiti Development Initiative, created by students **Luckie Milad JD'19** and **Renee Smith MFALP'17**, prepared participants to conduct legal research to assist with reforestation efforts and human rights advocacy, and arranged for participants to meet with Haitian students to share information about legal education in the United States. Students also met with various legal entities to learn more about the rule of law in Haiti.

"We noticed that while Vermont Law School offers programs for students to travel abroad for legal studies and experiences, there is greater opportunity to expose VLS students to the legal landscape in developing nations," Milad said of the inspiration for the VLS-Haiti Development Initiative. "We believe this trip will be a stepping stone for connections and partnerships in Haiti so students at VLS and abroad can benefit from a diverse legal education and an exchange of knowledge with international legal practitioners," said Smith.

Clinical Assistant Professor **Emily Spiegel** advises the VLS-Haiti Development Initiative, which also receives guidance from Associate Dean **David Mears**, Associate Dean **Shirley Jefferson** of the Office of Student Affairs and Diversity, and Professor **Tracy Bach**, director of VLS's International and Comparative Law Program. The initiative's first trip, March 3–10, was made possible with institutional support and generous donations from Vermont organizations and community members. 🌱



STUDENT IN THE SPOTLIGHT

NATIONAL SECURITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT: CRAIG THEDWALL LLM'18

Craig Thedwall LLM'18 has had a distinguished career in the Judge Advocate General (JAG) Corps of the United States Navy, where he is a skilled trial advocate and operational military legal advisor. His most recent position, before coming to VLS to pursue his LLM in Environmental Law, was the Flag Secretary for JAG. He has also served as the Staff Judge Advocate for the 5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade in Bahrain, and as the Officer in Charge of the Naval Legal Service Office Pacific in Guam.

Craig received his JD degree from Georgetown University Law Center and his BS degree, with distinction, in Political Science from the U.S. Naval Academy.

"I was thrilled to come to Vermont, not only for the quality of the education here, but for the quality of life for my family as well," says Craig. "This represents an exceptional opportunity for me, and I'm looking forward to drawing on my newfound knowledge of environmental law in my future assignments as a military lawyer."

Craig is taking advantage of his time at VLS by taking classes that cover a range of environmental law topics, from CERCLA, to air pollution, to international environmental law.

"Craig is a pleasure to have in class because his sharp mind cuts right to the heart of any problem, and he has the analytical ability to objectively evaluate proposed solutions and consider competing viewpoints before settling on a course of action," says **Patrick Parenteau**, who taught him in Water Quality as well as Extinction and Climate Change. "Craig was already a talented lawyer when he arrived at VLS. He will leave with a deeper understanding of the complexities of environmental law that will serve the Navy well."

Stephen Dycus taught Craig in his National Security Law class. "It helped, of course, that Craig had been out in the world putting his legal training to good use for a number of years," says Dycus. "He demonstrated clear thinking and an active imagination, and his contributions to classroom discussions were always collaborative and helpful—always. Craig was, in short, consummately professional and an inspiring example to all of us. I'm sorry he can only be with us for one year." 🌱

"I WAS THRILLED TO COME TO VERMONT, NOT ONLY FOR THE QUALITY OF THE EDUCATION HERE, BUT FOR THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR MY FAMILY AS WELL. THIS REPRESENTS AN EXCEPTIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR ME, AND I'M LOOKING FORWARD TO DRAWING ON MY NEWFOUND KNOWLEDGE OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAW IN MY FUTURE ASSIGNMENTS AS A MILITARY LAWYER."



ENVIRONMENTAL FACULTY NEWS

TRACY BACH **PRESENTATIONS:** Workshop organized by the United Nations Development Program, “Global Climate Change/COP23 Debrief and Introduction to International Environmental Law & Multilateral Environment Agreements,” NayPyiTaw, Myanmar, December 2017. **NEWS:** Appointed to the Steering Committee of the Research and Independent Non-Governmental Organization (RINGO) constituency of observers to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). • Returning to Myanmar in March 2018 as an international trainer for the International Union for the Conservation of Nature Academy of Environmental Law (IUCN AEL) “Teach the Trainer” short course for law professors in Yangon.

