Fourth Annual Fordham International & Comparative Urban Law Conference

July 17th & 18th 2017

Sponsored by:
Urban Law Center
University of Cape Town
UN-HABITAT

#ICULC2017
About the Conference

The International & Comparative Urban Law Conference, sponsored by the Fordham Urban Law Center, The University of Cape Town (UCT), and UN-Habitat is gathering scholars at UCT for its fourth global conversation about the field of urban law. This year’s conference will have an emphasis on the role of law in the New Urban Agenda adopted this past October by the United Nations at the Habitat III Conference in Quito. In particular, the Conference seeks to investigate legal tools to advance the New Urban Agenda in a manner that is democratic, sustainable and equitable.

THE URBAN LAW CENTER THANKS

the following individuals for their valuable work in organizing the conference: Dean Penelope Andrews, Gianluca Crispi and Wanda Ward. The Center also thanks, Robert Yasharian of Fordham Law School, Sheryl Ronnie of University of Cape Town and Shirley Brown for their support with conference materials and logistics.
Fourth Annual International & Comparative Urban Law Conference
Faculty of Law, University of Cape Town
Wilfred & Jules Kramer Law Building, Level 5 | Middle Campus
Rondebosch

MONDAY, July 17th

8:45 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.  Welcome Remarks
Dean Penelope Andrews (University of Cape Town); Nestor Davidson (Fordham
University School of Law); Representative from Cape Town Mayor’s Office

9:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.  Plenary I | Urban Structure and Bureaucracy
Location: Oliver Tambo Moot Court, Level 5
Moderator: Nestor Davidson

1.  Noah Kazis (Law Clerk, United States Court of Appeal for the Third Circuit, United States)
   “American Unicameralism: The Structure of Local Legislatures”

2.  Archimedes Muzenda (Research Associate, African Urban Institute, Zimbabwe)
   “Legal Ambiguity and Symbolic Structures: Nature and Scope of Post-2000 Local
   Government Reform in Zimbabwe”

3.  Nadav Shoked (Professor, Associate Professor, Northwestern Pritzker Law School, United
   States)
   “Urban Law in the Suburbs”

   Fifteen Minute Tea Break

10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  Plenary II | Law, Land and Geography
Location: Oliver Tambo Moot Court, Level 5
Moderator: Nadav Shoked

1.  Stephen Berriesford (Associate Director, Pegasys Global, South Africa)
   “Reforming Urban Laws in Africa: A Practical Guide”

2.  Anel du Plessis (Professor, North-West University, South Africa)
   “The Judiciary’s Role in Shaping the Urban Spaces We Want”

3.  Tshilidzi Ratshitanga (Ph.D. Candidate, University of Delaware, United States)
   “Changing South Africa’s Patterns of Urban Development in Pursuit of Integrated and
   Integrated Socio-Economic Development”
Ten Minute Break

12:10 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.  Breakout I

(A) NUA and Local Constitutions

Location: Classroom 5B, Level 5
Moderator: Thomas Coggin

1. Amy Cahn (Staff Attorney, Director of Garden Justice Legal Initiative, The Public Interest Law Center, United States)
   “YOU CAN’T COMMON WHAT YOU CAN’T SEE: Towards a Restorative Polycentrism in the Governance of Our Cities”

2. Heidi Li Feldman (Professor of Law, Associate Professor of Philosophy, Georgetown University Law Center, United States)
   “How U.S. Cities Might Race to the Top: Cities as Civil Rights Meccas”

(B) Housing and Short-Term Rentals

Location: Classroom 5C, Level 5
Moderator: Daniel Kiel

1. Kristen Barnes (Associate Professor, Akron Law School, United States)
   “Housing and Mortgage Law Reform in Spain”

2. Rebecca Leshinsky (Senior Lecturer, RMIT University, Australia)
   “The Connected Comparative Regulatory Universe of Short Term Rentals”

Lunch: 1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

2:30 p.m. – 3:20 p.m.

