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Proudly Part of a Global Research Network

The Baldy Center is just one node in a growing international network of organizations that advance interdisciplinary research on law, legal institutions and social policy. Below are some of the 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



Dear Colleagues,

I am pleased to send you this update on the numerous recent activities of the Baldy Center.

This newsletter coincides with the 50th Anniversary Meeting of the Law & Society Association in Minneapolis. The Baldy Center is proud of its contribution to the formative years of law and society research and is set to continue contributing for many years to come.

With best wishes,
[Errol Meidinger](#), Director

Announcing the 2014-2015 Baldy Interdisciplinary Legal Studies Fellows

Postdoctoral Fellows

Baldy Postdoctoral Fellows are highly promising scholars from a variety of disciplines who have completed their Ph.D.s and/or J.D.s at other universities, but have not yet commenced tenure track positions.



Yun-Ru Chen is a 2013 graduate of Harvard Law School’s Doctor of Juridical Science (SJD) program and a Research Fellow (2013-2014) of the Institute for Global Law and Policy at HLS. During her stay at the Baldy Center, Yun-Ru will turn her recent dissertation into a book manuscript tentatively titled, *Paradoxes of the National Family Law in (Post-) Colonial East Asia: Taiwan as the Nexus*. In addition, she will examine the modernization of Chinese family law and its relation to Chinese nationalism in the long twentieth century. Yun-Ru holds law degrees from National Taiwan University (LLB (minor in Economics) and LLM) and Harvard Law School (LLM). [Read more.](#)

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

Onati 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



Laura R. Ford recently completed a PhD in Sociology at Cornell University (2014), having previously earned an LLM in Intellectual Property Law and Policy from University of Washington Law School (2006), and a JD from Tulane Law School (2000). As a Baldy Fellow, Laura will build on her dissertation and prior research to produce a book manuscript tracing the emergence and expansion of intellectual property, a socio-legal development that reveals the continuing relevance of Max Weber's sociology of modernity. [Read more.](#)



Jesse J. Norris earned his PhD in sociology and his JD at the University of Wisconsin Madison. Jesse's research at the Baldy Center investigates alleged entrapment in domestic terrorism prosecutions. This research aims to document and explain the apparent prevalence of entrapment in terrorism investigations since 9/11, including the recent spread of entrapment allegations to cases of environmental or left-wing terrorism. It will also clarify the normative and social-scientific bases for critiquing current informant practices, and evaluate the potential of specific doctrinal and administrative reforms to prevent entrapment abuses. [Read more.](#)



Natasha Tusikov did her PhD in sociology within the Regulatory Institutions Network at the Australian National University. Her dissertation is a socio-legal analysis of the transnational private regulation of intellectual property on the Internet that is based on fieldwork undertaken in the United States, United Kingdom, Canada and Australia. Her research examines the power of corporate actors to shape norms toward and the use of particular technologies, and control over essential Internet services, such as search engines and payment providers. While at the Baldy Center, she will examine how technology firms, such as Google, Microsoft and Facebook, are shaping global standards relating to mass Internet surveillance and digital privacy. [Read more.](#)

Baldy Senior Fellow

Baldy Senior Fellows are accomplished academics and professionals, usually faculty members at other universities, who pursue intensive scholarly projects closely related to the research mission of the Baldy Center.



Prof. Margaret A. Shannon is a widely published and highly regarded scholar of forest and natural resources governance, law, and policy. She recently completed five years as the Director of the European Forest Institute's "Forest Policy, Economics, and Governance Education and Research Program" (FOPER) in the Western Balkans. She currently serves as Professor in Honor in the Faculty of Environment and Natural Resources at the University of Freiburg, Germany. Her current research topics include participation and adaptation in environmental governance; place-making and

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

Baldy Affiliates News

Nancy Denton's Talk Covered in UB Reporter

UB Announces Global Transcript Notation

social conflict; and the changing nature of sustainable forestry. Her work at Baldy Center focuses on changing roles and interaction patterns in transnational environmental governance. [Read more.](#)

UB Law Fellow

UB Law Fellows are alumni or friends of the University who are conducting research on law, legal institutions, and social policy.



