



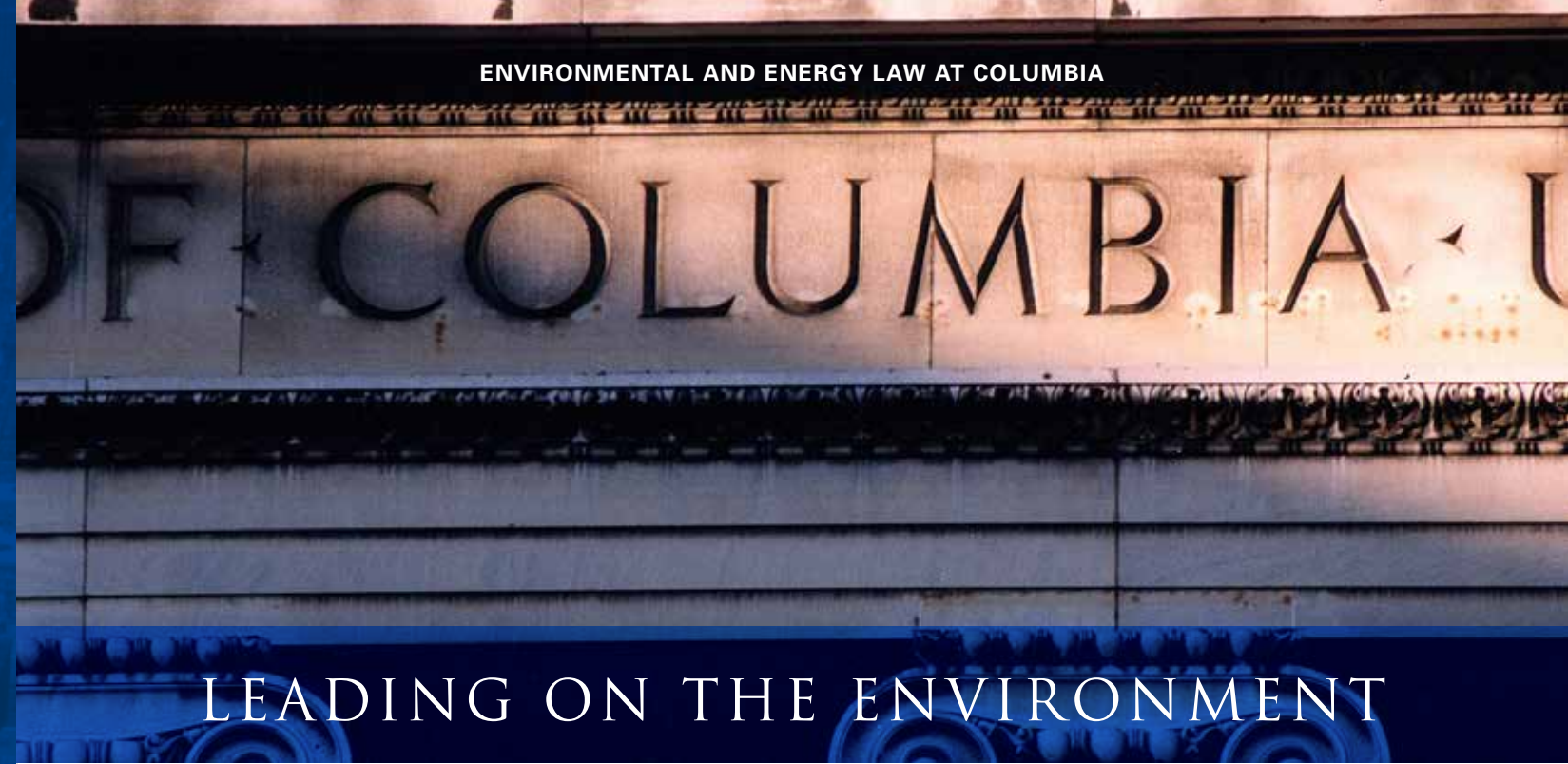
Columbia  
Law School



# ENVIRONMENTAL AND ENERGY LAW AT COLUMBIA







## LEADING ON THE ENVIRONMENT

“ Columbia provided me with an excellent foundation for the practice of environmental law. The faculty are outstanding, and I benefited greatly from their instruction, mentoring, and career advice. As an editor at the *Columbia Journal of Environmental Law*, I researched and published an academic article exploring a complex procedural issue encountered during an off-campus summer internship. The Sabin Center for Climate Change Law’s activities fostered an energetic and fascinating dialogue on climate-related issues. Finally, learning the fundamentals of practice in the Environmental Law Clinic prepared me to hit the ground running as an associate at a New York City law firm specializing in environmental law. ”

Devin McDougall '12  
Sive Paget & Riesel, P.C.

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**For 50 years,** New York City has provided a stimulating backdrop against which Columbia Law School has emerged as a leading center for the study of environmental law. In the earliest days of the environmental movement, armed with a social conscience and an awareness of burgeoning legal issues concerning the environment, Law School Professor Frank Grad—who had spent several years from 1959 and onward helping revise the New York City Health Code—created the school’s first seminar in environmental law and legislation. In 1971, his notes for that course were transformed into *Environmental Law: Sources and Problems*, the first environmental law book produced at a major law school.

From then on, New York has been at the fulcrum of the development of environmental law. As the headquarters city of the United Nations, the financial and media capital of the country, the center of a region facing great challenges, and the nation’s most dense and most vibrant city, New York has emerged not only as the laboratory for bold experiments in sustainability but also as the venue for much of the sharpest analysis and debate on the topic. Columbia University is deeply immersed in all of this. Its world-renowned Earth Institute is the home of much cutting-edge research in the physical and social sciences. At Columbia Law School, the Sabin Center for Climate Change Law and the Environmental Law Clinic, following in the spirit of Frank Grad, are forging new paths in the study, teaching and practice of environmental law. For a truly global perspective on environmental law, there is no better location.