Plenary III | Eviction, Occupation and Eminent Domain

Location: Oliver Tambo Moot Court, Level 5
Moderator: Marius Pieterse

   “Legal Challenges to the Application of the New Urban Agenda to Israeli Settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territories”

2. Brian Edward Ray (Professor of Law, Cleveland-Marshall School of Law, United States)
   “Anti-Land Invasion Units and South Africa’s Third Generation Eviction Cases”

Twenty-five Minute Afternoon Tea Break
Plenary IV | Justiciability and Cities

Location: Oliver Tambo Moot Court, Level 5
Moderator: Stephen Berrisford

1. Valerio Lubello (Researcher with grant at Bocconi University, Italy)
   “Balancing Rights in the New Urban Mobility Paradigm: The Law of the Connected Mobility Services”

2. Omer Kimhi (Associate Professor, Haifa University School of Law, Israel)
   “It Ain’t Nothing but a Watchdog (Suit): An Empirical and Legal Analysis of Taxpayer Suits in the Local Sphere”

3. Stuart Denoon-Stevens (Junior Lecturer, University of the Free State, South Africa)
   “Translating Normative Concern into Law: An Exploration within the Field of Land Development Regulation”

TUESDAY, July 18th

8:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.  Plenary V | Right to the City

Location: Oliver Tambo Moot Court, Level 5
Moderator: Nestor Davidson

1. Thomas Coggin (SJD Candidate, Fordham University School of Law, United States)
   “Law and the New Urban Agenda: A role for the right to the city”

2. Maria Mousmouti (Lecturer in Law, Institute of Advanced Legal Studies, School of Advanced Study, University of London, England)
   “Implementing the Human Rights Commitments in the NUA: Pure Rhetoric or an Opportunity for Rights-Friendly Reform of Urban Legislation”

3. Marius Pieterse (Professor, School of Law, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa)
   “Enforceable Rights to the City, Sustainable Urban Service Provision and the Law: The South African Experience”

Ten Minute Break
10:10 a.m. – 11:25 a.m.  **Breakout II**

**(A) Local and International Law**

**Location:** Classroom 5B, Level 5  
**Moderator:** Omer Kimhi

1. Na Fei (*SJD Candidate, Tulane University Law School, United States*)  
“The Active Role of the Local in the International Order”

2. Chiara Feliziani (*Professor, University of Macerata, Italy*)  
“The New Urban Agenda and the ‘New’ European Public Procurement Law: Convergences or Divergences”

3. Daniel Kiel (*Associate Professor, Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law, University of Memphis, United States*)  
“The Choice-as-Remedy-Fallacy- A Comparative Analysis of the Use of School Choice to Remedy Disparate Access to Quality Education”

**(B) Crime**

**Location:** Classroom 5C, Level 5  
**Moderator:** Rebecca Leshinsky

1. Derica Lambrechts (*Senior Lecturer, Department of Political Science, Stellenbosch University*)  
“The Ability of the State, at the Level of Local Government, to Maintain Public Order and Security Regulation within its Territory: the Case of the City of Cape Town”

2. S. David Mitchell (*Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Ruth L. Hulston Professor of Law, School of Law, University of Missouri, United States*)  
“The Impact of the Criminalized Citizen on the NUA“

3. Steven L. Nelson (*Assistant Professor, University of Memphis, United States*)  
“Evaluating the U.S.’s School-to-Prison Pipeline in Light of its Failure to Implement International Treaties”

4. Giacomo Pailli (*Research Fellow, School of Law, University of Florence, Italy*) & Alessandro Simoni (*Associate Professor, School of Law, University of Florence, Italy*)  
“Begging, Police Harassment and Academic Activism: An Experiment in Florence”

**Fifteen Minute Tea break**
11:40 a.m. – 12:55 p.m. **Plenary VI | Environment**

**Location:** Oliver Tambo Moot Court, Level 5  
**Moderator:** Gilberto Vargas

1. Chien-yu Liu (*SJD Candidate, Georgetown University Law Center, United States*)  
   “Lessons from Post-Natural Disasters Shelter Policy”

