Since its establishment in 1973, Vermont Law School has educated thousands of students on the basis of one ideal: provide an expansive and challenging legal education rooted in a commitment to civic values. VLS is a place where a dedicated and distinguished faculty cultivate a learning environment rich in cooperative spirit.

The Environmental Law Center, founded in 1978, has the largest graduate environmental law program in the country, consistently ranked among the best by U.S. News & World Report. The program emphasizes student engagement with real-world problems and the development of responsive environmental policy.

Ours is a multidisciplinary program in law, policy, science, economics, and ethics for lawyers, law and graduate students, government officials, teachers, scientists, and citizen activists. The program addresses the need for environmental leaders who are skilled in working with environmental and public policy issues within the framework of the legal system—leaders prepared to meet the environmental challenges of the 21st century.
Over the past four decades, scores of VLS graduates from all degree programs have worked at the EPA and possess the flexibility to complete a master’s degree in as little as one year or up to five years. Students have the choice to complete in fall 2013. The master’s degrees may be offered post-JD, LLM, or Master’s students; JD students from other law schools; non-law graduate students; teachers; citizen advocates; practicing attorneys; planners; and state and federal agency personnel. Summer Session also includes the popular Hot Topics in Environmental Law lecture series.

CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION (CLE)
Nondegree educational opportunities are available through the VLS Summer Session. Practicing attorneys can take summer courses or attend our summer lecture series for CLE credit.

VERMONT JOURNAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAW
The Vermont Journal of Environmental Law (VJEL) is entering its sixteenth year of publishing on all facets of environmental law. The journal staff seeks to provide a forum for enlightened discussion on the emerging environmental issues affecting our local, regional, and global communities. The journal is published exclusively online. VJEL is about environmental discourse and environmental action, and online publication greatly embodies both. Please visit http://vjel.vermontlaw.edu/

“A LEGAL EDUCATION CAN PREPARE YOU TO DO ALL SORTS OF THINGS, NOT JUST WORK IN A COURTHOUSE OR WITH STACKS OF PAPER.”
—SCOTT CULLEN, JD’96, Executive Director, GRACE Communications Foundation

“At VLS they embed in you the ethic of zealous advocacy for your client and at the same time, they telegraph that outcomes require collaboration and resolving competing demands.”
—ADAM NECRASON JD/MELP’96, Founder and Managing Partner, Simtrin & Necrason, PLLC

SUMMERS-ONLY MASTER’S PROGRAM
JD students from any other law school may earn a master’s degree from Vermont Law School with one summer of classes, one summer externship, and one online course. Special arrangements with Northeastern University School of Law, Quinnipiac University School of Law, the University of South Carolina School of Law, and the University of South Dakota School of Law allow those students to transfer additional JD credits to the master’s degree and earn the degree at a lower cost.

VERMONT LAW SCHOOL OFFERS THE FOLLOWING CERTIFICATES:
- Certificate in Climate Law
- Certificate in Energy Law
- Certificate in Food and Agriculture Law
- Certificate in Land Use Law
- Certificate in Water Law

ENVIRONMENTAL DEGREE PROGRAMS

In addition to the traditional Juris Doctor degree, Vermont Law School offers a number of master’s degrees, LLM degrees, joint degrees, dual degrees with other academic institutions, certificate programs, and the renowned Summer Session program. These programs range from the Master of Environmental Law and Policy, which welcomed its first students in 1988, to over 1,500 students since the program’s inception in 1978, to the LLM in Energy Law and Master of Energy Regulation and Law programs, which welcomed their first students in fall 2013. The master’s degrees may be completed in as little as one year or up to five years. Students have the choice and flexibility to complete a master’s or LLM degree on campus or online.

MASTER’S DEGREES
- The Master of Environmental Law and Policy (MELP) program is designed for students who want to develop expertise in environmental law and policy while obtaining an interdisciplinary training in science, economics, and public advocacy.
- The Master of Energy Regulation and Law (MERL) program offers intensive training in the law and policy governing energy use, production, and transmission, preparing students to work in the alternative energy sector and address the environmental problems associated with traditional energy production.
- The Master of Food and Agriculture Law and Policy (MFALP) is designed for students who want to develop the legal infrastructure needed to support sustainable food and agriculture systems.

LLM DEGREES
- The LLM in Environmental Law offers post-JD students the opportunity to prepare for a career practicing environmental law with a private firm, as a public interest environmental litigator, or in academia.
- The LLM in Energy Law focuses on law and policy relating to energy use, production, and transmission.
- The LLM in Food and Agriculture Law allows students to take advantage of our extensive food and agriculture law curriculum and develop a deep specialty in an important area of environmental law.