## SABIN CENTER FOR CLIMATE CHANGE LAW

## Recent Publications

*Legal Pathways to Deep Decarbonization in the United States*

*Climate Engineering and the Law: Regulation and Liability for Solar Radiation Management and Carbon Dioxide Removal*

*Climate Change, Public Health, and the Law*

*Global Climate Change and U.S. Law, 2nd ed.*

*The Law of Clean Energy: Efficiency and Renewables*

*The Law of Adaptation to Climate Change: U.S. and International Aspects*

*Threatened Island Nations: Legal Aspects of Rising Seas and a Changing Climate*

“Climate change and renewable energy developments are the next big things in environmental and energy law,” Michael Gerrard, Andrew Sabin Professor of Professional Practice, told *Greenwire* in 2009. One of the world’s foremost environmental attorneys, Gerrard’s comments came just months after he joined the Columbia Law School faculty and became founding director of the Sabin Center for Climate Change Law. “My goal is to make this Center a focus for legal innovation in the climate change arena,” he said.

Since then, the Center has successfully pursued this goal, tackling thorny legal questions arising from climate change issues and advancing its mission to:

- train climate change law’s next generation of leaders,
- develop groundbreaking legal techniques to combat climate change and help society cope with its effects,
- develop legal materials useful to judges, lawyers, public officials and students around the world.

In collaboration with scientists at Columbia’s Earth Institute, the Law School’s Environmental Law Clinic and governmental, non-governmental and academic organizations in New York City and around the world, the Center probes for legal solutions to some of the field’s most difficult problems, including how to decarbonize the economy, adapt to climate change impacts in coastal areas and the urban-wildland interface, and resolve profound legal questions concerning national responsibility and legal liability. The Sabin Center for Climate Change Law tracks and interprets regulatory issues and climate change litigation; aggregates and develops laws and best practices for countries, states, municipalities and other entities; informally advises public officials; and gives lectures and courses around the world.

Students work side-by-side with faculty and the Center’s attorneys on all of these projects, and often produce publications under their own by-lines. “The work the students do with us is central to our work, and we have already helped launch many of them on careers in environmental law,” said Professor Gerrard.

### A Critical Question: If a Country Sinks Beneath the Sea, is it Still a Country?

Rising ocean levels brought about by climate change continue to create unprecedented legal questions for small island nations. Among them: If a country is completely submerged, is it still a country? Does it keep its seat at the United Nations? Who controls its offshore fishing and mineral rights? Does it have any legal recourse against those whose emissions contributed to sea level rise?

The Republic of Marshall Islands—a Micronesian nation of 29 low-lying coral atolls in the Pacific just north of the equator—is struggling to secure its survival and is working to attract international attention to the plight of vulnerable countries. In 2009, the republic enlisted the help of Columbia Law School’s Sabin Center for Climate Change Law.

Until just a few years ago, notes Michael Gerrard, faculty director of the center, it was

difficult to have a conversation in the international community about how countries might adapt to climate change. “But now people recognize that the climate situation will get worse before it gets better, and we have to begin making serious preparation,” he says.

Gerrard has traveled to the Marshall Islands multiple times, co-chaired a major conference at Columbia Law with the republic, co-edited a book on its issues, worked with the republic’s delegation in the Paris Agreement negotiations, researched its authority to regulate emissions from ships, and enlisted numerous students in the efforts to assist the country and its people. He took the photograph (above left), of a burial vault, on his first trip in 2010. Revisiting the same spot in 2013, he saw that the sea had risen closer to the vault—evidence, both literal and figurative, of the danger posed to the nation’s heritage.

## Recent Conferences

Fighting Back Against Attacks on Climate Science

Climate Change, the Courts, and the Paris Agreement

Can Fossil Fuel Companies Be Held Liable for Climate Change?

Offshore Wind in New York: What’s Next?

Weathering the Storm: Resilience & Sustainability in Design and Construction

Using Green Infrastructure for Climate Change Adaptation and Hazard Mitigation

New York Sea Level Rise Projections: Implications for Law, Land Use, Buildings and Infrastructure

Should Universities and Pension Funds Divest from Fossil Fuel Stocks?

Legal Issues in Managed Coastal Retreat

EPA Region II Bi-Annual Conference (2010 – present)

Annual David Sive Memorial Lecture (2015 – present)





# ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CLINIC

## Fracking, industrial agriculture, clean air, “smart growth,” wetlands preservation, endangered species.

From New York City and its metropolitan area to the most remote environments on the planet, the Environmental Law Clinic has tackled an enormous trove of environmental trouble. Led by noted environmental activists and litigators Professor Edward Lloyd (who established the Clinic in 2000 with the support of the Evan M. Frankel Foundation) and Jennifer Danis, the student litigators have helped to shape the future of environmental law through their high impact litigation and advocacy.

Clinic cases are chosen for their 1) educational opportunity, 2) ability to meet clients' need for counsel and 3) environmental significance. In the one-semester course, students work in groups to represent organizational clients. They participate in weekly seminars, team meetings, simulations, and other exercises to help them hone valuable “lawyering” techniques; and independently, and in collaboration with other law clinics, develop and litigate cases.

“I want students to take away a number of skills from this Clinic: listening carefully to their clients, and analyzing strategies—including litigation, policy change, possible regulatory reform—to resolve them,” said Lloyd. “And even if students choose not to practice environmental law, I hope they take with them a sense of the breadth and depth of the environmental challenges facing this country and the world.”

