The David H. Getches Native American and Natural Resources Law Fellowship was made available as the result of a generous gift from the Wyss Foundation. The Getches Wyss Fellowship will support a recent Colorado Law School graduate in carrying out a project that addresses a significant issue or issues of importance in Native American and/or natural resources law. The fellowship will be awarded through a competitive process to an applicant who demonstrates a sincere interest in pursuing a career in the field of Native American or natural resources law. The awardee will be hired by the University of Colorado Law School to work with the Getches—Wilkinson Center, in conjunction with the faculty and staff of the Law School, or with a non-governmental organization or Indian tribe, under the supervision of the Center.

A preference will be given to proposals that will allow the applicant to work at the Law School and that address land and water conservation, stewardship, and sound natural resource management in Indian country, and that have as at least one objective illuminating such issues for the benefit of tribal governments. Applicants may develop their own proposals but should consult with the appropriate faculty or organization with whom they wish to work, as well as with the Center to ensure the feasibility of the project. Priority will be given to proposals that align significantly with current research and projects being conducted by Center faculty and staff. The following projects are ongoing, and the Center would welcome applications/proposals that further one or more of them:

1. Acequia Project/Energy Development Impacts

Sarah Krakoff, Professor of Law
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Carla Fredericks, Associate Clinical Professor and Director of the Indian Law Clinic
Carla.Fredericks@Colorado.EDU

Professors Carla Fredericks and Sarah Krakoff are interested in working with a Getches Fellow during 2016-17. We envision that the fellow would work half-time on each project, and therefore that the proposal would be to work with both of us as described below.

Acequia Project: This is a public service and environmental justice project housed in the Getches-Wilkinson Center. Professor Krakoff directs the Acequia Project and runs its day-to-day operations in conjunction with several Project partners. The Project assists low-income farmers in the San Luis Valley with water rights and governance issues, providing legal representation to help sustainable and culturally unique communities maintain their way of life. The Getches fellow would have the opportunity to supervise students on cases, assist with administrative aspects of the Project, and conduct research on law and policy questions relevant to Project work. In addition, Professor Krakoff will oversee an independent legal research project, of the fellow’s choosing, that stems from issues raised by our work in the San Luis Valley. This is a terrific opportunity for
students interested in water law, environmental justice, sustainable agriculture, and who are excited about the prospect of engaged research.

**Energy Development Impacts Project:** Professor Fredericks has been working for the past two years on a project that seeks to assist tribal nations with harnessing their energy resources while working to address community development impacts. The Getches fellow will have the opportunity to work with reservation communities to build capacity and infrastructure, engage in strategic planning processes in order to ensure the protection of tribal homelands for future generations, and assist Professor Fredericks with casework. In addition, the project will afford the fellow time for independent legal research of the fellow’s choosing. The Fellow will have an outstanding opportunity to interface directly with tribal leadership, staff, outside counsel, and other relevant stakeholders and will receive excellent hands-on experience in federal Indian law.

2. Governors’ Climate and Forests Task Force

William Boyd
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Colleen Scanlan Lyons, GCF Project Director
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Professors William Boyd (Law) and Colleen Scanlan Lyons (Anthropology) are looking for a motivated fellow to assist the **Governors’ Climate & Forests Task Force** (GCF) in developing and mapping collaborative partnerships with indigenous and traditional communities who live in important forested regions of the world. The GCF is a network of 29 states and provinces in 8 countries around the world (Brazil, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria, Ivory Coast, Peru, Spain and the United States) working to reduce tropical deforestation, develop pathways to sustainable development and improve the livelihoods of forest-dependent communities. GCF members are working diligently to merge tropical forest conservation with sustainable development in a way that is responsive to local community needs. The successful applicant will be a partner in these efforts and will have a background in natural resource law and policy, environmental governance, Indian law, and/or human rights law. This fellowship will focus on activities that help the GCF advance its work with indigenous and traditional communities and will build on the following ongoing efforts:

- **The GCF is currently establishing a working group** comprised of GCF members, indigenous and traditional community representatives, and nonprofit partners.
- **There are many existing projects, strategies, and partnerships** between governmental agencies and indigenous/traditional communities in GCF jurisdictions.
- **Research is needed on key issues and topics** that shape GCF and indigenous and traditional community relations, including for example (1) laws and norms governing relationships between states and indigenous peoples (FPIC and other emerging principles and norms), (2) territorial rights recognition, (3) indigenous and traditional participation in climate change dialogues and public processes, (4) benefit-sharing mechanisms, (5) governance conditions, and (6) implementation of life plans for integrated management of indigenous lands.
- **The GCF’s Rio Branco Declaration (RBD)** is a platform for action that commits states and provinces to reducing deforestation by 80% by 2020 while working closely with key
stakeholders, including indigenous and traditional communities and sustainable supply chain actors.

