Welcome!

Dosha! It’s been an exciting year for the American Indian Law program. We kicked off the year with a trip to the United Nations Human Rights Council Meeting in Geneva, Switzerland to support the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. In the fall, we were tremendously honored to host the Native American Rights Fund’s 45th Anniversary Conference, bringing together Native Rights lawyers, advocates, and leaders from across the country to celebrate NARF’s incredible legacy. In the spring, we participated in the Getches-Wilkinson Center conference honoring the storied career of Professor Charles Wilkinson. We are also thrilled to share the exciting news that Professor S. James Anaya will be our new dean of the Law School. Reflecting on our past and looking toward our future, we continue our commitment to promoting the rights of native peoples through educating the next generation of native rights lawyers.

Carla Fredericks,
Director, American Indian Law Program
Director, American Indian Law Clinic
James Anaya named next dean of Colorado Law

Provost Russell L. Moore announced the appointment of James (Jim) Anaya, a Regents’ Professor and James J. Lenoir Professor of Human Rights Law and Policy at the University of Arizona, as dean of the law school. Anaya will begin his duties on Aug. 8, 2016. Anaya’s teaching and writing focus on international human rights and issues concerning indigenous peoples.

“As a legal scholar and practitioner, Jim Anaya for decades has not only contributed distinctive quality, character and importance to legal theory, but he also has advanced protections for indigenous peoples around the globe,” said Moore. “His devotion to the development and application of the legal canon and his thoughtful approach as a leader epitomize the desired attributes of a dean, and we are delighted that he’s joining CU-Boulder.”

Among Anaya’s numerous publications are his acclaimed book, Indigenous Peoples in International Law, and his widely-used co-authored textbook, International Human Rights: Problems of Law, Policy and Practice. In addition to his academic, field and literary work, Anaya has litigated major indigenous rights and human rights cases in domestic and international tribunals including the Supreme Court of the United States, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and the Caribbean Court of Justice.

“I’m excited to join a law school that is at the leading edge of innovation in legal education and scholarship,” said Anaya. “I look forward to becoming part of Colorado Law’s vibrant community of students, alumni, faculty and staff who are dedicated to excellence; and to working with the larger legal community in Colorado and beyond in ways that can build on what Colorado Law is already doing to serve our profession and the public.”

For his work from 2008 to 2014 as the United Nations Human Rights Council’s Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples, Anaya was nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize. In his role as the special rapporteur, Anaya examined and reported on conditions of indigenous peoples worldwide and responded to allegations of human rights violations against them. His work was conducted through in-country visits and direct contacts with governments. Among his noteworthy activities, Anaya participated in the drafting of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and was the lead counsel for the indigenous parties in the case of Awas Tingni v. Nicaragua. The case represents the first time the Inter-American Court of Human Rights upheld indigenous land rights as a matter of international law.

Anaya joined the University of Arizona in 1999 after serving 11 years on the faculty at the University of Iowa. He also has been a visiting professor at Harvard University, the University of Toronto and the University of Tulsa, and an adjunct professor at the University of New Mexico. He received a bachelor’s degree from the University of New Mexico and a law degree from Harvard Law.
AILP presents at UN Human Rights Conference in Geneva

Professors Kristen Carpenter and Carla Fredericks, American Indian Law Clinic Advanced Practicum student Kate Finn (‘16) and Getches-Wyss Fellow Christina Warner (‘15) travelled to Geneva, Switzerland to attend the 30th regular session of the United Nations’ Human Rights Council.

The clinic, which provides legal representation to UN Special Rapporteur Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, was invited to attend the meeting’s annual half-day session on indigenous peoples where Tauli-Corpuz presented her report on indigenous women and girls. Carpenter, Finn, Fredericks, and Warner also presented an event entitled “Indigenous Operationalization and Implementation of UNDRIP’s Free, Prior, and Informed Consent.”

