



CONSORTIUM

FOR UNDERGRADUATE LAW & JUSTICE PROGRAMS

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Introduction

2017-18 was an exciting year for the Consortium. We organized a pre-conference on Undergraduate Legal Studies in conjunction with the Law and Society Association Meeting in Toronto followed by three exciting service panels during the conference. Our blog featured many extremely creative posts written by both students and faculty. We shared teaching resources and program building advice on our website and during our workshop.

We also had some board changes this year. After Renee Cramer's (Drake University) tenure as President, I was elected as the President. Paul Collins (UMASS Amherst) has assumed the role of Vice President and Shannon Portillo (University of Kansas) continues to be our Communications Director and Aaron Lorenz (Ramapo College) remains as the Treasurer. We welcome Professors Haley Duschinski (Ohio University) and Raul Sanchez-Urribarri (La Trobe University) to the board. We thank Renee Cramer for her wonderful work as President and for continuing to be a part of the executive. We also thank Joanna Grisinger (Northwestern) for her service on the Board.

Naomi Becerra (University of Kansas) takes over as the CULJP Communications Assistant. Naomi has

designed this wonderful newsletter with the help of our outgoing communications assistant Frankie Hernandez whom we thank for his wonderful work.

As we begin this academic year and plan the activities of the consortium, I want to recall something Austin Sarat mentioned at our pre-conference this year (via skype). Even as we meet annually in conferences to primarily present our research, most of our academic lives are actually spent on teaching. The Consortium's role is, thus, to continually re-center academic conversations to that crucial role we play as teachers and continually value that work in different ways. In that spirit, I invite you to join the consortium, nominate students and faculty for our annual awards, invite members to reach out with ideas, join our panels at LSA (and other conferences) and also contribute to our exciting blog. More than ever, the purpose of law and justice programs has become crucial in the times we live in.

Jinee Lokaneeta

Board Changes



Jinee Lokaneeta

President

Drew University

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Jinee Lokaneeta is Director of the Law, Justice, and Society Program at Drew University. Her areas of interest include Law and Violence, Political Theory, and Interdisciplinary Legal Studies. She is the author of *Transnational Torture: Law, Violence, and State Power in the United States and India* (New York University Press, 2011). She is currently completing a book manuscript titled *The Truth Machines: Policing, Violence, and Scientific Interrogations in India* (Under Contract with the University of Michigan Press) that theorizes the relationship between state power and legal violence by focusing on the intersection of law, science and policing through a study of forensic techniques. She teaches courses titled Law, Justice, and Society, Global Feminisms, Policing and the Rule of Law; and Torture: Pain, Body and Truth



Paul Collins

Vice-President

University of Massachusetts, Amherst

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Paul Collins is Director and Professor of Legal Studies at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. His research and teaching interests focus on understanding the democratic nature of the judiciary, interdisciplinary approaches to legal decision making, and social movement litigation. He has published more than two dozen academic articles and he is the author of *Friends of the Supreme Court: Interest Groups and Judicial Decision Making* (Oxford University Press) and coauthor of *Supreme Court Confirmation Hearings and Constitutional Change* (Cambridge University Press). His courses include Introduction to Legal Studies, Judges and Judging, and Law and Social Activism.



Raul Sanchez Urribarri

Board Member

La Trobe University

R.SanchezU@LaTrobe.edu.au

Raul Sanchez Urribarri is a Lecturer (Assistant Professor) in Crime, Justice and Legal Studies at the Department of Social Inquiry, La Trobe University (Melbourne). He received a PhD in Political Science from the University of South Carolina in 2010, with a dissertation focused on the political relevance of informal connections between judges and politicians in Venezuela. His research focuses on democracy, rule of law and comparative judicial studies, with an emphasis on Latin America and Venezuela in particular. Dr Sanchez Urribarri's work has been published in academic journals – such as *The Journal of Politics*, *Law and Social Inquiry* and the *Annual Review of Law and Social Sciences* – edited volumes and other outlets, including *The Conversation* and a variety of academic blogs. As part of his teaching activities, he coordinates undergraduate and post-graduate research training units, including a research-oriented study tour course to New Orleans and the Mississippi Delta. He is passionate about international education and the opportunities it offers for teaching, learning and scholarship.

Board Changes Cont.