LAURIE BEYRANEVAND '03 **PUBLICATIONS:** “Regulating Inherently Subjective Food Labeling Claims,” 47 Environmental Law Review 3, 2017. **PRESENTATIONS:** Panelist, “The Overhaul of SNAP and Nutrition Programs” at the Texas A&M Law Review’s Fall 2017 Symposium at Texas A&M Law School, Fort Worth, TX, October 6, 2017. **NEWS:** Selected to serve on the Food and Drug Law Institute’s 2018 Academic Programs Committee.

MICHAEL DWORKIN **PRESENTATIONS:** Moderator, “National Security and Reliability of the Grid,” Vermont Journal of Environmental Law Symposium, Vermont Law School, October 20, 2017. • Moderator, “Utilities of the Future—Rate Design and Regulation for Total Energy Transformation,” Renewable Energy Vermont Annual Conference, Burlington, VT, October 3, 2017.

STEPHEN DYCUS **PRESENTATIONS:** “Federal Open Government Laws,” Vermont Law Review annual symposium, Vermont Law School, September 15, 2017. • “EMP Risks to the Electric Grid,” Vermont Journal of Environmental Law Symposium, Vermont Law School, October 20, 2017. • “Nuclear War: Still the Greatest Threat to the Environment,” Vermont Law School, November 16, 2017.

JOHN ECHEVERRIA **PUBLICATION:** “The Fate of Environmental Law in a Trump-Era Supreme Court,” guest blog, Scientific American, February 8, 2017. **PRESENTATION:** Panelist, “Water and Takings,” 20th Annual Conference on Litigation Takings Challenges to Land Use and Environmental Regulations, co-sponsored by Vermont Law School and held at the University of Minnesota Law School, Minneapolis, MN, October 6, 2017.

STEPHANIE FARRIOR **PRESENTATIONS:** Public lecture, “Speaking Law to Power: Challenges in International Human Rights Advocacy,”



The ELC administrative team: David Mears, Jessica Scott, Anne Linehan, Becca Milaschewski, and Courtney Collins

including examples of advocacy tackling environmental racism, University of Vermont. • Keynote address on the environmental and health costs of the international electronics industry from a human rights perspective, Vancouver International Film Centre, Vancouver, BC, February 2018. • Panelist, “Environmental Degradation and Human Rights,” Vermont Law School, October 2017. **NEWS:** Invited by Human Rights Watch to join the inaugural Advisory Committee of its Environment and Human Rights Division.

JILL HEAPS **PRESENTATION:** “Leveraging Intersectionality to Address Injustice in Our New Reality,” Annual New England Clinical Conference, Suffolk University School of Law. **NEWS:** Invited, through her role as Vice-Chair of the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council, to a face-to-face meeting with EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt, December 6, 2017.

HILLARY HOFFMANN **PUBLICATION:** “Grand Staircase-Escalante and Bears Ears National Monuments Litigation,” Environmental Law Profs Blog, December 5, 2017. **PRESENTATION:** “Tribal Natural Resources Co-Management Agreements: Transitioning Natural Resource Management From a Jurisdictional Model to an Ecological Model,” Economics for the Anthropocene (E4A) Law and Governance Research Initiative and Ecological Law and Governance Association (ELGA) Workshop, McGill University Faculty of Law, Montreal, QC, October 18, 2017.

MARK JAMES LL.M.'16 **PRESENTATION:** “Clean Energy Policies: International, Federal, State, and Local Conflicts, Opportunities, and Constraints,” AALS annual meeting, Section on Natural Resources & Energy Law, January 2018. **PUBLICATIONS:** “Undamming the Federal Production Tax Credit: Creating Financial Incentives for Dam Trading and Dam Removal,” 53 Idaho L. Rev. 93 (2017) (coauthored with Ashleigh Krick '17). • “Planning for the Sun To Come Up: How Nevada and California Explain the Future of Net Metering,” 8 Univ. of San Diego J. Climate and Energy L. (2017) (coauthored with David Sloan and Kelsey Bain). **NEWS:** Interviewed in “RTO Governance—Is It Broken and Can It be Fixed?,” Grid Geeks Podcast, Season 2, Episode 4, November 2017.

