



ELISABETH HAUB  
SCHOOL OF LAW

## ELISABETH HAUB SCHOOL OF LAW AT PACE UNIVERSITY NEWS WEEK OF 11/2/2020

If you have content that you would like included please email it to Jessica Dubuss at [jdubuss2@law.pace.edu](mailto:jdubuss2@law.pace.edu). Thank you!

### Faculty, Staff, & School News

The Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University has renamed its new **Representation in Mediation Clinic in honor of Amelia A. Gould**. Read more [here](#).

Three teams from the University of Colorado Law School, Drake University Law School and Vermont Law School have been chosen as finalists for the **first annual Elisabeth Haub School of Law Environmental Law & Policy Hack Competition**, an environmental law and policy problem-solving event that invites students to propose an innovative and practical response to a current environmental challenge and awards seed funding to support implementation of the winning concept. Read more [here](#).

**Evan Charkes**, who is an Adjunct Professor for Securities Regulation, spoke at a New York City Bar Association seminar, "Reg BI and Form CRS: Good Faith Implementation and Compliance Considerations," on October 26, 2020.

**Professor Bridget Crawford** will be a panelist at the University of Chicago Law School's 2020 *Legal Forum* Symposium. The Symposium, *Law for the Next Pandemic*, will take place on November 6. Professor Crawford will speak on Post-Pandemic Wills. You can learn more [here](#).

**Professor Bennett Gershman** was quoted in the article *US election: why Donald Trump can go to prison if he...* – read [here](#).

**Professor Katrina Fischer Kuh** was quoted in the article 'Everything related to the environment is at stake' – read [here](#).

Click [here](#) to see a video of the side-event for the UN that **Professor Nicholas Robinson** moderated – Strengthening Cooperation for International Environmental Law. As described in the report for the side-event: "This side-event is convened to present the expertise of distinguished scholars of international environmental law regarding options for opportune "next steps" in the progressive development of international environmental law and organization, to provide essential foundation for attaining the Sustainable Development Goals."

**Professor Nicholas Robinson** will participate in the *Asia Pacific Judicial Conference on Climate Change: Adjudication in the Time of Covid-19*. This virtual gathering will be held from December 9-11. The event is co-organized by the Asian Development Bank and the United Nations Environment Programme, with support from the Global Judicial Institute on the Environment and ClientEarth. Professor Robinson was invited to speak at the Conference on the topic Averting Pandemics and Enhancing Ecosystem Resilience: Applicable Legal Frameworks. In early October, **Professor Robinson** spoke at the conference Global Forum: Rights of Nature and the Human Right to a Healthy Environment in Dialogue on the topic of "Rights of Nature" – you can now view it [online](#).

**Professor Merrill Sobie's** *McKinney's Practice Commentaries, Family Court Act* was recently cited in [In re PINS Proc. Beekmantown Cent. Sch. Dist. v. John, No. S-XXXXX-20, 2020 WL 5950158 \(N.Y. Fam. Ct. Clinton Cnty. Oct. 2, 2020\)](#) and [In re Alison R.R., No. 530717, 2020 WL 6168369 \(N.Y. App. Div. 3d Dept. Oct. 22, 2020\)](#).

**Tiffany Zezula** will be honored by the New York State Council of Churches with the Affordable Housing and Community Development Award. The award will be presented at their annual awards and fundraising gala on December 2. Tiffany is honored because of the amazing work she has done especially as related to her "expertise in helping municipalities and faith communities work together to build strong and trusting relationships in preparation for affordable housing development to be unique and exceptional. We wish to honor you for your humane qualities and your unique skills at community building and planning which is sorely needed in the development process. You have been an invaluable partner in developing the Council of Churches "Who is My Neighbor?" seminars which were well attended and are frequently utilized as we work potential clients all over the state." The award is conferred on behalf of the Executive Committee of the New York State Council of Churches. You can learn more about the awards and gala [here](#).

**The Land Use Law Center** has posted three blog posts on the [GreenLaw Blog](#) as part of its Land Use, Human Health, and Equity Project:

- [Reframing Sustainability: Introducing the Land Use, Human Health, and Equity Project](#);
- [Planning for Public Health: A New Beginning for Land Use Law](#); and
- [The Role of Density in Combatting Climate Change and COVID-19](#).

Click [here](#) to view the **Pace Environmental Law Program publications from 2019-2020**.

## **Students**

**Olivia Brenner (JD expected '21)** recently found out her article "The Harm of Death: The Conceptualizations of Harm in End of Life Issues" was accepted for publication in the Westchester Bar Journal.