Prof. Tricia Semmelhack received her JD (SUNY Buffalo '74) and entered private practice with a focus on intellectual property, computer law and licensing. Her earlier education at Brown University (AB'60) and the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy (MA'61) focused on international relations. During her career, she co-founded and chaired the Intellectual Property Law Section of the NYS Bar Association, and presented numerous papers in the US and Canada on IP and computer issues. Having retired from her partnership at Hodgson Russ LLP, she has renewed her interest in international law with a close study of Hugo Grotius's famous work; *The Law of War and Peace*. [Read more.](#)

Visiting Scholar

Visiting Scholars are guests from other universities, often from other countries, who are conducting research at SUNY Buffalo Law School. Visiting Scholar applications are reviewed by a committee consisting of the Vice Dean for Research, the Director for Global Strategic Initiatives, and the Director of the Baldy Center.



Kennedy Gastorn teaches law in the Department of Public Law at the University of Dar es Salaam School of Law, Tanzania. He is a co-founder and Coordinator of the Tanzanian-German Centre for Eastern African Legal Studies at the University of Dar es Salaam. He is also a Member of the National Environment Advisory Council (2012 - 2015) in the Vice President's Office, United Republic of Tanzania, and an Advocate of the High

Court of Tanzania, Notary Public and Commissioner for Oaths with a right of audience at the East Africa Court of Justice. [Read more.](#)

2013-2014 Postdoctoral Fellows



Or Bassok (JSD Yale 2013) will be a Max Weber Fellow at the European University Institute in Florence in 2014-15. [Read more.](#)



Anna Su (SJD Harvard 2013) will begin a tenure track position at the University of Toronto Law Faculty in 2014. [Read more.](#)



Kaja Tretjak (Ph.D. CUNY 2014, JD Berkeley) will begin an assistant professor position in the department of anthropology at Johnson State College. [Read more.](#)

Baldy Center Research Support

Research Grants

The Center supports research in the broad, interdisciplinary arena of law, legal institutions, and social policy. The Center welcomes both stand-alone and collaborative proposals, as well as proposals aimed at producing baseline research to help garner external funding. Grants for next year include:

[Sharmistha Bagchi-Sen](#), Geography, “University-Industry-Government Interaction in Bioenergy Translation Research”

[Anya Bernstein](#), Law, “Agency Statutory Interpretation: Preliminary Research”

[Michael Boucai](#), Law, “Glorious Precedents: When Gay Marriage Was Radical”

[Irus Braverman](#), Law, “Corals and Bombs: Military-to-Wildlife in Vieques, Puerto Rico”

[Matthew Dimick](#), Law, “Law, Labor, and the Politics of Inequality”

[Sarah M. Elder](#), Media Studies, Anthropology, Transnational Studies, “Surviving Arctic Climate Change” Film Editing Phase to Secure External Funding

[Jaume Franquesa](#), Anthropology, “Energy policy, sustainability and austerity: Renewable energy and energy transition in Spain”

[James A. Gardner](#), Law, “Intergovernmental Contestation in Federal Systems”

[Christopher Mele](#), Sociology, “Implications of Neoliberal Urban Policy to Environmental Justice”

[Kelly Patterson](#), School of Social Work, [Robert Silverman](#), Department of Urban and Regional Planning, and [Li Yin](#), Department of Urban and Regional Planning, “Anchor Institutions and Neighborhood Revitalization Policy: The Use of Linked Development Agreements (DAs) and Community Benefit Agreements (CBAs) in Shrinking Cities”

[Deborah Waldrop](#), School of Social Work, “Policy Practice at Life’s End: Exploring the Outcomes of Advance Care Planning”

Conference Grants

Each year, the Baldy Center sponsors several conferences and workshops on topics related to law, legal institutions, and social policy. Grants for next year include:

June 13-14, 2014

“Vulnerability, Resilience, and Public Responsibility for Social and Economic Justice”

This workshop seeks to use the vulnerability lens to explore insights and create opportunities that might develop the concepts and vocabulary to allow us to confront foundational neoliberal assumptions and move to a paradigm that emphasizes the universality, constancy, and inevitability of human dependency so that everyone can gain the resilience necessary to manage life’s crises and take advantage of opportunities as they present themselves over the life course.