JOINT DEGREES
Vermont Law School students may combine the JD with a Master’s or LLM degree to develop expertise in environmental, energy, or food and agriculture law.
- JD/Master of Environmental Law and Policy
- JD/Master of Energy Regulation and Law
- JD/Master of Food and Agriculture Law and Policy
- JD/LLM in Environmental Law
- JD/LLM in Energy Law
- JD/LLM in Food and Agriculture Law

DUAL DEGREE PROGRAMS
Vermont Law School students can combine a JD or Master’s degree with degrees from other institutions.
- JD/Master of Environmental Management with the Yale University School of Forestry and Environmental Studies
- JD/Master of Philosophy with the Department of Land Economy at the University of Cambridge
- JD or LLM/MBA or MA/MS in Global Affairs with Thunderbird School of Global Management
- LLM/Master of Science in Natural Resources with the Rubenstein School of Environment and Natural Resources at the University of Vermont
- LLM/MBA with the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College

CERTIFICATES
Certificates are a tangible indication that students have mastered a specific subject area. The environmental program at Vermont Law School offers the following certificates:
- Certificate in Climate Law
- Certificate in Energy Law
- Certificate in Food and Agriculture Law
- Certificate in Land Use Law
- Certificate in Water Law

SUMMER SESSION
Vermont Law School’s Summer Session is nationally recognized for its impressive range of courses taught by VLS professors and leaders from national and international nonprofit environmental groups and research centers, consulting firms, federal and state agencies, academic programs at other law schools, and private practice. Attendees include VLS JD, LLM, and Master’s students; JD students from other law schools; nonlaw graduate students; teachers; citizen advocates; practicing attorneys; planners; and state and federal agency personnel. Summer Session also includes the popular Hot Topics in Environmental Law lecture series.

Vermont Law School students may combine the JD with a Master’s or LLM degree to develop expertise in environmental, energy, or food and agriculture law.
- JD/Master of Environmental Law and Policy
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FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Vermont Law School established the Center for Agriculture and Food Systems in 2002. Building on Vermont’s reputation for small-scale agricultural innovation and ethos of environmental and social sustainability, the center promotes partnerships, and creative media. The center benefits from an experienced team of legal professionals, including Laurie Rideout, Director; Laurie Beyranevand ’03, Associate Director; Jamie Benner, Clinical Lead; a program officer; and faculty and LLM fellows.

CENTER PROJECTS

■ Improve access to farmland by new farmers through the transactional clinic’s Land Tenure Project, which will work with partners to develop legal resources and provide regional and national training for farmers
■ Reduce food waste through the clinic’s Gleaning Project, which will provide template resources to expand gleaning organizations
■ Compile a web-based legal compendium of law-related resources, providing one-stop access to the growing body of legal information for small and mid-sized farmers, food entrepreneurs, and sustainable food advocates
■ Expand the law school’s food and agriculture law and policy curriculum to include degrees and distance learning courses
■ Expand the use of social media to increase farmer and advocate access to legal and policy information as well as citizen engagement in food and agriculture issues
■ Launch an interactive food labeling site with Dartmouth College’s Digital Arts Leadership and Innovation lab that arms citizen with information about what food claims mean.

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE LAW CLINIC

In 2016, VLS launched a transactional law clinic to pioneer development of legal solutions and infrastructure to support local, sustainable food systems through research, strategic partnerships, and creative media.

“AT THE CENTER FOR AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS, WE ARE SEIZING THE TRANFORMATIONAL OPPORTUNITY OF THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE MOVEMENT BY PROVIDING AN INNOVATIVE EDUCATION IN POLICY AND LAW, WHICH IS TRAINING THE NEXT GENERATION OF ADVOCATES AND ENTREPRENEURS.”
—LAURIE RISTINO, Director, Center for Agriculture and Food Systems

ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

The Institute for Energy and the Environment is a regional, national, and world resource on energy law and policy with an advanced curriculum in energy and regulatory law. The institute provides forums and conferences for professional education and issue development, and serves as a center for graduate research on energy issues with an environmental awareness. Students learn how to work with and improve America’s legal system in order to help humanity meet the challenge of energy issues.

Michael Dworkin, the institute’s director, is a national leader in energy and environmental law and past chair of the Vermont Public Service Board. Kevin Jones, former director of energy policy for New York City and power market policy director for the Long Island Power Authority, is the deputy director, and there are a number of faculty and LLM fellows, including Carla Santos ’15 and Mark James ’16.

INSTITUTE PROJECTS

■ Energy Security and Justice
Analyze the energy burden facing Vermont families and promote strategies on how to alleviate energy poverty
■ Biomass Project
Explores the challenges presented by using woody biomass as an energy resource and promotes policies to ensure a healthy forest resource
■ Smart Grid Project
Use case study research to explore how the European Union is implementing smart electric grid technologies in ways to benefit the climate
■ Legal Essentials for Utility Executives
Offer a rigorous course providing electric utility executives with the legal foundation to more fully understand the utility regulatory framework, the role of federal and state energy regulatory commissions, and how to operate effectively within these structures
■ Rensselaer Plug and Play Photovoltaics
Research applicable codes, standards, and permitting requirements for a Plug and Play PV demonstration system, which will allow homeowners to easily select and install a rooftop solar PV system

ENERGY CLINIC

In 2016, VLS launched the Energy Clinic to promote community solar and other environmentally friendly community energy initiatives by providing legal and policy advice to clients.

“NATIONS TEND TO RESOLVE ENERGY DISPUTES WITH EITHER LAWYERS OR SOLDIERS. LAWYERS BLEED LESS.”
—MICHAEL DWORKIN, Director, Institute for Energy and the Environment

ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES LAW CLINIC

Since 2003, the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Clinic has provided hands-on learning opportunities for law students, achieving environmental conservation goals and improving access to justice in the legal system. The clinic provides a structured, supportive setting in which students develop specialized skills in environmental litigation, administrative processes, and client counseling. A faculty of experienced environmental attorneys and professionals oversee student work in the clinic, including: Drug Policy, Director; Patrick Parenteau, Senior Counsel; Laura Murphy, Associate Director; Ken Bumeli, Staff Attorney; Rachel Stevens, LLM Fellow; and Monica Lisitsinam, Litigation Paralegal. The students have worked on an impressive array of matters in various federal and state courts, including the United States Supreme Court.

