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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Boston University School of Law, Boston, MA

Present Associate Professor of Law

Teaching:

Professional Responsibility (Fall 2025)

Corporations (Spring 2026)

University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School, Philadelphia, PA

2022 – 2025 George Sharswood Fellow

Teaching:

Race, Law, and Resistance (Spring 2023, Fall 2023)

Business and Human Rights (Spring 2024, Fall 2024)

Temple University, Philadelphia, PA

2021 – 2022 Diversity Postdoctoral Fellow in Political Science

2019 – 2021 Adjunct Assistant Professor of Political Science

Teaching:

LGBTQ/SOGIE Rights Legal Mobilization in Comparative Perspective (Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021)

Racism and Resistance: American Coloniality in Comparative Perspective (Fall 2020, Spring 2021)

Human Rights from Below: Race, Power, and Protest (Spring 2020)

Business and Human Rights: Global Governance and Corporate Accountability Litigation (Spring 2020)

Politics of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity: LGBTQ/SOGIE Rights Legal Mobilization (Fall 2019)

International Human Rights Law (Fall 2019)

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Human Rights, International Law, Constitutional Law, Race and the Law, Law and Social Movements, Comparative Constitutional Law, Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Law, Professional Responsibility, Corporations

EDUCATION

Northwestern University, The Graduate School, Weinberg College of Arts & Sciences, Evanston, IL

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Political Science, June 2022

Master of Arts (M.A.) in Political Science, February 2019, Major Field: International Relations

Mellon Foundation Fellowship in Interdisciplinary Studies, 2015-2017

University of Pennsylvania Law School, Philadelphia, PA

Juris Doctor (J.D.), May 2013

Editor-in-Chief, *University of Pennsylvania Journal of International Law*, volume 34

Mundheim Family Scholarship, 2010-2013

Shao I. Ho Scholarship, 2010-2011

Columbia University, Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, New York, NY

Master of Arts (M.A.) in Political Science, February 2006

Tufts University, College of Liberal Arts, Medford, MA

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in Political Science, September 2001, Minor Field: English

PUBLICATIONS

Decriminalization Matters: LGBTQ Transnational Litigation Networks and Movement Lawyering in the Global South

105 BOSTON UNIVERSITY LAW REVIEW 67 (2025)

Demonstrating that a distinct sociolegal phenomenon – the transnational litigation network – is behind much of the legal mobilization in the Global South seeking to decriminalize consensual same-sex sexual conduct, I argue that network actors should adopt movement lawyering ethics such as capacity building and community empowerment in order to mitigate critiques of such networks as imperialist and elitist.

Ogoni Activism and Access to Remedy: Business and Human Rights from the Bottom Up

55 COLUMBIA HUMAN RIGHTS LAW REVIEW 858 (2024)

Acknowledging the enormous cost, length of time, and numerous litigation defeats procedurally and on the merits that Ogoni and other Indigenous people have suffered trying to hold corporations accountable for human and environmental rights violations, I argue that such activism has produced positive outcomes, which justifies further corporate accountability litigation. Positive outcomes include monetary settlements, procedural rulings that expand jurisdiction over defendant corporations, demonstrated justiciability of social and economic rights, establishing a duty of care owed by parent corporations to host communities, law firm capacity building, and prioritization of “access to remedy” in the draft treaty on business and human rights.

The Last Colony of the Mind: Narrative, Legal Advocacy, and the Decolonization of Legal Knowledge

38 TEMPLE INTERNATIONAL & COMPARATIVE LAW JOURNAL 37 (2024)

Discussing Philippe Sands’ 2022 book *The Last Colony* as an example of the epistemological value of narrative in legal advocacy, I propose the further incorporation into legal pedagogy of narratives of the marginalized and of critical legal perspectives such as Third World Approaches to International Law.