KEVIN JONES **PUBLICATIONS:** “How the RTO Stakeholder Process Affects Market Efficiency,” R Street Policy Study No. 112, October 2017 (with Mark James, Ashleigh Krick '17, and Rikaela Greane '17). • “Do You Know Who Owns Your Solar Energy: The Growing Practice of Separating Renewable Attributes from Renewable Energy Development and its Impact on Meeting our Climate Goals,” Fordham Environmental Law Review, Spring 2017 (with Mark James and Heather Huebner'17). **PRESENTATIONS:** “The Past, Present and Future of Battery Storage,” Solar Power International, Las Vegas, NV, September 12, 2017. • Moderator, “Traditional Generation and the Energy Future,” Vermont Journal of Environmental Law Symposium, Vermont

Law School, October 20, 2017. • Panelist, “Examining FERC’s Role in RTO Governance,” Powershift: Regulating the Evolving Electricity Sector, Duke University, February 11, 2018. • “Promoting Meaningful Community Solar as a Bridge to Climate Justice,” The Just Transition towards a Low-Carbon Economy – Integrating Climate, Energy and Environmental Justice, sponsored by the Low Carbon Energy for Development Network, Edinburgh, Scotland, March 1–2, 2018.

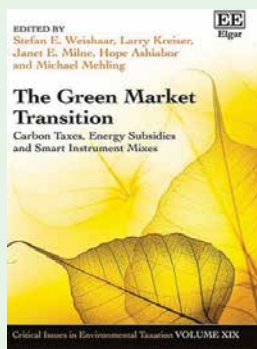
YANMEI LIN **PUBLICATIONS:** “U.S.- China Comparative Study on Environmental Public Interest Litigation Practices,” *Journal of Social Governance*, February 15, 2018. • “Rules and Practices of Citizen Suits Settlement: Lesson from the United States,” *Book of Annual Observations for Environmental Public Interest Litigation in China*, edited by Li Dun and published by Legal Press (forthcoming). • “Where the Compensation Fund Comes from in the Environmental Public Interest Litigation,” *China Environment*, Issue 2, 2017, February 20, 2017 (with Ma Rongzhen and Ge Feng). **PRESENTATION:** “Establishing China’s Timber Legality Assurance Regime: From the Legal Perspective,” Forest Legality Week, organized by World Resources Institute, October 18, 2017.

THOMAS MCHENRY **PRESENTATION:** Opening remarks, 4th Annual Energy Law and Policy Symposium, hosted by Vermont Law School, Washington, DC, October 18, 2017.

JANET MILNE

PUBLICATIONS: “Carbon Pricing in the Northeast: Looking Through a Legal Lens,” 70 *National Tax Journal* 855–878 (2017). • “A Bird’s-eye View of Environmental Taxation,” a

chapter in *Tax and the Environment*, (Lexington Books, forthcoming 2018), edited by Roberta Mann and Tracey Roberts. • “Carbon Tax Choices: The Tale of Four States,” a chapter in *The Green Market Transition: Carbon Taxes, Energy Subsidies and Smart Instrument Mixes* (Edward Elgar 2017), Stefan Weishaar et al., eds., Volume XIX in the series, *Critical Issues In Environmental Taxation*. Milne is a co-editor of the book. **PRESENTATIONS:** “Combatting the Climate Hoax: State Policy Shields and Swords,” Alternatives Facts and New Realities lecture series, Smith College, November 9, 2017. **NEWS:** General Editor, *The International Library of Law and the Environment*, a series published by Edward Elgar.



JEANNIE OLIVER LL.M.'16 **PRESENTATION:** Panelist, “Beyond the Traditional Client/ Attorney Paradigm: Modeling Professional Responsibility in an Increasingly Complex Ethical World,” Midwest Clinical Legal Education Conference, University of Kansas School of Law, Lawrence, KS, October 14, 2017.

PATRICK PARENTEAU **PRESENTATIONS:** Commentary, “Kozinski Resignation Complicates Mandamus Ruling in Kids’ Climate Lawsuit,” on the American College of Environmental Lawyers (ACOEL) website, December 22, 2017. • “Climate Litigation Heats Up,” Distinguished Lecture Series, Northwestern School of Law, January 2018. • “Going to Court to Save the Planet,” Boston College Environmental Law Society’s Winter Weekend, Provincetown, MA, January 26, 2018. **NEWS:** Awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to University College Cork Ireland for Fall 2018.

CRAIG PEASE **PUBLICATIONS:** “Geoengineering & Hubris: Altering Gargantuan Natural Flows of Energy,” *Science and the Law* column, *Environmental Law Forum*, November–December 2017. • “TSCA Reform: Wherein Science Gets Written Into a Federal Statute,” *Science and the Law* column, *Environmental Law Forum*, July–August 2017.