Clinic alumni have gone on to continue their work in posts at the Department of Justice, the Environmental Protection Agency, Earthjustice, the Natural Resources Defense Council, Environmental Defense Fund, other non-governmental agencies, private law firms, and in all levels of government.

## Battling Pipelines to Promote Clean Energy

In 2018, clinic students represented the New Jersey Conservation Foundation and Hunterdon Land Trust, which were named defendants in land seizure proceedings by the PennEast Pipeline Company. (PennEast sought to condemn conservation lands, state public recreational lands, and small, independent farms for its pipeline.) Students also brought a Fifth Amendment challenge against the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission’s (“FERC”) practice of approving 99% of pipeline project proposals without sufficient economic or environmental analysis. And the clinic joined the State of New Jersey in launching a suit

directly challenging FERC’s approval of PennEast’s project. These clinic cases are part of the clinic’s broader clean energy advocacy project.

The problem: Fossil fuel infrastructure projects are rapidly proliferating as private companies assert that they are a needed “bridge” to a clean energy future. These projects cause myriad economic and environmental harms, and are an obstacle to achieving greenhouse gas emissions reductions essential for decelerating climate change.

The argument: FERC’s rubber stamping of fossil fuel infrastructure projects violates the Natural Gas Act and the Fifth Amendment of the Constitution by failing to ensure that they serve any public benefit.

# CURRICULUM

## Crafting a Specialty in Environmental Law

Columbia Law School students with a keen interest in environmental law have a range of courses to choose from, beginning with two first-year foundation courses, Torts and Property. Torts, which covers injuries to interests in land and public and private nuisance, and Property, which explores fundamental questions of ownership, connect contemporary environmental law and litigation with their early common law sources.

The Law School offers a wide array of upper level electives in environmental and energy law. (See next page.) Second- and third-year students can supplement these courses with Administrative Law, State and Local Government Law, and property and real estate courses that address issues important to this specialty. They can also add to their environmental experience by enrolling in the Environmental Law Clinic and a number of externships.

To deepen their knowledge of a particular area, Law School students can take advantage of graduate courses in Columbia University’s schools of engineering, business, international and public affairs, public health, and architecture and planning, and its science and economics departments. The student-edited *Columbia Journal of Environmental Law*, the Environmental Law Society, and Environmental Moot Court further enrich the study of the field.

An Environmental Law Advisory Committee advises the Dean and faculty of the Law School on its environmental programs. The Committee consists of distinguished members of the private, public interest, and in-house bars and representatives from the philanthropic community. Columbia’s environmental activities are further enhanced by the David Sive Memorial Fund, established in 2014 in honor of the late David Sive ’48, one of the pioneers of environmental law, by the law firm he co-founded, Sive Paget & Riesel. The fund supports conferences, lectures and other events on environmental law topics at Columbia.

“The course offerings at Columbia built my foundation in the law, while hands-on experience with the Environmental Law Clinic introduced me to the fundamentals of practice. Throughout my time the outstanding faculty mentored me and guided me into the field of environmental law.”

Channing Wistar-Jones '17

Environmental Protection Bureau, New York State Office of the Attorney General



## THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND ENERGY LAW CURRICULUM

**Administrative Law:** Administrative agencies play a critical role in determining the duties and entitlements of the public. This course introduces students to the constitutional and statutory frameworks regulating administrative agencies in their exercise of this authority. Focusing on the major federal agencies, we consider the forms of agency action (e.g., rulemaking and adjudication) and the procedures required by the Administrative Procedure Act; constitutional constraints limiting agency action; and the means used by Congress, the President, and the courts to control and review what agencies do, plus some attendant separation of powers questions. In addressing these issues, we consider both political and legal dynamics about the twenty-first-century administrative state.

**Environmental Law:** A survey course introducing the basic problems and approaches that characterize contemporary environmental regulation. We review the ecological and economic justifications for government regulation to protect the environment, and examine the strategies and tools for doing so. We focus primarily on the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, the Superfund law, and the Endangered Species Act.

**Climate Change Law and Policy:** An overview of the legal tools available to combat global climate change and to adapt to its impact. We evaluate the evolution of the international legal regime for addressing climate change and attempts to develop a U.S. regulatory scheme, and look at how energy efficiency, renewable energy sources, coal, and forestry and agriculture figure in the process. We discuss the implications for international human rights, trade, environmental justice, and equity and examine special challenges posed by China. Proposals for adaptation to climate change and geo-engineering are examined as well.

**Energy Regulation:** A course devoted to the regulation of energy resources, and facilities, paying special attention to the current and future roles of natural gas, renewable energy, energy efficiency, nuclear power and the regulation and deregulation of electricity. We discuss rate and service regulation; the responsibilities of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and state public utility commissions; and energy law's interaction with environmental law.

**Natural Resources Law:** A seminar on natural resources law in the U.S. Drawing on pertinent cases, statutes and regulations we cover public lands management, wilderness, National Parks and National Monuments, mining, forestry, coastal resources, oil and gas development on the Outer Continental Shelf, water law, conservation on agricultural lands, and ecosystem-scale approaches.

**Environmental Law Clinic:** Students in the Environmental Law Clinic represent local, regional, and national environmental and community organizations working to solve critical environmental challenges facing the metropolitan region (see page 4). We have worked with community groups concerned about pollution and public health, and with statewide and national organizations and coalitions dealing with land conservation and transportation. In weekly seminars, students lead discussions on issues they are facing in their cases. The clinic emphasizes litigation skills that have applications beyond environmental law, such as drafting pleadings, arguing motions, and negotiating settlements, and exposes students to such mechanisms as citizen suits, that can be found in both civil rights and environmental cases. While this is a one-semester clinic, students have the opportunity to continue working with clients in subsequent semesters.