2. Safira De La Sala (*Ph.D. Candidate, Faculty of Architecture and Town Planning, Technion – Israel Institute of Technology, Faculty of Architecture and Town Planning, Haifa University, Israel*)  
   “When Climate Change Meets Latin American Urban Law”

3. Sayuri Moodliar (*International Lawyer, Johannesburg, South Africa*)  
   “The Role of Cities in Global Environmental Governance”

1:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Closing Remarks**

Gianluca Crispi (*U.N.Habitat*)

Stephen Berrisford (Pegasys Global)
**Participant Biographies**

**Kristen Barnes** is an Associate Professor at Akron Law. She teaches Property, Real Estate Finance, Real Estate Development Law, Land Use Planning, International Human Rights, and Comparative Law. She received her B.A. in Political Science from Vassar College, J.D. from Harvard Law School, and Ph.D. in literature from Duke University. Prior to joining Akron Law in fall 2010, Professor Barnes taught at Northwestern University as an Adjunct Professor where she designed and taught courses on French cinema, African cinema, post-colonial film, documentary, and revolutionary film. She also was a Visiting Associate Professor of Law at Chicago-Kent College of Law where she taught Immigration Law and Race and Law. Before entering academia, Professor Barnes practiced commercial real estate law with the firm Seyfarth Shaw LLP. She is a frequent presenter at symposia and workshops.

**Stephen Berrisford** is an associate director at Pegasys Global, based in Cape Town. Prior to that he ran his own consultancy for seventeen years. He began his career working in the South African public sector, at city and national government levels, through the political transition of the 1990s. From 1996 to 2000 he headed the national government unit responsible for the implementation of the first post-apartheid land use legislation, the Development Facilitation Act of 1995. Stephen’s work focuses on legal and policy solutions to the challenges of sustainable urban development in African cities. He identifies the legislative interventions that best fit with the available implementation and compliance capacity, while still delivering on the desired policy objectives. Stephen works at the nexus between regulatory and financial interventions, within the urban context, seeking the solutions that will be effective within the applicable legal and institutional frameworks.

**Amy Laura Cahn** is an environmental and food justice attorney. Between 2011 and 2017, Amy Laura was founding director of the Garden Justice Legal Initiative (GJLI) at the Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia, using law and organizing, policy advocacy, and education to support historically disinvested communities to promote community land and food sovereignty in their Philadelphia neighborhoods. While at the Law Center, Amy Laura served as legal counsel to residents of the Eastwick, an environmental justice floodplain community and the largest urban renewal project in history, and launched www.GroundedinPhilly.org

**Thomas Coggin** is a doctoral candidate and fellow at the Urban Law Center, Fordham University. He holds a BA LLB LLM from the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, where prior to joining Fordham he was a member of faculty at the law school. His research interests are in the fields of law, rights, and the urban environment. His doctoral project at Fordham seeks to draw out a jurisprudence of the city through a right to the city-based analysis of judicial reasoning in South Africa, the European Court of Human Rights, and the US. He is the editor of the Urban Law Lab, a collaborative research project which adopts a critical approach in understanding the relationship between law, rights, and the urban environment, and is the joint global coordinator of the International Research Group on Law & Urban Space.

**Nestor Davidson**'s teaching and scholarship focus on property, land use, local government law, transactional lawyering in the public-private context, and affordable housing law and policy. He has served as the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs since 2014, with responsibility for Fordham Law School’s curriculum and teaching mission. In 2012, he founded the Urban Law Center, which focuses broadly on the intersection of law and urban phenomena in the United States and globally.
Professor Davidson practiced with the firm of Latham and Watkins, focusing on commercial real estate and affordable housing, and served as Special Counsel and Principal Deputy General Counsel at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Professor Davidson earned his AB from Harvard College and his JD from Columbia Law School. After law school, he clerked for Judge David S. Tatel of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit and Justice David H. Souter of the Supreme Court of the United States.

