



2012-2013 WORKSHOPS

All at Emory unless noted

- **Sept. 14-15, 2012:**
Vulnerabilities and Identities: An Uncomfortable Conversation
- **Oct. 19-20, 2012:**
Corporate Rights versus Children's Interests (at UBC)
- **Feb. 22-23, 2013:**
Contract as "Public Law" at the Intersection of Globalization and Privatization
- **April 5-6, 2013:**
Vulnerability and Labor
- **June 2013:**
Comparative Perspectives on Privatization (in Sweden)

SJD CANDIDATE UPDATES

Josephine Ndagire:

(Makerere University, Uganda)

Josephine received the Max Plank Society doctoral scholarship for conducting research at the Max Plank Institute for Foreign and International Criminal Law in Germany. She also will spend time at the Institute of Public Law, University of Tartu in Estonia.



Joining Josephine this year is Zahara Nampewo:

(Makerere University, Uganda)

Zahara is a feminist lawyer from Uganda. Her research involves a socio-legal analysis of marriage and the family and law's role in constructing women's sexuality and morality.



Jane Larson Papers To Join FLT Archives at Emory Law

By Vanessa King

Professor Jane E. Larson, the Voss-Bascom Professor of Law at the University of Wisconsin and a leading feminist legal scholar, died Dec. 24, in Madison, Wisconsin.

Larson's family and friends contacted the Feminism and Legal Theory Project at Emory Law to see whether the MacMillan Law Library was interested in archiving her papers.

The library agreed, anticipating Larson's papers will be a resource for those interested in researching the history of feminist legal theory. Also in the archives are Martha Albertson Fineman's papers and Catherine Roraback's papers relating to reproductive rights and women's history.



Professor Jane E. Larson died Dec. 24. The Hugh F. MacMillan Law Library will archive her papers.

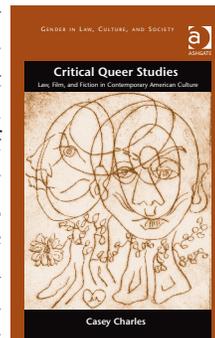
Much of Larson's scholarship concerns feminist legal theory and women's legal history. Her published work includes a much-cited 1993 *Columbia Law Review* article on the development and decline of the tort of seduction, "Women Understand So Little, They Call My Good Nature 'Deceit': A Feminist Rethinking of Seduction." She later co-wrote *Hard Bargains: The Politics of Sex* with Linda Hirschman (Oxford University Press, 1999).

She was a co-author of the historians' amicus brief in the reproductive privacy case *Planned Parenthood of Southeastern Washington v. Casey* (1992) in which the U.S. Supreme Court ultimately affirmed the core holdings of *Roe v. Wade*.

Critical Queer Studies First Book in New Gender in Law, Culture and Society Series

Critical Queer Studies, written by Casey Charles, examines contemporary films and documentaries that dramatize the intersection of law and queer life, analyzing the effects of legal doctrines—jury selection, unwanted sexual advance, negligence, hate crimes, and gay marriage—on the production and reception of queer film and fiction. Exploring the intersection of these discourses by discussing internationally known American films, the book demonstrates how the law maintains its hold over the queer subject through promoting certain ideological fictions and conversely how film and literature draw upon the material realities of queer legal status to dramatize conflicts between law and the marginalized subject.

The Gender in Law, Culture and Society series published by Ashgate, will address key issues of theoretical debates related to gender, culture and the law. The series will be edited by Martha Albertson Fineman.



SOCIAL MEDIA

The VHC Initiative has launched a **Facebook** page and **Twitter** feed. Stay connected with upcoming events, news and updates and other opportunities.

- www.facebook.com/VulnerabilityAndTheHumanCondition
- twitter.com/VHCInitiative

FLT Visiting Scholars Expanding: A Look at the 2011-2012 Class

- Sarah Stephens 04C: August 2011 to 2013** (*Attorney, Atlanta, USA*) Sarah clerked for the late Judge G. Ernest Tidwell 54L in U.S. District Court, Northern District of Georgia, and Chief Judge William B. Traxler Jr. at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 4th Circuit. She is researching the relationship between women in the workforce, economic stabilization, and the valuation of women across cultures.