The Evolution of Sodomy Decriminalization Jurisprudence in Transnational and Comparative Constitutional Perspective

32 WILLIAM & MARY BILL OF RIGHTS JOURNAL 239 (2023)

Comparing seventy years’ worth of decriminalization jurisprudence, I argue that the legal claims made by decriminalization activists and judges’ rationales for finding violations of constitutional law and human rights law have evolved over time and location – from the privacy rationale dominant in European Court of Human Rights, UN Human Rights Committee, and U.S. jurisprudence to innovative claims and rationales regarding human dignity, freedom of expression, freedom of movement, and the right to judicial protection in the jurisprudence of Global South activists and judges.

African Jurisprudence for Africa’s Problems: Human Rights Norm Diffusion and Norm Generation Through Africa’s Regional International Courts

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF INTERNATIONAL LAW (Regional and Sub-Regional Tribunals: The African Response, 2015)

Considering debates in the literature regarding the fragmentation of international law, I argue in support of judges sitting on Africa’s regional trade courts arrogating human rights jurisdiction for themselves, which allows them to contribute both to the diffusion of international human rights norms through transnational judicial dialogue – the practice of citing jurisprudence from judges on other international courts – as well as to generate novel human rights norms or to expand existing norms through crafting innovative legal rulings based on African jurisprudence.

Introduction to the Special Issue on the Arab Spring

34 UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA JOURNAL OF INTERNATIONAL LAW, page i (2013)

Authoring the Editor-in-Chief foreword to a Symposium Issue of the Journal, I discuss the transnational contagion protest phenomenon known as the Arab Spring, and I draw connections between the articles in the Symposium Issue.

ADDITIONAL TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Northwestern University, Evanston, IL

2016 – 2019 Graduate Student Teaching Assistant

Constitutional Law II: Civil and Political Rights (Winter 2019)

Introduction to Law in the Political Arena (Fall 2018)

Introduction to International Relations (Spring 2017)

Constitutional Law I (Winter 2017)

Politics of International Law (Fall 2016)

Deerfield Academy, Deerfield, MA

2006 – 2010 College Advisor, Teacher of Philosophy and Religion

2008 – 2010 Co-Director of Multicultural Affairs

2007 Faculty Development Grant Recipient

Introduction to Human Rights/History of Human Rights (Spring 2007, Spring 2008, Spring 2009, Spring 2010)

Judeo-Christian Tradition (Winter 2009, Spring 2010)

LEGAL EMPLOYMENT

City of Philadelphia Board of Ethics, Philadelphia, PA

2014 – 2015 Staff Attorney

Court of Common Pleas of the First Judicial District, Philadelphia, PA

Mar-Nov 2014 Law Clerk to the Honorable Edward C. Wright

2013 – 2014 Judicial Fellow (law clerk) to the Honorable Paula A. Patrick

Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP, New York, NY

Summer 2012 Summer Associate

Open Society Institute Justice Initiative, New York, NY

August 2012 Legal Research Intern

United States District Court, District of New Jersey, Newark, NJ

Summer 2011 Judicial Intern to the Honorable Esther Salas, United States District Judge

OTHER LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition

2014, 2015 Judge, Northeast and Mid-Atlantic Regional Rounds, International Rounds

2011 – 2013 Oralist (Regional Quarterfinalist, 2012)

University of Pennsylvania Law School Transnational Legal Clinic, Philadelphia, PA

Spring 2013 Law Student Representative

International Human Rights Advocates, University of Pennsylvania Law School, Philadelphia, PA

El Centro de Estudios de Derecho, Justicia y Sociedad, Colombia

2010 – 2011 Researcher

OTHER EMPLOYMENT

Columbia University, New York, NY

2002 – 2006 Graduate Coordinator, Department of Political Science

INVITED TALKS

Guest Lecture: Women, Oil Corporations, and Environmental Justice in Africa

Swarthmore College, Global Studies, Swarthmore, PA, September 26, 2024

Guest Lecture: Business and Human Rights Corporate Accountability Litigation

Swarthmore College, Global Studies, Swarthmore, PA, September 28, 2023

Keynote Address: Human Rights, Law, and Legal Mobilization

University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School, Levy, Silverman-Rodin, and Franklin Scholars Annual Luncheon, Philadelphia, PA, April 2023