**International Environmental Law:** A survey of the foundations of international environmental law. We explore a broad range of contemporary international environmental issues including biodiversity loss, the marine environment, ozone depletion, genetic resources and intellectual property issues, and trade. We examine the relationship between international environmental law and general principles of international law; the role of “soft” and “hard” law in addressing international environmental problems; and the contribution of international tribunals to the development of international environmental law.

**Advanced Seminar in Climate Change Law:** A seminar devoted to an exploration of selected issues at the cutting edge of climate regulation. Topics vary each year depending on new and impending developments. Students prepare a major paper and engage in vigorous dialogs with guest speakers and each other.

**Environmental Issues in Business Transactions:** This class explores how environmental laws affect a host of business transactions, including mergers and acquisitions, securities offerings, lending and secured transactions and real estate development—in virtually every industry, from heavy manufacturing to Internet commerce. Students study how environmental liabilities and risks are identified, evaluated and allocated in corporate transactions and what regulatory, market and political forces are at play.

**Seminar in Energy Industry Restructuring:** This course requires students to apply concepts from a variety of doctrinal areas to a hypothetical complex transaction involving the merger of two electric utility companies. The course goes through all phases of this

## THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND ENERGY LAW CURRICULUM

transaction, from initial consideration of whether to go forward, to determination of its structure and financing, negotiations between the buyer and the seller, securing board approval, obtaining regulatory approvals, presentations to the investment community and rating agencies, proxy solicitation and shareholder vote, closing, and structuring the new company. Particular emphasis will be devoted to issues that are distinctive to regulated utilities in the energy industry.

**Animal Law:** A look at the legal status of non-human animals, including a review of the relationship between humans and animals, how it can vary according to the use to which animals are put and the scientific understanding of the capacities of various animal species. We investigate the classification of animals as “property”—whether it is appropriate or important and how such “property” can be legally valued—and discuss laws impacting people's relationship with pets, industry's use of animals, including animals in agriculture; current animal protection laws, both state and federal; as well as recent efforts to reform these laws through legislation and litigation and the overall problems of litigating on behalf of animals.

**Land Use Law:** A survey and evaluation of the rules restricting the use of land and the various local ordinances, state and constitutional doctrines limiting these restrictions. The objective of the course is to build an understanding of the full range of powers—both constitutional and political—that local and state governments have to regulate use of privately owned land. Among the issues we address are zoning ordinances, subdivision, variances, growth controls, community development, environmental impact review and regulatory takings. Students learn about and critique the delegation of specific land use powers afforded state and local governments and explore how it influences the practice of land use, environmental, and real estate law, including administrative procedure and judicial review.

### Environmental Law Moot Court

Sponsored by the Environmental Law Society and falling under the Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison Moot Court Program, the fall semester's Environmental Moot Court offers students the opportunity to hone their skills in appellate brief writing and master the art of oral argument. The Moot Court's environmental legal problems are selected from those posed by the National Environmental Law Moot Court Competition held annually at Pace Law School. Issues are drawn from real cases and argued by three adversarial teams, reflecting the often complex, multi-party nature of environmental litigation. Teams engage in oral arguments, adjudicated

by noted environmental law practitioners as well as Law School faculty.

In the spring semester, the Society sponsors one team to compete in the National Environmental Law Moot Court competition, based on a short writing competition.

**Advanced Environmental Law Clinic:** Students who have completed the Environmental Law Clinic have the opportunity to engage more deeply in the work of the Clinic and to take on an even more significant role with respect to Clinic cases and projects.

**Extractive Industries and Sustainable Development:** How can extractive industry investments be leveraged for sustainable and equitable development, particularly in low-income resource-rich countries? What is the international, national and regional regulatory framework under which such investments are made? How can the challenges of poverty alleviation, environmental sustainability, and governance be addressed in an integrated, multi-stakeholder framework for extractive industry investments that promotes sustainable development, respects the profitability of private-sector investments, and builds the mutual trust needed for long-term investments? This course covers the inter-related challenges of governance, infrastructure, economic diversification, environmental management, and economic development.

**Externship Opportunities:** The Law school offers several opportunities for experiential learning in environmental law externships. The *Externship on the Federal Government in Washington D.C.* enables students to work in participating federal government law offices and in D.C.-based environmental groups. The *Externship on Advancing Social and Environmental Justice* in the New York Attorney General's Office places students in the Environmental Protection Bureau, where they come to understand the authority and work of state attorneys general while getting hands-on experience in public interest investigation and litigation. The *United Nations Externship* places students in various UN divisions, and provides students with an opportunity to learn more about the law and practice of the world organization and the processes of making and implementing institutional law there.

## FULL TIME FACULTY AND STAFF

## Michael B. Gerrard



**Andrew Sabin Professor of Professional Practice, Faculty Director, Sabin Center for Climate Change Law**

*J.D. New York University School of Law, B.A. Columbia College*

Gerrard joined the Columbia Law School faculty in 2009 after 30 years practicing environmental law in New York, most recently as partner-in-charge of the New York office of Arnold & Porter LLP.

The nation's most prolific writer on environmental law—he has written or edited 13 books and

hundreds of articles—Gerrard is a two-time winner of the Association of American Publishers' Best Law Book award. Since 1986 he has been an environmental law columnist for the New York Law Journal.