September 11-12, 2014

“More-than-Human-Legalities: Advocating an Animal Turn in Law”

This cutting edge conference will attempt to chart a path for thinking about law and animality that eschews the animal rights and welfare discourses that have monopolized the scholarship on animals and law up to this point. It will bring together a diverse set of scholars to consider myriad paths to more-than-human legalities.

October 10-11, 2014

“Opportunities for Law’s Intellectual History”

Law thinks, its practitioners believe, and it thinks about its thinking. But only occasionally does law think historically about its thinking. Legal intellectual history of course had a precursor in the discipline of history. Contextual historical work on intellectual history has receded from its former place in the serious journals and conferences that feature legal history. Or has it? We wish to explore a different possibility, the possibility that while no one is paying attention, legal intellectual history is being reinvigorated by scholars drawing from its past incarnations, as well as from the techniques of the social history that supposedly replaced it and of the cultural history that in turn seems to be replacing social history.

External Grant Information

The Baldy Center maintains an up-to-date list of funding opportunities for interdisciplinary legal research. [Further information.](#)

Grant Proposal Assistance

The Baldy Center is pleased to provide proposal development support for law and policy related research funding. Non-adjunct UB faculty members are eligible to apply. [Further information.](#)

Ongoing Speaker Series

Check the [Baldy Center events page](#) for up-to-date Speaker Series information.

Spring 2014

Friday, February 7, 2014

[Serena Mayeri](#), Professor of Law and History, University of Pennsylvania

“Stuck with the Result”: Feminist Challenges to Illegitimacy Penalties, 1972-1979”

Wednesday, February 19, 2014

[Ann Morning](#), Associate Professor of Law and History, New York University

“The Nature of Race: Investigating Concepts of Human Difference”

Friday, February 28, 2014

[Kim Connolly](#) and [Nils Olsen](#), Professors, SUNY Buffalo Law School

“Consciously Complex: A Contextual History of the Clinical Legal Education Program at SUNY Buffalo Law School”

Friday, March 7, 2014

[Amy Kapczynski](#), Associate Professor, and Director of the Global Health Justice Partnership, Yale Law School

“Order Without Intellectual Property Law? A Case Study in Influenza”

Friday, March 14, 2014

[Eduardo Penalver](#), Professor of Law, University of Chicago

“Exactions Creep”

Friday, March 28, 2014

[David Kennedy](#), Professor, Harvard Law School

“Law and Global Political Economy”

Monday, March 31, 2014

[Kidada Williams](#), Professor, Department of History, Wayne State University

“If You can, the Colored People Need Help’: African Americans and the Vernacular History of Racial Violence”

Wednesday, April 2, 2014

[Annelise Riles](#), Jack G. Clarke Professor of Far East Legal Studies and Professor of Anthropology, Cornell University

“From Comparison to Collaboration: A New Paradigm for Comparative Law and the Anthropology of Law”

Thursday, April 3, 2014

[Lauren Benton](#), Professor of History, New York University

“The Promise of Protection: The Imperial Origins of an International Law Doctrine”

Friday, April 4, 2014

[Lauren Benton](#), Professor of History, New York University

Works in Progress Session, *“Empire without the Flag: Regional Legal Regimes in the British Global Order”*

Friday, April 4, 2014

[Kaja Tretjak](#), Postdoctoral Fellow, Baldy Center for Law & Social Policy

“Mobilization Beyond the State: Bitcoin, the P2P Revolution, and the Anti-politics of Intellectual Property”

Friday, April 11, 2014

[Aziz Rana](#), Associate Professor, Cornell University

“Constitutionalism and the Foundations of the Security State”

Wednesday, April 16, 2014

[Guy-Uriel Charles](#), Associate Professor, Cornell University

“State’s Rights, Last Rights, and Voting Rights”

Monday, April 21, 2014

[Helga Leitner](#) and [Eric Sheppard](#), Professors, Geography Department, UCLA

Workshop based on *“Provincializing Global Urbanism: A Manifesto”*

Tuesday, April 22, 2014

[Helga Leitner](#) and [Eric Sheppard](#), Professors, Geography Department, UCLA

“The Great Transformation: Neoliberalization, the urban commons and socio-spatial justice in Jakarta, Indonesia”

Friday, April 25, 2014

[Anthony O’Rourke](#), Associate Professor, SUNY Buffalo Law School

“Unmediated Review”