Carpenter, who at the time was teaching “Indigenous Peoples in International Law,” has written on the international “jurisgenerative moment” for indigenous peoples, and has worked with tribes to assert the rights outlined in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Fredericks, too, has facilitated international legal work for her clinical students. This work, including the question of how to operationalize and codify the concept of free, prior, and informed consent, is new and has the potential to serve as a model for other indigenous peoples across the world.

Native law students attend CU-hosted GOP Debate in October

By Kamran Zafar

I had the chance to attend the GOP debate with Professor Carla Fredericks and other American Indian law students. When you watch a political debate on television, you get a sense of the inherent disorganization that leads to a debate distracted from the true issues. When you watch the same debate in person, it is much more obvious, with the candidates continuing to argue into a commercial break. The experience was yet another example of the opportunities that Colorado Law and its faculty provide students.
American Indian Law Program’s outreach and events 2015-2016

NARF celebrates 45 years working for Native peoples

The Native American Rights Fund (NARF) celebrated 45 years of legal victories and achievements that the non-profit law firm has acquired for Indian tribes, organizations, and individuals nationwide who may have otherwise gone without adequate representation. The American Indian Law Program (AILP) co-sponsored the event and the Native American Law Students Association (NALSA) assisted in providing support throughout the event.

The main event, an all-day CLE entitled “Celebrating 45 Years of NARF: Respecting Our Past, Building the Future” was welcomed by Dean Phil Weiser, followed by Professor Charles Wilkinson’s rousing keynote on the important legacy of NARF’s work. Professor Richard Collins co-taught the day’s ethics presentation, focusing on the development on marijuana law and policy on Indian reservations and the ethical implications it brings for lawyers. Getches-Wyss Fellow Christina Warner moderated a panel on indigenous environmental stewardship.

NARF closed its celebrations with gala dinner and community powwow.

The AILP and NALSA were proud to support and participate in the week’s festivities, as there is a rich tradition of Colorado Law students externing, volunteering, and clerking for the Boulder-based firm.

Navajo DOJ speaks about career opportunities with law students

The AILP and Colorado Law Career Center presented an afternoon discussion with Ethel Branch, the Attorney General of the Navajo Nation.

The Department of Justice at Navajo Nation provides legal services to the three governmental branches of the tribe, including its chapters and entities, in matters in which the Navajo Nation has an interest. The Attorney General also initiates and defends all litigation against the Navajo Nation and supervises all outside attorneys who assist the Nation with various cases.

Winter Symposium honors Professor Charles Wilkinson’s work in federal Indian law, public lands


With panelists ranging from family members to former students, to academics, attorneys and colleagues in Indian Country, the symposium celebrated Wilkinson’s teaching, writing, and advocacy. In a manner fitting for Wilkinson, the symposium was organized by place, travelling from the West to the Pacific Northwest to the nation at large. Over forty of Wilkinson’s former Research Assistants also attended, presenting him with a collection of memories and thoughts inspired by their work for him.
Both students and faculty attended the 41st annual Federal Indian Law Bar Conference in Scottsdale, Arizona. The conference features myriad issues related to Indian law, sovereignty, and tribal communities led by scholars, federal appointees, legal professionals, and other community leaders. Panels ranged from the changing direction of the Supreme Court under Chief Justice John Roberts, to the challenges of providing in-house counsel, to the future of international indigenous scholarship. Fed Bar highlights the strides that have been made in the practice of Indian law.


This year, Professor Charles Wilkinson was honored with the Lawrence R. Baca Lifetime Achievement Award. Wilkinson was nominated by Colorado Law’s NALSA chapter. Past recipients of the award include NARF Director John Echohawk, the late Dean David Getches, and Colorado Law alum Tom Fredericks of Fredericks, Peebles, & Morgan. The award honors an individual who has worked in the field for at least 20 years, is held in high esteem, and has made significant contributions through litigation, legislation, scholarship, and the development of Indian law students.

