



A Message from the Director

Dear Colleagues,

As summer enfolds western New York I am very pleased to share this update on recent activities at the Baldy Center. I hope you will find it informative.

Also, we are happy to use our newsletter to circulate announcements that will be of interest to socio-legal scholars generally. If there is a conference or other opportunity you would like us to include in the December newsletter, please send the information to us before November 1.

Cordially,

Errol Meidinger, Director

Recent News



Baldy Center Hosts Conference on “Gender and the Drug War”

In late March, the Baldy Center hosted a conference, “[Gender and the Drug War](#)”, which examined how gender plays a role in the drug war as viewed by the varied disciplines

that inform sociolegal studies. Organized by [David L. Herzberg](#), Associate Professor of History at UB, the conference brought together historians, anthropologists, sociologists, and public analysts to consider the role of gender in structuring the American drug war(s).

The “drug war,” a moniker for an immensely complex set of social relations encompassing drug markets, drug use, drug governance, and drug treatment, has far-reaching influence on the intimately personal and broadly political. While scholarship has examined the relationship between the drug war and racially disparate mass incarceration, the two-day interdisciplinary



symposium brought together leading scholars to examine the relationship between gender and drug policy. The conference addressed a number of interrelated themes: how gender structures the basic categories through which drugs are understood; how gendering affects the structure and implementation of drug policy; what social, cultural, and economic, and political dynamics have helped to obscure the operations of gender in drugs wars; among many others. The first day of the conference identified “calls for gender,” areas of scholarship and policy which lack sufficient awareness of gender, while the second day developed and articulated how the papers presented could meet these “calls.” Commenting on the benefits of the conference, Herzberg noted how it will culminate in “two consensus statements, one that provides a road map for humanities scholars to incorporate gender into their research on drugs and drug policy, and another that provides a guide for policymakers to consider the role of gender in America’s drug problems and the gendered consequences of existing or proposed drug policies.”

More information can be found on the [conference website](#).

Ellen Berrey’s *Enigma of Diversity* Earns Critical Acclaim



Dr. Ellen Berrey, previously a faculty member in UB’s Department of Sociology and currently Assistant Professor of Sociology and Criminology at University of Denver, recently had her manuscript *The Enigma of Diversity: The Language of Race and Limits of*

Racial Justice published by University of Chicago Press. The manuscript benefited from feedback from a Baldy Center Book Manuscript Workshop in 2013. The Baldy Center supports book manuscript workshops as part of its mission to advance interdisciplinary research on law, legal institutions, and social policy, and seeks to help UB faculty members make their book manuscripts as strong as possible prior to publication. The Center invites two or three distinguished external scholars to review the manuscript and to engage in an intensive discussion with the author and interested UB faculty.

Reflected Berrey, “With the expertise of top scholars across the country in the fields of sociology, law, anthropology, and history, as well as feedback from UB faculty and graduate students, I made key revisions so that the final review process at the University of Chicago Press went very smoothly. Based on that feedback, I revised the title, core concept, and central argument. I rewrote the introduction, reordered chapters, and corrected key empirical mistakes.”

Drawing on six years of fieldwork and historical sources dating back to the 1950s and making extensive use of three case studies from widely varying arenas, Berrey explores the complicated meanings and uses of diversity as invoked by different groups for different, often symbolic ends. “In fact, the very existence of the Baldy Book Manuscript Workshop informed my decision to take a position at UB. It signaled to me that there was institutional support within the Law School for book writing, with an initiative created and run by people who understand what book authors need: intensive feedback on their written work.” Positively reviewed in *Sociology of Race and Ethnicity*, *American Journal of Sociology*, and other academic and mainstream outlets, Berrey’s book was also recently awarded the 2015 Herbert Jacob Book Award for best book in Law & Society scholarship by the Law & Society Association. In summer 2016, Berrey will join the sociology faculty at University of Toronto.