“WORKING AT THE ENRLC WAS THE CAPSTONE EXPERIENCE IN MY LEGAL EDUCATION. IT HAS BEEN INSPIRING TO WORK WITH FELLOW STUDENTS TO BRING OUR LEGAL SKILLS TO BEAR ON ACTUAL MATTERS, WITH REAL CLIENTS AND TANGIBLE RESULTS IN THE WORLD. AND AS A VERMONTER, I SAW FIRSTHAND HOW AN INSTITUTION AND ITS PARTICIPANTS STRIVE TO MAKE THE STATE A BETTER PLACE—TRULY ‘LAW FOR THE COMMUNITY AND THE WORLD: THIS PLACE IS A GEM.’”
—ANDY HOMAN ’14

CLINIC PROJECTS

■ Stand up for the health of Vermonters and others with the Vermont Public Interest Research Group and the Center for Food Safety by seeking to formally intervene in industry’s lawsuit challenging Vermont’s new GMO labeling law in federal district court
■ Tackle climate change and coal by working with the Northern Plains Resource Council and National Wildlife Federation to oppose a new railroad that would open Montana’s Powder River Basin to extensive coal mining
■ Protect severely polluted streams around the Jay Peak Resort ski area within the Missisquoi watershed in Vermont by challenging Jay Peak’s stormwater permits in Vermont’s Environmental Court on behalf of Vermont Natural Resources Council
■ Provide access to justice by representing a group of residents from Granvilleville, Vermont in an appeal to the Vermont Supreme Court regarding an asphalt plant sited in their community
■ Fight for fish communities on behalf of Connecticut River Watershed Council by advocating for and filing comments on the long-awaited permit for the Vermont Yankee facility, which discharges hot water into the Connecticut River
The U.S.-Asia Partnership for Environmental Law (formerly known as the U.S.-China Partnership), is a collaborative program to advance environmental and energy law and policy in China and throughout Asia. The goal of the partnership, which is supported by the U.S. Agency for International Development and the U.S. State Department Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, is to strengthen the rule of law in environmental protection and to build capacity among individuals and academic, government, and private-sector institutions to solve environmental problems.

At its inception in 2008, the partnership’s goals were to strengthen the capacity of Chinese education, government, and civil society sectors to become effective environmental problem solvers; to improve China’s policies, laws, and regulations to advance the development of environmental law in China; and to enhance municipal, provincial, national, and international networks in China to advance best practices in environmental protection and energy regulation. Building upon the successes it has achieved in China, the partnership has expanded its geographic scope in order to respond to the environmental governance needs of the region. Niu Tip Lam, a former assistant attorney general in the region, has served as director of the program’s work. A cohort of the nation’s leading water law professors and lawyers constitute this program, including John Echeverria and Jiai Tuhola, who direct the program, and Melissa Scanlan, faculty fellow.

**PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS**

- Collaborate on student and faculty exchanges, joint research projects, and publications on environmental and energy law issues with Zhongnan University of Economics and Law
- Work with Chinese and international NGOs to promote measures to address the environmental impacts of rapidly increasing foreign direct investment in the Greater Mekong Sub-region
- Provide opportunities for VLS students to work collaboratively with law students from China on cutting-edge research projects
- Train Chinese lawyers and NGO workers on the latest developments in China’s civil procedure law, which enables NGOs to sue on behalf of the public interest to protect the environment
- Train prosecutors on how to prosecute environmental crimes more effectively and steps to increase the role prosecutors could play in civil enforcement of environmental laws
- Train scholars from across China on climate change science and international standards for environmental rights protection and teaching methodology
- Host Chinese scholars and students for residency programs at VLS

**U.S.-ASIA PARTNERSHIPS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LAW**

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**ENVIRONMENTAL TAX POLICY INSTITUTE**

The Environmental Tax Policy Institute analyzes the ways in which taxation can be used to address environmental problems. By serving as a resource for the public and private sectors, non-governmental organizations, the press, and academia, the institute seeks to better inform the public policy debate about the role of environmental tax at the local, state, and federal levels. Janet E. Milne, the institute’s director, has devoted her career to matters involving taxation, the legislative process, and the environment. She has taught environmental tax policy at VLS since 1994.

**INSTITUTE PROJECTS**

- Published “The Handbook of Research on Environmental Taxation,” an interdisciplinary, international tour of the key areas of research on environmental taxation, edited by Janet E. Milne and Mikael Skov Andersen, in 2015
- Published Janet Milne’s analysis of the implications of the U.S. Supreme Court’s health care decision for environmental taxation, “The U.S. Supreme Court Opens a Door: Expanded Opportunities for Environmental Taxes,” in the May 2014 issue of the Environmental Law Reporter

**LAND USE LAW**

**LAND USE INSTITUTE**

The Land Use Institute addresses the legal and planning aspects of current land use issues, including sustainable development, ecology planning, siting of energy installations, permitting processes, and the scope of eminent domain. The institute brings together faculty members and other experts to pursue integrated classroom and clinical teaching, innovative and focused scholarship, and the provision of expertise to governmental and nongovernmental bodies. This work includes special, though not exclusive, reference to the problems of nonurban areas. L. kimbril Wright, the institute’s director, served as Dean of VLS from 1996 to 2003 and President and Dean from 2003 to 2004.

