



**THE
HUMAN
RIGHTS
INSTITUTE**

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FROM THE DIRECTORS...



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ALEXANDRA MOORE
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General Literature and Rhetoric
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The Human Rights Institute grew steadily in 2022, increasing curricular offerings, programming, high impact student internships, and transdisciplinary research.

To help guide our growth, we have adopted official by-laws and established an external advisory board. We're delighted that Amy Hyatt (BU '78, Ambassador to Palau 2015-2020 and diplomat, U.S. Department of State), Aaron Mair (BU '84, Honorary Doctorate '18, former President of the Sierra Club, current Forever Wild Campaign Director, Adirondack Council), Eric Schwartz (BU '79, former president of Refugees International, former Assistant Sec of State for Population, Refugees, and Migration), Joseph R. Slaughter (Executive Director, Institute for the Study of Human Rights, Columbia University), and Sunita Toor (Head of Human Rights, Division of Law and Criminology and the Helena Kennedy Centre for International Justice, Sheffield Hallam University) have agreed to serve and to share their passion and expertise with us. Also enriching our teaching and research are visiting scholars Audrey Golden (2022-23) and Hanna Musiol (2022-23).

Our working groups and new Human Rights Lab had several significant outcomes. The Human Rights Institute was thrilled to announce the publication of the first volume emerging from the Institute's work. We hosted a hybrid book launch for *Technologies of Human Rights Representation* (SUNY Press), edited by Alexandra Moore and James Dawes, which featured Dawes' keynote talk on "Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Human Rights." The CIRIGHTS data set, the world's largest human rights report card, under

the direction of Binghamton's David Cingranelli and Mikhail Filippov and Skip Mark (BU PhD '18) had its official launch. Our Women, Climate, Insecurity working group co-sponsored its second international conference in April in collaboration with our wonderful partners at the Helena Kennedy Centre for International Justice (Sheffield Hallam University). Moore and the Helena Kennedy Centre's Sunita Toor also introduced and edited a dossier of six essays published in *Open Global Rights* which were developed from the conference. We appreciate that platform's commitment to public access scholarship: all essays are written for a wide public audience and published simultaneously in at least two languages. The Food Justice working group members were also busy with a wide range of community-informed pedagogical and research endeavors.

We have three projects underway in the Lab, our arm dedicated to public-facing research. Working under the direction of Laura T. Murphy at Sheffield Hallam University, Binghamton undergraduates assisted with the research, publication, and presentation of a major human rights report on forced labor in the automotive supply chain. Under the direction of Moore, undergraduates are also assisting with the compilation of evidence as well as legal research to pursue accountability for human rights abuses in the rendition and detention program in the US-led War on Terror. The Far-Right Composite project continues in the second of a proposed four years of research. This year a team of four graduate students and five undergraduates, working with Moore and Diren Valayden, have made great progress: collecting, coding and mapping information on the participants in the January 6, 2021 Capitol riots and analyzing anti-democratic extremism monitoring organizations in the U.S.

Other highlights from the year were our domestic and international internships (read about our student intern experiences below), including our successful grant application with the American Civic Association to the Ross Fund to improve the ACA's intern capacity and mentoring. Through coursework, internships, and research, Binghamton students, from first years to doctoral students, are immersed in human rights work ranging from environmental justice to anti-democratic extremism to torture and forced disappearance to refugee rights to mental health and disability rights and beyond.

Many of these opportunities emerge from our partnerships. We are delighted to have our memorandum of agreement with Sheffield Hallam University extended for another five years (and counting!), and to have forged new partnerships with the Graphix Project at Yale University, the Association for Human Rights Institutes' working group on pedagogy, and the United Nations Academic Impact consortium.

As the University transitioned slowly back into in-person meetings and events over this past year, we were delighted to welcome more people to our new office space. We hope to see you there soon!