Guest Lecture: International Human Rights and Adjudication

Swarthmore College, Global Studies, Swarthmore, PA, October 18, 2022

Guest Lecture: Same Sex Marriage in U.S. Constitutional Politics

Northwestern University, Constitutional Law II: Civil and Political Rights, Evanston, IL, March 2019

Guest Lecture: International and Foreign "Constitutional" Courts: LGBT Rights Litigation Around the World

Northwestern University, Introduction to Law in the Political Arena, Evanston, IL, October 2018

WORKSHOPS

From Transnational Litigation Networks to Transnational Movement Lawyering: An LGBTQ Human Rights Case Study

American Society of International Law Biennial Conference on International Law and the Social Sciences, hosted by Northwestern Pritzker School of Law, Chicago, IL, September 2024 (scheduled)

2024 John Mercer Langston Writing Workshop, hosted by Northwestern Pritzker School of Law, Chicago, IL, June 2024

Transnational Sodomy Decriminalization Litigation Networks in the Global South and Transnational Jurisprudential Communities, 1994-2022

2023 John Mercer Langston Writing Workshop, hosted by CUNY Law School, New York, NY, June 2023

Activists in International Courts Workshop, online, November 2022

Temple Workshop on International Institutions and Global Governance, Philadelphia, PA, October 2022

What Is A Colony? The Past, Present, and Future of a Troubled and Troubling Concept

Temple International and Comparative Law Journal Book Symposium, Philadelphia, PA, April 2023

Transnational LGBTQ Litigation Networks in the Global South

Temple University International Relations Workshop, Philadelphia, PA, April 2022

LGBTQ Human Rights in Domestic and International Courts: Sodomy Decriminalization in Comparative Perspective

International Studies Association Annual Convention Junior Scholar Symposium, Nashville, TN, March 2022

Social Movement Transnational Legal Mobilization: Ogoni Environmental Justice and Corporate Accountability Litigation

International Studies Association Annual Convention Junior Scholar Symposium, Honolulu, HI, March 2020 (canceled due to COVID-19)

Social Movement Transnational Legal Mobilization in Africa

76th Annual Midwest Political Science Association Conference Junior Scholars Symposium, Chicago, IL, April 2019

WORKSHOPS (continued)

A Race to the Triple Bottom Line: Judicialization of Africa's Business and Human Rights Regime through the Alien Tort Statute

Northwestern University Department of Political Science, International Relations Working Group, Evanston, IL, March 2019

Northwestern University Department of Sociology and Kellogg School of Management, Social Movements & Enterprise Workshop, Evanston, IL, February 2019

The Judicialization of LGBT Rights Movements (and Countermovements): Colonial Legacies and Constitutional Courts

Northwestern University Department of Sociology and Department of Legal Studies, Crime, Law & Society Workshop, Evanston, IL, February 2019

International Court Socialization in Africa: Acculturation and Persuasion in the Diffusion of Human Rights Norms

Northwestern University Department of Political Science, International Relations Working Group, Evanston, IL, February 2016

Gay Marriage in South Africa: A Human Rights Legacy? An (Anti-) Apartheid Legacy? Or Both?

