



Introduction and Keynote Address Biographies and Abstracts

Wednesday 9 June 2021

Professor Karen Hulme joined the School of Law at Essex in 2001, and has particular interests in environmental law, the laws of armed conflict and environmental rights. Karen has a range of scholarly publications covering topics such as armed conflict, security, environmental human rights and specific weapons, as well as focusing on issues related to climate change, biodiversity and oceans. One area of interest is that of litter, including marine litter, and Karen is currently working on a funded project on the topic of litter laws in England. Karen has worked with the Essex Business and Human Rights Project (EBHR) on a number of reports and consultancies on the extractives industry, including legislation amendments and human rights impact monitoring, and, in particular, on issues of environmental law and environmental human rights. In 2013 EBHR was commissioned to advise on necessary amendments to Afghanistan's new Mining Code and Regulations for Global Witness (A Shaky Foundation) and in 2013 was commissioned by Amnesty International, writing an opinion for the OECD National Contact Point examining the legal standards and human right responsibilities of the mining company licensed to undertake the Phulbari coal mining project (published on the NCP website).

In 2013 EBHR was commissioned by Amnesty International (Netherlands) to advise on necessary amendments to Senegal's (Gold) Mining Code in order to ensure compliance with their ECOWAS obligations. Karen also collaborates with an NGO, The Conflict and Environment Observatory (CEOS) [formerly the Toxic Remnants of War Project], as an adviser on humanitarian, environmental and human rights issues in eliminating battlefield TRW. In 2009 Karen contributed, alongside the International Committee for the Red Cross, to the report for UNEP on Protecting the Environment during Armed Conflict: An Inventory and Analysis of International Law. Karen is also Chair of the IUCN WCEL Specialist Group on Peace, Security and Conflict.

Karen's teaching interests include public international law, environmental law, international law of armed conflict, human rights and the environment, and the law of evidence. Karen's book, based on her doctoral thesis, entitled, *Worn Torn Environment: Interpreting the Legal Threshold* won the American Society of International Law Francis Lieber Prize for 2004 for outstanding scholarship in the field of the law of armed conflict.

Professor James R. May is a Distinguished Professor of Law, Founder of the Global Environmental Rights Institute, and co-Founder of the Dignity Rights Project at Widener University. May is the President and Founder of Dignity Rights International, and a Board member of the Normandy Chair for Peace, the Earth Law Centre, and Delaware GreenWatch.

He serves as the Special Representative on Harmony with Nature for the International Council of Environmental Law, and chairs the American Bar Association Section on Environment, Energy and Resources' Task Force on Environmental Justice. He is an inductee of the American College of Environmental Lawyers, the Delaware Valley Environmental Inn of Court, the National Judicial College, and Phi Kappa Phi.

May has published widely in Environmental Human Rights, including *Encyclopedia of Human Rights and the Environment* (2020), *Environmental Rights: The Development of Standards* (2019), *Judicial Handbook on Environmental Constitutionalism* (3d. Ed. 2019), *Judicial Handbook on Environmental Constitutionalism: Compendium of Cases* (2d ed. 2019), *Implementing Environmental Constitutionalism* (2018), *The Future of Sustainable Energy*, (2016), *New Frontiers in Environmental Constitutionalism* (2016), *Environmental Constitutionalism* (2016), *Global Environmental Constitutionalism* (Cambridge 2015), and *Principles of Constitutional Environmental Law* (2011).

He has received numerous awards and recognitions, including from the Sierra Club, American Canoe Association, and Pace University Haub School of Law, and LawDragon as one of the world's most influential environmental lawyers.

Professor Stephen Turner has research interests in international environmental law, climate change, global environmental governance and corporate responsibility. He has written extensively on the subject of human rights and the environment. He has authored two books that focus on 'rights-based' approaches approaches to environmental governance: *'A Substantive Environmental Right'* (Kluwer Law International, 2009) and *'A Global Environmental Right'* (Earthscan /Routledge, 2014). Between 2015 and 2019 he led the 'Standards in Environmental Rights Project' which resulted in the publication of a book that analysed the different types of 'standards' that are evolving within the field of environmental rights: Turner, Shelton, Razzaque, McIntyre and May (Eds) *'Environmental Rights - The Development of Standards'* (CUP, 2019). At the University of Essex he teaches international environmental law, corporate law and is the co-director of postgraduate research.