David Cingranelli and Alexandra Moore



PEOPLE

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Professor of Public Health and Nursing

Elisa Camiscioli

Associate Professor of History; Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGSS)

John Cheng

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Suzy Lee

Assistant Professor of Human Development

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Ambassador to Palau 2015-2020, U.S. Department of State

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Executive Director, Institute for the Study of Human Rights, Columbia University

Aaron Mair ('84, Honorary Doctorate '18)

Director of "Forever Adirondacks" campaign, Adirondack Council, former president of the Sierra Club

Sunita Toor

Professor and Head of Human Rights, Division of Law and Criminology and the Helena Kennedy Centre for International Justice, Sheffield Hallam University

Eric Schwartz ('79)

Former president of Refugees International, former Assistant Sec of State for Population, Refugees, and Migration

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PEOPLE

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Anne Bailey, History

Kanisha Bond, Political Science

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Diren Valayden, Human Development

Marguerite Wilson, Human Development

Leo Wilton, Human Development

Susan Wolcott Hanes, Economics

Wan Yu, Geography

Denise Yull, Human Development

Lisa Yun, English, General Literature and Rhetoric

VISITING SCHOLARS



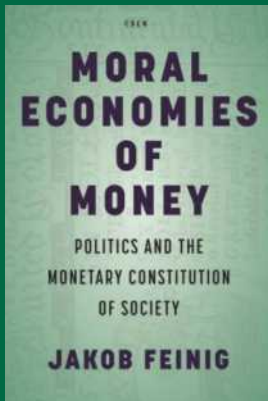
Audrey Golden is a scholar and writer who focuses on the interrelation of law, politics, and global culture. She earned her B.A. from Wesleyan University in 2006, her J.D. from Wake Forest University School of Law in 2009 where she served as Executive Editor of the Wake Forest Law Review, and her Ph.D. in English Language & Literature from the University of Virginia in 2014. She is co-editing a volume in progress with Amherst College Press on Global Indigenous Literatures and Human Rights. Audrey is also completing her first book manuscript, *Novel Repair*, and she is currently working on an oral history of women in modern music. Her work has been published in *Commonwealth Essays and Studies*; *Law, Culture and the Humanities*; *College Literature*; *Wake Forest Law Review*; *The Cambridge Companion to Human Rights and Literature*; *The Routledge Companion to Literature and Human Rights*; *Antipodes: A Global Journal of Australian/New Zealand Literature*; and *American Book Review*. In 2022, she presented work in the US and the UK, including recent research on the Sámi artist and environmental activist Maj-Doris Rimpi, the psychogeography of prisons in Northern Ireland, and women's oral histories as challenges to hegemonic narratives. In addition to working on her scholarship at Binghamton, she is also developing methodological workshops for students on state, federal, and international legal research and on broader approaches to the humanities and human rights.

VISITING SCHOLARS



Hanna Musiol holds a PhD from Northeastern University (US) and is Professor of Literature at NTNU in Norway. Her research interests include American literary studies, transmedia storytelling, and critical theory, with emphasis on migration, political ecology, and human rights. She publishes frequently on literary and transmedia aesthetics and justice, and her work has appeared in *DHQ*, *ASAP/J*, *Environment, Space, and Place*, *Technology of Human Rights Representation*, *Journal of American Studies*, and *Writing Beyond the State*. Musiol regularly co-organizes city-scale curatorial, public humanities, and civic engagement initiatives: Narrating the City in Boston, Of Borders and Travelers, *Spectral Landscapes*, or, *Resist as Forest*. She comes to Binghamton from Trondheim, where she frequently collaborates with grassroots urban storytelling initiatives such as Literature for Inclusion & Poetry without Borders. She is currently involved in several transborder projects; Narrating Sustainability, One By Walking, Environmental Storytelling, and Environmental Practices Across Borders. In addition to working on a book manuscript and several articles while in residence at the Human Rights Institute, she is also co-organizing and hosting an upcoming lecture series, Landscapes of Injustice, Landscapes of Repair, as well as contributing to several courses.

WORKING GROUPS



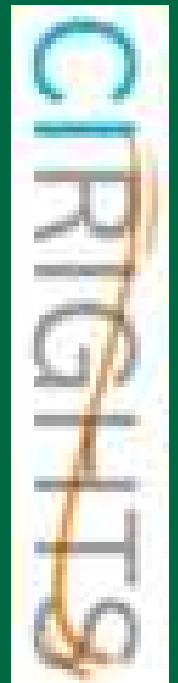
Capitalism and Human Rights

Jakob Feinig's book, *Moral Economies of Money: Politics and the Monetary Constitution of Society*, was published in October of 2022 by Stanford University Press

CIRIGHTS and Measuring Human Rights Data Project

The Human Rights Measurement team has launched the world's largest quantitative dataset on global human rights. The dataset, called CIRIGHTS, provides 72 numerical scores for the extent to which every nation on Earth respects internationally recognized human rights. The dataset provides academic researchers, nongovernmental organizations, policymakers, and others with an objective tool to better track human rights worldwide. The team also issues an annual human rights report, including a Human Rights Report Card that ranks the best and worst countries for human rights. The research team used the data to publish some journal articles and worked with students in the School of Management MS in Data Analytics to visualize patterns in the data.