**LAND USE CLINIC**

The Land Use Clinic provides students the opportunity to understand how land use laws are developed, implemented, and enforced, and the role lawyers play in that process. The clinic combines a classroom component with a placement experience. The classroom component introduces students to substantive issues that commonly arise in land use practice in Vermont. Students are placed at Vermont’s Agency of Natural Resources under the supervision of attorneys handling a variety of land use projects for the agency.

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INNOVATIVE RESEARCH AND ADVOCACY TRAINING

Students tackle issues of Human Rights and the Environment in Professor Stephanie Farrior’s clinical course in Applied Human Rights, in which students hone their skills through week on projects with NGOs and inter-governmental organizations. Recent projects are with:
- Earthrights International
- Business and Human Rights Resource Centre

GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

SAMPLE ACTIVITIES:
- Forthcoming book from Cambridge University Press, a compilation of papers from the 2015 joint symposium with the McGill University Faculty of Law on Sustainable Development and Cross-Boundary Energy Issues
- Institute for Energy and the Environment research teams have produced papers on: Arctic Resource Access; European/U.S. Smart Grid Comparative Analysis; Global Energy Justice
- Environmental and Natural Resources Law Clinic students are working on a project to keep shipments of tar sands oil from flowing through the Portland-Montreal pipeline

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING THROUGH SEMESTER-IN-PRACTICE

RECENT PLACEMENTS INCLUDE:
- Centro de Derechos Humanos y Ambiental, Cordoba, Argentina
- Enviro-Legal Defense Firm, Uttarakhand, India
- North South Environmental Law, Auckland, New Zealand
- United Nations Environment Programme, Nairobi, Kenya
- Fundacion Ambio, San Jose, Costa Rica
- Food and Agriculture Organization Legal Office, Rome, Italy

EDUCATION ABROAD OPPORTUNITIES

- International Dual Degree with University of Cambridge: Dual JD/MPhil in Environmental Policy
- Semester exchange at McGill University Faculty of Law, Montreal

“MY PASSION IS CONFLICT-RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES, PRIMARILY POST-CONFLICT RECONSTRUCTION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY/CONFLICT PREVENTION (AND IF THE ISSUE RELATES TO HUMAN RIGHTS, I’M EVEN MORE INTERESTED).”

—CARINA ROSELLI JD’14, recipient of a prestigious Arthur C. Helton Fellowship from the American Society of International Law

ENVIRONMENTAL DISPUTE RESOLUTION

More than thirty years ago VLS launched one of the nation’s first programs to teach the skills of dispute resolution—negotiation, mediation, and arbitration—that provide highly effective methods for solving environmental problems. Through courses such as Environmental Dispute Resolution, Negotiation, and International Investment Arbitration and the Environment, the Dispute Resolution Clinic, competitions, externships, and research, the Dispute Resolution Program offers instruction to students from across the globe. Sean Holon is the director of the program. Courses are taught by experienced practitioners and accomplished scholars including Holon; Philip Hartter, scholar-in-residence and one of the founding fathers of negotiated rule making; Randy Lowry, President of Lipscomb University; Marcus Crelliana, Director of the Human Rights and Environment Program at The Center for International Environmental Law; Cathy Costantino, Senior Counsel at FIDC and co-author of Designing Conflict Management Systems, and Karen Bergstrom ’05, former Director of New Hampshire’s Office of Mediation and Arbitration.

Dispute resolution skills are critically important to environmental professionals. The complex nature of environmental disputes, the involvement of multiple parties, and the overlapping legal jurisdictions characteristic of environmental disputes mean that every dispute resolution technique must be considered.

“DISCOURAGE LITIGATION. PERSUADE YOUR NEIGHBORS TO COMPROMISE WHENEVER YOU CAN. POINT OUT TO THEM HOW THE NOMINAL WINNER IS OFTEN THE REAL LOSER—IN FEES, EXPENSES, AND WASTE OF TIME.”

—ABRAHAM LINCOLN

ENVIRONMENTAL EXTERNSHIPS/SEMESTER IN PRACTICE

An integral part of our environmental degree programs is gaining real-world experience through externships. Our students explore environmental law, science, and policy in a wide variety of settings both locally and worldwide. In the Semester in Practice program and the Judicial Externship program, JD students spend a full semester off campus in a governmental, public interest, or private legal setting under the direct supervision of an experienced attorney or judge.

RECENT EXTERNSHIPS
- Advocates for the West
- California Air Resources Board
- Center for Biological Diversity
- Council on Environmental Quality
- Environmental Defense Fund
- Environmental Law Institute
- Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy
- New York Office of the Attorney General, Environmental Protection Bureau
- Southern Environmental Law Center
- Trustees for Alaska
- U.S. Department of Justice, Environmental Enforcement Section
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Civil Enforcement
- United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
- Vermont Energy Investment Corporation
- Wisconsin Department of Justice, Environmental Protection Unit

INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND POLICY

Environmental issues are global issues. The unique opportunities at Vermont Law School prepare our graduates to be leaders in international environmental law and policy. A curriculum of over one dozen international environmental courses is further enhanced by study opportunities through our partnerships with leading foreign universities. Hands-on learning through externships and clinics rounds out the academic experience.

