

MARINE & ENVIRONMENTAL LAW INSTITUTE

Ocean & Coastal Governance, Climate Change, Maritime Law, Law of the Sea, Environmental Assessment

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 40th anniversary this year. 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 14 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 (including shipping) and environmental law taught from domestic and international perspectives. Students wishing to specialize in these fields have the option of obtaining a **certificate of specialization** in either **Marine** or **Environmental Law** or both, while completing the three year JD degree. The MELP specializations are directed by the MELP Director, Dr. Aldo Chircop.

The Schulich School of Law also hosts two other research institutes, the Health Law Institute and the Law & Technology Institute, and offers concentrations in the fields of international law, business 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, international trade law and human rights.

Research

The long history of **research excellence** at the Schulich School of Law MELP faculty was formally recognized by the Dalhousie Board of Governors in 2004 with the creation of the **Marine & Environmental Law Institute (MELAW)**. 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 Dr. Meinhard Doelle. 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 overseas.

MELAW is also the editorial office of the **Ocean Yearbook (OYB)** and the **Journal of Environmental Law & Practice (JELP)**. The OYB is a major international interdisciplinary annual, devoted to ocean affairs published in collaboration with the International Ocean Institute (IOI). Schulich 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. JELP has served as the premier refereed legal periodical in Canadian environmental law and policy.

Collaboration and Community

MELAW supports student collaboration in addressing environmental issues through the Environmental Law Students' Society and the East Coast Environmental Law Association (eceland), a non-governmental organization dedicated to environmental law education and law reform. 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, the International Development Studies Program (IDS), the Centre for Foreign Policy Studies, 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, Coastal Zone Canada. 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 and the United States.



Members of the Marine & Environmental Law Institute

Director: Meinhard Doelle, BSc, LLB, LLM, JSD, Associate Dean, Research – envtl law, climate change, energy law

Associate Director (MELP Director): 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

Canada Research Chair (Tier 1) in Ocean Law & Governance: David VanderZwaag, BA, MDiv, JD, LLM, PhD – Arctic governance, aquaculture law & policy, law of the sea, international environmental law, international fisheries law

Moira L. McConnell, BA, LLB, PhD, Co-editor *OYB*, Assoc. Ed., *YIEL* – law of the sea, maritime labour law, environmental law, maritime law and international law (*on leave*)

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

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

Teaching Associates

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

Marc Dunning, BEng, PEng, LLM – envtl energy and natural resources law, contaminated sites, regulatory law

Lucia Fanning, BSc. (Hons.), MMM, PhD – regional ocean governance, integrated coastal and ocean management, adaptive co-management, marine piracy

Sean Forman, LLB, BES (Hons.) – natural resources law and environmental energy law, maritime law

David Henley, BBA, LLB, LLM – fisheries law, maritime law

Jessie Irving, BSc, LLB – energy, regulatory, property, envtl & natural resources law

Michael Simms, BA, LLB – oil & gas

Jamie Simpson, BSc, MSc, JD, ED ecelaw – forest ecology, forestry mgmt, climate change, envtl law, and Aboriginal law

Honorary Fellows

Bill Charles, QC, BA, LLB, LLM, Professor Emeritus – environmental area

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

Edgar Gold, CM, AM, QC, BA, LLB, PhD, FNI, Master Mariner, Adjunct Professor – 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

Christian Wiktor, LLM, MSLS, Professor Emeritus – Editor *Marine Affairs Bibliography*

Research Associates

Jay Batongbacal, BA, LLB, MMM, JSD – maritime boundaries, integrated coastal mgmt, marine envtl law, shipping seafaring

Marie-Ann Bowden, BA (Hons.), LLB, LLM, Professor Emeritus – envtl law, water law, aboriginal envtl issues & resource dev.

Mary Brooks, BOT, MBA, PhD - maritime cabotage, short sea shipping, port performance

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

Mark Covan, LLB, LLM – environmental compliance and enforcement

Robert Currie, BA, MA, LLB, LLM – international criminal law, wildlife law

Linda Duncan, BA, LLB, LLM – compliance and enforcement

David Dzidzornu, LLB, LLM – law of the sea, international environmental law

Howard Epstein, BA, LLB – land use planning

Sarah Kirby, BSc (Hons.), LLB – maritime law, carriage of goods, international law of the sea, criminalization of seafarers, ship-source oil pollution

William Lahey, BA, BA (Juris), MA, LLM – envtl legislation, regulatory governance

Norman Letalik, MA, LLB, LLM – law of the sea, maritime law & Arctic Ocean issues

Kenneth MacInnis, QC, BA, LLB, LLM – marine and environmental law, ship source oil pollution

Constance MacIntosh, BA, MA, LLB – First Nation's law

Ted McDorman, BA, LLB, LLM – Law of the Sea, Arctic and Southeast Asia

Robert Miedema, LLM – environmental law

Lisa Mitchell, BA, LLB, MES – public interest environmental law

William Moreira, BB, LLB – energy regulatory law and marine transportation

Tony Puthucherril, LLM, MPhil, PhD - climate change adaptation and sea level rise, integrated coastal zone management, water law, environmental law, nuclear law

Susan Rolston, BA (Hons.), MA, Seawinds Consulting Services – marine affairs

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

Wylie Spicer, QC, BA – maritime law

Ronda Vanderhoek, BA, LLB – regulatory law

Hugh Williamson, BSc, BEd, LLB, MBA – law of the sea, maritime security, piracy

Gilbert Winham, BA, Dip Intl Law, PhD, Professor Emeritus – international trade law

MELP Specialization Certificates

Marine Law

Required:

- Law of the Sea
- Maritime Law and Practice

Elective:

- Carriage of Goods by Sea
- Coastal Zone Management
- Fisheries Law
- Marine Environmental Protection Law
- Ocean Law & Policy
- Oil & Gas Law

Environmental Law

Required:

- Environmental Law I
- International Environmental Law

Elective:

- Business and Environmental Law
- Coastal Zone Management
- Energy Law
- Environmental Law II-Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Climate Change
- Environmental Law Placement
- Fisheries Law
- Marine Environmental Protection Law
- Oil & Gas Law
- Planning Law
- Regulatory Systems in Environmental and Health Laws
- Willms & Shier Environmental Law Moot

NOTE: not all electives are offered each year

To earn a certificate, students must take two mandatory courses plus two others from the electives list. Students may apply to the MELP Director to have a paper, which will be written in another relevant course, approved for the purpose of one of the electives in a MELP Certificate.

Examples of relevant courses are:

- Aboriginal Peoples
- Animals and the Law
- Health Care Ethics and the Law
- Health Systems: Law and Policy
- International Trade Law

Courses in MELP are taught by a combination of full and part-time faculty members, marine and environmental law and policy practitioners and visiting scholars. The extent of involvement in MELP courses by particular MELP faculty members varies each year depending on the course offerings and graduate thesis supervision needs.

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