Following the spring’s Martz Winter Symposium, which also honored Wilkinson’s work, it is goes without saying that he has - and continues to - leave an impact on the field of Indian law and students following in his footsteps.
American Indian Law Clinic continues to provide pro bono legal services across nation, globe

The AILC, directed by Carla Fredericks has continued to work with tribal governments and clients in a variety of matters related to Indian law. Over the last year, clinical students have been able to have several capstone experiences related to their matters. In 2015, the clinical students travelled to Yankton Sioux Tribe in South Dakota to meet with the Tribal Business and Claims Committee. Students Liam Culhane (‘15), Katie Frayler (‘16), Andre Kaiser (‘16), Kelsey Peterson (‘15) also gave a presentation to the general membership on tribal economic development.

Also in the spring of 2015, several clinical students travelled to attend the annual UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) in New York. The UNPFII is the UN’s central coordinating body for matters relating to indigenous people throughout the world. Students Andre Kaiser (‘16) and Alex Kinsella (‘15) also gave a presentation to the general membership on tribal economic development.

In Fall 2015, two students, Derik Goatson (‘16) and Andre Kaiser (‘16), travelled to the Yankton Sioux reservation to meet with the Tribal Business and Claims Committee. Also in the fall, several members of the Spokane Tribal Council travelled to Boulder to participate in all day meetings with the clinical students.

This year, following the publication of a white paper entitled “Responsible Resource Development and Prevention of Sex Trafficking: Safeguarding Native Women and Children on the Fort Berthold Reservation,” the clinic hosted individuals from the Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara Nation to continue discussions on how to address the increased sex trafficking on the reservation. Co-authors of the white paper, Kathleen Finn (‘16), Erica Gajda (‘17), and Thomas Perrin (‘17) presented at this meeting.

Look left to read clinical student Erica Gajda’s reflections on the 2016 trip to Pine Ridge reservation.

Reflections on 2016 spring clinic trip to Pine Ridge Reservation

By Erica Gajda

This spring, the clinic travelled to Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. While there, we were able to go on a tour of Pine Ridge School. The school has been making strides with integrating language and culture into the classrooms, while also providing room and board to children from kindergarten to 12th grade who are able to stay during the week. There is amazing effort and steps being taken to ensure that the youth are educated and involved on Pine Ridge.

Clinical students gave a “know your rights” presentation and discussed criminal jurisdiction in Indian country at the Thunder Valley Community Development Corporation. We were also offered the opportunity to learn about their empowering work. There was a clear vision and purpose to make a difference in their community; Thunder Valley’s work to create a community by building houses and offering internships to build useful skills for youth on the reservation is empowering their community.
NALSA hosted several events and provided support to other AILP programming including, but not limited to:

- Volunteering at NARF’s 45th anniversary celebration
- Hosting the annual Harvest Feast in November for law students and community members
- Facilitating a lunch at NARF for students to connect with local lawyers
- Nominating Professor Charles Wilkinson for the Lawrence Baca Award
- Hosting the beginning of school Indian law potluck for new and returning students
- Providing class selection support and mentorship to 1Ls during Indian Law Class Selection Session
- Tabling at orientation

Native American Law Students Association engages with law school, community and campus

2015-2016 NALSA Board

President: Lauren Goschke ('16)
Vice President: Allison Hester ('17)
Secretary: Lauren Swan ('17)
Treasurer: Derik Goatson ('17)
Event Coordinators: Marissa Garcia ('18) Ellen Hyams ('18)
Student Bar Association Representative: Jeremiah Jones ('18)
Ellen Hyams (’18)

Ellen Hyams is originally from south, central Montana, where she grew up on a small ranch. Ellen graduated from Marquette University with a BA in Social Welfare and Justice, and Political Science. Prior to law school, Ellen worked for the United States House of Representatives for the 8th District of Wisconsin and in the Office of the Wisconsin State Public Defender.

In the fall, she will be working as a student attorney through Colorado Law’s clinical program in the Indigent Criminal Defense Clinic. Additionally, she is interested in exploring topics in Indian law and natural resource management while at Colorado Law.