CUTTING-EDGE COURSES
- Peace, War, and the Environment
- International Investment and Arbitration and the Environment
- International Trade and the Environment
- Comparative U.S.-China Environmental Law
- Human Rights and the Environment

WWW.VERMONTLAW.EDU/ELC
our agricultural crops, as well as current legal protections, and the exploration of the major strategies and resources for environmental law research.

Agricultural Environmental Law

The regulatory and incentive-based programs that affect our agricultural crops, as well as the environmental impacts of these programs.

Agriculture and Food Entrepreneur Lawyering Skills

The nuts and bolts of providing legal services to farmers and food entrepreneurs.

Air Pollution Law and Policy

A detailed reading of the Clean Air Act and an exploration of the major statutory provisions.

America’s Energy Crisis

Discussions with nationally-recognized experts on the legal elements of solutions to the energy crisis.

Animal Law

The laws, doctrines, and policies that address human interactions with animals.

Animal Rights Jurisprudence

How animals, their current legal protections, and sources and characteristics of fundamental rights are protected.

Earth Law


Climate Change, Food Security, and Environmental Justice

An assessment of potential climate impacts on agricultural resources, issues of food security, and food distribution.

Climate Change and the Law

How existing laws may address climate change and how new, more comprehensive laws may be fashioned.

Climate Change Mitigation

Can climate change be mitigated, or has the tide turned?

Climate Change: The Power of Law

How tax systems can be used to reduce greenhouse gases and develop more environmentally compatible technologies.

Communications, Advocacy, and Leadership

The skills to advocate, counsel, investigate, persuade, research, and educate.

Comparative Environmental Law Research Seminar

A research and writing seminar that provides a framework for students to engage in comparative environmental law research.

Comparative U.S.-China Environmental Law

The environmental challenges for China’s 1.3 billion people and efforts to address them through law and regulation.

Environmental Law and How to Effectively Advocate for Policy Changes

The theory and practice of enforcement of the federal pollution control laws.

Environmental Ethics Seminar

The foundational concepts of environmental ethics.

Energy Law and Policy in a Carbon-Forbidden World

Key issues in environmental policies such as regulation, economic growth, energy, and pollution.

Energy Regulation, Markets, and the Environment

The legal, economic, and structural issues involved in energy regulation and energy markets, focusing on electricity.

Environmental Dispute Resolution

Alternative dispute resolution processes for resolving complex, multi-party environmental disputes.

Environmental Economics and Markets

How markets and tools protect the environment, their basic assumptions, and the challenges they face during implementation.

Environmental Enforcement and Compliance

The theory and practice of enforcement of the federal pollution control laws.

Food System Justice and Sustainability

The policies and programs that could help create a Good Food environment.

Global Energy Justice

How justice theory can help people make meaningful decisions about the production, delivery, use, and effects of energy.

Global Food Security

The legal landscape of global hunger.

Indian Tribes as Governmental Stewards of the Environment

A study of the tribes as a role of governmental partners in the implementation of federal environmental programs.

International Environmental Law and Policy

The structure and principles of international environmental law and policy.

International Environmental Arbitration and the Environment

Sustainable development, international law, investment, human rights, and the environment.

International Trade and the Environment

The interaction and frequent clash between trade liberalization and environmental protection.

Law and Policy of Local Food Systems

A study of policies that affect distribution of food and state-level initiatives to bolster local food markets.

Regulating the Marine Environment

The intersection of state, federal, and international regulations in the regulation of the marine environment.

Rural Energy Law and Policy

Local, state, federal, and policies that promote and impede renewable energy supplies.

Science for Environmental Law

The science most relevant to environmental law, including climate science, air and water pollution, toxicology, and endangered species management.

Three Essentials of the Electric Grid

Fundamental legal, engineering, and business knowledge for energy professionals.

Water Quality

The Clean Water Act, the Safe Drinking Water Act, and the CWA Implementing Legislation.

Water Resources Law

The allocation of water among competing claimants—for consumptive use, waste disposal, recreation, and other purposes.

Watershed Management and Protection

An “ecosystem approach” to the study of watersheds and the laws that attempt to restore and maintain their ecological integrity.
ENVIRONMENTAL FACULTY

The environmental faculty members at Vermont Law School are teachers who know the law, work at their craft, and care about their students; scholars who challenge conventional wisdom and push the envelope of knowledge; and professionals who respect environmental values, enjoy what they do, and devote their talents to making the world a better place.

TRACY BACH
PROFESSOR OF LAW
MA, JD, University of Minnesota; BA, Yale University. She clerked for the Honorable Harriet Laming of the Minnesota Court of Appeals. In 2002, Professor Bach was a visiting professor at the National University of Rwanda Faculty of Law in Butare, Rwanda. She specializes in health care law and international human rights, especially concerning genocide. She spent the 2009-10 academic year as a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Chiang Mai, Thailand.

RICHARD G. BROOKS
PROFESSOR OF LAW EMERITUS
LLB, Yale University; PhD, Brandeis University; BA, MA, University of Chicago. The founding director of the Environmental Law Center and former executive director of Thames Valley Council for Community Action, Inc., he is the author of Ecology Law Book, an author of the environmental law book, Green Justice; author of a book on planning law, New Town and Common Value; and author of a comprehensive book on Act 250, Vermont’s landmark development-control law.

