

VERMONT

LAW & GRADUATE SCHOOL





### Institute for Energy and the Environment

The Institute for Energy and the Environment (IEE) prepares students for the clean energy transition. Students who participate in Vermont Law and Graduate School's IEE partake in cutting-edge research, analysis, and advocacy. These in-demand skills prepare students and graduates to make a transformative impact on both the environment and the global economy. VLGS leads the nation in equipping students for the clean energy transition with our energy law and policy program offering the largest selection of clean energy courses, experiential learning opportunities in renewable energy, new clean transportation classes and research options, and seamless integration with a world-class environmental law and policy program—including unparalleled climate law course offerings. The IEE combines a research associate program with a vibrant student-staffed energy clinic that works on legal and business models for community energy development.



## Center for Agriculture and Food Systems

The Center for Agriculture and Food Systems (CAFS) addresses food system challenges related to food justice, food security, farmland access, animal welfare, worker protections, the environment, and public health, among others. CAFS works closely with its local, regional, national, and international partners to provide legal services that respond to their needs and develop resources that empower the communities they serve. Through CAFS's Food and Agriculture Clinic, research assistant program, and summer honors intern program, students work directly on projects alongside partners nationwide, engaging in innovative work that spans the food system. CAFS helped produce many recent reports, including "Examining the Legal Landscape of On-Farm Slaughter," "The State of Prison Food in New England," and "Managing Rotational Grazing Policies."

#### **Institutes, Centers, and Clinics**

Environmental challenges have never been more pressing or more complex. With one of the most comprehensive graduate environmental law programs in the country, we are consistently ranked among the nation's best by *U.S. News & World Report*. Our environmental institutes, centers, and clinics prepare students to work on the frontlines of environmental advocacy, energy and climate justice, animal law and protection, and the sustainable food movement. We create leaders eager to meet the world's environmental challenges.



# Animal Law and Policy Institute

The Animal Law and Policy Institute (ALPI) trains tomorrow's animal advocacy leaders to advance animals' legal status through education, scholarship, policy development, community engagement, and litigation. Engaging with advocacy organizations, communities, journalists, and policymakers, ALPI is one of the fastest growing animal law and policy programs in the world and serves as a resource hub for animal law and policy issues. The Farmed Animal Advocacy Clinic empowers students to become effective advocates for farmed animals through hands-on experience representing clients in litigation, legislative, policy, and regulatory matters. ALPI collaborates closely with the school's other leading programs—including environmental law and policy, agriculture and food, and restorative justice—recognizing the interconnections between justice movements, animals, humans, and the environment.



### U.S.-Asia Partnerships for Environmental Law

The U.S.-Asia Partnerships for Environmental Law (PEL) works collaboratively with government institutions, non-government organizations, and lawmakers to address critical environmental and energy challenges. The Transnational Environmental Law Clinic provides students an opportunity to work with our partners in China to enhance public participation in environmental decision-making and educate various stakeholders through advocacy, research, and policy reform. As the most rapidly developing region on the planet, many countries in Asia are in urgent need of environmental advocates and leaders to develop sustainable best practices in environmental protection and energy regulation, and to promote good environmental governance in Asia.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL CLINICS**



#### **Environmental Justice Clinic**

Founded in 2019, the Environmental Justice Clinic works in partnership with community organizations, tribal nations, coalitions, and other stakeholders to support multi-strategy campaigns to combat environmental racism and advance community health and human rights. In support of the environmental justice movement, student clinicians develop and implement legal, administrative, and policy strategies to address the disproportionate impacts of environmental pollution and land dispossession on Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) and low-income communities. Clinicians also contribute to intersectional organizing to push for climate justice and a just transition, and engage in research and advocacy to support new law and policy on environmental justice. Student clinicians practice a client-centered, community-lawyering approach, building relationships with community-based clients and partners from Vermont and around the country.

#### **Environmental Advocacy Clinic**

Established in 2003, the Environmental Advocacy Clinic is an in-house public interest environmental law firm that seeks to inspire the next generation of environmental attorneys with practical, real-world opportunities to learn the skills and strategies of environmental litigation and advocacy. In the clinic, students represent public-interest clients including leading national, regional, and local nonprofit organizations. Under the supervision of experienced lawyers, student clinicians work on cases involving important and challenging environmental and natural resources issues. The clinic's work is focused on litigation projects at the intersection of natural resource protection, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and environmental justice. Past clinic cases have sought to conserve natural resources and public lands, protect endangered species, reduce community exposure to toxic pollution, and promote climate resilience.