Former Baldy Center Senior Fellow Kathleen Biddick’s Essay Collection Published



Baldy Center 2012-2013 Senior Fellow Kathleen Biddick, Professor Emeritus of History at Temple University, had her collection of essays *Make and Let Die: Untimely Sovereignities* published by Punctum Books. The collection analyzes how

the analysis and critique of biopower, as conventionally defined by philosopher Michel Foucault and widely assumed in much contemporary theory of sovereignty, remains trapped in the very historical context it ostensibly seeks to expose and dismantle. Baldy Senior Fellows



are accomplished academics and professionals, usually faculty members at other universities, who pursue intensive scholarly projects closely related to the mission of the Baldy Center. They utilize UB's extensive research resources, participate regularly in Baldy Center events, and share their expertise with the larger Baldy community.

Read more on [Professor Biddick's Temple University faculty page](#).

Baldy Research Fellow Jennifer L. Gaynor's Book Published



UB Assistant Professor of History and Baldy Center Research Fellow Jennifer L. Gaynor recently had her manuscript, *Intertidal History in Island Southeast Asia: Submerged Genealogy and the Legacy of Coastal Capture*, published by Cornell

University Press. A scholar of Southeast Asia's maritime and coastal worlds from the seventeenth century to the present, in recent years her work has taken a legal turn. Her research examines the changing material, cultural, and legal geography of Asian seas and coasts, in particular, how humans reshape coastal and maritime spaces, alter their significance, and transform the social relations they support. Her manuscript shows the vital part maritime Southeast Asians played in struggles against domination of the seventeenth-century spice trade by local and European rivals.

Baldy Fellow Laura Ford Earns Faculty Position at Bard



Laura Ford, 2014-16 Baldy Center Postdoctoral Fellow, joined the faculty at Bard College in Annandale-on-Hudson, New York as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Sociology in January 2016. Ford taught "Sociological Theory" and "Law and Social

Order" during the spring semester at Bard and taught "Intellectual Property: An Introduction for Engineers & Scientists" in UB's School of Engineering & Applied Sciences during her time

as a Baldy fellow. Ford's other scholarly achievements during her time at the Baldy Center include a book chapter, "Legacies of the Sacred in Private Law: Roman Civic Religion, Property, and Contract" (forthcoming in a volume edited by Werner Gephart, University of Bonn, Germany); law review article, "Patenting the Social: Alice, Abstraction, and Functionalism in Software Patent Claims" (forthcoming in *Cardozo Public Law, Policy and Ethics Journal*); a book review of *Private Property and Public Power: Eminent Domain in Philadelphia* by Debbie Becher (forthcoming in *Contemporary Sociology*); and an encyclopedia entry, "Property," forthcoming in *The Encyclopedia of Social Theory* published by Wiley-Blackwell (edited by Bryan S. Turner). Ford also presented numerous papers during her time at UB.

Baldy Fellow Rebecca Schmidt Earns Fellowship at University College Dublin



Rebecca Schmidt, 2015-16 joint TBGI Post-Doctoral Fellow between the Baldy Center and York University, will begin a post-doctoral fellowship at University College Dublin's College of Social Sciences and Law and Sutherland Law School in fall

2016. Schmidt will support the ongoing and new research of College Principal, Dean of Law, and Professor of European Union Regulation & Governance Colin Scott, and will develop projects in cognate areas to enhance understanding of diverse modes and actors involved in the field of regulatory governance. During her fellowship at UCD, Rebecca will explore multi-level networks of governance interactions and their implications for existing public policy requirements. Examining both bottom-up approaches and top-down regulation, her project concentrates particularly on the dynamics between the local and the transnational level. Working at the Baldy Center provided Schmidt a valuable platform for securing this position as it gave her the opportunity to deepen her interdisciplinary approach through participating and presenting in seminars with scholars from disciplines ranging from behavioral economics to anthropology.



