



2023 International Education Abroad and LLM Administrators Conference

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Padideh Ala'i

- Padideh Ala'i is a Professor of Law at American University Washington College of Law (WCL). She specializes in international economic law, law of the World Trade Organization (WTO), and comparative legal traditions. She teaches international trade law and comparative law. Professor Ala'i's scholarship has concentrated on the history of free trade, transparency obligations of the WTO and their implications on internal domestic transparency, universalizing the administrative state through the multilateral trading system, as well as good governance and evolution of international anti-corruption norms.

Punzi Antonio

- Antonio Punzi is a Head of the Department of Law at LUISS University of Rome and a full professor of the in "Legal Theory" (12 H3) at the Department of Law, LUISS University of Rome. He has in-depth research and academic experience in Legal Philosophy, Public opinion, and Media law.

Jennifer Baron

- Jennifer Baron is an Associate Director for American University (AU)'s Academic Support and Access Center, primarily supporting students with disabilities at the Washington College of Law. In her role, she reviews documentation, determines reasonable accommodations, and implements accommodations in classrooms and exam settings. She has worked at AU since 2010 in multiple functional areas including residence life, disability support, and spiritual life, as well as serving as an adjunct faculty member for multiple semesters in the AU Experience program. Prior to AU, Jennifer worked professionally at The George Washington University (GWU) and Wake Forest University. She holds degrees from Gettysburg College and GWU.

Daniela Branco

- Daniela Branco is a foreign trained attorney from Brazil and holds LLM degrees from Canada and the U.S. She practiced law in Brazil and has had a diverse career in the U.S, including work in the public sector as policy advisor and rulemaking coordinator. She joined Penn Carey Law in 2021 where she teaches LLM legal writing and is part of the graduate programs team.

Mary Beth Busby

- Mary Beth Busby has more than 25 years of experience in higher education administration. She began her career at Northwestern Pritzker School of Law in the Office of Career Services, where she ran the on-campus interview program and counseled JD students on all facets of their job search. Ms. Busby transitioned into admissions in 1995. She served as the Director of JD Admissions for many years before moving into her current role as Director of Graduate and International Program Admissions. In this capacity, she manages the admissions process for the General LL.M. Program, the Tax LL.M. Program and the International Human Rights LL.M. Program. She enjoys working with international applicants and helping them navigate the admissions process. Ms. Busby earned a B.A. degree in Speech Communication from Miami University and a Master's of Higher Education Administration degree from Northwestern University.

Jackie Darby

- Dr. Jackie Darby is a Licensed Clinical Psychologist and Certified Group Psychotherapist. She currently serves as the Director of Well-Being Outreach and Prevention Services within the Center for Well-Being Programs and Psychological Services at American University.

Inga Diercks-Ferm

- Inga Diercks-Ferm is an Assistant Director in the Bucerius Law School International Office where she is responsible for US and alumni relations, marketing, visa support and summer program admissions. Previously, she had been responsible for recruiting, admissions and student services for the Bucerius Master of Law and Business Program for 10 years. Inga holds a Master's degree in Political Science from the University of Hamburg and a Diploma in American Studies from Smith College (Northampton, MA). She has worked and/or studied in Germany, the United States and Guatemala. She's a Hamburg native and lives in her hometown with her American husband and their Welsh Corgi.

Daniel Edelson

- Daniel Edelson: Professor Daniel Edelson is Director of Academic Success at Seton Hall Law School and founder of USLawEssentials which provides legal English training, resources, and courses for international students and attorneys. An experienced attorney who practiced business litigation in New York City and New Jersey for over 10 years, Daniel also previously lived and taught English in Japan for five years and taught US law in South Korea. Prior to joining Seton Hall Law, he taught legal English and transnational law courses to LLM students at St. John's Law School.

Andrea Rodríguez Escobedo

- Andrea joined Georgetown Law after years of practice in the public and private sectors. She started her legal career as a law clerk for the Honorable Chief Justice Arturo Zaldívar of the Mexican Supreme Court. She then worked as an associate in the dispute resolution group at Baker Mckenzie. Most recently, she was a foreign attorney at Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP where she represented sovereign states in investment arbitration matters. Andrea is passionate about sports and is a former Mexican National Rugby Team member. She has a multicultural experience as she has studied in Mexico, France, and in the U.S. Andrea obtained her J.D. from Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas (CIDE) in Mexico City and her LL.M. from Columbia Law School.

