

# MARINE & ENVIRONMENTAL LAW INSTITUTE

## Maritime Law, Law of the Sea, Environmental Law, Ocean & Coastal Governance, Climate Law, Indigenous Rights

The Schulich School of Law at Dalhousie University, with its' location in the vibrant port city of Halifax, is internationally recognized for excellence in marine and environmental law teaching and research.

### Teaching

Our flagship program, the **Marine & Environmental Law Program (MELP)** is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2024. It has provided JD and post-graduate students (LLM and PhD) with one of the most extensive academic course offerings in these two fields in the world since 1974. With 19 full and part-time faculty members currently teaching in the Program, students have a unique opportunity to learn about public and private law practice in marine, maritime (including shipping) and environmental law taught from domestic and international perspectives. JD students wishing to specialize in these fields have the option of obtaining a **certificate of specialization** in either **Marine** and/or **Environmental Law** while completing the three-year JD degree. The MELP specializations are managed by the Associate Director, Associate Professor Sara Ross.

The Schulich School of Law is also home to the Health Law Institute and the Law & Technology Institute. Concentrations are offered in the fields of aboriginal and Indigenous law, business law, criminal justice law, health law and policy, law & technology, international law, and public law. In addition to the required courses in the MELP specialization students are also encouraged to undertake research/courses in these and other fields in the JD curriculum. This allows students to engage with emerging and cross-cutting topics such as biotechnology, environment and health, ethics, indigenous rights, animal rights, food law, international trade law, and human rights.

### Research

The long history of **research excellence** at the Schulich School of Law from the MELAW faculty was formally recognized by the Dalhousie Board of Governors in 2004 with the creation of the **Marine & Environmental Law Institute (MELAW)**. The Institute will be celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2024. The Institute, which is housed in the Law School, carries out research capacity-building and consultancy activities and also directs the MELP academic specialization. The current Director is Professor Sara L Seck, Yogis and Keddy Chair in Human Rights Law. In addition to their scholarly research and publication activities, MELAW faculty and associates carry out research projects and provide advisory services to agencies of the United Nations, international non-governmental organizations and regional organizations as well as assisting government departments, private sector institutions, and non-governmental organizations in Canada and internationally.

MELAW is home to the editorial office of the **Ocean Yearbook (OYB)**. The OYB is a major international interdisciplinary annual, devoted to ocean affairs published in collaboration with the International Ocean Institute (IOI). MELP law students have the chance to gain experience working as research assistants on the Institute's research projects and workshops and assisting with editing the OYB.

### Collaboration & Community

MELAW supports student collaboration in addressing environmental issues through the Environmental Law Students' Society (ELSS) and the East Coast Environmental Law Association (ECEL), a nongovernmental organization dedicated to environmental law education, law reform, and community support. MELAW encourages interdisciplinary collaborations within the Dalhousie University community including the School for Resource and Environmental Studies (SRES), the Marine Affairs Program (MAP), the College of Sustainability (COS), the International Development Studies Program (IDS), the Ocean Frontier Institute (OFI), the Ocean Tracking Network (OTN) led by the Department of Oceanography and the Institute for Ocean Research Enterprise (IORE). MELAW also participates in national collaborations such as, the *OceanCanada* Partnership. International linkages include: the Global Forum on Oceans, the IUCN Academy of Environmental Law, the Australia Canada Ocean Research Network (ACORN) as well as numerous other partner institutions in Asia, the Caribbean, Europe, South America, Africa, and the United States.



**Marine & Environmental Law Institute**, Schulich School of Law, Dalhousie University

Weldon Law Building, 6061 University Avenue, P.O. Box 15000, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 4R2

Tel: +1 902.494.1988 • Fax: +1 902.494.1316 • Email: [melaw@dal.ca](mailto:melaw@dal.ca) • Website: [www.dal.ca/law/melaw](http://www.dal.ca/law/melaw)

## Faculty Associates

**Olabisi D. Akinkugbe**, LLB, LLM, PhD, Purdy Crawford Chair in Business Law – international trade & investment law, int'l law and development, international human rights law; and int'l courts

