Message From Dean Horace Anderson

Last Friday, the first annual Elisabeth Haub School of Law Environmental Law & Policy Hack Competition ended with a team of students from Drake Law School winning a $2,000 prize.

The innovative event was a big success, and the Drake students, Bradley Adams and Kathryn Leidahl, will be using those funds for implementing their proposal to tailor landscape ordinances to support Cedar Rapids, Iowa’s stormwater management.

The Haub Law faculty chose three teams as finalists for the competition, an environmental law and policy problem-solving event that invited students from all over the country to propose an innovative and practical response to a current environmental challenge, and awarded seed funding to support implementation of the winning concept.

Two other teams were also selected as finalists by Haub Law faculty: a University of Colorado Law School team, which proposed producing climate-friendly landscapes in Denver that promote mitigation and adaptation to climate change, and a Vermont Law School team, which proposed developing “micro pocket wetlands” in Hartford, Vermont, to mitigate the impacts of climate change.

All three finalists were impressive in their knowledge of their communities and the ways environmental law, policy and politics intersect at the local level. These proposals would bring great benefits to their communities and would be useful models for climate change mitigation in New York and Westchester County as well.

The panel of final-round judges was also very impressive: Prof. Julie Cheslik of the University of Missouri – Kansas City School of Law; Prof. Shelby Green of Haub Law; Christopher Rizzo, a Haub Law alumnus and a Litigation, Environmental Law, and Land-Use lawyer with Carter Ledyard & Milburn LLP; and Daniel Zarrilli, Chief Climate Policy Advisor and OneNYC Director, NYC Office of the Mayor.
It’s exciting to see potential real-world problems be so competently addressed by law students crafting real-world solutions. We wish the Drake students success with their plan in Cedar Rapids. I encourage all to watch a video recording of the event [here](#).

**Faculty, Staff, & School News**

On November 16, [Jill Backer](#) moderated a webcast for the NYC Bar Association entitled: *Hot practice areas post-pandemic*.

On November 7, [Professor David Cassuto](#) lectured to the Congresso De Direito Ambiental – it is the largest organization of environmental lawyers in Brazil.

[Professor Vanessa Merton](#) was a panelist in a public program, “Immigration Policy-Myths and Realities,” sponsored by Larchmont/Mamaroneck Coalition for Understanding Racism through Education, on November 12, 2020. View the program here: [https://www.facebook.com/lmcmmediacenter](https://www.facebook.com/lmcmmediacenter).

In his latest article for Forbes, [Professor Darren Rosenblum](#) writes about *Will Quotas For Women Lead To Broader Diversity?* – read [here](#).
Kudos to all who helped to make Haub Law’s first annual Elisabeth Haub School of Law Environmental Law & Policy Hack Competition a success. A team of students from Drake Law School won the first annual Competition. The students, Bradley Adams and Kathryn Leidahl, won a $2,000 prize that goes toward implementation of their proposal to tailor landscape ordinances to support Cedar Rapids, Iowa’s stormwater management. Read more here.

Click here to read the latest GreenLaw blog post from the Land Use Law Center: Novel Coronavirus Claims Implicate Age-Old Property Rights Questions.

Nominate Haub Law for a cy près award. Cy près awards are an important way to advance the interests of potential class members or honor the intentions of a deceased donor when complete dispersal of an award or trust is not feasible. Through cy près awards, litigators and judges can provide a collective, continuous benefit to the public interest. Read more here.

The U.S. Department of Energy praised Pace University and highlighted its efforts to save energy and reopen its buildings safely. Read more here.

Alumni

Lorraine Diamond ‘01 won the race for District Attorney in Montgomery County. Read more here.

Jerome Orlhac (LLM ’17) was listed in the New York Metro 2020 as a RISING STAR in Insurance Coverage, Environmental.

Christopher Rizzo ‘01 was listed in the New York Metro 2020 edition of “Super Lawyers” under Environmental Law.

Meagan R. Brillault ‘03 was listed in the New York Metro 2020 edition of “Super Lawyers” under Environmental Litigation.