Gerrard has served on the executive committees of the boards of the Environmental Law Institute and the American College of Environmental Lawyers, and as chair of the American Bar Association's 10,000-member Section of Environment, Energy and Resources, the Executive Committee of the New York

City Bar Association from 2015 to 2018, he was Chair of the Faculty of Columbia University's Earth Institute., and the Environmental Law Section of the New York State Bar Association. Several independent rating services ranked Gerrard as the leading environmental lawyer in New York and one of the leading environmental lawyers in the world.

## Edward Lloyd



**Evan M. Frankel Clinical Professor in Environmental Law and Director, Environmental Law Clinic**

*J.D. University of Wisconsin Law School, B.A. Chemistry, Princeton University*

Lloyd has played a prominent role in protecting New Jersey's environment for more than 30 years. In 2000, he came to Columbia to launch its Environmental Law Clinic, after 15 years as director and founder of the Rutgers University Law School Environmental Law Clinic.

After graduating from law school, Lloyd began his career as an environmental advocate

with the New Jersey Public Interest Research Group, where he spent ten years. He continues to serve as its general counsel.

Lloyd has lectured on environmental legal issues at Judicial College for New Jersey judges, on citizen suit litigation at the Practising Law Institute and ALI/ABA, and at numerous environmental courses for the practicing bar at the New Jersey Institute for Legal Education. He is a co-founder and co-director of the Eastern Environmental Law Center, a member of the New Jersey Pinelands Commission and the Litigation Review Committee of the Environmental

Defense Fund, and has served as a member of the New Jersey Supreme Court Committee on Environmental Litigation. Lloyd has testified before the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives committees on environmental enforcement.

## FULL TIME FACULTY AND STAFF

## Michael Heller



**Lawrence A. Wien Professor of Real Estate Law**

*J.D. Stanford Law School, A.B. Harvard College*

One of America's leading authorities on property, Heller joined the Columbia Law Faculty in 2002 and teaches property, land use, and real estate law. Prior to his tenure at Columbia, he taught at the University of Michigan Law School where he received the L. Hart Wright Award for excellence in teaching. He co-directed corporate governance research at the

University of Michigan Business School's William Davidson Institute and was a term member of the Council on Foreign Relations. He has been a visiting professor at UCLA School of Law, Fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences (2004-05), visiting professor at NYU Law School, Olin Senior Fellow at Columbia, and visiting lecturer at Yale Law School. In the early 90's, Heller worked at the World Bank on post-socialist property law transition. He clerked for the Honorable James R. Browning, Ninth

Circuit Court of Appeals. He is a widely published author of texts and articles exploring a variety of land ownership issues, including the celebrated *The Gridlock Economy: How Too Much Ownership Wrecks Markets, Stops Innovation, and Costs Lives* (Basic Books 2008).

## Thomas Merrill



**Charles Evans Hughes Professor of Law**

*J.D. University of Chicago Law School, B.A. Grinnell College, B.A., Rhodes Scholar, Oxford University*

An expert in three fields—property, administrative and environmental law—Merrill joined the law school in 2003 as Charles Keller Beekman Professor of Law, and was named to his current position in 2009. Merrill came to Columbia from Yale Law School, and had

also taught at Northwestern University Law School, where he was the John Paul Stevens Professor of Law.

In the late 1980's, Merrill served as deputy solicitor general in the U.S. Department of Justice, representing the country before the U.S. Supreme Court. He was "of counsel" with Sidley Austin Brown & Wood for more than twenty years.

He clerked for the Honorable Harry A. Blackmun, U.S. Supreme Court; and the Honorable David L. Bazelon, U.S. Court of

Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. Among his written works is *Property: Principles and Policies* (2012), a leading casebook in the field.

## FULL TIME FACULTY AND STAFF

## Jedediah Purdy

**Professor of Law**

*J.D. Yale Law School  
A.B. Harvard College*

Purdy joined the law school in 2019, and teaches and writes on constitutional, environmental, and property law as well as legal theory and law's intersection with social and political thought. Purdy is the author of six books, including *After Nature* (2015)

and a trilogy on American politics that concluded with *A Tolerable Anarchy* (2009). His legal scholarship has appeared in the *Yale Law Journal*, *Harvard Law Review*, *University of Chicago Law Review*, and many other journals. He is also a frequent contributor to publications such as *The Atlantic*, *n+1*, *The New Republic*, and *The New Yorker*.

Before joining the Law School faculty in 2019, Purdy taught at Duke Law School for 14 years. He has been a visiting professor at Yale Law School, Harvard Law School, Stanford Law School, the University of Virginia School of Law, and the Georgetown University Law Center. He served as a law clerk for Judge Pierre N. Leval of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 2nd Circuit.

## Michael Burger

**Executive Director, Sabin Center for Climate Change Law and Lecturer-in-Law, Columbia Law School**

*J.D. Columbia Law School,  
M.F.A.-Creative Writing  
New York University,  
B.A. Brown University*

A prolific scholar and accomplished litigator, Burger joined the law school as the first Executive Director of the Sabin Center in 2015. Previously he was Associate Professor at Roger Williams University School of Law, where he taught administrative law, environmental

law and law & literature, and directed the law school's environmental and land use law clinical externship program. Prior to that, he taught in the Lawyering program at NYU School of Law.

Before beginning his career in the legal academy Burger served as an environmental attorney at the Office of the Corporation Counsel for the City of New York, where he litigated and counseled the City on issues ranging from global warming and energy efficiency to protection of the City's

drinking water to the renovation of Washington Square Park. More recently, he has served as counsel of record for the nation's largest local government associations and dozens of cities in lawsuits concerning the Clean Power Plan, greenhouse gas emissions standards for automobiles, fossil fuel company liability for climate change, and air pollution at the Port of Los Angeles. He is also a co-editor of *Climate Change, Public Health and the Law*, and a co-founder of the Environmental Law Collaborative.