MICHAEL DWORIN
PROFESSOR OF LAW; DIRECTOR, INSTITUTE FOR ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT
JD, Harvard Law School; BA, Middlebury College. He is past chair of the Vermont Public Service Board. He clerked for the D.C. Court of Appeals and represented US EPA in appellate litigation. He has served as chair of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners’ Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment. In 2019, he received the Mary Killmarx Award for Good Government. Clean Energy and Environmental Law from NARUC. Professor Dworin teaches Energy Law and Policy and the Advanced Energy Writing Seminar.

STEPHEN DYCUS
PROFESSOR OF LAW

JOHN D. ECHEVERRIA
PROFESSOR OF LAW
JD, University of Virginia; LLB, Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies; BA, Yale College. He was the executive director of the Georgetown Environmental Law and Policy Institute at Georgetown University Law Center from 1997-2009. He has produced several books and numerous articles on the private property rights issue, land use management, and natural resource management. His paper, “Water and Takings,” was awarded Best Paper at the 32nd Annual Water Law Conference in 2014. He teaches Water Resources Law and Legal Adaptation to Global Warming Impacts. He was the Acting Associate Dean of the Environmental Law Program from 2011-2013.

DAVID FIRESTONE
PROFESSOR OF LAW
JD, Harvard University; BS, Wayne State University. Former attorney, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; visiting fellow in the faculty of laws, King’s College, England; and seminar leader for the U.S. Information Agency in Eastern Europe, Austria, and Micronesia. The fifth edition of his book Environmental Law for Non-Lawyers was published in 2016. He teaches Environmental Law.

JACKIE GARDINA
PROFESSOR OF LAW; VICE DEAN FOR FACULTY
JD, Boston College School of Law; MSW, Boston University. She served as a law clerk to the Honorable Levin H. Campbell of the First Circuit Court of Appeals and to Chief Judge William Young of the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts. She practiced law at the Boston law firm of Chouteau, Hall & Stewart. She presented on “Environmental Obligation and Enforcement” at the National Association of Environmental Professionals 39th Annual Conference in 2016.

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JD, S.J. Quinney College of Law at the University of Utah, BA, Middlebury College. She clerked in the Natural Resources Division of the Utah Attorney General’s office and for Chief Judge Dee V. Benson in the United States District Court for the District of Utah. She practiced real property and natural resources law at Fabian, A. Cheadle, PC, in Salt Lake City, Utah. She was a panelist at the 2014 J.B. and Maurice C. Shapiro Environmental Law Symposium at George Washington University Law School.

KEVIN JONES
DEPUTY DIRECTOR AND PROFESSOR OF ENERGY TECHNOLOGY AND POLICY, INSTITUTE FOR ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT
PhD, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute’s Lally School of Management and Technology; Masters, LBJ School of Public Affairs, University of Texas at Austin; BS, University of Vermont. Dr. Jones has been the Director of Power Market Policy for the Long Island Power Authority and a Director of Energy Policy for the City of New York. His book A Smarter, Greener Grid was published in 2016. He teaches Energy Regulation, Markets, and the Environment and Environmental Economics and Markets.

SIU TIP LAM
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF LAW; DIRECTOR, U.S.-ASIA PARTNERSHIPS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LAW
JD, Northeastern University School of Law; AB, Harvard University. She has served as an assistant attorney general in the Environmental Protection Division of the Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office, where she handled a variety of cases enforcing environmental laws and regulations. She worked as a legal associate at the Boston law firm of Brown, Rudnick, Fried & Germer.

MARK LATHAM
PROFESSOR OF LAW; DEPUTY VICE DEAN FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
JD, University of California–Berkeley; BS, Illinois Wesleyan University. Professor Latham’s appointments include Illinois Supreme Court Committee on Character and Fitness; chair of the visiting Committee of the Northern Illinois University College of Law, and commissioner of the Matteson (Illinois) Planning Commission. He specializes in a wide range of environmental issues that arise in corporate and commercial real estate transactions and brownfields redevelopment.

MARK MIHALY
PROFESSOR OF LAW
PhD, Boston University; JD, University of Connecticut; AB, MA, Boston University. She clerked for the Minnesota Supreme Court, the Utah Court of Appeals, and the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts. She practiced real property, natural resources, and environmental law at Fabian & Cheadle, PC, in Salt Lake City, Utah. From 1990 to 1995, she was a visiting professor at Dartmouth College. She teaches Environmental Ethics and Animal Law and Ethics.

MARC MIZRAHI
PROFESSOR OF LAW; PRESIDENT AND DEAN
JD, University of California–Berkeley; BA, Harvard University. He is the founding partner of the environmental law firm of Mizrahi, Mihaly and Weinberger in San Francisco, where his practice emphasized environmental, regulatory, land use, appellate law, and complex negotiations.

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PROFESSOR OF LAW; DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENTAL TAX POLICY INSTITUTE
JD, Georgetown University Law Center; BA, Williams College. She has served as an attorney for the Washington Post, as an attorney with the Washington firm of Covington and Burling, and as Senator Lloyd Bentsen’s staff member responsible for tax, international trade, and health care issues. She is an editor of “The Handbook of Research on Environmental Taxation,” an interdisciplinary, international tour of the key areas of research on environmental taxation, published in 2013. She teaches Climate Change: The Power of Taxes, and Land Use Regulation.