- Wang Xinyu: January to December 2012** (*China University of Political Science and Law, Beijing China*) An assistant professor of law at China University of Political Science and Law, her research focuses on the impact of feminist legal theory on gender equality, particularly the ways that gender equality theories are integrated into the legal system.


- Margunn Bjørnholt: Jan. 16–March 3, 2012** (*Nordic Women's University, Norway*) A sociologist and researcher, affiliated with the Nordic Women's University in Norway, her academic interests and research cover a wide range of topics, from alternative financial institutions, cultural heritage and flexible working arrangements.


- Conor O'Mahony: Jan. 18–29, 2012** (*University College Cork, Ireland*) A lecturer in constitutional law and child law, he specializes in issues surrounding constitutional rights in the areas of family law, child law and education law, with a broader interest in constitutional theory and constitutional interpretation.


- Seyed Masoud Noori: Jan. 20 2012–August 2013** (*Former Faculty Member Center for Human Rights Studies Mofid University, Iran*) A member of Academic Council of Center for Human Rights Studies (and a member of Council Law Clinic), Seyed is working with Professor Martha Albertson Fineman at Emory Law and Professor Vincent Cornell, director of Emory's Middle Eastern and Islamic studies. He will collaborate with Professor Abdullahi An-Na'im, co-teaching his spring seminar on Human Rights in Context and developing a course in comparative law in the fall. He also will work with Professor Barbara Bennett Woodhouse on issues relating to children's rights.


- Alexandra Timmer: Feb. 2-March 3, 2012** (*Human Rights Center of Ghent University, Belgium*) Under the supervision of Professor Eva Brems, Alexandra is working on a project funded by the European Research Council, titled "Strengthening the European Court of Human Rights: More Accountability through Better Legal Reasoning." Alexandra came to Emory together with Lourdes Peroni. Their joint research explores the ways in


- which the ECtHR uses vulnerability reasoning.
- Lourdes Peroni: Feb. 2–March 3, 2012** (*Human Rights Center of Ghent University, Belgium*) Lourdes received her degree of abogada (J.D.-equivalent) from the National University of Asuncion's Law School and her LLM from Harvard Law School. Her research deals with issues of equality, discrimination and recognition in the case law of the European Court of Human Rights with a focus on the concerns of ethnic and religious minorities.


- Carter Dillard 99L: March 30–April 9, 2012** (*The Animal Legal Defense Fund, USA*) Director of litigation for the Animal Legal Defense Fund and formerly on the faculty at Loyola University New Orleans College of Law as a Westerfield Fellow, he specializes in reproductive rights, (specifically the right to have children) and its limits, as well as the implications that right has for the children born, society and the nonhuman world.


- Claire Murray: April 2–20, 2012** (*University College Cork, Ireland*) A lecturer in law at University College Cork in Ireland, her research interrogates the contribution of feminist theories of rights to the development of modern rights-based mental health law. Her research makes a unique contribution to international discourse on the limitations of rights-based mental health law and the possibilities for re-conceptualizing rights in this field.


- JaeWon Kim: April 6, 2012** (*Sungkyunkwan Law School, Korea*) A professor of law, he teaches Law & Society, Legal Ethics, Disability Law and Comparative Law. JaeWon is also the director of the Korea Program at Harvard Law School Project on Disability.


- Zu Boyuan: September 2012 to September 2013** (*China University of Political Science and Law, Beijing, China*) A PhD candidate at China University of Political Science and Law, she received her master's degree in administrative law (concentrated on sports law) from CUPL in 2011. Her focus is on women's social welfare and administrative law.