Stuart Denoon-Stevens is a professional planner, a junior lecturer at the University of the Free State, and a researcher focusing on municipal land management, with a particular emphasis on pro-poor approaches. Some of his larger projects include co-authoring the Background Report on the Spatial Economy for the National Spatial Development Framework as well as the National Spatial Development Report Background Report Synthesis document. He has also produced a variety of chapters, reports and papers on the topic of land use management for various journals and organisations.

Safira De La Sala is a Brazilian lawyer. PhD Candidate in Urban Planning at the Technion – Israel Institute of Technology, where she researches property rights and climate change policies. Master in Housing at the Institute for Technological Research of the State of Sao Paulo (IPT, Brazil). Specialist in Urban Management Tools for Climate Change at the Institute for Housing and Urban Development (IHS, NL). Between 2012 and 2014 served as Representative for Latin America and the Caribbean at the Youth Advisory Board of UN-HABITAT. Her research interests include local policies for climate change adaptation, comparative studies on planning law and property rights, and the environmental influences on property rights.

Anél du Plessis (BA Law, LLB, LLM, LLD) is Professor of Law at the North-West University (NWU), South Africa. She heads the LLM programme in Environmental Law and Governance as well as the subject group for Public Law. Anél lectures at the undergraduate and post-graduate levels in environmental law and local government law. By 2017 she has supervised / co-supervised a total of 32 post-graduate students with 9 students in progress. She is an established researcher and has more than 40 accredited publications. Her research focuses on a combination of environmental-, local government and different aspects of human rights law and governance. The most recent of her books is: “Environmental Law and Local Government in South Africa” (2015) (edited volume). The most recent of the research projects she is heading is a three-year engagement (2016-2018) with Humboldt University in Berlin, sponsored by the German Alexander von Humboldt Stiftung, with the focus on “Safe and Sustainable Cities”.

Dr Sherif A. Elgebeily is the director of The Centre for the Study of International Peace and Security and co-chair of the International Law and Policy in Africa Network. He is the author of The Rule of Law in the United Nations Security Council Decision-making Process (Routledge, 2017) and was the 2016 International Rule of Law Visiting Fellow of the Bingham Centre for the Rule of Law (UK). Sherif has previously held university teaching posts in the UK, Egypt, and Hong Kong, has written frequently for both media and academic outlets, and has presented his research internationally at numerous conferences.

He has experience co-drafting Human Rights and other reports for the Iraq Team of the United Nations Department of Political Affairs in New York, defending human rights with the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights in Egypt, drafting Space Policy for the Enterprise and Industry Directorate-General of the European Commission in Brussels, and researching media law at the Child Law Centre, University of Pretoria. He is contributor to the Oxford International Organisations database, book reviewer for Cambridge University Press (Law), and Member of the Advisory Board of the peer-reviewed Westminster Law Review. His research interests include international peace and...
security, democracy and the rule of law, the work of the
UN Security Council, international criminal law,
comparative constitutional law, and international human
rights law.

**Na Fei** is an SJD candidate at Tulane University Law School, interested in local
government law, administrative law and
citizenship. Admitted to New York Bar in 2015 but only visited New York for
twice. Loved road trips when not driving.

**Heidi Li Feldman** is Professor of Law at Georgetown University Law Center, with a
courtesy appointment in the Philosophy Department at Georgetown University.
Her scholarly expertise includes torts, constitutional torts, the role of state attorneys general, political philosophy, and legal ethics. Currently, Dr. Feldman is focusing on how and whether U.S. cities and states can protect civil rights and strengthen civil society. Dr. Feldman seeks to bring her knowledge of U.S. law, politics and history to a broad public and to bring a grassroots perspective to the legal academy. Dr. Feldman regularly speaks to U.S. and foreign press on topics ranging from U.S. gun regulation efforts to women’s support for Hillary Clinton’s 2016 candidacy to political efforts to oppose the current Republican agenda. She has been quoted by the New York Times, the Washington Post, Reuters, Bloomberg, and CBS News; extensive interviews with her have aired on CBC (Canadian) radio and television. Dr. Feldman earned both her J.D. and her Ph.D. in philosophy from the University of Michigan. She joined the Georgetown University Law Center faculty in 1998.