International Studies Association Annual Convention Junior Scholars Symposium, New Orleans, LA, February 2015

International Crimes in Domestic Courts: Universal Jurisdiction over Terrorism, War Crimes, and Crimes Against Humanity
(coauthored with Dr. Jessica A. Stanton)

American Society of International Law International Criminal Law Interest Group Scholarship Workshop, hosted by Temple University Beasley School of Law, Philadelphia, PA, December 2014

ACADEMIC CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Decriminalization of Same-Sex Conduct in the Global South: Addressing Elitism and Human Rights Imperialism in Transnational Litigation Networks

2024 Law and Society Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, June 2024

International Studies Association Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA, April 2024

Transnational Decriminalization Litigation Networks in the Global South and LGBTQ Human Rights Legal Innovations

American Society of International Law Midyear Meeting Research Forum, Pittsburgh, PA, November 2023

2023 Law and Society Annual Meeting, San Juan, Puerto Rico, June 2023

Business and Human Rights from the Bottom Up: Ogoni Indigenous Activism and the Diffusion of Corporate Accountability Norms

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, CA, August 2023

International Studies Association Annual Convention, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, March 2023

Seeking Indigenous Environmental Justice in the Courts of the Conqueror? Environmental Racism, Environmental Imperialism, and the Alien Tort Statute

80th Annual Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, IL, April 2023

Fragmentation or Cross-Cultural Consensus: Transnational Judicial Dialogue and Comparative Constitutional and International Law as Habermasian Ideal Type Discursive Spaces

American Society of International Law Midyear Meeting Research Forum, Miami, FL, November 2022

Sodomy Decriminalization Legal Mobilization and the Origins of LGBTQ Human Rights Norms

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, September 2022

ACADEMIC CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (continued)

LGBTQ Rights Legal Mobilization as a Human Rights Norm Diffusion Mechanism: Agency, Opportunity Structures, Innovation, Alliances and Institutionalization

2022 Law and Society Annual Meeting, Lisbon, Portugal, July 13, 2022

SOGIE Rights Legal Mobilization in Africa and the Anglophone Caribbean: Transnational Networks and Cultural and Legal Frames

79th Annual Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, IL, April 2022

International Studies Association Annual Convention, Nashville, TN, March 2022

LGBTQ Human Rights in Domestic and International Courts: Sodomy Decriminalization in Comparative Perspective

Northeastern Political Science Association, 53rd Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, November 2021

Judicialized Decriminalization of Homosexual Sex in the Global South: Comparative Constitutional Law and Social Change in Belize, Trinidad, India, and Botswana

2020 Law and Society Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, May 2020 (canceled due to COVID-19)

Social Movement Transnational Legal Mobilization: Ogoni Environmental Justice and Corporate Accountability Litigation

77th Annual Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, IL, April 2020 (conference canceled due to COVID-19)

Northeastern Political Science Association 51st Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, November 2019

The Judicialization of LGBT Human Rights in South Africa, the US, and India

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Washington D.C., September 2019

Human Rights Norm Diffusion through Africa's International Courts: Court Proliferation and Transnational Judicial Dialogue

International Studies Association Annual Convention, Baltimore, MD, February 2017

International Studies Association Annual Convention, Atlanta, GA, March 2016

Northeastern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, November 2015

International Crimes in Domestic Courts: Universal Jurisdiction over Terrorism, War Crimes, and Crimes Against Humanity
(coauthored with Dr. Jessica A. Stanton)

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, September 2015 (paper presented by co-author)

African Jurisprudence for Africa's Problems: Human Rights Norm Diffusion and the ECOWAS Community Court of Justice

American Society of International Law 109th Annual Meeting, Washington, DC, April 2015

African Courts for Africa's Problems: The Evolution of the ECOWAS Community Court of Justice

New York State Political Science Association Annual Meeting, New York, NY, April 2014

Manifestly Unlawful & Manifestly Immoral: Holding Ordinary Soldiers Accountable for Torture and the Consequences for Just War Theory

Northeastern Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, November 2012

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Bar Membership: Pennsylvania (admitted 2013)

Academic Associations:

- American Bar Association
- American Political Science Association
- American Society of International Law
- International Law Association
- International Studies Association
- John Mercer Langston Scholars
- Law and Society Association
- Midwest Political Science Association
- Northeastern Political Science Association