Former Baldy Fellow Or Bassok Publishes Book Chapter



A book chapter titled “Missing in Action: The Human Eye” written by Or Bassok, 2013-14 Baldy Center Postdoctoral Fellow, has just been published in the edited volume *Constitutionalism Across Borders in the Struggle Against Terrorism* (edited by

Federico Fabbrini, Vicki C. Jackson, Edward Elgar Publishing, 2016). Bassok, currently a Max Weber fellow at the European University Institute in Florence, Italy, examines in his chapter how allowing lawyers to legally “clear” military operations has affected the “manifestly unlawful order” doctrine. “I demonstrate in the article that a routine has been created in which military lawyers give clearance to military operations. This routine de-facto negates the ability, created after the Nuremberg trials, of combatants to disobey an order since it is manifestly unlawful,” says Bassok. During his Baldy fellowship, Bassok traveled to Harvard Law School to present the paper in a conference that resulted in this edited volume. Bassok notes that one of his goals during the Baldy fellowship was to return to write on criminal law after many years in which he focused on writing his dissertation which focused on constitutional law. “My interaction with Professor Guyora Binder helped me return to write on criminal law issues and this chapter that focuses on a defense in criminal law is the first product of my work. I also

very much benefited from discussing my paper with Dr. Jesse Norris, currently criminal justice faculty at SUNY-Fredonia, who was a co-Baldy Fellow and also writes on terrorism and criminal law.”

Baldy Center Hosts Conference on “Redistribution: Politics, Law, and Policy”



From May 12th-14th, The Baldy Center hosted a conference, “Redistribution: Politics, Law, and Policy”, organized by Associate Professor of Law Matthew Dimick. The theme of the gathering was the redistribution of income, with particular focus on questions that concern preferences,

taxation, and state capacity. The conference addressed a number of interrelated questions on these three themes: What determines individual support or opposition for political parties or politicians that favor more (or less) redistribution?; How important is tax (or benefit) progressivity in explaining levels of redistribution across countries?; What are the history, factors, and politics of the development of an administrative state capable of taxing and redistributing? Speakers included Monica Prasad, Professor of Sociology, Northwestern University; Isabela Mares, Professor of Political Science, Columbia University; and Susan Stokes, Professor of Political Science and Director of the Yale Program on Democracy, Yale University.

Events, Opportunities, and Other News

More info can be found on the [conference website](#).

Theorizing Transnational Business Governance Interactions - Design, Structure, Mechanisms, and Impacts

Organized and hosted by the Transnational Business Governance Interactions (TBGI) Research Network at York University, this two-day workshop took place on May 16 and 17, 2016 at the Schulich School of Business (day 1) and Osgoode Hall Law School (day 2) at the Keele Campus of York University in Toronto. This workshop brought together approximately 30 researchers and practitioners from ten countries to build and compare theories of transnational business governance interactions. Co-organizers for the event included Director of the Baldy Center and Margaret W. Wong Professor of Law Errol Meidinger and joint



Baldy Center and York University TBGI post-doctoral fellow [Rebecca Schmidt](#). The Baldy Center was a co-founder, together with York, Arizona State, and The London School of Economics, of the TBGI network. More information can be found on the [conference website](#).

Spring 2016 Distinguished Speakers

The Baldy Center hosted three distinguished speakers during the Spring 2016 semester.

[Adriaan Lanni](#), Professor of Law, Harvard Law School | Feb. 26, 2016 | *Law and Order in Classical Athens*

[Marianne Constable](#), Professor of Rhetoric, University of California Berkeley | April 15, 2016 | *The Justification was Perfect: Chicago Husband-Killing and the New Unwritten Law*

[Doug Kysar](#), Joseph M. Field '55 Professor of Law, Yale Law School | April 29, 2016 | *Living with Owning*

View the full events schedule, including Works in Progress Speakers and Co-Sponsored Speakers, in the [events section of our website](#).