Gabrielle Lynn Goodwin

- Gabrielle Goodwin is the Director of Graduate Legal Studies and an Adjunct Professor of Law at Indiana University Maurer School of Law. Her research focuses on legal writing, discourse analysis, and cultural heritage law, and she teaches courses in Academic Legal Writing, Criminal Procedure, and Cultural Heritage Law and Policy. In addition to a JD degree, Professor Goodwin has a graduate degree in linguistics, and she has taught ESL/EFL at universities all over the world. As part of a USAID-funded and IU-directed program, she spent two years in North Macedonia, helping establish a new tri-lingual university. While in law school, Professor Goodwin was a semifinalist in the inaugural National Cultural Heritage Law Moot Court Competition, and she was a student editor on the Seventh Circuit Review. She also completed internships at the EEOC in Chicago and the law offices of Chicago-Kent School of Law, practicing employment discrimination and civil rights litigation. As Director of Graduate Legal Studies, she is responsible for curriculum development, international student recruiting, developing and maintaining partnerships, academic advising, and mentoring students.

Craig Hoffman

- Professor Hoffman has been on the faculty of Georgetown Law since 1994. In addition to teaching classes in both the J.D. and LL.M. programs at Georgetown Law, he also teaches classes in the Georgetown Department of Linguistics. Professor Hoffman is the Director of the Georgetown Law Legal English Program, and he created the curriculum for the highly successful Two-Year LLM at Georgetown Law. In addition to his work in the U.S., Professor Hoffman has lectured on topics relating to language and law in Europe, the Middle East, and in Asia. Professor Hoffman has also consulted on issues of language and law for law firms in the U.S. and in Europe.

Stephen Horowitz

- Stephen Horowitz, a professor of Legal English at Georgetown Law, appreciates student-centered teaching, active learning, and creative approaches to integrating the learning of law and language. He also enjoys developing unique and high-quality online legal English curriculum. In addition to serving as editor for the Georgetown Legal English Blog (which includes the Legal English Resources page), Stephen is the administrator for the ETLEP Google Group (listserv for the global legal English community), and co-host of the USLawEssentials Law & Language podcast. He previously served as Director of Legal English Programs at St. John's Law School and prior to that worked as a corporate bankruptcy lawyer in New York. He is a graduate of Duke Law and also taught English in Japan in the mid-1990s on the Japan Exchange Teaching (JET) Program. Stephen currently serves on the Board of Advisors for the JET Alumni Association USA and is an avid ultimate frisbee player having played in tournaments all across the U.S. and around the world.

Emily Magliozzi

- Emily Magliozzi is a senior expert in the area of International Development at Luiss University, Italy. In this role, she is responsible for developing and managing new partnerships for student's mobility, in particular Double Degrees and Joint Programs, and coordinate all the activities involved in the programs management. She has been working in the field of education for more than 18 years. Starting as a teacher and translator for public and private institutions, she then moved to the field of international development in higher education, being active in this area for the past 10 years. She is an expert in partnership development, management of mobility programmes, mobility advising and intercultural communication. She holds a Master's Degree in humanities studies with a specialisation in English Literature from the University of "La Sapienza", Rome.

Katie Merrill

- Katie Merrill has been at Vermont Law and Graduate School for ten years and is the Assistant Dean of Admissions. Prior to working at Vermont Law Katie worked in the real estate and mortgage industry. Katie's early career background was in event planning in Arizona where she was considered one of the up and coming top women in business. Katie also worked for the episcopal church assisting undocumented workers obtain fair pay and safe working conditions. Katie was a board member for six year at Zack's Place an enrichment center for adults with special needs. Katie has a Bachelor of Arts, English Literature from the University of Utah. You can find Katie alpine skiing, hiking, practicing yoga or curled up with a good book.

Rebecca Pendleton

- Rebecca Pendleton earned her BA in English from Stephens College in 2000 and her JD from City University of New York (CUNY), School of Law in 2012. Shortly after law school, she combined her passion for language and law to teach LLB and LLM law students at Universidad Externado de Colombia, School of Law using an ESL-based curriculum. Her love of teaching led her to pursue a PhD in Law at the same institution. Having taught non-native English-speaking law students abroad, she brings with her the ability to explain the broader legal framework and context of the assignment to a diverse set of students. She also has experience counseling students on internships abroad, providing guidance on professional development, and serving as an advisor for student thesis or capstone projects.

