

Jessica A. Bacher

Land Use Law Center, Elisabeth Haub School of Law, Pace University



Jessica Bacher is the Executive Director of the Land Use Law Center at Pace Law. Established in 1993, the Land Use Law Center is dedicated to fostering the development of sustainable communities and regions through the promotion of innovative land use strategies and dispute resolution techniques. As the Executive Director, Ms. Bacher's responsibilities include development and implementation of projects relating to local land use practice, distressed property remediation, transit-oriented development, sustainable communities, land use responses to sea level rise, and renewable energy siting, as well as providing strategic assistance to numerous municipalities. Additionally, Ms. Bacher serves as a trainer for the Center's award-winning Land Use Leadership Alliance Training Program that has educated over 2,500 local leaders in land use strategies, consensus building, and regional stewardship. At Pace Law, Ms. Bacher serves as an adjunct professor, teaching Land Use Law, Sustainable Development Survey, and the Advanced Land Use and Sustainable Development Seminar. She also administers the Center's academic programs and guides student research. In addition, she is a Clinic Lecturer at Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, where she manages the School's Land Use Clinic. Ms. Bacher authors regular land use features in New York and national publications and has edited numerous small books in the fields of Land Use and Real Estate Law, including the American Bar Association book, *Vacant and Problem Properties: A Guide to Legal Strategies and Remedies*. She also presents at regional and national conferences and served on the New York State Sea Level Rise Task Force Legal Work Group. Ms. Bacher was selected by the American Bar Association to receive the Jefferson B. Fordham Award, an award presented to a young practitioner who has shown great promise through her contributions to the field. Ms. Bacher is the immediate past chair of the Land Use Planning & Zoning Committee for the American Bar Association's Section of State and Local Government Law and chairs its Distressed Properties Sub-Committee. She is also the Section Secretary. She currently serves on the NYS Climate Smart Communities Standards Committee. Ms. Bacher received her J.D. *summa cum laude* from Pace Law in 2003, along with a certificate in Environmental Law.