Baldy Center Research Grant Recipients for 2016-2017

The Baldy Center is pleased to announce that it is able to support the following research projects for 2016-2017:

[Annahita Ball](#), [Elizabeth Bowen](#), and [Annette Semanchin-Jones](#), School of Social Work: *Improving Educational Outcomes for Homeless and Child Welfare-Involved Youth in Greater Buffalo through Cross-Systems Collaboration*

[Samantha Barbas](#), Law: *The Most Loved, Most Hated Magazine in America: Confidential Magazine and the Transformation of Freedom of the Press*

[Anya Bernstein](#), Law: *Administrative Law from the Administrative Perspective in Taiwan*

[Irus Braverman](#), Law: *The Law of the Land: Nature Reserves in the Occupied Palestinian Territories*

[Jang Wook Huh](#), English; Asian Studies Program; Gender Institute: *School Cross-Racial Justice in the Pacific*

[Charles M. Lamb](#), Political Science: *Presidents, Bureaucracy, and Fair Housing in America*

[Christopher Mele](#), Sociology: *The Entrepreneurial Turn in Housing Policy: Effects on the Provision of Affordable Rental Housing*

[Athena Mutua](#), Law: *Black Power on Trial: The Kansas Nine*

[Anthony O'Rourke](#), Law: *Civil and Criminal Discovery*

[Erkin Ozay](#), Architecture: *Building a Public Institution: The Case of Henderson-Hopkins School and Middle East Baltimore*

[Deborah Reed-Danahay](#), Anthropology: *Being French in London: National Social Space and European Mobility Regimes*

[Lauren Sassoubre](#), Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering; [Jessica Owley](#), Law: *Exploring the Legal and Scientific Feasibility of Using Recycled Water from Dairy Farms for Agricultural Irrigation*

[Robert Silverman](#), Urban and Regional Planning: *Model Community Benefits Agreements (CBAs): An Emerging Tool for Negotiating Equitable Development*

[Jessica Su](#), Sociology: *Labor Market Conditions and Unintended Pregnancy*

[Gwynn Thomas](#), Global Gender Studies/Transnational Studies: *Hidden Activists: The Role of Civil Servants in Promoting Gender Equality in Latin America*

[Marion Werner](#), Geography: *Trade and Agro-Food Systems Regulation in the Caribbean*



Li Yin, Urban and Regional Planning: *Spatial Clustering of Abandonment and Demolition: A Case Study in Buffalo, New York*

Ezra B.W. Zubrow, Anthropology: *Cultural Heritage as a Human Right*

Baldy Center Conference Grant Recipients 2016-2017

The Baldy Center is pleased to award funding to support the following conferences for next academic year.

Irus Braverman, Law – *Ocean Legalities: The Laws and Life of the Sea*

Rebecca French, Law – *Buddhist Law and State Law in Comparative Perspective*

Trina Hamilton, Geography – *Global Governance and the Trans-Pacific Partnership*

Annual Law and Society Association Meeting

Convene *At the Delta: Belonging, Place and Visions of Law and Social Change* with the Law and Society Association June 2-5, 2016 in New Orleans, Louisiana.

The Society for Empirical Legal Studies Annual Conference

The Society for Empirical Legal Studies and the Amsterdam Center for Law and Economics will co-sponsor the first conference on empirical legal studies in Europe at the University of Amsterdam, Netherlands June 21-22, 2016.

Annual Meeting of the American Sociological Association

The 111th ASA Annual Meeting convenes in Seattle, Washington August 20-23, 2016. The meeting sections include Law; Crime, Law, and Deviance; Political Sociology; and Organizations, Occupations, and Work.

Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association

The 115th AAA Annual Meeting meets in Minneapolis, Minnesota November 16-20, 2016. The Association for Political and Legal Anthropology organizes many activities and sponsors panels at the American Anthropological Association meetings.

Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association

Join the APSA in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania September 1-4, 2016 for the 112th APSA Annual Meeting to address the latest scholarship in political science. Section meetings include Law and Courts, Human Rights, and Public Policy, among others.

Annual Modern Language Association Meeting

The largest scholarly meeting in the humanities, the 2017 convention meets in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania from January 5-8, 2017. One of its forums (sections/divisions) includes Law and the Humanities.