**Jamie Baxter**, BArtsSc, MA, JD, LLM, JSD – property, land use, Aboriginal law, law and society, professional responsibility

**Camille Cameron**, KC, JD, LLM – Climate Litigation

**Aldo Chircop**, NP, LLD, LLM, JSD, co-editor *OYB* – coastal and ocean law & policy, maritime law, law of the sea, international environmental law, coastal management, marine protected areas, Arctic law & policy

**Patrícia Galvão Ferreira**, JD, LLM, SJD – transnational climate law & policy, international environmental law, environmental law, food law & policy, global governance

**Jodi Lazare**, BA, LLL, JD, LLM, DCL – animal law, industrial agriculture, animal rights activism, civil liberties, constitutional law, family law

**Constance MacIntosh**, BA, MA, LLB – human migration and displacement, Indigenous and Aboriginal rights, health law

**Naomi Metallic**, BA, LLB, LLL, LLM, PhD (in progress), James S. Palmer Chair in Public Policy and Law – Aboriginal law, Indigenous law, constitutional law, administrative law, human rights, international human rights

**Sherry Pictou**, BA, Bed, MA, PhD, CRC Indigenous Governance (Tier 2) – Treaty Rights, international Indigenous and human rights (gender), Indigenous land and water governance, environmental law, sustainable development goals (Indigenous and gender), decolonization and resurgence, Indigenous and small-scale fisheries

**Sara Ross**, BA, BA Hons, BCL, LLB, LLM, PhD, **MELAW Associate Director** – maritime law, cultural property law, international law, international dispute resolution, legal anthropology, urban law

**Phillip Saunders**, BA, MA, LLB – law of the sea, maritime boundaries, fisheries, high seas natural resources

**Sara L. Seck**, Bmus, Mmus, LLB, PhD, Yogis and Keddy Chair in Human Rights Law, **MELAW Director** – international environmental and human rights law, int'l sustainable development law, business and human rights, natural resource law, private international law, gender, climate change

**David L. VanderZwaag**, BA, Mdiv, JD, LLM, PhD – Arctic governance, aquaculture law & policy, international environmental law, law of the sea, international fisheries law

## Research Associates

**Aderonke Adekeye**, LLB, BL, LLM, MPhil – ocean governance, international maritime law, environmental law, maritime labour law

**Polina Baum-Talmor**, PhD, PGDip, MA, BA – Indigenous/Mi'kmaq women fishers, Artisanal fisheries, Fishing rights, people and the sea, labour, precarious employment, food in the workplace, seafarers' employment, Indigenous Ocean governance, Globalization, Shipping Industry.

**Scott Coffen-Smout**, BSc, DMA, MSc, Co-editor *OYB* – marine affairs

**Erin Dobbelsteyn**, BSc, JD, LLM, Schulich Fellow – ecological law and governance, environmental and human rights, climate change law and litigation, public and planetary health law, tort law

**Veronica Dossah**, BSc, LLB, BL, LLM – business & human rights, environmental & mining law, ocean governance, maritime law, international dispute resolution

**Cecilia Engler**, Lawyer (Chile), LLM, PhD – law of the sea, international fisheries law, aquaculture law, climate change and oceans, ecosystem -based management and the law

**Olga Koubrak**, BPHE/BA, JD, LLM, PhD – conservation law, fisheries law, law of the sea

**Keith MacMaster**, BSc, LLB, MBA, LLM, PFP, PhD – seabed mining, law of the sea, environmental liability, securities disclosure, materiality, climate finance, ESG data, natural capital

**Abdul Hafez Mahamah**, BA, LLB, LLM – energy law, international environmental law and governance, and climate change law & governance

**Adebayo Majekolagbe**, LLB, LLM, PhD – climate change law, just transition, business & human rights, impact assessment, environmental law

**Ted McDorman**, BA, LLB, LLM – law of the sea, Arctic and Southeast Asia

**Akinwumi Ogunranti**, LLB, BL, LLM – private international law, international law, business and human rights, climate, and the environment

**Tahnee Prior**, BA, MA, PhD – Arctic & Oceans governance, international law, complex systems theory, gender, Indigenous rights, human rights, climate change, global governance, global environmental governance