## Alumni



**Professor Bridget Crawford** hosted her annual *Tax Alumni Come (Back) to the Classroom* event on Monday, November 2. This year, the event was held via Zoom. Six alumni participants joined Professor Crawford's Federal Tax class and participated in a roundtable discussion, a Q&A with the student audience, gave concluding remarks, and even had breakout rooms where students were free to join any room they wished and move from room to room to interact further with the alumni. Students prepared for the class with a series of specific readings. As noted by Professor Crawford: "[t]he goals of the Tax Alumni Come Back to the Classroom Day are simple: showcase some of our alumni doing exciting professional work; encourage students to think about how a solid grounding in tax law and policy can be useful in any career; inspire students to connect some of what we learn in class to real issues that attorneys face every day; encourage students to think about careers in taxation in particular; connect alumni to each other." This is the fourth year that Professor Crawford has hosted the event. Alumni participants for this year's event included: **Shamik Trivedi '08**, special counsel with the IRS Office of Chief Counsel (Large Business & International) where he advises the IRS on domestic tax matters, **Michelle McCalla '07**, Director of Tax Accounting for WeWork, a leading global flexible shared space provider, **Michael Franchi '05**, Portfolio Manager at UBS Asset Management in New York, **Boris Sharapan Fabrikant '08**, Compass Real Estate, **Christiane Desrosiers '18**, Tax Associate at PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP (PwC), and **Stephanie Nachtrieb '09**, Manager in Mergers & Acquisitions, Tax for KPMG LLP.

Recently, students in Haub Law's Dannat Hall residence hall were quarantined due to positive COVID-19 cases. **The Alumni Board, led by president of the Board, Mark Meeker**, responded to an outreach by Student Services to connect with the students. Read [more](#).

**Jerry Silber '83** has been recognized by his employer, Verizon Communications, for his many pro bono efforts and "stretching beyond his core responsibilities to help achieve a greater result." Jerry is Vice-President and Deputy General Counsel at Verizon Business Group and sits on its Executive Leadership Team. Jerry also is an Adjunct Professor at Manhattanville's School of Professional Studies, where he teaches a graduate seminar on Communications Regulation & Ethics.

**Mary Chapyak '85** recently made a gift to Haub Law in memory of her dear friend and fellow law school alumna, Donna Kramer, also Class of 1985, who passed away on October 4th. Mary recalls "we met during our first week as 1Ls in 1982, became fast friends and maintained a close friendship for 35 years."



**Donna Kramer '85** passed away on Sunday, October 4 – learn more [here](#).

**Ashlea L. Palladino '09** formed a partnership with Jamie G. Leberer to form Leberer & Palladino, PLLC. This partnership will continue the practice of matrimonial and family law in the Buffalo, New York region. Leberer & Palladino, PLLC is dedicated to family law and divorce in Buffalo, New York with practice areas centering on the most pressing family-related legal issues such as child custody and visitation, prenuptial agreements, child support, spousal support, division of personal and real property, military divorce issues, and much more.

**Amarilda Brahimi, Dec. 2010** is being honored with a Sole Practitioner Award by Long Island Business News In The Law.

**Brian W. Kennedy '12** was named to the 2020 New York Metro Super Lawyers Rising Stars list. Brian W. Kennedy is an associate at Forchelli Deegan Terrana LLP and concentrates his practice in Land Use and Zoning. Congratulations to Brian!

Chartwell Law is pleased to announce that **Nicholas R. Switach '13** been named to the 2020 New York Metro Rising Stars® List for workers' compensation. Mr. Switach concentrates his practice on workers' compensation defense, representing large self-insured & municipal employers, professional employer organizations, and construction companies through all aspects of litigation. He also deals with, and has written articles about, general municipal law including Section 207(a) and 207(c) claims. Mr. Switach is an associate attorney in the firm's New York, NY office.

**Lydia Rainey '18** has been hired as an associate attorney with Wesley Clark and Peshkin. She previously served as an associate at Woods Oviatt Gilman LLP.

**Jeffrey Deskovic's '19** article DNA Nice Start but No Cure-All, was featured in a special *Looking Back* section on The Davis Vanguard – read [here](#).

**SJD graduate, Tarini Mehta '19**, is currently the featured Haub Alumni of the Month. She was recently appointed as an Assistant Professor and Assistant Dean of Student Affairs at the O. P. Jindal Global University's School of Environment and Sustainability. Read her profile [here](#).