Book Manuscript Workshop

Friday, Sept 26, 2014

Jennifer Gaynor, UB Department of History

“Interidal History, Submerged Genealogy, and the Legacy of Coastal Capture in Island Southeast Asia”

Commentators: Barbara Watson (University of Hawaii), Eric Tagliacozzo (Cornell University), Kerry Ward (Rice University)

Baldy Affiliates News

Baldy Research Associate, Caroline L. Funk, and team receive National Science Foundation start-up grant

Caroline L. Funk, who is both the Baldy Center Research Associate and an Research Assistant Professor in the UB Department of Anthropology, is leading a multidisciplinary team including representatives of six federal agencies and academic colleagues from across the United States. The team has received a start-up grant of \$242,733 from the National Science Foundation for a one-year project involving field research and laboratory analyses of the environs of Kiska Island, one of the largest of the volcanic Rat Islands in Alaska’s western Aleutians. The project will research human impacts on resources and environmental/ecological histories by studying the prehistoric Aleut archaeological record and the environmental history of Kiska Island. [Read the full story here.](#)

Opportunities in Law & Society

Conferences

[Law and Society Association Annual Meeting](#)

Minneapolis, MN

“Law and Inequalities: Global and Local”

The 2014 program theme returns to a question central to the Association’s founding: the role of law and legal institutions in sustaining, creating, interrogating, and ameliorating inequalities.

May 29-Jun 1, 2014

[XVIII ISA World Congress of Sociology](#)

Pacifico Yokohama, Yokohama, Japan

“Facing an Unequal World: Challenges for Global Sociology”

An incredibly sensitive community of academics and professionals such as the International Sociological Association, aware of the social transformations taking place in the world, cannot and should not be absent from a debate on inequality.

Jul 13-19, 2014

[The Ninth Conference on Empirical Legal Studies](#)

Boalt Hall Law School, University of California at Berkeley, Berkeley, California

Theme TBA

November 7-8, 2014

Workshop on Right to Water: Mining and Dams as Case Studies

Global Legal Studies, University of Wisconsin Law School

Sponsored by the Land and Water Cluster and the Environment Cluster of the Human Rights Program, Global Legal Studies Program

November 7-8, 2014

Funding opportunities

Law & Society Postdoctoral Fellowship

2015-2016 Academic Year

University of Wisconsin Law School

The Institute for Legal Studies of the University of Wisconsin Law School will appoint a postdoctoral fellow for the 2015-16 academic year. Starting in Fall 2014, applications will be accepted from scholars in the early (pre-tenure) stage of their career or whose careers have been interrupted or delayed.

Deadline: Fall 2014, date TBA

Research Fellowship in Comparative and Cross-national Justice System Studies

The Robina Institute of Criminal Law and Criminal Justice, University of Minnesota Law School

Three research fellows with complementary backgrounds will be hired in 2014; one fellowship remains to be filled. This is a full-time, 12-month academic professional appointment.

Deadline: July 31, 2014

School of Social Science at the Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey

2015-2016 Academic Year

The school welcomes applications in economics, political science, law, psychology, sociology and anthropology. Applicants must have a Ph.D. at time of application, and must commit to the full academic year. The 2015-16 focus will be Borders and Boundaries.

Deadline: November 1, 2014

Law School Admission Council (LSAC)

Research Grant Program

The research grant program funds research related to the process of selecting law students or legal education itself.

Deadline: August 15, 2014

Calls for Papers

Centre for Socio-Legal Studies at the University of Oxford conference

“Exploring the Comparative in Socio-Legal Studies”: Call for abstracts

Deadline submission: June 20, 2014

Conference date: December 15-16, 2014

Western Society of Criminology new Journal of Criminology, Criminal Justice, Law & Society: Call for papers

Email CCJCLS@westerncriminology.org for more information or visit

[Criminology, Criminal Justice, Law & Society](#).

Up-to-date calls, funding opportunities, and conference listings can be found through the [Law and Society Association Announcements page](#)

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 Bagchi-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.



Candace Morrison is the Baldy Center Research Assistant. She is a third-year law student at SUNY Buffalo Law School. She is interested in human and civil rights research. She recently completed an M.A. in Arts Management with the SUNY Buffalo Graduate School. Candace's work supports the full range of Baldy Center activities.