**Susan Rolston**, BA (Hons.), MA, Seawinds Consulting Services – marine and coastal law, policy and management; maritime transportation; polar law

**Nicole Van Lier**, BA, MA, PhD, Killiam Post-doctoral Fellow – critical human geography, legal geography, state environmental management, resource economies, Indigenous and settler colonial fisheries

## Research Fellows

**Kolawole Abiri**, LLB, BL, MLS, MICL, LLM, PhD candidate – climate change law and policy, climate litigation, energy, env'tl law, impact assessment, and international water law

**Mohamad Alikhani**, BA, LLM, PhD candidate – renewable energy law, ecological law, int'l environmental law, climate change law, ecological sustainability, marine integrated

**Kevin Berk**, BA, JD, LLM, PhD candidate – environmental, property, treaty rights

**Philip Buhler**, BA, JD, LLM, PhD candidate – admiralty and maritime law, Polar shipping regulation, regulatory theory, env'tl law

**Rufaro Emily Chikuruwo**, LLB, LLM, LLD, LLM candidate – climate constitutionalism, climate change law, indigenous rights, international env'tl & human rights law, business & human rights, ocean governance, law of the sea

**Devdatta Mukherjee**, BA, LLB (Hons), LLM, Mphil, PhD candidate – public international law, law of the sea, international environmental law, international trade law

**Loveth Ugwu Ovedje**, LLB, BL, LLM candidate – energy, natural resources, environmental law, international law, human rights, business law, climate change law, climate finance, ocean governance, maritime law

**Sixiang Peng**, LLB, LLM, PhD candidate – public international law, law of the sea, international fisheries law

**Jinho Yoo**, JD, PhD candidate – ship safety, safety regulation, maritime autonomous ships, regulatory strategy, risk governance

## Honorary Fellows

**Bill Charles**, KC, BA, LLB, LLM, Professor Emeritus – environmental area

**Brian Flemming**, CM, KC, DCL, BSc, LLB, LLM, Dip. international Law – public international law of the sea, fisheries law and policy

**Edgar Gold**, CM, AM, KC, BA, LLB, PhD, DSc, FNI, Master Mariner – law of the sea, maritime law

**Arthur J. Hanson**, OC, BSc, MSc, PhD – fisheries, oceans and sustainable dev.

**Hugh Kindred**, LLB, LLM, Professor Emeritus – maritime law, carriage of goods, international law

**Moirá L. McConnell**, BA, LLB, PhD, Professor Emerita, Co-editor *OYB*, Associate Editor *YIEL* – law of the sea, maritime labour law, environmental law, maritime law and international law

**Dawn Russell**, BA, LLB, LLM – law of the sea, maritime boundaries, high seas fishing, international fisheries law and policy, international law, corporate law

**Wendell Sanford**, BA, BEd, LLB, MPP – oceans law, maritime boundaries, Arctic

## Part-time Faculty

**Ella Dodson**, BA, JD, LLM – transportation law and policy, corporate/ commercial law, international business transactions

**Ramón Filgueira**, BSc, PhD – coastal zone management, marine spatial planning, aquaculture management

**Hannah L. Harrison**, B.S., M.S., PhD – coastal access, fisheries

**Sadira Jan**, LLB, BSc – marine law, business transactions, corporate/ commercial law

**Lisa Mitchell**, BA, LLB, MES, Executive Director ECEL – public interest environmental law

**Daniel Watt**, BA (Hons.), LLB – maritime law, energy and natural resources, and commercial litigation

## MELP Specialization Certificates

JD students can earn a certificate in either environmental or marine law, or both. For more information email us at [MELP@dal.ca](mailto:MELP@dal.ca) or check out the MELP program on our website at: [www.dal.ca/faculty/law/melaw/programs.html](http://www.dal.ca/faculty/law/melaw/programs.html)

## Contact

**Marine & Environmental Law Institute**  
**Lauri MacDougall**, Administrative Coordinator  
Tel: +1 902.494.1988  
Email: [melaw@dal.ca](mailto:melaw@dal.ca)  
MELAW: [www.dal.ca/law/melaw](http://www.dal.ca/law/melaw)