Kamran Zafar (’17)

Kamran is Chickasaw and an enrolled member of the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma. When applying to law schools, Kamran’s ambition was to gain a legal education in American Indian and Environmental Law. His Colorado naturally brought him to CU Law, where those fields of law are two of the school’s strongest programs. Ever since taking classes in those fields, his ambition has only been further motivated. Perhaps what he has enjoyed most has been soaking in the knowledge of his many great professors, and how willing each of them have been to help him out in his future legal career.

Two of his professors’ recommendations were crucial in obtaining his employment for the 2016 summer at the law firm of Fredericks, Peebles, and Morgan. This summer’s employment will be his first experience with practicing American Indian law in a professional firm setting and he couldn’t be more excited. He believes the opportunity is a result of the amazing education and mentorship he has received as a student at Colorado Law.

Lauren Goschke (’16)

Lauren Goschke is a descendant of the Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians and is originally from the Central Coast of California. Lauren graduated from the University of California, Berkeley with a BA in Anthropology and a BS in Natural Resource Management and a minor in Forestry. Lauren attended graduate school at Oregon State University where she graduated with a MPP in Public Policy and a MS in Forest Policy and Management. Prior to law school, Lauren worked for the United States Forest Service as a Forester and NEPA planner.

Lauren will be graduating with the American Indian Law Certificate. She is particularly interested in treaty rights and natural resource management. During her time at Colorado Law, Lauren has interned with the Native American Rights Fund, the Department of Interior, Solicitor’s Office, Division of Indian Affairs, and the 20th Judicial District of Colorado. She spent last summer in Anchorage, AK, where she was a summer associate at the law firm of Sonosky, Chambers, Sachse, Miller & Munson.

This year she has worked as a student attorney through Colorado Law’s clinical program in the American Indian Law Clinic. Lauren is the president of Colorado Law’s Native American Law Student Association and the Executive Editor of the Colorado Natural Resources, Energy & Environmental Law Review.
Alumni update

Courtney Cole (’15)

Courtney Cole is a law clerk with the Intertribal Court of Southern California. Her work is focused on facilitating the provision of judicial services to the Court’s member tribes in the areas of peace and security, environmental law, land use, tort law, housing, and family law.

Courtney is also active in court administration and development, including the coordination of domestic violence and estate planning clinics in partnership with California Indian Legal Services. She was recently elected to the board of directors of the California Indian Law Association and the Native American Lawyers Association of San Diego County. Courtney is Cherokee/Choctaw.

Michael Daugherty (’15)

Michael Daugherty is a Staff Attorney at DNA-People's Legal Services in Tuba City, Arizona on the Navajo Nation. DNA provides free legal assistance to low-income individuals. His work includes helping clients to preserve and/or secure government benefits (such as social security, food stamps, etc.), consumer protection, eviction defense, employment rights, family law and domestic violence, civil rights, and natural resources (including working to protect sacred sites from outside development).

He is grateful to Colorado Law’s American Indian Law Program for providing him with the resources necessary to build a solid foundation in Indian law, which has served him well in his practice at DNA.

Course offerings

Fall 2015

Laws 7725 - American Indian Law I - Krakoff
Investigates the federal statutory, decisional, and constitutional law that bears upon American Indians, tribal governments, and Indian reservation transactions.

Laws 7309 - American Indian Law Clinic - Fredericks
Emphasizes the practice of federal and tribal Indian law. Students will represent individuals and Indian tribes in matters involving: the Indian Child Welfare Act, enforcement of federal and tribal rights, and code development. Focuses on current Indian law topics and development of lawyering skills.

Laws 8725 - Indigenous Peoples in International Law - Carpenter
Provides students with an overview of the practice and theory of international human rights law and policy as it has developed to address the concerns of indigenous peoples worldwide. Given the limitations of domestic legal systems, indigenous peoples increasingly look to international human rights instruments and institutions in their efforts to survive as distinct communities with distinct cultures, political institutions, and relationships to traditional lands.