## FULL TIME FACULTY AND STAFF

## Jennifer Danis

**Staff Attorney, Environmental Law Clinic Lecturer-in-Law, Columbia Law School**

*J.D. Boston University  
School of Law  
B.A. University of Pennsylvania*

Danis, a litigator with significant experience in environmental and energy law, joined the Clinic in 2018. Previously, she served as the Senior Staff Attorney for Eastern Environmental Law Center's Energy Infrastructure

program, where she advocated for sustainable energy choices in the region and fought to prevent the proliferation of gas pipeline infrastructure. Prior to her energy work at EELC, she was of counsel to Bradley M. Campbell, LLC, where she used legal and scientific tools to address toxic contaminants under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. Working as an attorney at the Natural Resources Defense Council, Ms. Danis researched complex

litigation strategies to address legacy pollution of regional waterways, and successfully advocated for the preservation of 600 wetlands acres in the Hackensack Meadowlands. Ms. Danis began her law career as a litigator at Kirkland & Ellis in New York. In addition to her role at the Clinic, she also serves on the Conservation and Research Committee of the New Jersey Audubon Society.

“ I came to Columbia Law School planning to focus on environmental law, and once I arrived I was pleased—even somewhat overwhelmed—with all the opportunities there. I watched debates about environmental issues (and went on hikes) with the Environmental Law Society; edited scholarly articles for the *Columbia Journal of Environmental Law*; litigated cases with the Environmental Law Clinic; networked with grad students in business, international affairs, and science at the Earth Institute; and conducted research and attended conferences hosted by the Sabin Center for Climate Change Law. As an attorney with the Environmental and Natural Resources Division of the U.S. Department of Justice, I know my experience at Columbia Law School not only helped me land this job, but it also helps me keep up with the challenges of environmental litigation I encounter daily.

**Ben Schifman '11**

Environmental and Natural Resources Division  
U.S. Department of Justice

“ The environmental law faculty at Columbia are tremendous pedagogues and internationally recognized for their leadership and expertise. They always had time to answer my questions and give advice on classes, papers, and career choices. With their guidance and support, I interned for two stellar environmental organizations and published two articles on environmental law topics. Through my connections at Columbia, I've found environmental pro bono opportunities at my firm and look forward to an active role in the environmental bar. I couldn't have received a better start.”

**Emily Hush '18**  
Debevoise & Plimpton



## ADJUNCT FACULTY

## Susan E. Amron

**Lecturer-in-Law: Environmental Law Moot Court**

*J.D. Columbia Law School,  
B.A. Yale University*

Amron is General Counsel of the New York City Department of City Planning. Before joining City Planning, she was Chief of the Environmental Law Division of the New York City Law Department and has practiced environmental and land use law for the City for almost 30 years. As the City's chief environmental lawyer, Amron counseled City agencies about federal, state, and local environ-

mental and land use laws and represented the City as both a plaintiff and a defendant in environmental and land use litigation. Before joining the City, Amron spent six years as a litigation associate at Willkie Farr & Gallagher. She currently also serves on the executive committee of the New York State Bar Association's Environmental and Energy Law Section.

## Robert J. Grey

**Lecturer-in-Law: Seminar in Energy Industry Restructuring**

*J.D. Emory University,  
LL.M. George Washington University,  
B.A. Columbia University*

Robert J. Grey is a partner in the law firm of K&L Gates and was formerly executive vice president, general counsel and secretary of PPL Corporation, a major energy company. Prior to joining PPL in 1995 he was general counsel for Long Island Lighting Co. Prior to that, he had been a partner with the law firm of

Preston Gates & Ellis (now K&L Gates) in Seattle, Washington, and Portland, Oregon. His experience also includes several years as a staff counsel for the New York Public Service Commission, and he served as an attorney for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

## Peter Lehner

**Lecturer-in-Law: Food Law and Sustainability**

*J.D. Columbia Law School  
B.A. Harvard College*

One of the nation's leading environmental lawyers, Lehner directs Earthjustice's Sustainable Food & Farming Program, developing strategies to reduce health, environmental, and climate harms from production of our food and to promote a more environmentally sound agricultural system. Previously, he was

the Executive Director of the Natural Resources Defense Council and the NRDC Action Fund, chief of the Environmental Protection Bureau of the New York State Attorney General's office, a staff attorney at NRDC and the founder and division chief of the environmental prosecution unit for New York City.

## Matthew Morreale

**Lecturer-in-Law: Environmental Issues in Business Transactions**

*J.D. Columbia Law School, M.S., B.A. and B.A.S., University of Pennsylvania*

A partner in the Corporate Department of Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP, in charge of its environmental practice, Morreale advises Cravath's clients on environmental matters relating to mergers and acquisitions, securities offerings and financings in the U.S. and abroad. He also provides counseling on environmental compliance matters; environmental and toxic tort

litigation; environmental indemnification disputes; and environmental aspects of periodic reporting obligations under securities laws. He lectures and writes on environmental topics, and has served on the Board of Directors of the *Columbia Journal of Environmental Law* since 1997.