LAURIE RISTINO **PUBLICATION:** “The Healthy Watershed Framework: A Blueprint for Restoring Nutrient-Impaired Waterbodies Through Integrated Clean Water Act and Farm Bill Conservation Planning and Implementation at the Subwatershed Level,” 47 *Environmental Law Review* 3, 2017 (with Jamie Konopacky). **PRESENTATION:** “Legal & Policy Tools for Dairy in a Changing Climate,” Section on Agriculture & Food Law, AALS annual meeting, January 2018. **NEWS:** Invited to join the Center for Progressive Reform as a Member Scholar. Member Scholars provide research, analysis and commentary on a range of issues related to the environment, health and safety.

KEN RUMELT **PUBLICATIONS:** White Paper, “Modernizing Legal Remedies for a Toxic World,” for Vermont Natural Resources Council and the Vermont Public Interest Research Group. **PRESENTATION:** Testimony before the Vermont Senate Judiciary Committee in support of S.197, a bill to establish strict liability for releases of toxic chemicals and to recognize the availability of medical monitoring as a tort remedy to those exposed to toxic chemicals.

MELISSA SCANLAN **PUBLICATION:** “The Role of the Courts in Guarding Against Privatization of Important Public Environmental Resources,” forthcoming in Volume 7 of the *Michigan Journal of Environmental and Administrative Law*. **PRESENTATIONS:** Guest lecture, “All About Water,” University of Florida Levin College of Law’s Environmental Capstone Colloquium, February 1, 2018. • Panel lecture, “The Role of the Courts in Guarding Against Privatization of Important Public Environmental Resources,” George Washington University Law School J.B. & Maurice C. Shapiro Symposium on the Public Trust Doctrine in the 21st Century, Washington, DC, March 15–16, 2018. • “Law and Policy for the New Economy,” Tilburg University’s Law & Economics Center in the Netherlands. **NEWS:** Judged the Secretary of the U.S. Navy’s Environmental Awards, with a focus on industrial sustainability installations on U.S. military bases. • Invited by Equal Justice Works to serve as a 2017–2018 reviewer of finalists for post graduate two-year fellowship. • Invited by Echoing Green Foundation to evaluate final applications for climate-focused entrepreneurial projects to receive a two-year fellowship in 2018.

JESSICA SCOTT **NEWS:** Serving as a University of Vermont Sustainability Faculty Fellow for 2017–2018. This program is a multidisciplinary community of faculty who spend a year exploring concepts of sustainability and how to teach those concepts to students through a series of discussion workshops and a two-day training institute.

JACK TUHOLSKE **PUBLICATION:** “Explorations of and Reflections on China’s System of Environmental Public Interest Litigation,” *Environmental Law Reporter*, 47 ELR 10497 (forthcoming in June 2018) (with Judge Sun Qian).

KINVIN WROTH **PRESENTATIONS:** Illustrated lecture, “Electoral College Reform: Now? or Never,” Vermont Law School, November 4, 2017. • Organizer and panel moderator, “From Environmental to Ecological Law,” sponsored by the Law and Governance component of Economics for the Anthropocene (E4A), McGill Faculty of Law, Montreal, QC, October 17–18, 2017. 🌱

The crusher ceased operating in August 2016 after the Vermont Supreme Court ruled that the crusher was a substantial change to the Rock of Ages quarry and that NEMG must obtain an Act 250 permit.

In June 2017, the District 5 Environmental Commission denied NEMG's application for an Act 250 permit for that first crusher. The commission concluded that the noise was "shocking and offensive," that the crusher emitted "a significant amount of silica" that "could create serious health consequences" for the surrounding community, and that the location, in such close proximity to neighboring residences, was "not suitable" for a crusher.

It was not long after the first crusher shut down in August 2016 that Graniteville residents began hearing another crusher just 3,000 feet away from the first.

"Immediately after the Act 250 permit for the original crusher was denied, crushing operations were started in a different location," said Graniteville resident Padraic Smith.

According to residents, the two crushers create the same impacts—noise, dust, traffic—and for some residents, like Smith, the impacts from the new crusher are "more intense."