Haley Duschinski

Board Member
Ohio University
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Haley Duschinski is Associate Professor of Anthropology and Director of the Center for Law, Justice & Culture at Ohio University (CLJC). In 2018, she became the Graduate Director of CLJC's new M.A. program in Law, Justice & Culture. She is a legal and political anthropologist with research specializations in violence, war, and power; law and society; human rights, militarization and impunity; and law and memory in Kashmir. She is co-editor of the recently published edited volume *Resisting Occupation in Kashmir* (University of Pennsylvania Press). She is a founding member of the Critical Kashmir Studies scholarly collective and co-editor of a recent special issue of *Journal of Legal Pluralism and Unofficial Law* on comparative studies of occupation. Her research has appeared in journals such as *Political and Legal Anthropology Review*, *Cultural Studies*, *Race & Class*, *Memory Studies*, *Anthropology Today*, *Interventions*, and *Anthropological Quarterly*. She has carried out extensive ethnographic fieldwork in Kashmir as well as comparative research on law and conflict in Cambodia and Northern Ireland. She is the recipient of Ohio University's highest teaching award, the Presidential Teacher Award (2014), as well as the Grasselli Brown Teaching Award (2009) and the University Professor Award (2007). She received her Ph.D. in Anthropology from Harvard University in 2004.



Naomi Becerra

Communications Assistant
University of Kansas
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Naomi Becerra is a sophomore in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences at the University of Kansas. Naomi is double majoring in Political Science and Public Administration. Along with serving as the new Communications Assistant for the CULJP, Naomi is an Undergraduate Research Assistant, serving on Project Diane (with Profs. Alesha Doan & Shannon Portillo, exploring the integration of women into Special Forces in the U.S. Army), and now has plans to launch her own research project.

Why Join the CULJP?

- Offers reimbursements for faculty traveling to Law & Society
- Awards a Teaching Prize and an Undergraduate Research Prize
- Offers reimbursements for faculty traveling to Law, Culture, and Humanities
- Access to syllabi database
- Opportunities to network with other CULJP members

Law and Society Association



This year we organized a full day pre-conference CULJP workshop before the LSA that was attended by approximately two dozen CULJP and LSA members.

The first session was a provocative discussion recalling the history of the Consortium since 2003, the conception of legal studies and the relationship between the Consortium, LSA and Law, and Culture and Humanities. The conversation between Austin Sarat (Amherst College), Jon Gould (American

University), Renee Cramer (Drake University), and Jinee Lokaneeta (Drew University) focused on the need to further strengthen the relationships between the associations, the place of undergraduate legal studies in professional meetings and questions of autonomy and priorities.

A version of the panel was held in LSA as well where, in addition to Cramer, Gould and Lokaneeta, Valerie Hans (Cornell University) and Michael McCann (University of Washington) shared their perspectives on liberal arts, legal studies and professional associations. The second part of the pre-conference workshop focused on curricular and program building aspects of legal studies programs. Shannon Portillo (University of Kansas) and Renee Cramer led the discussions on the strengths and challenges of legal studies programs whether they are autonomous, placed within a department or a school and participants spent some time doing problem solving exercises in small groups that were shared with the group.

The final element of the workshop was a sharing of syllabi and assignments and led to an open discussion on pedagogy and curriculum development. Undergraduate students from CULJP programs also presented and shared insights on the student experience in undergraduate courses and research.

CULJP also organized two service panels in the LSA this year.

Interdisciplinary legal studies education is a unique and vibrant field - and applying for jobs within it is different than applying for positions within more standard disciplinary homes at research-focused institutions. To explore these differences, CULJP hosted a fantastic panel featuring Amelie Barras (York University), Jean Carmalt (John Jay College of Criminal Justice), Paul Collins (University of Massachusetts Amherst), Renee Cramer (Drake University), and Aaron Lorenz (Ramapo College). The panelists reflected on, and offered advice for, the job market in law and society for teaching-focused institutions. Among other topics, the panelists and audience members discussed issues of diversity, cover letters, teaching portfolios, the "job talk" and teaching demonstration, and the intangible things hiring institutions look for when evaluating candidates. This panel was capped off by a great question and answer session with a very engaged audience. The Consortium plans to hold similar panels at future Law and Society Association meetings.