The first CIRIGHTS annual report and datasets are available here:
<https://cirights.com/>



Human Rights Pedagogies

AHRI, the international association of human rights institutes, has recently formed a pedagogy working group, and we are one of the core members. We look forward to working with institutes around the world on developing innovative and transdisciplinary approaches to teaching human rights.

WORKING GROUPS

Cultural Representations of Human Rights

January 11, 2023, marks the 21st anniversary of the use of the Guantánamo Bay detention center as a prison in the War on Terror. In recognition of its ongoing abuses, the journal *Humanity* (UPENN Press) published a dossier of essays, developed, edited, and introduced by Alexandra Moore, on the role of cultural production in responding to and representing the prison's abuses. Published in the Winter 2022 issue, the dossier features remarkable essays on “The Beautiful Guantánamo” by Mansoor Adayfi and “My Guantánamo Writing Seminar” by Mohamedou Ould Slahi, two former detainees, alongside the work of scholars Kalyan Nadiminiti, Esther Whitfield, and Safiyah Rochelle which consider visual art, graphic narrative, memoir, poetry, and drama.



Moath al-Alwi
Untitled (Model Ship), 2015.
Image by Alexandra S. Moore

Moore is also co-editing a volume with Elizabeth Swanson (Babson College) on the testimony and artwork of Moath al-Alwi. The volume (under contract) has been assisted from its inception by Binghamton students Olivia Vinson and Maya Gamer (now at the University of Michigan), and it features the work of Joshua Reno (Anthropology) among other authors. The team looks forward to delivering the manuscript in spring 2023.

WORKING GROUPS

Food Justice Working Group

This transdisciplinary working group was first established and convened in the summer of 2020. Originally focused on the impact of COVID-19 on food justice, the group has continued with a wider scope of issues related to the Right to Food. It assembles faculty, students, staff, and community partners in order to create active dialogue, organize research, and advocate for rights-based socially just food policies. The working group is founded on actions that are participatory, collaborative, and inclusive of all voices.

2022-related activities for members of the group have included biweekly meetings; convening a Community Partners – Binghamton University Food Justice Project Planning Workshop; organizing a speaker's series at the nexus of food, racial, and environmental justice; public presentations; grant writing; participation on local and regional food policy coalitions; public outreach activities; academic scholarship; and course-based community-engaged learning and research experiences.



WORKING GROUPS

Food Justice Speakers and Events Series

- Begun in 2021, and continuing into 2022, the FJWG continued to organize and sponsor a series of talks at the nexus of food, racial, and environmental justice. These were in collaboration with the Sustainable Communities TAE and other University Stakeholders.
- Teresa Mares (University of Vermont) - Life on the Other Border: Farmworkers and Food Justice in Vermont
- Jenny Osman (New York City Economic Development Corporation -NYCEDC) - Food Systems Planning in NYC: The FRESH Program, Hunts Point, and More
- Ethan Tyo (Akwesasne Mohawk) -Bringing Our Seeds Home: Creating a Space for Indigenous Knowledge and Culture in Academia
- Onondaga Nation Farm Three Sisters Garden Planting Ceremony
- Onondaga Nation Farm Three Sisters Garden Harvest Celebration
- Kyle Gowen (PhD Candidate – BU Anthropology, and FJWG member) - Community-Engaged Research on Food Systems Justice in Binghamton



WORKING GROUPS

FJWG Course-Based Community-Engaged Learning and Research Experiences

- Agri Biotech: Sci & Policy (ENVI438/ENVI538) (Velardi)
- Sweet Harvests: Bees & Maples (ENVI336) (Velardi)
- Social and Bev Determ Health (ANTH572C/ANTH480R) (Brenton)

Presentations and Activities by FJWG Members

- Valerie Imbruce submitted a request for a Visiting Assistant Professor for Just and Resilient Community Food Systems for the undergraduate SOURCE project.
- Facebook Live Broadcast on Food Justice for Catholic Charities of Broome County Annual Harvest for Hunger Campaign (Brenton)
- Food Insecurity, Policy and Advocacy. Presentations to the Binghamton University Food Pantry Career Development Centralized Internship Program (CDCI), Binghamton University, Binghamton, NY (Brenton, Velardi)

Scholarships by FJWG Members

Imbruce, Valerie and Stella Yi (2023) Food Justice and Urban Change in a Historic Chinese Neighborhood. In *Eating More Asian America: A Food Studies Reader*. Second Edition. Edited by Robert Ji-Song Ku, Martin Manalansan IV, and Anita Mannur. New York: NYU Press. In Press.