## ADJUNCT FACULTY

## Ken Rivlin

**Lecturer-in-Law: Environmental Issues in Business Transactions**

*J.D. Boston University,  
B.A. Brown University*

Rivlin heads Allen & Overy's Global Environmental Law Group, their U.S. Environmental and Regulatory Law Group and U.S. Pro Bono Program. He advises on environmental and

regulatory risk in transactions involving a wide range of industries, compliance with U.S. and EU environmental requirements, emissions trading and climate change,

environmental disputes, toxic tort risk, SEC disclosure requirements and corporate governance issues. Rivlin also advises on the U.S. Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA), dealings with OFAC-sanctioned countries, Exxon-Florio and similar matters.

Prior to joining Allen & Overy, he worked at Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP and McCarter & English LLP.

## Lisa Sachs

**Lecturer-in-Law: Extractive Industries and Sustainable Development**

*J.D. Columbia Law School  
M.A. Columbia School of  
International and Public Affairs  
B.A. Harvard College*

Lisa Sachs is the Director of the Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment. Since joining CCSI in 2008, she established and now oversees CCSI's applied research, activities and technical assistance projects related to investments in natural resources, national and international investment law and policy, and sustainable investing. She co-chairs

the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network's thematic group on the Good Governance of Extractive and Land Resources and has participated in several World Economic Forum Councils related to sustainable investment, public-private cooperation, and mining.

## Mariann Sullivan

**Lecturer-in-Law: Animal Law**

*J.D. Fordham University School of Law,  
B.A. Newton College*

Sullivan, an adjunct professor of animal law at Brooklyn Law School and Cardozo Law School, recently retired as Deputy Chief Court Attorney at the New York State Appellate Division, First Department. She has served as chair of the Committee on Legal Issues Pertaining to Animals of the New York City Bar Association and the Animal Law Committee of the American Bar Association's Tort Trial Insurance Practice Section. A frequent speaker at conferences and animal law related events throughout the country,

as well as Animal Rights Africa's Animal Law Review Consultation Workshop in Johannesburg, she is currently the president of the Board of Directors of Our Hen House, as well as that organization's Program Director, and serves on the Board of Directors of Animal Welfare Trust and Animal Welfare Advocacy. She is a former member of the boards of Farm Sanctuary and The Animals Agenda, and a prolific writer on issues in her field.



## STUDENT ACTIVITIES

### **The Columbia Journal of Environmental Law**

Founded in 1972 with a grant from the Ford Foundation, the *Journal* is one of the oldest and most preeminent environmental law journals in the country. Recognized for its innovative scholarship on emerging areas of environmental law, its articles have contributed substantially to the evolution of laws in this specialty.

Published twice a year, the *Journal* is managed by second- and third-year law school students. It showcases both the scholarship of leading environmental lawyers and academics, and student work, featured in its “2L Note” program. Law student staff also host a Climate Change Symposium each spring, and publish an associated, digital-only version of the *Journal*.

### **Environmental Law Society**

Students concerned about environmental issues and/or interested in environmental careers are welcome to join the Environmental Law Society. The society offers a host of opportunities for involvement—promoting environmental efforts at the Law School among them.

Each year, the group hosts some of the world’s top environmental practitioners from government, public interest groups, and private law firms at a variety of events, ranging from informal luncheons and panel discussions to Earth Day Celebrations and movie screenings. Environmentally conscious pro-bono projects are also available through the Environmental Law Society, including their annual caravan trip. The society also gets involved with the New York City community, through group events like park clean-ups and tree-planting.

### **Student Animal Legal Defense Fund (SALDF)**

SALDF is a student chapter of the national Animal Legal Defense Fund, which aims to advance the interests of animals through the legal system. Its film screenings, lunches and other events bring together those with a shared interest in animal welfare and/or animal rights. And it helps connect students to pro bono and career opportunities in the field of animal law.

“The skills and knowledge in environmental law that I learned at Columbia have been invaluable to launching my career, and the support of the Columbia network truly helped me enter the environmental law field confident that I could contribute right away.”

**Surbhi Sarang '16**  
Environmental Defense Fund

## OUR PARTNER

### **The Earth Institute at Columbia University**

Widely recognized as the world’s foremost organization addressing the challenges of global sustainable development, the Earth Institute’s 850 scientists, postdoctoral fellows, staff and students work across many disciplines to find solutions for problems in public health, poverty, energy, ecosystems, climate, natural hazards and urbanization.

Established in 1995, its experts collaborate with corporations, government agencies, non-profits, individuals, national governments and the United Nations to help educate the next generation of leaders in this important area.

The Law School’s Sabin Center for Climate Change Law is an Institute affiliate. Its Faculty Director, Michael Gerrard,

and Edward Lloyd, Director of its Environmental Law Clinic, are members of the Institute’s multi-disciplinary faculty, with Gerrard formerly serving as Chair of this faculty and Lloyd as Chair of the faculty Practice Committee. Law School students have the opportunity to take courses with faculty in other schools in the university.

More than 30 research centers are under the Institute’s umbrella, including the Center for Research on Environmental Decisions; the Center for Climate Systems Research; the Columbia Water Center; the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory; the International Research Institute for Climate and Society; the National Center for Disaster Preparedness; and the Millennium Villages Project.

## OUR COLLABORATORS AT COLUMBIA

### **Columbia Center on Sustainable Investment (CCSI):**

CCSI, a joint center of Columbia Law School and the Earth Institute at Columbia University, is the only university-based applied research center and forum dedicated to the study, practice and discussion of sustainable international investment. Its mission is to develop critical understanding, practical approaches and governance tools for governments, investors, communities and other stakeholders to maximize the benefits of international investment for sustainable development. CCSI pursues this mission through research, policy and advisory work, organizing multi-stakeholder and expert dialogue, teaching and curriculum development, and development of practical resources and governance tools.