Annual American Studies Association Meeting

American Studies promotes dialogue about the U.S. and supports scholarship committed to original research, innovative teaching, critical thinking, and public discussion. Its annual meeting will be in Denver, Colorado November 17-20. Caucus (section) sessions include Politics and Policy.

Annual Canadian Law and Society Association Meeting

The Canadian Law and Society Association holds its annual conference during the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Calgary May 28-30, 2016.

Annual Asian Law and Society Annual Meeting

The Centre for Asian Legal Studies at the National University of Singapore is proud to host the inaugural meeting of the Asian Law & Society Association on September 22-23, 2016.



Annual Socio-Legal Studies Association Conference

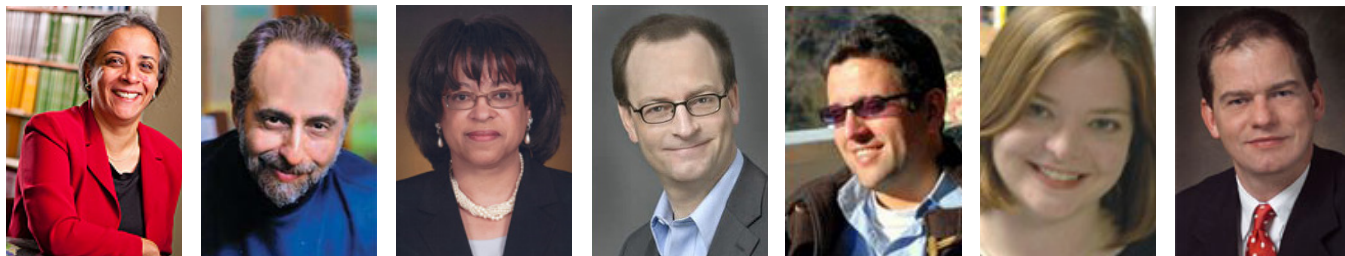
In spring 2016, the SLSA gathered at University of Lancaster, UK from April 5-7, 2016. The [conference website](#) has information about presenters and the conference program. SLSA will meet at Newcastle University, UK in 2017.

SUNY Buffalo Law School Legal Studies Research Paper Series

SUNY Buffalo Law School faculty members consistently produce important socio-legal scholarship. The SSRN database allows for timely and broad dissemination of working papers, articles and chapters.

[Access the SUNY Buffalo SSRN.](#)

Baldy Advisory Council



The Baldy Advisory Council sets policy and reviews the progress of the Baldy Center on a regular basis. Current members are:

Sharmistha BagchCi-Sen

(Professor and Chair of Geography) Research on international business, high technology innovation, labor markets and the aging workforce.

Guyora Binder

(SUNY Distinguished Professor of Law) Research in the areas of jurisprudence, criminal law, constitutional law, and international law.

Stephanie Phillips

(Professor of Law) Founding member of the Workshop on Critical Race Theory. Research interests in law and religion, and interactions between race, gender, and sexuality.

Kenneth Shockley

(Associate Professor of Philosophy) Research on indirect consequentialism, problems of partiality and the normative requirements of group membership, environmental values and public policy.

Mateo Taussing-Rubbo

(Professor of Law) Research on the reshaping of legal categories such as citizenship, sovereignty, and property through the deployment of powerful social and political categories such as sacrifice and gift.

Mary Nell Trautner

(Associate Professor of Sociology) Research in the areas of sociology of law; gender, sexuality, and the body; also labor and organizations.

David A. Westbrook

(Professor of Law) Research about the social and intellectual consequences of contemporary political economy. Teaches on business and international topics, including basic courses in corporations, contracts and international law.