- Jessica Dixon Weaver: Nov. 7–21, 2012** (*Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law, USA*) An assistant professor at Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law in Dallas, she teaches in the areas of family and children and the law, as well as professional responsibility. Her research is primarily in the areas of child abuse and neglect, child welfare reform, family and race and intersectional feminism.



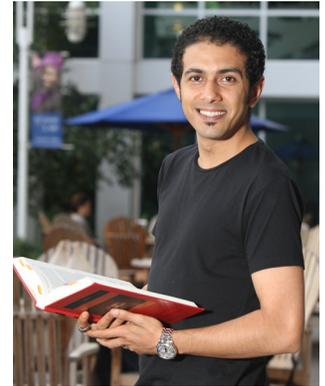
Emory Graduates First LLM in Vulnerability

Bandar Bakhaswin 12L is a lecturer in international private law at King Abdul-Aziz University, Saudi Arabia, and the first recipient of Emory Law's LLM with a concentration in vulnerability and the human condition.

Bandar wrote of his experience: "I have learned a lot and explored many interesting things in my LLM concentration in vulnerability and the human condition. The program opened my eyes to new ways to look at the relationship of responsibility between the state and its institutions and the individual. I am a lecturer in international private law and interested in examining international family law from the

conflict of laws perspective.

"I have worked under the supervision of professors Martha Fineman and Barbara Woodhouse. They are amazing people to work with and very sophisticated experts in Law. The program gave me the opportunity to meet and get to know many academic scholars and many interesting people. I was amazed with the quality of courses they offer and I enjoyed the series of conferences and workshops held by the Vulnerability and the Human Condition Initiative. I am honored to be a member of this great community."



Bandar Bakhaswin 12L

VHC STUDENT GROUP UPDATE

The Vulnerability and the Human Condition Initiative Student Advisory Board is committed to furthering the goals of the Vulnerability and Human Condition Initiative. The Board seeks to enrich the Emory Law community by creating opportunities for fostering relationships between and among faculty and students. This spring, the VHC Student Advisory Board held two events. In early March, the students held a dinner for first-year law students at which Professor Ani Satz spoke. In late March, the board organized a student workshop on the subject of Vulnerability in the 21st Century, featuring the work of Emory Law students on concepts related to vulnerability. Presenters explored how the vulnerability analysis shifts and augments the conventional legal framework and discussed the meanings of vulnerability and resilience and how they can be incorporated into legal analysis. The topics ranged widely and led to rich conversation on animal research, gender equality in corporations, environmental regulation, organ donation, tort liability, religious freedom, and economic sanctions. The Student Advisory Board seeks to establish this celebration of student scholarship as an annual event.

VHC Initiative Postdoctoral Fellow Program Updates

- **Stu Marvel: September 2012 to 2014** (*Osgoode Hall Law School of York University, Toronto*): Stu will be the 2012-2014 Feminism and Legal Theory Project postdoctoral fellow also working with the Vulnerability & Human Condition Initiative. She served as chair of the Osgoode Graduate Law Student Association from 2009-2010 and was invited as a PECANS visiting scholar to the Centre for Law, Gender and Sexuality at Kent Law School in Canterbury, England, in 2011. Stu graduated from the University of East Anglia with an MA in gender analysis for international development before receiving her LLM at Osgoode Hall. Previously, she was a communications liaison at the Korean National Commission for UNESCO in South Korea and served as gender advisor to the Ministry of Women in The Gambia.

Now beginning its sixth year, the postdoctoral fellowship program allows the fellow opportunities to focus on research and writing as well as teaching courses throughout the university.
- **Katie Oliviero: September 2010 to 2012** (*PhD in Women's Studies, UCLA*): Katie received a 2012 American Council of Learned Societies and Mellon Foundation New Faculty Fellows Award. She will be joining the University of Colorado, Boulder's Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies Program as a visiting assistant professor. She will be teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in QLGBT, migration and transnational feminist studies, as well as completing her book, *The Ambivalent Life of Vulnerability in 21st Century Conservative Politics*.



