Hello! Another fantastic year of the American Indian Law Program at Colorado Law is underway and we are excited to share our news with you. We are abuzz with initiatives, projects, events, scholarship, and amazing students – the next generation of American Indian Law and Indigenous Rights attorneys and leaders. We are grateful for your support and friendship, and look forward to seeing you at our functions. Please join us at our March 2019 Conference to discuss strategies to realize the promise of the UNDRIP in the United States!

March 15–16, 2019
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO LAW SCHOOL
BOULDER

A conference to advance the promises of the Declaration and develop a strategy for its implementation in the United States, toward the true flourishing of indigenous peoples, healing, and justice for all.

Join us for high level discussions on challenges in federal Indian law and the role of international human rights in advocacy efforts, workshops on issues of tribal self-governance, land rights and sacred sites, climate change, business and entrepreneurship, Indian child welfare, and a special feature on the UN’s 2019 Year of Indigenous Languages.

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AILP Welcome Potluck Dinner

On October 30, we hosted our Welcome Potluck Dinner. Each semester, the AILP hosts a dinner to welcome new and current students, faculty, staff, and friends. We provide a space to get to know each other and build community. This fall semester, Dean Anaya kindly opened up his home to host the gathering. AILP provided Tocabe tacos, and guests brought joyful company.

NALSA 2018-2019 Board

On September 13, the CU Law Native American Law Student Association held its first meeting of the 2018-2019 year. NALSA has planned an array of events, including the annual Fall Harvest Feast, to foster relationships amongst law students, professors, and the larger Boulder community.

Clock-wise: Taylor Schad, Social Chair; Logan BigEagle, SBA Rep; Alana Martin, President; Ryan Lolar, SBA Rep; Evan DeWitt, Vice President; Sam Barth, Secretary; Kayla Jankowski, Treasurer.

Colorado Law hosts the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

The first week of October, Colorado Law School hosted the 169th Period of Sessions of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. The week included more than 35 public hearings on cases of alleged human rights violations across the Americas, and featured dozens of human rights attorneys, civil society representatives, organizations, and advocates. The hearings addressed a variety of issues including the criminalization of social activists and journalists; fracking and defenders of environmental rights; violations of the rights of LGBTI persons; and migrants disappeared along the U.S.-Mexico border. This was the first time such hearings were held outside of Washington, D.C., and at a law school. Colorado Law students, staff, faculty, and the community at large, had the unique opportunity to witness human rights advocacy and international law in action.
New Initiatives

Save the Date for our Conference
March 15-16, 2019

For more information, contact AILP Fellow Edyael Casaperalta at edyael.casaperalta@colorado.edu

Maya Rights and Development Project

The Maya Rights & Development Project is a new initiative at Colorado Law that offers students a unique opportunity to learn about social justice in the context of indigenous peoples’ advocacy. Students will have the opportunity to assist the Maya Leaders Alliance and the Toledo Alcaldes Association, organizations that represent the Q’eqchi’ and Mopan Maya people of the Toledo District of southern Belize. Students will assist with monitoring the implementation of Belize court orders, engage in advocacy with international human rights monitoring bodies, and help Maya leadership develop and implement the Creating Maya Economies Initiative.

The project will begin Spring 2019.

First Peoples Investment Engagement Program

The FPIEP is a collaboration between Faculty at the University of Colorado Law School and the Center for Education on Social Responsibility at the Leeds School of Business; and is housed at the Center for Native American and Indigenous Studies. The FPIEP seeks to transform current engagement practices, empower indigenous communities to participate in corporate engagement, engage stakeholders, and connect Indigenous Peoples, investors, companies, and banks. Prof. Carla Fredericks and Mark Meaney are Faculty Directors of the FPIEP. For more information about FPIEP, please email fpiep@colorado.edu

Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

March 15-16, 2019
University of Colorado Law School
Boulder, Colorado

The University of Colorado Law School and Native American Rights Fund will host this conference as the initial program of the "Project to Implement the U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in the United States." The conference will gather practitioners, scholars, and advocates to discuss how to advance the promises of the Declaration and develop a strategy for its implementation in the United States, toward the true flourishing of indigenous peoples, healing, and justice for all.

Join us for high-level discussions on challenges in Federal Indian Law and the role of international human rights in advocacy efforts, plus workshops on issues of tribal self-governance, land rights and sacred sites, climate change, business and entrepreneurship, Indian child welfare, technology, and a special feature on the UN’s 2019 Year of Indigenous Languages.
AILP in Action

Carpenter presents at NCAI

Professor Kristen Carpenter presented at the 2018 National Congress of American Indians Conference held in Denver this year. She participated in the “International Advocacy to Protect Tribal Sovereignty” panel. Professor Carpenter talked about her work as a member of the UN’s Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and encouraged Tribal Government representatives to use international bodies in their advocacy.

Krakoff teaches in Rome

During October, Professor Sarah Krakoff taught a month-long course on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in the United States at Sapienza University in Rome, Italy. The class was part of an International Master’s Program that taught 90 students from countries all around the world including Italy, Russia, and Libya.

2018 Fall Semester Course Offerings

This semester, AILP Faculty are teaching the following courses:

American Indian Law I, Prof. Collins
American Indian Law Clinic, Prof. Fredericks
Indigenous People in International Law, Prof. Carpenter
Local Government Law, Prof. Collins

Collins Speaks to Cannabis Law League

Professor Richard Collins is CU Law’s go-to scholar on the interplay between local, state, and federal laws informing the regulation of the cannabis industry. On October 25, the Cannabis Law League hosted an event where he lectured on the history and development of American marijuana law.
Publications & Events

Recent Publications:

Carpenter, Kristen (with Angela Riley), Privatizing the Reservation?, 71 Stanford Law Review (forthcoming 2019).


Upcoming Events:

November 29 – Fall Harvest Feast, NALSA

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