Imbruce, Valerie (2022). Review of Book *Global Brooklyn: Designing Food Experiences in World Cities* by Fabio Parasecoli and Mateusz Halawa (eds.) *International Journal of Food Design* 2(7): 221-225, DOI: https://doi.org/10.1386/ijfd_00047_5

Gadhoke, Preeti, **Barrett P. Brenton**, Solomon H. Katz (Editors) (2023) *Transformations of Global Food Systems for Climate Change Resilience: Addressing Food Security, Nutrition, and Health*. Taylor & Francis/CRC Press: Abingdon, UK. In Press.

J. Mazzeo, Z. Al Abdeen Qusair, P. Gadhoke, T. Freiberg, **B. P. Brenton**, A. Sedlacek, and A. Torres (2022) A Tale of Two Cities During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Evaluating Food Insecurity in Chicago and New York City. *Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities*. July 2022.

Niles, Meredith T., **Barrett P. Brenton**, et al. (2022) A Multi-Site Analysis of the Prevalence of Food Security in the United States, before and during the COVID-19 Pandemic. *Current Developments in Nutrition*, Volume 5 (12):1-18.

WORKING GROUPS

Human Trafficking Data Project (HTDP)

The Human Trafficking Data Project is expecting data on the T-visa applications to be made available in 2023. Meanwhile, we are preparing to submit additional Freedom of Information Act requests for data on immigration applications.

Women, Climate, Insecurity

The Human Rights Institute hosted its second international conference, *Women, Climate, Insecurity*, in collaboration with the Helena Kennedy Centre for International Justice at Sheffield Hallam University (SHU) and independent scholars Vanessa Farr (South Africa) and Lourdes Peroni (Panama). The conference brought multidisciplinary academics and activists from around the world to talk about the entanglements of women, climate change and environmental disruption, and insecurity ranging from warfare to extractivist economics to declining maternal health. Our keynote speakers were Baroness Helena Kennedy QC, Lorena Aguilar (now Executive Director of Binghamton University's Kaschak Institute), and Vidhya Das (Aragamee). Moore and Sunita Toor of SHU edited a dossier of essays developed from the conference for *Open Global Rights*. The series highlights feminist approaches to understanding the impact of climate change on women as well as the role of women in addressing those impacts in their communities. Contributors bring intersectional feminist analyses of and responses to growing climate-driven insecurities and their effects on women and other marginalized populations. The introduction and six articles look historically at the inclusion of gender in international climate accords; address topics ranging from intergenerational rights to the right to reproductive health to extractivism's threat to a just, sustainable peace; and examine closely the effects and responses to climate change's impact on women in specific local contexts.



LAB PROJECTS

Far-Right Composite Project

During the last year, members of the Far Right Composite working group mapped the New York State participants of the January 6 Capitol riots. From the court cases of those arrested following the riots, we are analyzing the rhetorical practices of participants in relation to their on and offline communities. Using ArcGIS, we are discovering communities of interest which will serve as areas for future investigation. The next step is to examine these three clusters to determine the local histories and political identities that might have influenced Capitol rioters' outlook. Our goal is to create a digital story map of January 6 participants from New York State, and eventually to include arrested participants nationally. By analyzing those who participated in the riots, we can gain a better understanding of how an anti-democratic political culture is emerging in the United States.

In addition, we have compiled a database of far right monitoring organizations. This data shows us that organizations that monitor the evolution of political extremism in the United States tend to use relatively few and similar categories and concepts to frame threats to democracy. We intend to publish our findings as a public facing report that raises questions about those concepts and categories next semester. In the last year, our research team has grown to include graduate students from Political Science, Community Research and Action, History, English, and the MS in Human Rights in addition to our regular interlocutors and PIs. In 2022-2023, we are hosting a lecture series on "Futures of Democracy" with the support of a seed grant from Citizenship, Rights, and Cultural Belonging. Peter Miller of the Brennan Center for Justice spoke first about redistricting in New York State. The series will continue with three more speakers in spring 2023.