**Chiara Feliziani, Ph.D LLM** is research fellow of Administrative Law at the School of Law of the University of Macerata and adjunct professor of Environmental Policies at the School of Law of La Sapienza University of Rome. Chiara has spent several periods of research abroad. In 2011 she was visiting research fellow at the School of Law of the King's College (London) and in 2012 she carried on her studies at the European University Institute (Florence), while in 2014 and in 2017 she was visiting scholar at the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies (London). Finally, in 2016 she was visiting scholar at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Law (Heidelberg). She is the author of more than 30 publications in the field of Administrative Law, Administrative Justice, Public Law and Environmental Law. In 2014 she published her first book, named "Tutela ambientale e servizio pubblico. Il caso della gestione dei rifiuti in Italia e in Inghilterra", Sapienza University Press, Rome.

**Noah Kazis** currently serves as a law clerk to the Honorable Judge Joseph A. Greenaway, Jr., of the Third Circuit Court of Appeals. He graduated from the Yale Law School in 2015, where he was a student director in the Community and Economic Development Clinic and an editor on the Yale Law Journal. Next year, he will be a Corporation Counsel Honors Fellow, working directly for the chief legal officer of the City of New York.
Daniel Kiel is a law professor at the University of Memphis, where his work focuses on education law and policy surrounding racial disparities, particularly in metropolitan areas. In 2015, he expanded this research through a Fulbright fellowship at the University of the Free State in South Africa. His research has been featured in various law review and periodical publications and he is the director of the documentary film, The Memphis 13, which shares the stories of the first African American students to desegregate schools in Memphis. Prof. Kiel earned his J.D. from Harvard Law School and a B.A. in History from the University of Texas at Austin.

Omer Kimhi is a senior lecturer (associate professor) in Haifa University Law Faculty. He holds a BA degree, magna cum laude, in economics from Tel-Aviv University, an MBA (specializing in accounting & finance), magna cum laude, also from Tel-Aviv University and a JSD (Juridical Science Doctorate) from New York University. His research areas include local government laws, bankruptcy laws and economic analysis of the law, and he has published articles in these fields in leading law journals. He serves as a board member of the Economic Master in Law & Economics (EMLE), and is the head of the LLM program in business law in Haifa law faculty.

Dr. Rebecca Leshinsky is a barrister with many years of experience in the areas of property law and land use planning and development law and policy. She has worked for the Department of Planning on a planning law reform project and teaches at RMIT University in Melbourne in the school of Property, Construction and Project Management. Rebecca has a keen interest in the role the public can and should play in shaping municipal law.

Dr. Derica Lambrechts is a senior lecturer at the Department of Political Science, Stellenbosch University (SU). She obtained her PhD in 2013 at SU and her research focused on state society relationships, specifically analysing the relationship between the gangs on the Cape Flats and the City of Cape Town. She is a trained political risk analyst, and has published extensively in the field of political risk and political security risk analysis. She continues to research the relationship between non-state and state actors on a local government level.

Chien-yu Liu is an S.J.D. candidate at Georgetown University Law Center. In addition to research on forced migration, disaster response, and development issues, Chien-yu is also active in social justice, journalism, and gender-related issues.