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— MELISSA K. SCANLON, Associate Professor of Law, Associate Dean for Student Development, Environmental Law Program, and Director of the ELC

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JD, Pace University School of Law; BA, Vassar College. She interned with the National Wildlife Federation, Conservation Law Foundation, and the Honorable Janet C. Hall of the U.S. District Court for the District of Connecticut. Prior to joining Vermont Law School in 2007, she worked with CLF Ventures in Montpelier. She currently focuses on the Clean Water Act and a project to help people who live near industrial animal facilities protect their property tax assessments.

SEAN NOLON ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW; DIRECTOR, DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROGRAM
JD, Pace University School of Law; BA, Cornell University. In his positions as director of the Land Use Law Center and as executive director of the Theodore W. Wheel Center on Environmental Solutions at Pace University School of Law, he designed and implemented curricular offerings as well as web-based services to facilitate distance learning. He served as an associate at Melito & Adolfsen, coordinating litigation in environmental cases and class actions. Professor Nolon teaches Environmental Dispute Resolution.

PATRICK A. PARENTEAU PROFESSOR OF LAW; SPECIAL COUNSEL, ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES LAW CLINIC
JD, University of Iowa; LLM, Environmental Law, George Washington University; BS, Regis College. Former commissioner, Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation; general counsel for the Environmental Council; general counsel for the Southern Environmental Law Center, where he litigated multiple environmental cases over the past two decades. In 1999, he opened the Asheville, North Carolina, office of the Southern Environmental Law Center, where he litigated cases involving biodiversity, air and water pollution, and transportation. In 2010 he was awarded a Fullbright Fellowship to Slovenia, where he taught climate change law and appellate advocacy at the University of Ljubljana. Professor Ruley became the director of the ENRLC in April 2012.

REBECCA PURDOM ’96 ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW; ASSOCIATE DEAN OF INNOVATION AND NEW PROGRAMS
JD, MSel, Vermont Law School. She directs the distance learning program at VLS. She was on the faculty of Green Mountain College from 2001 to 2010, where she helped craft an award-winning sustainability curriculum. Her research includes human rights to water, ecological restoration, and sustainable watershed management. In 2008, she served as a visiting professor of environmental law and business at Universidade Metodista de Piracicaba in Piracicaba, Brazil.

JAMIE RENNER ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF LAW
JD, American University’s Washington College of Law; BA, Middlebury College. He served as a law clerk to the Honorable Priscilla D. Thompson at the District of Columbia Court of Appeals. For four years, he was a Litigation Associate at the New York office of an international law firm, where he represented public corporations in government investigations regarding environmental and securities issues. He directs the clinical offerings of the Center for Agriculture and Food Systems.

LAURIE RISTINO ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW; DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS
JD, University of Iowa; MPA, George Mason University; BA, University of Michigan. Before joining VLS, she was a senior counsel with the Office of the General Counsel, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) in Washington, DC. She is an expert on the conservation title of the2002 and 2008 farm bills, as well as the run-up to the 2013 farm bill. She presented at the W.K. Kellogg Foundation event, Harvesting Change: The 2014 Food & Community Gathering. She teaches Agricultural Environmental Law.

DOUGLAS A. RULEY ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW; DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES LAW CLINIC
JD, Harvard University; BS, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He has litigated multiple environmental cases over the past two decades. In 1999, he opened the Asheville, North Carolina, office of the Southern Environmental Law Center, where he litigated cases involving biodiversity, air and water pollution, and transportation. In 2010 he was awarded a Fullbright Fellowship to Slovenia, where he taught climate change law and appellate advocacy at the University of Ljubljana. Professor Ruley became the director of the ENRLC in April 2012.

KENNETH RUMELT LLM’12 ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW; STAFF ATTORNEY, ENVIRONMENTAL AND NATURAL RESOURCES LAW CLINIC
JD, St. Louis University; LLM, Vermont Law School School; BA, University of Colorado. He has worked as a contract attorney with firms in St. Louis, Missouri and Denver, Colorado on toxic tort claims. Before law school, Mr. Rumelt spent two years as an intern with the EPA National Hazardous Waste and Superfund Ombudsman in Washington, D.C. Prior to joining the VLS faculty, Professor Rumelt served as a clinic fellow with the ENRLC.

CHRISTINE RYAN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW LIBRARIAN
MA, Dartmouth College; MS in library science, Simmons College; BA, University of Connecticut. She is an experienced legal research instructor. She has created and continues to expand the VLS Environmental Law Research Guide, which carefully selected Internet resources that support the practice of environmental law. She develops the environmental law collection of electronic resources and books for VLS, and provides information services to the VLS community. Ms. Ryan teaches Advanced Environmental Legal Research.

MELISSA SCANLAN ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF LAW; ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CENTER
JD, University of California—Berkeley, BA, Catholic University of America. Prior to joining VLS, she was the University of Wisconsin Law School’s Water Law and Policy Fellow. She led a project on interdisciplinary water research and teaching. Over a decade earlier, she received a competitive Equal Justice Works Fellowship and an Echoing Green fellowship to found and direct Midwest Environmental Advocates, Wisconsin’s first non-profit environmental law center. She presented on the Water and Energy Sources Panel at the annual colloquium of the IU Center for Environmental Law in 2014. She teaches New Frontiers in Environmental Policy and Water Resources Law.