The December jurisdictional opinion came just one month before Neighbors appeared before Judge Thomas Walsh of the Environmental Division in NEMG's appeal of the Act 250 permit denial for its first crusher. Just prior to trial, NEMG filed a Motion for Reconsideration of the jurisdictional opinion, which District Coordinator Baird denied on February 7, 2018.

In January 2018, ENRLC Staff Attorney [Elizabeth Tisher](#) and student clinicians **Maggie Galka '18** and **Jack Wadleigh '18** represented Neighbors in a merits hearing before Judge Walsh on the permit denial for the first crusher. During the four-day trial, Neighbors testified about the impacts they have experienced from the crushing operation. They shared stories of dust coating their properties and entering their homes; constant loud noise, which one resident

compared to "bricks in a washing machine"; and a significant increase in truck traffic. They also presented photographs and videos of dust billowing from the crusher and blowing off-site and dust being kicked up in big clouds by the trucks driving up and down Graniteville Road, the highway that passes by many residents' homes. Neighbors also testified about their experiences living in Graniteville before the crushing operation moved in. They described Graniteville as a peaceful, close-knit community, where the Rock of Ages quarry was barely noticeable.

Clinicians Galka and Wadleigh were integral in getting the Neighbors' stories before the court. They questioned key witnesses, introduced exhibits, and expertly handled objections from opposing counsel and questions from the judge. The ENRLC team submitted their proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law to the court in early February. They anticipate a decision this spring. 🌱

SUMMER SESSION FACULTY NEWS

Don Baur was awarded the Wings Award by the Pegasus Foundation at an award ceremony in Boston in September. He was recognized for his role in marine conservation and animal welfare. Baur is a Partner in the Environment Energy and Resources Practice at Perkins Coie. He co-teaches Animal Welfare Law and Ocean and Coastal Law.

James Chen has two articles forthcoming: "Truth and Beauty: Finance in Econophysical Translation," in 18 *Aestimatio* 8 (2019); and "Speculative Undertakings: Rate Regulation as a Branch of Corporate Finance," in 34 *Yale J. on Reg.* (2018). His article "Legal Responses in the United States to Biodiversity Loss and Climate Change," appears in *Routledge Handbook on Biodiversity and the Law* 109-23 (Charles R. McManis & Burton Ong eds., 2018). He has been designated a Visiting Scholar at the Faculty of Economics and Business at the University of Zagreb. In October 2017, he gave a lecture on the regulation of genetically modified organisms at Hacettepe University in Ankara, Turkey. Chen is the Justin Smith Morrill Chair in Law at Michigan State University. He teaches Environmental Economics and Markets at VLS.

William Eubanks II LLM'08 and his wife Helen Dombalis welcomed Vivian Harper Eubanks into the world on August 12, 2017. They can't wait for Vivian's first visit to South Royalton! Eubanks is a Partner at Meyer Glitzenstein & Eubanks LLP. He teaches Public Health and U.S. Food and Agriculture Policy.

The fourth edition of **Barry Hill's** textbook/handbook entitled *Environmental Justice: Legal Theory and Practice* was published by the Environmental Law Institute in February 2018. His article on environmental law and policy, environmental justice, and sustainable



Summer in South Royalton

development appeared in *The Environmental Forum—The Environmental Law Institute's Policy Journal for the Environmental Profession*, Volume 34, Number 2 (March/April 2017).

Heather Rally and **Delcianna Winders** are co-teaching a new course on Animal Welfare Law with veteran summer faculty member **Don Baur**. Rally is a Supervising Veterinarian and Winders is Vice President and Deputy General Counsel, both in Captive Animal Law Enforcement for PETA. The course will combine traditional practices of animal welfare laws and advocacy with laws

typically applied in the wildlife conservation context.

Sarah Reiter '13's article, "The Coastal Act, Power Plants, and the Case for 'Undevelopment,'" co-authored with M. Melius and S. Newkirk, appears in 18 *VT J. ENV'T L.* 4 (2017). She delivered a lecture on Negotiating Environmental Agreements at the Sea Education Association (SEA) Semester-Environmental Studies in Woods Hole in 2017. Reiter is the Associate Director of Career Services at VLS. She co-teaches Ocean and Coastal Law. 🌱