- Many relationships among the GCF and indigenous and traditional community representatives already exist, particularly in the Brazilian and Peruvian Amazon, Mexico, and Indonesia. Groups like COICA, the Surui People, MADN, and Alianza Mesoamericana de Pueblo y Bosques, among others, have expressed interest in working more closely with the GCF. The GCF also has strong partnerships with groups like Forest Trends and Earth Innovation Institute, which work with indigenous and traditional communities in GCF jurisdictions.

- The GCF Fund envisions developing a strategy for advancing the work of the GCF with indigenous and traditional communities.

3. Indigenous Water Justice Project

Doug Kenney, Senior Research Associate, Getches-Wilkinson Center
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As a prelude to the Martz Summer water conference (June 9-10), an invitation-only Indigenous Water Justice (IWJ) Symposium will be held at CU Law on June 6 examining contemporary issues of “water justice” facing Native American tribes, Canadian First Nations, and Australian Aboriginal communities within the Colorado River, Columbia River, and Murray-Darling basins. Interbasin, basinwide, and community-specific issues involving three general strands of “water justice” will animate the symposium: (1) distributive justice (Indigenous communities’ relative access to and use of water resources for self-determined purposes); (2) procedural justice (Indigenous communities’ relative opportunities for engagement and participation in governance structures and processes); and (3) representative justice (Indigenous communities’ relative ability to have cultural traditions and values associated with water reflected/respected in distributional rules and governance structures and processes). Symposium participants come primarily from tribes and from academic institutions (including CU Law’s Charles Wilkinson, Mark Squillace, and Larry MacDonnell). Doug Kenney (of the GWC) is the lead organizer for the full week of symposia and conference, and would be the lead supervisor of the Fellow. The primary organizer of the symposium is Jason Robison, Univ. of Wyoming (a former GWC visiting fellow).

The event will lead to a series of articles published in a reputable U.S. law review (ideally the Colorado Natural Resources, Energy & Environmental Law Review). The Fellow would (a) aid in scoping and organizing the overall compilation; (b) engage in research, writing, and editing tasks, as necessary, to complete individual papers; and (c) would have the opportunity to contribute an original piece should the Fellow’s individual research interests align closely with the “water justice” focus of the other papers. (A working list of candidate topics has already been developed and is available upon request.)
If one of these projects is of interest, please contact the faculty or staff member(s) identified above before submitting an application to discuss the project and the Applicant’s proposal in more detail.

In addition, there may be other faculty or staff members aligned with the Center who are working on projects or research that is of interest to an Applicant. In that case, the Applicant should contact such faculty or staff member to discuss that project or research and how it might best be incorporated into an Applicant’s proposal.

Applicants must have a mentor (faculty or other) who will provide guidance and help ensure that the Fellow will succeed in the project. Finally, Applicants will be expected to complete a paper or report of publishable quality during their Fellowship.

The Fellowship is open to graduating 3L, University of Colorado Law students. The Fellow will be required to have their terminal degree prior to starting the Fellowship. Expected start date is late July, early August.

Salary is $4,000 per month for 12-15 months. The position is full-time, but someone who wanted to work part-time for a couple of months while studying for the Bar Exam might be accommodated. Salary would be prorated accordingly.

Applications are due by **Friday, March 18** and should include: (1) Brief cover letter; (2) Proposal, including a statement of your research interests, how they align with a G-W Center project, and your publication goals; (3) Resume; (4) Law school transcript. Applicants should plan for interviews to be conducted during the week of March 28-April 1, the winning Applicant will be selected on Wednesday, April 6 (interview and selection schedule subject to change).

Please submit application materials by email to:

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