JAMES GUSTAVE SPETH PROFESSOR OF LAW
JD, Yale University; M.A., Oxford University; BA, Yale University. He was the dean of Yale’s School of Forestry and Environmental Studies from 1993-2009. Before that, he served as administrator of the United Nations Development Programme and chair of the UN Development Group. He was founder and president of the World Resources Institute; professor of law at Georgetown University; chairman of the U.S. Council on Environmental Quality; and senior attorney and cofounder of the Natural Resources Defense Council. He teaches New Frontiers in Environmental Policy.

JACK TUHOLSKY PROFESSOR OF LAW; DIRECTOR, WATER AND JUSTICE PROGRAM
JD, University of Montana. As a private practitioner in Montana, he specializes in public interest environmental litigation throughout the West. Professor Tuholske’s focus on his work on behalf of public interest groups, he was awarded the Kenny Rydberg Award in 2010 by the University of Oregon Public Interest Environmental Law Conference. As a Fullbright Scholar in 2005, he taught courses in climate change and comparative environmental law at the University of Ljubljana in Slovenia. Professor Tuholsky teaches Natural Resources Law, Watershed Management and Protection, and the Montana Field Study.

JOAN VOGEL PROFESSOR OF LAW
MA, JD, University of California—Los Angeles; BA, George Washington University. She has presented widely on topics of legal pluralism, new teaching methods in labor law, tort reform in California, “Lemon Laws.” She has served as chair of the Law and Anthropology and the Labor and Employment Law sections of the Association of American Law Schools. Professor Vogel teaches Culture and the Environment.

L. KINWIN WROTH PROFESSOR OF LAW; DIRECTOR, LAND USE INSTITUTE
LLB, Harvard University; BA, Yale University. He came to VLS during the 1990s, after having served as dean of the University of Maine School of Law. As reporter and consultant to the Vermont Supreme Court’s rules advisory committees since 1969, he has drafted many of Vermont’s rules of procedure, evidence, and professional and judicial conduct, including new rules to implement the recently expanded jurisdiction of the Environmental Court. Professor Wroth teaches Regulating the Marine Environment.
Summertime Faculty

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Environmental Litigation Workshop
Smith, Mark & U.S. Department of Justice, Environmental Enforcement Lecture; JD, Lewis & Clark Law School; BS, University of Michigan.

**Philip J. Harker**
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**BARRY E. HILL**
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**RandyN. Hill**
Clean Water Act Judge, Environmental Appeals Board, U.S. EPA; JD, Master of Public Policy, University of California, Berkeley.

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**Thomas McMenemy**
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Three Essentials of the Electric Grid
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Indian Tribes as Governmental Stewards of the Environment
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**Philip Tabas**
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**Steven M. Wise**
Animal Rights Jurisprudence
Professor of Law, University of Nebraska College of Law
Since 2005, Environmental Law Media Fellows have been spending two weeks attending Summer Session classes and giving lectures as part of our Hot Topics in Environmental Law brown bag lecture series. The 2014 fellows were: KEVIN BEGOS, The Associated Press
OSHIA GRAY DAVIDSON, Author and Freelance Writer
TOBY HENRY, The Toledo Blade The Normans Williams Distinguished Lecture in Land Use and Planning Law series brings nationally recognized speakers to VLS. Featured speakers have included:


2010: MARY NICHOLS, Chair of the California Air Resources Board, “Sustainable Communities for a Sustainable State: California’s Efforts to Curb Sprawl and Cut Emissions”


2012: WICKI BEidden, Professor and Director of the Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy, NYU School of Law, “Explaining the Motivations Behind Land Use Regulation: New York City’s Revisions of Almost One Quarter of its Land”

2013: ROBERT L. LIBERTY, Director of the Urban Sustainability Accelerator at Portland State University, “Rising to the Land Use Challenge: How Planners and Developers Can Help Support Our Communities”

2014: LE ANN FENNEll, Max Pam Professor of Law and Herbert and Marjorie Fried Research Scholar at the University of Chicago Law School, “Co-location, Co-location, Co-location: Land Use and Housing Priorities Remapped”

Special Events and Guests
September 19, 2014: The 17th annual conference on Litigating Challenges to Land Use and Environmental Regulations, co-sponsored by VLS, will take place at the University of California-Davis School of Law.

October 3, 2014: The fifth annual Colloquium on Environmental Scholarship will offer environmental law scholars the opportunity to present their work-in-progress and get feedback from their colleagues.


April 6, 2015: The tenth annual Normans Williams Distinguished Lecture in Land Use and Planning Law will be delivered by Michael Goodkind, executive director of the Natural Law Foundation.

The DLC’s Distinguished Environmental Summer Scholars spend two weeks meeting with students and faculty and presenting lectures on their current work. The 2014 scholars were:

**John H. Knox**
Henry C. Laufman Professor of International Law at Wake Forest University School of Law and UN Independent Expert on Human Rights and the Environment

**Benjamin K. SosaCool**
Director of the Danish Center for Energy Technology at AU-Herensing, Professor of Business and Social Sciences at Aarhus University in Denmark

**Sandria B. Zellem**
Robert B. Daugherty Professor of Law at University of Nebraska College of Law