VLS ENVIRONMENTAL ALUMNI NEWSFEED

MINDY BLANK MELP'13 is the executive director of Community Resilience Organizations, a non-profit helping partners across Vermont to implement of climate change plans... **HEATHER CALDERWOOD MERL'14** is a paralegal for Primmer Piper Eggleston & Cramer PC, helping stimulate growth in renewable energy in Vermont... **ALEX CASTINO JD/MELP'13** is the project manager on a farm conservation and water sharing project for Larimer County, Colorado... **MICHAEL COLE JD'10** is an attorney-adviser at the Office of the General Counsel for the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission... **ANDREW FOWLER JD'14** practices environmental and land use law at Anderson & Kreiger LLP in Boston... **JOSH GALPERIN JD'07** is leaving the faculty at Yale Law School to join the faculty at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, where he will teach an environmental law and policy seminar... **JACK HORNICKEL JD/MELP'15** is a staff attorney at a nonprofit representing small farm businesses in the Hudson Valley, Catskills, and Finger Lakes region of New York... **CULLEN HOWE JD/MSEL'99** recently became senior attorney and the New York director of Acadia Center, which works to build clean, low carbon and consumer economies... **DORI JAFFE JD/MSEL'02** is senior attorney with the Sierra Club, where she advocates for the decarbonization of the electrical grid... **LIZ LUCENTE JD/MSEL'07** is the general counsel and communications director of the Minnesota Solar Energy Industries Association... **JOHN MEYER JD'09** founded Cottonwood Environmental Law Center right out of law school. VLS's environmental law clinic has submitted an amicus brief in one of his cases... **EMILY MIGLIACCIO JD'14** practices environmental and land use law at Cervenka Green Ducharme & Antonelli LLC in Providence, R.I.... **DAVID SCOTT JD'15** has joined Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis LLP as an associate in the firm's Environmental Department... **DAVID SHAFFER JD'14** is the director of policy and development of the Minnesota Solar Energy Industries Association... **CHRISTOPHER SUPINO LLM'13** is a senior corporate counsel at MISO, where he is the lead attorney working to develop and implement their competitive transmission processes... **MEG YORK JD'15** is a staff attorney with Mercy for Animals, a multinational animal welfare organization, currently operating in the U.S., Canada, Mexico, Brazil, India, and China. 🌱



ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CENTER

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SAVE THE DATE

2018 EVENTS

MARCH 1, 2018

ANNUAL WATERMAN LECTURE

Lawyer and international law scholar **Harold Hongju Koh**, Sterling Professor of International Law and former dean of Yale Law School, presents "The Future of the Paris Climate Change Agreement After Trump."

MARCH 3, 2018

ART AND THE "TRUTH TELLERS"

Activists and authors **Bill McKibben** and **Sherri Mitchell** discuss their new books, and painter **Robert Shetterly** discusses his portrait project. This event is co-sponsored by the New Economy Law Center.



Bill McKibben

MARCH 27, 2018

ANIMAL LAW SOCIETY SYMPOSIUM

"[Below the Surface: Diving Deep to Protect Our Ocean Animals](#)" features presentations and a panel discussion from experts in marine wildlife conservation and law.

APRIL 5 & APRIL 17, 2018

ENVIRONMENTAL MISSION SCHOLAR PRESENTATIONS

Our [Environmental Mission Scholars](#) present their recent work as part of our faculty speaker series.

APRIL 12, 2018

NORMAN WILLIAMS LECTURE

Thomas Mitchell, Interim Dean and Professor at Texas A&M University School of Law, delivers the 14th Annual [Norman Williams Distinguished Lecture in Land Use Planning and the Law](#). His talk is titled "How to Address Racial Disparity in Property Ownership."



Thomas Mitchell

MAY 31-AUGUST 2, 2018

HOT TOPICS IN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW SUMMER LECTURE SERIES

Twice a week throughout the summer, members of our summer faculty, distinguished scholars, media fellows, and other visitors discuss the hottest issues in their fields.

SEPTEMBER 21-22, 2018

COLLOQUIUM ON ENVIRONMENTAL SCHOLARSHIP



The ninth annual [Colloquium on Environmental Scholarship](#) at VLS offers the opportunity for environmental law scholars to present their works-in-progress and recent scholarship.

SEPTEMBER 26-28, 2018

GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENTAL TAXATION

The 19th Global Conference on Environmental Taxation is held in Madrid, Spain. This year's theme is "Environmental Tax Challenges in the 21st Century: Urban Concentration and Increasing Transport." VLS's Environmental Tax Policy institute is a supporting partner. 🌱