The Baldy Center Staff



Errol Meidinger is the Director of the Baldy Center. He is the Margaret W. Wong Professor of Law, an Adjunct Professor of Sociology at SUNY Buffalo, and also an Honorary Professor at the University of Freiburg. His recent research has focused on efforts to use “supra-governmental” regulatory programs, such as environmental certification and fair labor standards programs, to improve the social and environmental performance of business. He is currently working on two related research projects, one focusing on interactions among state and non-state transnational governance organizations and another on the growing use by governments of limitations on access to their markets to promote environmentally and socially desirable behavior in other states. He earned his JD and Ph.D. (Sociology) at Northwestern University.



Laura Wirth is the Assistant Director of the Baldy Center. She holds a masters degree in Interdisciplinary Social Sciences from the State University of New York at Buffalo. She is responsible for organizing and coordinating the Baldy Center’s activities, managing daily operations and Center staff, maintaining the budget, administering grant application and award processes for affiliated faculty and fellows, and overseeing event planning and public communications.



Caroline Funk is the Baldy Center Research Associate. She holds a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin and specializes in the archaeology of human/environment relationships. She has worked in multidisciplinary and multinational teams in Russia, Portugal, and Alaska to answer questions about the intersection of cultural and environmental histories. Caroline currently leads a multidisciplinary research program in the Rat Islands, western Aleutians, Alaska, investigating the long-term history of human use of the region, and the impact of small-scale societies on the environment. Caroline’s primary role is to work with Baldy Center staff and affiliated faculty to develop funding proposals.



Veronica Bartikofsky is the Baldy Center Events Assistant. She has extensive experience in the financial sector as a Branch Manager in retail banking and as a Branch Administrator in the investment industry. She assists with implementing and organizing events that the Center hosts each year, including conferences, guest speakers, and workshops.



Matthew H. McLeskey is a Baldy Center Research Assistant. He is a doctoral student in the SUNY Buffalo Department of Sociology and interested in sociology of law, urban sociology, and social theory. He recently completed an M.A. in sociology at SUNY Buffalo, and before that an M.A. in English literature at James Madison University and a B.A. at Davis & Elkins College.



Yaqi Yuan (Sam) is a Baldy Center Research Assistant. She is a second-year PhD student from SUNY Buffalo Sociology Department and interested in law and society, sociology of families, and medical sociology. She recently completed an M.A. in political science with the Hunan University Graduate School in China.



Proudly Part of a Global Research Network

We are just one node in a growing international network of organizations advancing interdisciplinary research on law, legal institutions and social policy. Below are some other members of the global network:

American Bar Foundation | Centre for Criminology & Sociolegal Studies University of Toronto | Centre for Innovation Law and Policy, University of Toronto School of Law | Center on the Global Legal Profession, Indiana University, Bloomington | Center for Law & Globalization, University of Illinois | Center for Law, Society, and Culture, Indiana University, Bloomington | Center for Law & Society, University of Edinburgh | Center in Law, Society, and Culture, University of California Irvine | Centre for Socio-Legal Studies, Oxford University | Center for the Study of Law & Society, University of California at Berkeley | Collaborative Research Center 597 "Transformations of the State," Bremen | Critical Research Laboratory in Law & Society, University of Toronto | Global Legal Studies Center, University of Wisconsin Law School | Institute for Law & Society, New York University School of Law | Institute for Legal Studies, University of Wisconsin Law School | Institute on Law and Social Policy, University of California Berkeley | Law Societies & Justice, University of Washington | The Law and Society Association | Leuven Centre for Global Governance Studies | Oñati International Institute for the Sociology of Law | National Science Foundation | Program in Law and Public Affairs, Princeton University | Regulatory Institutions Network (RegNet), Australian National University | Society for Empirical Legal Studies, Cornell University | Sociolegal Studies Association | Socio-Legal Research Centre, Griffith University | USC Center for Law, History and Culture | World Consortium of Law and Society | York Centre for Public Policy and Law

The Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy

511 O'Brien Hall | Buffalo, NY 14260

Tel: 716.645.2102 | Fax: 716.645.2900

E-mail: baldyctr@buffalo.edu

www.buffalo.edu/baldycenter