Spring 2016

Laws 7735 - American Indian Law II - Collins
Investigates the legal history CONTINUED PAGE 10
Faculty outreach, engagement and scholarship

Kristen Carpenter  
Professor of Law, Council Tree Professor

Together with AILP Fellow Jacquelyn Jampolsky (JD’13/PhD ‘14), Professor Carpenter authored an amicus brief on behalf of the National Native American Church and a number of related organizations in *Oklevueha Native American Church v. Holder* (9th Cir.) to explain and defend the rights of indigenous practitioners of the peyote religion. Professor Carpenter is the Principal Investigator on a grant-funded research project of the National Parks Service in which she, along with Research Faculty Julia Guarino (’13), and History Fellow Aurélie Roy, is studying treaty-based obligations of the Park Service to Indian tribes in the Inter-Mountain Region. Professor Carpenter is also Co-Principal Investigator, with Geography Professor Joe Bryan, on a grant to investigate jurisprudence from the Inter-American System on Human Rights regarding indigenous peoples land rights. Professor Carpenter recently published *Owning Red: A Theory of Indian (Cultural) Appropriation*, 94 TEXAS LAW REVIEW (2016) with UCLA Law Professor Angela Riley. She is engaged in documentary and field research on the legal history of Cherokee treaties. Professor Carpenter has recently made the following presentations: Federal Bar Association, Annual Indian Law Conference, *Indigenous Peoples and International Human Rights Law*, April 2016; Muscogee Creek Nation, Annual Conference, *Indigenous Peoples and International Human Rights Law*, April 2016; University of Colorado Law School, Annual Austin Scott Lecture, *Indigenous Peoples and The Jurisgenerative Moment in Human Rights*, October 2015; University of Nevada Las Vegas Law School, Faculty Workshop, *Owning Red: A Theory of Indian (Cultural) Appropriation*, September 2015. Professor Carpenter taught Indigenous Peoples in International Law at Colorado Law in Fall 2015. Next fall, she will be a visiting professor at Harvard Law School where she will teach Property Law and a seminar in American Indian Religious Freedoms.
Faculty outreach, engagement and scholarship continued

**Richard Collins**
Professor of Law

Professor Richard Collins is presently working on an article about tribal sovereign immunity from suit. He co-presented at NARF’s 45th Anniversary CLE on the legal ethics surrounding marijuana and Indian Country.

**Carla Fredericks**
Associate Clinical Professor and Director of American Indian Law Clinic
Director, American Indian Law Program

Professor Fredericks continues to teach the American Indian Law Clinic, where students represent tribes and global indigenous interests to further native rights. Her recent publications include *Plenary Energy* 118 W. VA. L. REV. (2015), and *Responsible Resource Development and Prevention of Sex Trafficking: Safeguarding Native Women and Children on the Fort Berthold Reservation*, a whitepaper co-authored with students from the Clinic. The whitepaper also resulted in a grant for that project from the Casey Foundation. She is currently working on an article about free, prior and informed consent.

**Sarah Krakoff**
Professor of Law, Raphael J. Moses Professor of Law

Professor Krakoff’s proudest accomplishment of the year is that Michael Daugherty ('15) is working in the same office of DNA-Peoples Legal Services (Tuba City, Navajo Nation) that she did way back when she was a brand new lawyer. *See p. 8 for more on Michael.* In addition, Professor Krakoff co-authored an amicus brief on behalf of the Puyallup Tribe, the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, the Navajo Nation, and several other tribes in the Supreme Court case of *Dollar General Store v. Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians*. The case is still pending, and may well be one of the decisions that results in a 4-4 affirmation due to the death of Justice Antonin Scalia. The issue is whether the Mississippi Band’s tribal court has jurisdiction over a case in which a tribal member child alleged claims of sexual assault against a non-Indian employee of Dollar General. The employee was supervising the child during a summer internship at a Dollar General Store located on tribal trust land. The decision could have far-reaching implications for tribal jurisdiction, and tribal sovereignty more generally. Professor Krakoff’s recent publications include *Sustainability and Justice*, in *Rethinking Sustainability to Meet the Climate Change Challenge*, Jessica Owley & Keith H. Hirokawa, eds., 199-227 (ELI, 2015) and *American Indian Law: Cases and Commentary*, Anderson, Berger, Krakoff & Frickey (3d ed., 2015), and her newest article, *They Were Here First: American Indian Tribes, Race, and the Constitutional Minimum* will be published in 69 STANFORD LAW REVIEW (forthcoming 2016).