Valerio Lubello is a researcher with a grant focusing on Comparative Public Law at Bocconi University where he teaches Public Law since 2013. His areas of research include Comparative Constitutional Law, Energy Law and Privacy Law. He is an editor of www.medialaws.eu and a member of the editorial board of Diritto Pubblico Comparato ed Europeo Online. He has been visiting researcher of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences of Budapest, Department for the Study of Constitutionalism and the Rule of Law. He spent research periods at the Oxford Institute of Energy Studies and at the Hidelberg Max Plank Institute for Comparative Public Law and International Laws. He is part of the National Observatory for the Sharing Mobility promoted by Italian Environmental Ministry and he is one of the founders of the Network of Hungarian and Italian Comparative Scholars.
S. David Mitchell, JD, PhD
Associate Dean and Ruth L. Hulston Professor of Law is an interdisciplinary scholar who looks at the criminal justice system using a sociological lens. Some of the specific topics of interest on which his scholarship focuses are the collateral consequences of sentencing, ex-offender reentry, and felon disenfranchisement. He is the Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and the Ruth L. Hulston Professor of Law at the University of Missouri, School of Law. He is also an affiliate member of the Departments of Black Studies and Sociology. Prior to joining the law school, he served as a law clerk to the Honorable Andre M. Davis, formerly of the U.S. District Court and was a Scholar in Residence in the Sociology Department at the University of Colorado. In 2015, he became an elected member of the American Law Institute. He has served as the Chair of the Missouri State Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. He has been in numerous news outlets and been recognized for his teaching – Gold Chalk Award (2009) and service – Legion of Black Collegians Minority Faculty and Staff Appreciation Award (2011); the 2014-2015 Lloyd L. Gaines Scholarship Banquet Honoree; and the MU President’s Community Engagement Award (2015).

Sayuri Moodliar is an international lawyer with postgraduate degrees in environmental management (MSc) and international business law (LLM) from the University of London. She has over twenty years’ experience advising on financial and sustainability compliance, governance and risk management. Sayuri has recently completed her doctoral research in international environmental law and governance at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg.

Dr. Maria Mousmouti is Lecturer in Law at the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies and the Executive Director of the Centre for European Constitutional Law. She completed her PhD in law and legislative studies (University of London, UK). She has a broad specialisation in different aspects of legislating, quality of legislation and fundamental rights. Her work throughout the years essentially consists in supporting reform initiatives through evidence-based research and capacity-building in areas related to judicial independence, public administration reform, constitutional reform, human rights, quality of regulatory systems and legislation. In the course of her career she has actively worked in more than 20 countries in Southern Europe, the Middle East, Africa and Central Asia.

Dr. Maria Mousmouti is Lecturer in Law at the Institute of Advanced Legal Studies and the Executive Director of the Centre for European Constitutional Law. She completed her PhD in law and legislative studies (University of London, UK). She has a broad specialisation in different aspects of legislating, quality of legislation and fundamental rights. Her work throughout the years essentially consists in supporting reform initiatives through evidence-based research and capacity-building in areas related to judicial independence, public administration reform, constitutional reform, human rights, quality of regulatory systems and legislation. In the course of her career she has actively worked in more than 20 countries in Southern Europe, the Middle East, Africa and Central Asia.

Archimedes Muzenda is an urban planner and urban policy researcher who focuses on urban governance, land use planning and urban policy in Eastern and Southern Africa. His recent research work includes the local governance interventions and planning law in African cities. In his early career, he balances various roles, as a researcher, writer, and technical advisor. Archimedes is a Research Associate at African Urban Institute and also an Editor of the African Urban Magazine.
Dr. Steven L. Nelson joined the faculty of the Leadership Department at the University of Memphis in fall 2015. Dr. Nelson joins the faculty in the Leadership Department with a wide range of experiences. He taught in the private and public (both traditional and charter) schools in the New Orleans area. During his time as a high school teacher, Dr. Nelson rose to the level of teacher-leader where he dispatched administrative duties that included curriculum design and alignment, behavior intervention and classroom management support and instructional coaching. Dr. Nelson joined the staff at the Southern Poverty Law Center's School-to-Prison Pipeline Project in New Orleans after exiting the traditional role of an educator in the school building. At SPLC, Dr. Nelson worked on charter school law and policy, special education and juvenile justice advocacy and supported students, parents and communities in accessing equitable educational opportunities.

Giacomo Pailli – PhD in comparative law (2013), University of Florence; LL.M. (2011), New York University School of Law. Admitted to practice law in Italy and in the State of New York. Member of Law Institute, and Italian Society for the Research and Study of Comparative Law (SIRD). He is currently a post-doc researcher at the University of Florence.