### **Center on Global Energy Policy (CGEP):**

CGEP’s mission is to enable public and private sector leaders to make more informed choices about the world’s most pressing energy issues by providing an independent and interdisciplinary platform for insights and data driven analysis, convening and information-sharing, education and training, and actionable recommendations on the current and future global energy system. It accomplishes this by producing best-in-class research; providing a global platform to communicate the insights from that research across traditional and new media, public events, and private roundtables; and training tomorrow’s energy policy and market leaders and communicators.



## OUR STUDENTS AND GRADUATES: CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

The Environmental Law program at Columbia Law School prepares students for careers in a wide variety of organizations. Our presence in New York City enables us to place students in internships with not-for-profit advocacy organizations, federal, state and local government agencies, United Nations consulates, and private law firms, ranging in size from small environmental boutiques to large national and international firms. These placements often lead to full-time jobs, either immediately after law school, or after judicial clerkships. And many of our students go on to similar jobs in other cities.

### Here's a snapshot of where just a few of our graduates are today

#### Government

**Susan Amron, '84**,  
General Counsel, New York City  
Department of City Planning

**Suzanne Alana Beddoe '93**,  
Senior Vice President and  
General Counsel, New York State  
Environmental Facilities Corp.

**Steven N. Brautigam '94**, Assistant  
Commissioner for Environmental Affairs,  
New York City Department of Sanitation

**Steve Bullock '94**,  
Governor, Montana

**Samantha Klein Frank '00, Emily M.  
Meeker '08, Vivian H.W. Wang '08,  
Travis Annatoyn '10, and Ben  
Schifman '11**, Attorneys with the  
Environmental and Natural Resources  
Division, U.S. Department of Justice

**Catherine McCabe, '77**, Commissioner,  
New Jersey Department of Environmental  
Protection

**Channing Wistar-Jones, '17**, Assistant  
Attorney General, Office of NYS Attorney  
General, Environmental Protection Bureau

**Monica Wagner, '81**, Deputy Bureau  
Chief, Office of NYS Attorney General,  
Environmental Protection Bureau

#### Law Firms

**Theodore Garrett '68**,  
Senior Counsel, Environmental Practice,  
Covington & Burling

**William H. Hyatt, Jr. '64**,  
Environmental partner, K&L Gates

**Nelson Johnson '92**,  
Senior Counsel, Arnold & Porter

**Matthew Morreale '97**,  
Partner-in-charge, Environmental  
Practice, Cravath Swaine & Moore

**Daniel Riesel '61**, Name partner,  
Sive Paget & Riesel, an environmental law  
boutique in New York, with colleagues  
**Jeffrey Gracer '85**, Partner, and  
**Devin McDougall '12**, Associate

**Sarah H. Sigman '08**, Associate, San  
Francisco environmental boutique Shute,  
Mihaly & Weinberger

#### Not-for-Profits

**Kenneth S. Berlin '73**, President and  
CEO, The Climate Reality Project

**Jean Chen '06**, Associate Counsel,  
Open Space Institute

**J. William Futrell '65**, Former President,  
Environmental Law Institute; Former  
President, Sierra Club

**Paul Gallay '84**, President and  
Hudson Riverkeeper at Riverkeeper

**Jeffrey Hammons, '16**, Staff Attorney,  
Environmental Law & Policy Center

**David G. Hawkins '70**, Director of  
Climate Programs, and **Daniel Raichel  
'11**, and **Claire Woods '11**, Attorneys,  
Natural Resources Defense Council

**Clay Hiles '75**, Executive Director,  
Hudson River Foundation

**Amanda Hungerford '10**,  
Attorney, The Humane Society

**Peter Lehner '84**, Senior Strategic  
Advisor, and **Lisa Perfetto '11**,  
Staff Attorney, Earthjustice

**Brenda Mallory '83**  
Director and Senior Counsel for  
the Conservation Litigation Project

**Christopher McKenzie '92**,  
Senior Vice President and  
General Counsel, Wildlife  
Conservation Society

**Lauren Packard, '17**, Staff Attorney,  
Center for Biological Diversity

**Michael Panfil '11**, Senior Attorney, and  
**Surbhi Sarong, '16**, Staff Attorney,  
Environmental Defense Fund

**Caitlin Peale '11**, Attorney,  
Conservation Law Foundation

**Carter H. Strickland Jr. '95**,  
State Director, Trust for Public Land

#### Academia

**Michael Burger '03**, Executive Director  
Sabin Center for Climate Change Law

**Karl Coplan '84**, Professor of Law and  
Co-Director-Environmental Law Clinic,  
Pace Law School

**Karena Gore, '00**, Center for Earth  
Ethics, Union Theological Seminary

**Susan J. Kraham '92** Director of  
Externships and Field-based Learning,  
Columbia Law School

**Nicholas A. Robinson '70**,  
University Professor on the Environment,  
Co-Director Global Center for Environ-  
mental Legal Studies, Pace Law School

#### Environmental Consulting and In-House

**Christopher Angell '10**,  
Senior Manager, Oracle

**Ira Feldman '85**, President and Senior  
Counsel, Greentrack Strategies

**Frank Friedman '65**,  
President, Frank Friedman Associates,  
an environmental consulting firm.

**Arundhati (Tinku) Khanwalkar '83**,  
Senior Director, PPL Corporation

**Janette Sadik-Kahn '87**,  
Principal, Bloomberg Associates

### SABIN CENTER FOR CLIMATE CHANGE LAW

Professor Michael B. Gerrard, Director  
michael.gerrard@law.columbia.edu  
(212) 854-3287

### ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CLINIC

Professor Edward Lloyd, Director  
edward.lloyd@law.columbia.edu  
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