AGENDA


University of Denver Sturm College of Law

Saturday November 10, 2012
8:00am-5:00pm, reception to follow
Ricketson Law Building, Room 165 (First Floor of Law Building)

8:00am-8:45am: REGISTRATION and breakfast

8:45am-9:00am: WELCOME

Opening Remarks—Dean Martin Katz, University of Denver Sturm College of Law

9:00am-9:45am: OPENING KEYNOTE—Sustaining Society in the Anthropocene Epoch

Nicholas A. Robinson, Pace Law School’s Gilbert and Sarah Kerlin Distinguished Professor of Environmental Law and Co-Director, Center for Environmental Legal Studies.

9:45-11:00am: PANEL 1—GLOBAL ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE AND THE RULE OF LAW

This panel will focus on an appraisal of the existing paradigms of global environmental governance and the regime developed at Rio + 20, and recommend actions for a more effective regime. The panel will also address the critical role the rule of law plays vis-à-vis international environmental law issues.

Presenter—David Aronofsky, University of Montana
Presenter—Howard Kenison, Lindquist & Vennum
Presenter—Ved P. Nanda, University of Denver
Presenter—Alice Madden, University of Colorado Denver
Chair—Ved P. Nanda

11:00-11:15am: BREAK and mid-morning snack/ coffee and tea refresher
11:15am-12:30pm  PANEL 2—SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND SUSTAINABLE GROWTH

“Sustainable development” was first proposed in Rio at the 1992 Earth Summit as an approach to continuing growth within the limits of a finite earth and has been the dominant model within the international community. This June, the international community met again in Rio on the 20th anniversary of the Earth Summit under a grand vision of redefining and retooling the sustainable development paradigm to address the approaching limits of the earth’s resources and the global environmental crisis. The Rio+20 summit came up short and has been widely criticized as stepping back, rather than forward, from the goals and agreements of the Earth Summit. This panel will discuss the current status and effectiveness of sustainable development proposals in meeting the needs of the future.

**Presenter**—Luke Danielson, Sustainable Development Strategies Group  
**Presenter**—Albin J. Gasiewski, University of Colorado Boulder  
**Presenter**—Celia Taylor, University of Denver  
**Presenter**—Anita Halvorssen, University of Denver  
**Chair**—Andrew Romanoff, iDE

12:30pm-12:45pm:  LUNCH PICK-UP IN LOBBY, return to room 165 for lunch speaker

12:45-1:30pm:  LUNCH KEYNOTE—Sustainability and Sovereignty in the 21st Century  
Stephen McCaffrey, Distinguished Professor and Scholar, University of the Pacific McGeorge School of Law.

1:30pm-1:45pm:  BREAK

1:45pm- 3:00pm:  PANEL 3—SUSTAINABILITY

At the Rio+20 summit in June, the global grassroots environmental community held the “People’s Summit” to discuss alternatives to the long dominant and arguably counterproductive “growth” models at the center of Rio+20. This panel will explore the question of whether “growth” paradigms such as sustainable development can be maintained as we approach and overshoot the limits of the finite resources of the earth—“is it too late for sustainable development?” The panel will discuss developing alternative steady-state paradigms for governing a world of “no growth or “de-growth” – both to best survive the global environmental crisis and to create a truly sustainable human existence in harmony with and within the inherent boundaries of the earth.

**Presenter**—Andrew Reid, University of Denver  
**Presenter**—Linda Sheehan, Earth Law Center  
**Presenter**—Sarah Krakoff, University of Colorado Boulder
Presenter—Laura Westra, University of Windsor
Chair—Federico Cheever, University of Denver

3:00pm-3:15pm: BREAK and mid-afternoon snack/coffee and tea refresher

3:15-4:45pm: PANEL 4—SYNTHESIS
The path to the future will undoubtedly involve both “growth” and “steady-state” paradigms and the transition from sustainable development to sustainability during the 21st Century. This panel will discuss the current state and future of global governance and the sustainable development approach in response to the global environmental crisis and the approaching limits of the earth’s natural resources. The panel will explore the path the global international community must take from where we are now to arrive at a truly sustainable world.

Presenter—Lakshman Guruswamy, University of Colorado Boulder
Presenter—Nicholas Robinson, Pace University
Presenter—Laura Westra, University of Windsor
Chair—Lakshman Guruswamy, University of Colorado Boulder

4:45pm-6:00pm: RECEPTION