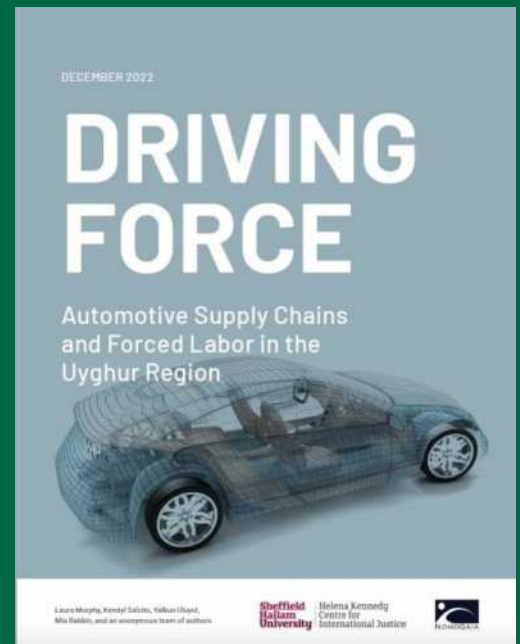
GTMO Accountability Project (GAP)

The GAP project is currently working with former Guantánamo guard, Steve Wood, and attorney Rita Radostitz on research to support legal accountability for the abuses at the prison and within the larger network of prisons and black sites used in the War on Terror. Six undergraduate students are currently assisting with this project. In addition to conducting historical and legal research, students also speak directly with legal counsel and former detainees.

LAB PROJECTS

Forced Labor in the Supply Chain

Sheffield Hallam University's Helena Kennedy Centre forced labor research group has spent the last three years conducting research on the repression of the Uyghur people in western China. Binghamton students have worked as research assistants on projects regarding forced labor in solar panels and apparel supply chains. Most recently, Mia Rabkin, a senior majoring in Political Science and minoring in Genocide and Mass Atrocity Prevention, worked with the SHU team to investigate the automotive supply chain to identify Uyghur forced labor and the way the products of those human rights violations make their way into international markets. Mia is a co-author on the final report and was able to co-present the report's findings before US Customs agents responsible for stopping forced labor made shipments into the US as well as to the Coalition to End Forced Labour in the Uyghur Region, which included representatives from more than a dozen major human and labor rights organizations, including Human Rights Watch, AFL-CIO, Workers Rights Consortium, Uyghur Human Rights Project, Solidarity Center, and Global Labor Justice (GLJ-ILRF). Juniors Leah Wardlaw and Johanna Seppala (Political Science) have worked with the SHU team throughout their time at Binghamton. They are currently collaborating on creating a series of briefs that provide insights for business, legislators, consumers, and other stakeholders about the crisis in the Uyghur Region and the international supply chains that bring forced labor made products to international markets.



EVENTS

March 25

“Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Human Rights”

James Dawes, DeWitt Wallace Professor of English, Macalester College

March 28

“I had a good name before’: Asylum Stories and Patients’ Rights in New York State”

Organized and hosted by Anne-Caroline Sieffert (Romance Languages)


In the early 2000s, walking the overgrown cemetery of Willard Asylum, with its anonymous, numbered markers, one would have never known more than 5,000 patients were interred on the grounds of the institution, which is now abandoned. In a sense, though, this process of loss of memorialization is echoed in the complaint of a Willard patient—“*I had a good name before*, but it is sullied now, incomplete, and forgotten.” Between familial shame, a focus on the illness rather than the person, and, in some cases, abuses, mental health patients are often made voiceless, especially when they become synonymous with their illness, and their larger personal stories disappear. Michel Foucault remarks that in an effort to *verbalize* the pathological, the 19th century gave birth to the asylum as a place where silence, surveillance, and all-powerful doctors completely alienated and invisibilized patients. What would it mean then to give voice to those patients—to give them back a (good) name? This panel examined how psychiatry dehumanized patients and offers a re-consideration of the history of mental illness in the context of patients’ lives and rights in New York State.