Melanija Radnovic

- Melanija Radnovic is the Director of the American University Washington College of Law Abroad and International Programs. In this role, she is responsible for identifying and establishing new partnerships for the law school, overseeing all law school international partnership and cooperative agreements, directing the WCL Abroad dual degree, semester exchange, and summer abroad programs, and developing and carrying out various tailored academic programs for international visitors. In addition, Melanija focuses on advising JD students on career opportunities in international law and otherwise serves as the focal point for the internationally related activities of students, faculty, visitors, and alums. She directs the International Visiting Scholars and English for Lawyers Program and teaches ILSP Externship Class for LLM Students. Melanija has worked as a municipal court associate judge; as an independent attorney practicing in the areas of business, labor, family, and property law; and cooperated with the CIEL and several other NGOs in the DC area on several legal research projects related to international environmental law issues, and issues of foreign investment and trade in developing countries. Melanija has a JD from the University of Novi Sad Law School and an LL.M. in International Business and Environmental Law from the American University Washington College of Law.

Helen Rho

- Helen Rho earned a BA in International Relations from American University; JD from Fordham University School of Law; and her M.Ed. from the University of Missouri. After retiring from the practice of law with the District Attorney's Office for the County of Los Angeles, Helen started an education consulting business before switching sides and working in admissions at universities. She joined Penn Carey Law in 2021 as the Associate Director of Graduate Programs.

Jabrina Robinson

- Jabrina Robinson is the Assistant Dean of International Studies at Duke Law School. Robinson works with foreign-trained attorneys navigating the US legal market and JD students interested in international law practice. Her professional work experience spans a variety of organizations, including a boutique law firm, nonprofit organizations, corporations, and institutions of higher education. Her law practice included community and economic development for The Banks Law Firm, PA, and legislative and regulatory analysis related to predatory lending for the Center for Responsible Lending, Self-Help. Robinson graduated from Stanford University with a Bachelor of Arts in Economics and obtained her Juris Doctor from Harvard University School of Law.

Ashley Sim

- Ashley Sim is the Associate Director of Admissions for the Graduate and International Programs at the University of Southern California Gould School of Law. Since joining USC Gould in 2017, she has been enrolling and advising international and domestic students for 10 residential graduate programs, including the general and specialized LLM, Two-Year LLM, and non-lawyer professional programs. She has served on LSAC's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee and Data Working Group, and is currently the Chair-Elect of AALS' Post-Graduate Legal Education Section. Prior to working in higher education, Ashley practiced corporate and real estate law at Jones Day and then at O'Melveny & Myers, two large international law firms, and served as a pro bono attorney for Public Counsel Law Center and Asian Pacific American Legal Center of Southern California. She earned her AB from Stanford University and JD from Harvard Law School.

Xiaoyu Zhang

- Xiaoyu Zhang is an Adjunct Professor and the Director of Partnerships of Vermont Law and Graduate School (VLGS). Her research focuses on comparative environmental law in the area of environmental public interest litigation, natural resources damages, watershed protection, and environmental impact assessment. As the Director of Partnerships, she is responsible for cultivating and maintaining partnerships between VLGS and other educational institutions, corporations, NGOs, and governmental organizations within the U.S. and worldwide. For programmatic work, Xiaoyu is actively involved in promoting judicial exchanges and cooperative programs on environmental rule of law and environmental public interest litigation between the judiciaries and governmental organs of China and the United States. Before she took this position, she used to work as the assistant director of the U.S.-Asia Partnerships of Environmental Law at VLGS, and as a lawyer for ClientEarth Beijing office. Before she stepped into environmental law field, she has 6 years of experience as the legal counsel for one of China's largest state-owned mining company in Beijing, and as a corporate lawyer at an international law firm based in Hongkong. She holds Bachelor of Laws and Bachelor of English Literature from Beijing Foreign Studies University, an LL.M. from NYU Law School, and an LL.M. from Vermont Law School. She is also a registered attorney in New York State.