



University at Buffalo

Baldy Center for Law  
and Social Policy

School of Law

# ANNUAL REPORT: 2023-2024

The Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy

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## I. Center Overview

### a. History

Created in 1978 under a bequest from Buffalo attorney Christopher Baldy, The Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy supports interdisciplinary research on law, legal institutions and social policy throughout the University at Buffalo. The Center engages faculty and students campus-wide, and has national and international impact through the scholarly publications, conferences, workshops, online multimedia, and other activities described in this report. The Center is housed in the School of Law, University at Buffalo.

### b. Organization and Staff

#### Baldy Center Advisory Council 2023-2024

Guyora Binder, Law

Michael Boucai, Law

Matthew Dimick, Law

Trina Hamilton, Geography

Rachael Hinkle, Political Science

Joanne Song McLaughlin, Economics

Mateo Taussig-Rubbo, Law

#### Baldy Center Staff 2023-2024

##### *Long term staff*

Samantha Barbas, Director

Amanda M. Benzin, Associate Director

##### *Short term student assistants*

Lawshia Prabath, Blog Producer

N. Logan, Podcast Producer

Sheba DeLozier, Office Assistant

Farrah DeLozier, Office Assistant

*Baldy Center Technical Team*

Debra Kolodczak, Website Managing Editor and UX Designer

## II. Conference Grants, Research Grants, and Fellowships

### a. Faculty Conference Grants

Kim Diana Connolly (UB School of Law): Resilience Before the Disaster Arrives: Deploying Inter-University Multisectoral Convergent Collaboration Toward a New Disaster Preparation and Response Ethic

Jorge Fabra-Zamora (UB School of Law): Transnational Legal and Political Theory

Lucinda Finley (UB School of Law): Reproductive Justice and Health Equities Post-Dobbs: a Legal, Medical, Community Dialogue

David Herzberg (UB History): Biennial Meeting of the Alcohol and Drugs History Society

Shaun Irlam (UB Comparative Literature): Alison Des Forges International Symposium Sexual and Reproductive Autonomy: Human Rights Perspectives

### b. Faculty and Graduate Student Research Grants

Ashley Barr (UB Sociology): Gentrification, Romantic Relationships, and Well-being among Young Adults

Michelle Benson (UB Political Science): United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Civil Conflict Resolution Data Set Extension, 2017-2023 and UNSC Resolutions Penholder Dataset 2003-2023

Matthew Dimick (UB School of Law): The Law and Economics of Income Inequality

Veljko Fotak (UB Finance, School of Management): A Tale of Two IPOs

Jordan Fox (UB Sociology): Life Finds a Way: The Limits to the Social Control of Nature

Meredith Lewis (UB School of Law): Omnilateralism and its Discontents: Reconceptualizing the Multilateral Trading System

Lynn Mather (UB School of Law): The Impact of Regulatory Structures on Lawyers' Ethical Compliance in Different Fields of Practice

Joanne McLaughlin (UB Economics): How Do Gig Workers Value the Legal Benefits of Employment? Evidence from a Choice Experiment

Amy Semet (UB School of Law): Female and Minority Participation in Patent Law

Li Yin (UB Urban and Regional Planning): Neighborhood impacts of recreational cannabis legalization: A spatial and sentimental analysis in physical and cyber spaces

Poushali Bhattacharjee (UB Geography): From rice to veggies: Institutional legacies, biotechnology, and household livelihoods in Bangladesh's crop transition

Christopher Bosley (UB Sociology): Stress and Health in Emergency Medical Services: An Organizational Approach

Anupriya Pandey (UB Sociology): Critical Caste Ecologies: De-centering Western Environmental Justice Through Forest Governance and Caste Difference in India

Shu-An Tsai (UB Political Science): Soft Attitudes on Minor Crimes and Its Influence on Voter Turnout Amidst Growing Hate Crimes toward Asian Americans

Shu Wan (UB History): Disciplining the Poor Deaf in Republican Shanghai and Beijing

Yuejia Wang (UB Educational Leadership and Policy): Bargaining the Temporary Visa Policy for Global Mobility: the Education-Job Pipeline of International Graduates in the United States with H-1B Work Visas

### c. Baldy Center Fellowships in Interdisciplinary Legal Studies

The Baldy Center continued its fellowship program for scholars pursuing important topics in law, legal institutions, and social policy during the 2023-2024 academic year. Fellows are expected to participate regularly in Baldy Center events, but otherwise have no obligations beyond vigorously pursuing their research. Fellows receive standard university research privileges (library, Internet, office space, computer, phone) and are encouraged to develop collaborative research projects with University at Buffalo faculty members where appropriate.