MAR. 28TH 6:00-7:30 PM
Zoom Link: <https://tinyurl.com/3sa5ab53>

ALLEGORICAL NOVEL, AMERICAN IMPRESSIONISM, AND THE CULTURAL IMAGINATION OF MENTAL ILLNESS
CONTACT: romance@binghamton.edu

STORIES OF THE MENTAL ILLNESS, HISTORY, AND CULTURAL IMAGINATION OF MENTAL ILLNESS
THEATRE ARTS

'I HAD A GOOD NAME BEFORE'



ASYLUM STORIES AND PATIENTS' RIGHTS IN NEW YORK STATE
Organized and Moderated by Dr. Anne-Caroline Sieffert, Romance Languages

This panel, borne out of Dr. AC Sieffert's class, "IT'S ALIVE: Science and Madness in Pop Culture," examines how psychiatry dehumanized patients and offers a re-consideration of the history of mental illness in the context of patients' lives and rights in New York State.

Dr. Peter Statsny, a patients' rights advocate and psychiatrist, is the author of the seminal *The Lives They Left Behind*, which looks at the content of abandoned suitcases found at Willard Asylum in 1995 and attempts to reconstruct and thus re-humanize some of the patients of the institution.

Actress, director, writer, and educator Elizabeth Mozer is an associate professor in the Theater Department of Binghamton University and the author of a one-woman play *The Asylum Project* and of the play *Castle on the Hill*, both based on stories of Binghamton Asylum patients.

Dr Peter Statsny, a patients’ rights advocate and psychiatrist, is the author of the seminal *The Lives They Left Behind*, which looks at the content of abandoned suitcases found at Willard Asylum in 1995 and attempts to reconstruct and thus re-humanize some of the patients of the institution.

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EVENTS

April 28-29, 2022

Women, Climate, Insecurity Conference

Co-organized by Alexandra S. Moore, Sunita Toor, Vanessa Farr, and Lourdes Peroni

**Women
Climate
& Insecurity**

Conference Date:
28-29 April, 2022

Registration
Deadline:
April 1st, 2022

Website:
<https://go.shu.ac.uk/womenclimateinsecurity>

Co-Hosted By:

HRI
Human Rights Institute
Sheffield Hallam University
UK

ECS
Environmental Research South
University of East London
East Africa

HRI
Human Rights Institute
Sheffield Hallam University
UK

KEYNOTES

Baroness Helena Kennedy QC
Helena Kennedy QC is one of the UK's most distinguished lawyers. She has practised at the Bar for over 40 years in the field of criminal law and has conducted many of the leading cases in those years, including the *Saboteur* (Sheep Range), the *Irishmen* (hunting trial), the *Dunford Four* Appeal, the European Union Sub-committee on Justice Issues, Michael Anthony Egan's case, the bombing of the *Irish* Embassy, the *Shahid* (heroin) bank plot, and the *Novartis* bank plot. She has championed law reform for women, especially relating to sexual and domestic violence and developed the *Salmon* of *Baroness* Women's systems in the British courts. She has chaired the British Council and the UK Human Genetics Commission. She has been a member of the House of Lords for over 20 years, where she joins the European Union Sub-committee on Justice Issues. She is chair of Justice, the British arm of the International Commission of Jurists, and is the chair of the *Baroness* Foundation. She has recently taken over as the new Director of the International Bar Association's Human Rights Institute.

Lorena Aguilar, International Consultant and Regional Director, International Cooperation and Research, ECLAC (Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean)
Lorena Aguilar is a global leader passionate about gender equality, human rights, inclusion, and sustainable development, with over three decades providing strategic contributions to national and international policies. Leading inclusive collaboration with government counterparts, UN agencies, international organisations, and civil society through research, advocacy, equitable, sustainable development, she has held experience in more than 30 countries across Latin America, the Caribbean, Eastern Europe, Africa, and Asia. Lorena Aguilar also served as Vice-Chancellor of *Cono Sur*. She has been a pioneer in the creation of influential international gender networks such as the Network of Women Ministers and Leaders of the Movement (NWLME) and the Global Gender and Climate Alliance (GGCA). She has authored numerous publications on gender, sustainable development, disaster risk reduction, forests, water, health and environment, and is an engaging speaker at international conferences, congresses and other high-level events.