Undergraduate research is an increasing part of the faculty experience. CULJP hosted a service panel featuring faculty and students discussing how they have included undergraduates in their research processes. We are incredibly thankful to Danielle Rudes (George Mason University), Monica Williams (Weber State University), Madelaine Tesori (Student, Weber State University), Ruth Alminas (Fort Lewis College), Shannon Portillo (University of Kansas), Sydney Bannister (Student, University of Kansas). Students reflected on their experiences with research, and faculty discussed strategies for blending a research based pedagogy with their full slate of faculty responsibilities. Many of the faculty and students featured on our panel have shared their insights on our CULJP Blog, and we invite you to continue the conversation on pedagogy there.

Award Opportunities

2019 Teaching Innovation Award

Recognition for Excellence and Innovation in Interdisciplinary Legal Studies Teaching

Deadline: November 30, 2018

The Consortium of Undergraduate Law & Justice Programs invites submissions for the 2019 Teaching Innovation Award in Interdisciplinary legal studies. Many types of pedagogical innovations could be recognized by this award, including classroom exercises, original videos, paper assignments, creative approaches to topics or readings, case studies, etc. Any faculty or graduate student instructor of a member CULJP institution may nominate themselves or another instructor by submitting a letter of support explaining the teaching innovation, a description of the course(s) for which the innovation is used, and the contribution it makes to interdisciplinary legal studies. The nominator should also include the original teaching materials when possible, and any evidence of impact (assessment).

The winner will receive a cash award of \$250. An honorable mention may also be awarded.

Send all nominations to our award committee members: Haley Duschinski (duschins@ohio.edu) and Raul Sanchez Urribarri (R.SanchezU@LaTrobe.edu.au)

2019 Best Undergraduate Student Paper Award in Interdisciplinary Legal Studies

Recognition for Research and Writing Accomplishments of Undergraduate Students

Deadline: November 30, 2018

The Consortium of Undergraduate Law & Justice Programs invites submissions for the 2019 undergraduate student paper award in interdisciplinary legal studies. Papers should have been completed while the nominee was an undergraduate student at a CULJP member institution, within the last 12 months (between 29 November 2017 and 29 November 2018). Papers may be based on primary research, secondary research, archival/historical research, or theoretical approaches and may use any appropriate social research methods (qualitative, quantitative, historical, etc.). Original scholarly literature reviews are also eligible. Short assignment papers (such as reaction papers, article summaries, thought papers, short essays) are not eligible for consideration for the award.

Nominations of undergraduate papers can be made only by faculty or graduate student mentors/instructors at CULJP member institutions; no self-nominations from undergraduate students are accepted.

The student winner will receive a cash award of \$100. The nominating mentor will also receive a \$100 cash award for his/her mentoring; the CULJP expects that the mentor will continue to advise the winning student through the publication process. An honorable mention may also be awarded.

Send all nominations to our award committee members: Haly Duschinski (duschins@ohio.edu) and Raul Sanchez Urribarri (R.SanchezU@LaTrobe.edu.au)

Recent Blog Posts

Research Intensive Capstone Course- Shannon Portillo

Shannon Portillo writes about a capstone course offered at the University of Kansas where students study current research questions. This capstone course was a central element of the first graduating class of Law and Society at the University of Kansas.

Conducting Undergraduate Research - Sydney Bannister

Sydney Bannister discusses her experiences conducting and participating in undergraduate research at the University of Kansas, Sydney embarked on her own research project under the guidance of Shannon Portillo and PhD student Nicole Humphrey.

Mentor Teaching/Learning is Positive and Effective - Whitney Johnson

Whitney Johnson explains the importance of learning through mentorship which she experienced in her Law and Society capstone class under the mentorship of Shannon Portillo. Hands on learning played a central role in the mentorship of Whitney Johnson

Middle-Aged Men Muddled in Middle Management - Collin D. Cox

Collin D. Cox provides analysis and research that he conducted in his capstone course at the University of Kansas under mentorship of Shannon Portillo about the jurisdiction of sergeants in Northeast Kansas.

Interested in Reading the Blog Posts?

Visit the CULJP website at <https://www.culjp.com/blog> to finish these blog posts and find more!

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Get involved! Write a blog post, post a job announcement, or share a call for papers. If you're interested in posting something on our website or writing a blog post for the CULJP blog, please reach out to Communications Director Shannon Portillo at sportillo@ku.edu