2012-2013 WORKSHOP RECAPS

- **Structuring Resilience • Dec. 2-3, 2011:** This workshop developed and explored the institutional and political conditions necessary to generate resilience, as well as the state's role in structuring those institutions and conditions.
- **Privatization and Social Responsibility • Feb. 17-18, 2012:** This workshop explored the diverse modes of privatization from national and cross-national perspectives.
- **Vulnerability in the 21st Century Legal Scholarship • March 23, 2012:** This workshop was a collaboration with the VHC Student Advisory Board.
- **Human Use of Animals: An Uncomfortable Conversation • March 30-31, 2012:** The workshop explored issues surrounding human use of animals through the lens of vulnerability and resilience, examining the legal, social, and cultural responses to human use of animals.

Xia Li On Feminism, Feminist Legal Theory in China

Xia Li, professor of law at Shandong University and director of the Center for The Study of Civil and Commercial Case Law, was a visiting scholar during the 2011-2012 year. She is translating feminist legal theory articles into Chinese. Her report on feminist legal theory in China follows:

Western feminism has had a profound influence in China since modernity, principally reflected in the inception of feminist political science, feminist literature, feminist sociology and feminist jurisprudence. This has spurred an active group of scholars focused on women's legal rights in contemporary law and science community of China. Jointly they are advocating that society should seek to achieve substantive equality between women and men and prioritize the development of women's rights.

There is no doubt that the structure and system of state are completely designed in accordance with the intention of males. In politics, this has caused a shift resulting in a feminist-backed call for the transformation of China's existing structure to create a larger space for more women to engage with these issues and enjoy equal rights with men in every aspect.

So far, feminist theory in China stays at the introduction of Western feminism and has not formed a systematic theory or school yet.

At present, the feminist legal theory in China mainly embodies constitutional law, electoral law, marriage law, women's rights and interests' protection law, labor law, criminal law and other administrative regulations.



From left: Skeehan 13L, Grapel 13L and Kang 13L

Emory Law Students Receive VHC/FLT Scholarship to Study In Ireland for Summer

- **Ilan Grapel 13L:** I will be working at the Transitional Justice Institute, which researches the application of law in conflict-afflicted regions. My project will focus on gender theory in conflict resolution. Prior to law school, I served as a soldier in the Israel Defense Forces and volunteered as a civilian with human rights NGOs in Israel.
- **Jason H. Kang 13L:** Prior to law school, I worked with at-risk children and youth in Washington, D.C. I have continued working on issues concerning at-risk youth in the Barton Clinic at Emory Law School. This summer, I will be working on a project for UNICEF UK with the Centre for Children's Rights at Queen's University-Belfast.
- **Katie Skeehan 13L:** Throughout college and a brief exposure to the working world, I developed a passion for human rights. Since coming to Emory, I have continued to pursue and broaden this interest through involvement in VHC. This summer, I will be working in the Office of the Lord Chief Justice on issues of family law, religion and rights.

Vulnerability Events Abroad

- **In Birmingham, UK: Roundtable Discussion on Vulnerability, Justice and the Responsive State, Summer 2012:** Birmingham Law School and the Institute of Advanced Studies at Birmingham are hosting a one-day seminar discussion with Professor Martha Albertson Fineman on the subject of "Vulnerability, Justice and the Responsive State" on July 14.
- **At Keele University, UK: Seminar on Vulnerability and Equality:** Martha will present a paper on her work on July 17. The visit is sponsored by the law school.
- **In Oslo, Norway: Vulnerability in the Nordic States, The Nordic Women's University:** A workshop in Oslo, Norway, in August, co-organized by the research group Law and Vulnerabilities, Faculty of Law, Lund University, and the research group Rights, Individuals, Culture and Society, Faculty of Law, University of Oslo. Vulnerability and the Nordic States will be discussed. The Nordic Women's University has launched a project, led by research sociologist Margunn Bjørnholt with the aim of exploring the vulnerability approach. Bjørnholt visited the Vulnerability and the Human Condition Initiative, January through March 2012.



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