Marius Pieterse is a professor in the School of Law at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, where he teaches constitutional law and human rights law. He is the joint global coordinator of the International Research Group on Urban Space (IRGLUS). He is interested in how cities are governed and govern themselves, both within and outside of the law, and on how urban governance relates to constitutional law more broadly, as well as to the assertion, contestation and performance of different human rights. His book "Rights-based Litigation, Urban Governance and Social Justice in South Africa: The Right to Joburg" is to be published by Routledge in September 2017.

Tshilidzi Ratshitanga

Mr. Tshilidzi Ratshitanga is a Mitchell Fellow and PhD Candidate at the University of Delaware, United States of America. He holds an MPHIL and Bachelor degrees from the University of Port of boards, including the Gauteng Enterprise Propeller, Exxaro’s Black Economic Empowerment’s Main Street 333 and Mapungubwe Institute for Strategic Reflection (MISTRAT).
Brian E. Ray
Ray's research focuses on comparative and international law with an emphasis on comparative constitutional law and social rights. His book, *Engaging with Social Rights: Participation, Procedure and Democracy in South Africa's Second-Wave* (Cambridge Univ. Press 2016) is the first comprehensive account of the South African Constitutional Court's social rights decisions that argues the Court's procedural enforcement approach has had significant, underappreciated effects in spite of its substantive limits and could make state institutions more responsive to the needs of poor communities. He spent the spring and summer terms of 2013 as a Fulbright Scholar in South Africa conducting research for the book at the University of Stellenbosch and the University of the Western Cape. His work has appeared in the Stanford Journal of International Law, the Utah Law Review, and the South Africa Journal of Human Rights, among others.

Gilberto Vargas
Gilberto Vargas is the associate director of the Fordham Urban Law Center at Fordham Law School. Previously, he served as a project coordinator at the Child Psychiatric Epidemiology Group at Columbia University-New York State Psychiatric Institute on a study examining the health effects of chronic parental incarceration on children.

Nadav Shoked
Nadav Shoked is associate professor of law at Northwestern University School of Law. He joined Northwestern as an Assistant Professor in 2012. His work focuses on the law and theory of property, on local government law, and on American legal history. His most recent publications include “Debt Limits’ End” (Iowa Law Review), “Two Hundred Years of Spite” (Northwestern University Law Review), “The Duty to Maintain” (Duke Law Journal), “The New Local” (Virginia Law Review), and “Quasi-Cities” (Boston University Law Review).

Alessandro Simoni
Alessandro Simoni is a Professor of Law at the University of Florence, chair of comparative law. He is the current coordinator of the PhD in Law and a member of the international board of the University.
About the Urban Law Center at Fordham Law School

Located in New York City, U.S.A., the Urban Law Center at Fordham Law School is committed to understanding and shaping the role of law and legal systems in contemporary urbanism, advancing the scholarship, pedagogy, and practice of urban law, and affecting the most pressing issues facing the world’s metropolitan areas. Law is central to almost every aspect of the life of 21st-century cities, influencing critical issues as diverse as the structure of local governance, the regulation of the built environment, and social justice in the urban context. In turn, the complexity, density and diversity of urban life shape the law. A majority of the world’s population is living in urban environments for the first time in history. Through its innovative programs and initiatives, and in collaboration with interdisciplinary partners, the Urban Law Center aims to be a premier resource for exploring and elevating the role of law amidst the myriad conditions that face the global urban commons.

For further details about the Urban Law Center, please visit:

www.urbanlaw.org

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About the University of Cape Town

Founded in 1829, The University of Cape Town is the oldest university in South Africa. UCT aspires to be the premier academic meeting point between South Africa, the rest of Africa and the world.

UCT is an inclusive and engaged research-intensive African university that inspires creativity through outstanding achievements in learning, discovery and citizenship; enhancing the lives of its students and staff, advancing a more equitable and sustainable social order and influencing the global higher education landscape.

For further details about the University of Cape Town, please visit:

http://www.uct.ac.za/