#### 2023-2024 Senior and Mid-Career Fellows

**Melissa Crouch, PhD**, is a senior research fellow at The Baldy Center. While in residence here, Dr. Crouch will be working on a manuscript about constitutional endurance and how past constitutions



matter to contemporary reform debates in Myanmar. Based on her field research, the manuscript offers a constitutive approach to the relationship between constitutions and societies in the postcolony, with a focus on how periods of military rule and unconstitutional rule shape constitutional futures.

As a professor at the Faculty of Law & Justice, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia, Dr. Crouch's research contributes to the interdisciplinary fields of law and society; comparative constitutional law, with a focus on Asia. In 2022, she won the Podgorecki Prize for outstanding scholarship of an early career socio-legal scholar, awarded by the Research Committee on the Sociology of Law, the International

Sociological Association. Dr. Crouch is the president of the Asian Studies Association of Australia (2023-2024), the peak academic body for the study of Asia in Australia.



**Alan W. Clarke**, professor emeritus in the Integrated Studies Program, Utah Valley University, is a senior fellow at The Baldy Center, Fall, 2023. Clarke holds a Juris Doctor from the College of William and Mary, an LLM from Queen's University, and a PhD from Osgoode Hall Law School, York University. He practiced law after graduating from William and Mary, with a focus on social justice broadly construed, including, civil rights, voting rights, labor organizing, poverty law, and death penalty post-conviction process.

Clarke's academic research since 1997 has revolved around several broad, connected themes in international and transnational criminal law and human rights, criminology and criminal justice policy, civil rights, legal history, law and society, and critical legal studies, climate change and survival refugees.

Clarke plans to analyze interdisciplinary legal studies on the boundaries of human rights, international criminal law, immigration law, demography, human and cultural geography, political science, during the term of The Baldy Center senior fellowship. He has published extensively in law reviews and social science journals and has authored or co-authored three books:

- Laurelyn Whitt and Alan W. Clarke, *North American Genocides: Indigenous Nations, Settler Colonialism and International Criminal Law*, Cambridge University Press (2019)
- Alan W. Clarke, *Rendition to Torture*, Rutgers University Press (2012)
- Alan W. Clarke & Laurelyn Whitt, *The Bitter Fruit of American Justice: International and Domestic Resistance to the Death Penalty*, Northeastern University Press (2007)

Clarke's recent focus on policy and legal responses to human migration and refugees influenced by climate change has been published in an article *Climate Change, Migration and Pandemics: Human Rights in the Anthropocene*, in 47 Vermont Law Review 1 (2022). While continuing to work in the area of survival migrants Clarke will also investigate international legal issues revolving around the evolving legal issues surrounding Russia's war of aggression with a particular focus on the need to create a hybrid international court.



**Greta LaFleur**, an associate professor of American Studies at Yale University, has been awarded a mid-career research fellowship at The Baldy Center for Fall 2023. LaFleur's research and teaching focus on eighteenth-century North America, with special emphasis on the histories of science, the histories of race, the history and historiography of sexuality, and queer & trans studies. Author of *The Natural History of Sexuality in Early America* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2018). LaFleur's fellowship at The Baldy Center will be dedicated to working on a second scholarly monograph, tentatively titled *How Sex Became Good: The Feminist Movements and Racial Politics that Made Modern Sexuality* (under contract with The University of Chicago Press). The work tracks

how cultural and legal responses to the problem of sexual violence shaped the politicization of sexuality in the modern period.

LaFleur is also the editor of: a special issue of *American Quarterly*, “Origins of Biopolitics in the Americas” (2019, with Kyla Schuller); a special issue of *Transgender Studies Quarterly* on “Trans Exclusionary Feminisms and the Global New Right” (2022, with Serena Bassi); and, a special issue of *GLQ* on “The Science of Sex Itself” (2023, with Benjamin Kahan).