Vidhya Das, Agragames
Vidhya Das, through Agragames, has been working, since over 25 years, in the areas of policy, advisory, socio-economic and human rights of the tribal people, natural resource management, forest and non-forest education, awareness generation and skill development involving tribal people's participation and mobilisation. She is fighting for the rights and empowerment of some of the most disadvantaged, tribal communities residing in the areas of Kolahali, Bulaga, Komatu, Rayagada districts of Odisha. Agragames is known for its unconditional stand for the rights and justice of the tribal, Adivasi and other underprivileged and neglected communities. Das is recognised for her numerous books and publications. She has written extensively on tribal socio-economic issues in local and national newspapers and social science journals to draw national and international attention to the injustices against tribal people. Through the work of Agragames, a strong line of leadership within the Adivasi community has been created. The village became self-reliant with the application of inquiry, leading, sustainable and low cost technologies, market linkage. For over twenty five years Vidhya Das has directed her energy and efforts so as to enable the tribal and rural women and kids to attain better lives and livelihoods with dignity.

Featured Keynote Speakers:

- Baroness Helena Kennedy
- Lorena Aguilar
- Vidhya Das

HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTE
SPEAKER SERIES
THE FUTURES OF AMERICAN DEMOCRACY

PETER MILLER
RESEARCHER AT THE BRENNAN
CENTER FOR JUSTICE

**REDRAWING THE EMPIRE
STATE:**
Politics and Institutional
Competition in the 2020
Redistricting Process

THURSDAY, OCT. 27
6:30 P.M. | IASH CONFERENCE ROOM (LN 1106)
Light refreshments will be served

Co-sponsored by the Human Rights Institute and
Citizenship, Rights and Cultural Belonging TAE

October 27, 2022

Peter Miller, "Redrawing the Empire State"

<https://www.brennancenter.org/experts/peter-miller>

Futures of Democracy Lecture Series

Co-sponsored by the CRCB TAE

HRI also co-sponsored events on the Black Radical Tradition, Witness to Injustice and Indigenous People's Day, and the Harriet Tubman Center Lecture Series – Rethinking the Future: Lessons from the Covid Era.

INTERNSHIPS

Student Internship Placements

American Civic Association, Binghamton NY

- Legal and social services, community engagement, events

Broome County Public Defender's Office, Binghamton NY

- Legal services

CHOW/Greater Good Grocery, Binghamton NY

- Food security, marketing, IT, community outreach

Forced Labour Lab, Helena Kennedy Centre, Sheffield Hallam University, Sheffield UK

- Forced labor and supply chain research

Human Rights Quarterly, Cincinnati OH

- Editorial

Journey's End Refugee Services (JERS), Binghamton NY

- Legal services

The Refugee Hub, Sheffield Hallam University, Sheffield UK

- Legal services

Fall 2022 Internship Reflections

Grace Henderson, JERS

When I reflect on the internship, I value how each tough task or moment provided me with a valuable lesson. Even the emotional intensity of the work, which could be draining, felt so necessary and preparatory. My greatest joys were developing relationships with clients, case debriefs with our senior attorney, becoming familiar with asylum laws and applications, and learning so much about country conditions for a range of places, including Haiti, Guatemala, Brazil, DRC, and the Congo.

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Doris Turkel, JERS

[T]his experience has given me extremely valuable skills in synthesizing personal testimonies to write compelling legal narratives and interacting with clients from different backgrounds. I am curious how [the attorneys] handle processing so much painful information every day, as even doing research and listening to clients speak twice a week is sometimes very emotional. The internship also motivated me to learn more languages, especially to become more competent in Spanish. Although translators were always readily available, phrases were sometimes lost in translation, and the use of a translator decreased the intimacy between the attorney and the client. In whatever I do, I would like to be able to speak directly with my clients.

Olivia Vinson, JERS

[The] attorneys at the office repeatedly showed me how to put compassion and empathy into practice in the workplace, whether it be checking in with clients or adding some appropriate comedic relief. Not only did they make clients feel comfortable, but they also made us feel comfortable integrating into a heavy environment. One thing I appreciated about the internship was the openness with which everyone discussed their cases. I felt like the attorneys were very transparent with the process, showing us that this work wasn't always easy and giving us realistic insight into what a job in immigration might look like. We saw the victories along the way, but we also saw the parts that were frustrating when clients weren't participating or things got lost in the mail. We saw the sadness and the reality of having to give bad news to a client you have been working with for years.

Mia Rabkin, SHU's Forced Labour Lab

I have learned more professional skills than I can count, from writing government briefs to Panjiva, to supply chain auditing, to conducting a media campaign, to copy editing, and to academic report writing... December 6th at 5:00 am EST the *New York Times* released "Global Car Supply Chains Entangled with Abuses in Xinjiang Report Says" which highlighted the findings in our report. I never imagined being a coauthor for a report that was featured in the *NY Times* as an undergraduate student.

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