**Charles Wilkinson**
Distinguished Professor, Moses Lasky Professor

Professor Charles Wilkinson has been diligently working with the Bears Ears Inter-Tribal Coalition since this summer. The Coalition of leadership from Hopi Tribe, Navajo Nation, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, Pueblo of Zuni, and Ute Indian Tribe is working to establish a National Monument of 1.9 million acres of land in southeastern Utah containing archeological sites and sacred sites. A proposal has been submitted to President Obama, with a suggestion for a groundbreaking co-management scheme between the Tribes and federal government. The Bears Ears National Monument has the support of 26 tribes, former Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt, and many other groups.
Faculty outreach, engagement and scholarship continued

Joan Policastro
Foreign, Comparative and International Law Librarian - Indigenous and Indian Law Specialist
I have been involved with indigenous rights since the 1980s and the topic of my Masters’ thesis at CU-Denver was a comparative study of seven countries’ policies toward indigenous peoples in 14 different areas, including, land rights, environmental rights, sovereignty, languages, cultural rights, and others. While in graduate school, I also helped to establish the Fourth World Center for the Study of Indigenous Law and Politics. As a member of the American Society of International Law, I served a term as Chair of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Interest Group, and I established and continue to Chair the Indigenous Peoples Interest Group as part of the Foreign, Comparative & International Law section of the American Association of Law Libraries. I have also had the good fortune to work with the Library of Congress on their Indigenous Law Portal, which helps indigenous peoples of the Western Hemisphere to be seen as sovereign. Since coming to the University of Colorado Law School Library in 2013, I have been fortunate to work with students and faculty in the Indian Law program on research questions and to provide research overviews in several courses. If I can be of help, please contact me at joan.policastri@colorado.edu or ask for me at the Circulation Desk.

Julia Guarino
Research Faculty
Julia Guarino (‘13) is currently working on a National Park Service Grant under the supervision of Professor Kristen Carpenter. Julia and Professor Carpenter are assisted by Aurélie Roy, a PhD Candidate in History at Columbia University, and LLM Student Jamie Andrews (‘16). The team is conducting research on the National Park Service’s treaty-based obligations to tribes in the Inter-Mountain Region. Julia is concurrently a PhD student in Geography at CU studying under the supervision of Professor Joe Bryan. In October 2013, Julia presented at the Public Land and Resources Law Review’s 36th Annual Public Land Law Conference in Missoula, Montana. Her corresponding article, Protecting Traditional Water Resources: Legal Options for Preserving Tribal Non-Consumptive Water Use, is currently undergoing review for publication in 37 PUBLIC LAND AND RESOURCES LAW REVIEW (2016).

Christina Warner
Getches-Wyss Fellow
Christina Warner (‘15) currently serves as the 2015-16 Getches-Wyss Fellow, and works with the American Indian Law Program and Professor Carla Fredericks in many capacities. She assists in supervising American Indian Law Clinic students working on international indigenous issues, and co-teaches the LLM program’s Natural Resources Seminar with Professor Charles Wilkinson. She has continued working with Wilkinson on his forthcoming book on the Boldt decision. Her own research focuses on violence against indigenous women. She is currently working on a paper entitled “When States Fail: Using International Law as an Alternative Mechanism to Address Violence Against Indigenous Women” as well as a co-authored paper with Katie Frayler (‘16) on reproductive justice and Indian country.
Thank you for your continuing support of our American Indian Law Program at Colorado Law