LaFleur’s research has been supported by several fellowships, including those at: the Institute for Advanced Study (School of Social Sciences); the American Council of Learned Societies; the Massachusetts Historical Society; the William Andrews Clark Library at UCLA; the John Carter Brown Library at Brown University; The Clement Library at The University of Michigan; the American Antiquarian Society in Worcester, MA; and, The Newberry Library in Chicago. LaFleur holds a PhD from the University of Pennsylvania and a JD from The University of Connecticut.

### 2023-2024 Research Fellows



**Daniel Brantes Ferreira** is a professor at Universidade Cândido Mendes and Vice-President for Academic affairs at the Brazilian Center of Arbitration and Mediation (CBMA), where he is an arbitrator. Daniel is also President of the Brazilian Bar Association, Rio de Janeiro Section, Legislative Affairs Commission. Research topics: legal theory, legal history, legal education, comparative studies, and Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR). Daniel is a partner at Bruno Freire Law Firm where he practices labor law and torts.

At The Baldy Center he is researching American Legal Realism. In January 2021, Brantes Ferreira was interviewed by Brazil’s major newspaper, *Estadão*, about his perspective on Trump’s call to Raffensperger and it’s legal repercussions.



**Jennifer L. Gaynor** works on Southeast Asia and its surrounding seas from the seventeenth century to the present. The author of *Intertidal History in Island Southeast Asia: Submerged Genealogy and the Legacy of Coastal Capture* (Cornell University Press, 2016), she has contributed chapters to a number of books, including *Blue Legalities* (Duke University Press, 2020), edited by Irus Braverman and Elizabeth R. Johnson. Building on her previous research, her current book projects examine the history of capture, slavery, and piracy in maritime Asia, as well as the recent history of

global land reclamation.



**Charles J. Whalen**, an economist with a career spanning three decades, has contributed to national economic policy discussions, equitable regional development, and business success. During his appointment at The Baldy Center, Whalen has been active—as president (2018), past president (2019), and trustee (2020-)—in the Association for Evolutionary Economics. Last year, Whalen's AFEE presidential address—on reclaiming the right to work as a progressive cause—appeared (in versions of varying length) in

Buffalo Legal Studies Research Paper Series, *Journal of Economic Issues*, and *Challenge* (an economics bimonthly).

### III. Multimedia

#### a. Podcast

The Baldy Center continued its podcast, produced by N. Logan, a graduate student in UB's School of Architecture and Planning. The podcast highlights UB faculty research and perspectives on current issues and events. We focus on interdisciplinary scholars of law, legal institutions, and social policy. 2023-2024 Podcast Episodes:

*Episode 35: Athena Mutua discusses the Critical (Legal) Collective and its inaugural convening*

*Episode 36: Nellie Drew and 3L students discuss model laws and initiatives to safeguard athletes*

*Episode 37: Greta LaFleur discusses “How Sex Became Good...”*

*Episode 38: Mihreteab Taye discusses the institutional design of Africa’s court systems*

*Episode 39: Rebecca R. French and Mark A. Nathan discuss Buddhism and Law*

*Episode 40: Melissa Crouch discusses how Myanmar’s military acts as a constitutional actor*

*Episode 41: Theophilus Coleman discusses Ghana’s proposed legislation and its impact on human rights*

*Episode 42: Paul Linden-Retek discusses postnational constitutionalism*

*Episode 43: Kate Nelischer, “Privately-directed participatory planning: Examining Toronto’s Quayside smart city”*



## b. Blog

The Baldy Center continued its blog, produced by Lawshia Prabath, a graduate student in UB's School of Engineering and Applied Science. The blog features interdisciplinary perspectives on research and current events from interdisciplinary scholars whose work intersects with law, legal institutions, and social policy. 2023-2024 Blog posts:

*Blog 39: CLC Organizing for Democracy and Liberation: The Right to Learn. The Right to Teach, The Right to Thrive*

*Blog 40: Alan W. Clarke: Prosecuting Putin for the Crime of Aggressive War*

*Blog 41: Matthew Dimick: Predistribution or Redistribution?*

*Blog 42: Deja Graham: Free Speech- A Sword That Needs A Shield*

## IV. Events

### a. Co-Sponsored Events

### b. Speakers

### c. Conferences

SEPTEMBER 29 & 30, 2023 CONFERENCE

Buddhism and Law: Third International Conference

Faculty organizers: Rebecca French and Mark Nathan

OCTOBER 20 & 21, 2023 CONFERENCE

Reproductive Justice and Health Equities Post-Dobbs: a Legal, Medical, Community Dialogue

Co-Organizer: Lucinda Finley

NOVEMBER 10 to 12, 2023 CONFERENCE

Critical (Legal) Collective's Inaugural Convening

"Organizing for Democracy and Liberation: The Right to Learn, The Right to Teach, The Right to Thrive"

Co-Organizer: Athena Mutua

NOVEMBER 30, DECEMBER 1, 2023 CONFERENCE

"Beyond Precarity: Fashioning Prosperous, Humane and Sustainable Societies in the Age of Financialization and Global Warming"

Via Zoom from Amiens, France  
Co-Organizer: Charles Whalen

APRIL 19, 2024 WORKSHOP

Resilience Before The Disaster Arrives: Deploying Inter-University Multisectoral Convergent  
Collaboration Toward a New Disaster Preparation and Response Ethic.

Faculty organizer: Kim Diana Connolly

MAY 17 - 18, 2024 CONFERENCE

Transnational Legal and Political Theory

Faculty Organizer: Jorge Fabra Zamora

JUNE 27 - 29, 2024 CONFERENCE

8th Biennial Meeting of the Alcohol and Drugs History Society

Faculty Organizer: David Herzberg

## V. Publications

Paul Linden-Retek, *Postnational Constitutionalism: Europe and the Time of Law*, Oxford University Press, 2023.

Irus Braverman, *Green Gold: The Akkoub's Settler Ecologies*, LA+ Interdisciplinary Journal of Landscape Architecture, Spring 2024; University at Buffalo School of Law Legal Studies Research Paper No. 2023-023

James A. Gardner, *Formal and Informal Power in a Democracy*, University at Buffalo School of Law Legal Studies Research Paper No. 2023-022

Makau W. Mutua, *Human Rights: A TWAILBlazer Critique*, Denver Journal of International Law and Policy, Volume 52, Issue 2, pp. 185-206; University at Buffalo School of Law Legal Studies Research Paper No. 2023-021

Christine Bartholomew, *Antitrust Statements of Interest*, 49 J. Corp. L. 233 (2024); University at Buffalo School of Law Legal Studies Research Paper No. 2024-002

Patrick J. Long, *The Gettysburg Address: Lincoln's Model Legal Argument*, 72 Buff. L. Rev. 383 (2024); University at Buffalo School of Law Legal Studies Research Paper No. 2024-003

Meredith Kolsky Lewis, *Import and Export Controls*, Forthcoming in Petra Butler (ed.), INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL CONTRACTS (Oxford University Press, 2024); University at Buffalo School of Law Legal Studies Research Paper No. 2024-006

Meredith Kolsky Lewis, Tracey D. Epps & Daniel Kalderimis, *National Implementation of International Economic Law: New Zealand*, Thomas Cottier and Krista Nadakavukaren Schefer eds., Elgar Encyclopedia of International Economic Law (E. Elgar expanded ed, forthcoming 2024); University at Buffalo School of Law Legal Studies Research Paper No. 2024-005

Meredith Kolsky Lewis, *Plurilateralism and Regional Trade Agreements*, University at Buffalo School of Law Legal Studies Research Paper No. 2024-007

Meredith Kolsky Lewis, *Multilateral Rules and the Legality of Regional Integration*, *The International Law of Economic Integration* (Oxford University Press, forthcoming 2024); University at Buffalo School of Law Legal Studies Research Paper No. 2024-004

Tanya J. Monestier, *Cake-and-Eat-It-Too Clauses*, University at Buffalo School of Law Legal Studies Research Paper 2023-020; 2024 *Wisconsin Law Review* 87

Makau W. Mutua, *A Problem of Utopia: Human Rights and Transitional Justice*, *The Oxford Handbook of Transitional Justice* (Jens Meierhenrich, ed. Oxford University Press, Forthcoming); University at Buffalo School of Law Legal Studies Research Paper No. 2023-019

Athena Mutua, *An Exegesis of the Meaning of Dobbs: Despotism, Servitude, & Forced Birth*, 27 *CUNY L. Rev.* 1 (2024); University at Buffalo School of Law Legal Studies Research Paper No. 2023-015

Irus Braverman, *היחמור הציוני (The Zionist Ass)*, Hazman Hazeh (These Times) January 2024; University at Buffalo School of Law Legal Studies Research Paper No. 2023-014

Irus Braverman, *More-than-One Health, More-than-One Governance*

Irus Braverman (2022). *Introduction. More-than-One Health: Humans, Animals, and the Environment Post-COVID* (Irus Braverman, ed., Routledge.); University at Buffalo School of Law Legal Studies Research Paper No. 2023-011

Rebecca Chapman & Rebecca Plevel, *Indigenous Copyright Concepts for Comparison: How librarians can help support indigenous data sovereignty*, University at Buffalo School of Law Legal Studies Research Paper 2023-018

Irus Braverman, *Spillover Interfaces from Wuham to Wall Street: An Interview with Chris Walzer*, Irus Braverman (2022). *Spillover Interfaces from Wuham to Wall Street: An Interview with Chris Walzer*. In *More-than-One Health: Humans, Animals, and the Environment Post-COVID* (Irus Braverman, ed., Routledge); University at Buffalo School of Law Legal Studies Research Paper No. 2023-012

Charles J. Whalen, *Telling It Like It Is: Reflections of a Maverick Economist—Remarks of the 2024 Veblen-Commons Award Recipient*, *Journal of Economic Issues*, v. 58, n. 2, forthcoming June 2024; University at Buffalo School of Law Legal Studies Research Paper No. 2023-013

Christine Bartholomew, *Playing Nicely With Others: How and Why Antitrust Enforcers Should Work Together*, 85 *Antitrust L.J.* 2 (2023); University at Buffalo School of Law Legal Studies Research Paper No. 2023-017

Irus Braverman, *Settling Nature: The Conservation Regime in Palestine-Israel (Preface & Introduction)*, Irus Braverman (2023). *Preface and Introduction. Settling Nature: The Conservation Regime in Palestine-*

Israel (University of Minnesota Press). ; University at Buffalo School of Law Legal Studies Research Paper No. 2023-009

Irus Braverman, *Mother Drone, Mother Nature: The Griffon Vulture and Israel's Military*, Irus Braverman (2023). *Mother Drone, Mother Nature: The Griffon Vulture and Israel's Military*, Springs: The Rachel Carson Center Review (4), DOI: 10.5282/rcc-springs-4870.; University at Buffalo School of Law Legal Studies Research Paper No. 2023-010

James A. Gardner, *New Challenges to Judicial Federalism*, Kentucky Law Journal, Forthcoming; University at Buffalo School of Law Legal Studies Research Paper No. 2023-008

Mark Bartholomew, *A Right to Be Left Dead*, California Law Review, Forthcoming; University at Buffalo School of Law Legal Studies Research Paper No. 2023-016

Makau W. Mutua, *Icon of the Struggle*, In Micere Githae Mugo: Making Life Sing in Pursuit of Utu, Ndirangu Wachanga, ed. (Bookcraft 2022); University at Buffalo School of Law Legal Studies Research Paper No. 2023-005

James A. Gardner, *Why Law Isn't Jazz: A Response*, 71 Buffalo Law Review The Docket D1; University at Buffalo School of Law Legal Studies Research Paper No. 2023-004

Mark Bartholomew & John Tehranian, *Historical Kinship and Categorical Mischief: The Use and Misuse of Doctrinal Borrowing in Intellectual Property Law*, Iowa Law Review, Forthcoming; University at Buffalo School of Law Legal Studies Research Paper No. 2023-007

Makau W. Mutua, *The Fraud of John Locke: Subnational Challenges to Democratic Theory*, In Comparative Election Law (James A. Gardner, ed. Edward Elgar Publishing 2022); University at Buffalo School of Law Legal Studies Research Paper No. 2023-003

Makau W. Mutua, *Reparations for Slavery: A Productive Strategy?*, In Time for Reparations: A Global Perspective (Jacqueline Bhabha, Margareta Matache, & Caroline Elkins, eds., University of Pennsylvania Press, 2021); University at Buffalo School of Law Legal Studies Research Paper No. 2021-002

Athena Mutua, *Reflections on Critical Race Theory in a Time of Backlash*, 100 Denver Law Review 553 (2023); University at Buffalo School of Law Legal Studies Research Paper No. 2023-001

William Davenport Mercer & Joel Black, *Inspired Filth: Working Blue in Vaudeville America*, University of Memphis Law Review, Vol. 53, No. 1, 2022; University of Tennessee Legal Studies Research Paper; University at Buffalo School of Law Legal Studies Research Paper No. 2023-006

End.