



# LEGAL EARTH

Vol. 8, December 2015

Newsletter of Activities of the IUCN Academy of Environmental Law

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The Academy Newsletter provides a forum for exchange amongst members. We welcome any material on teaching, academic capacity-building and research in your university or in your region. Please send your contributions to the editor, at [iucnael@uottawa.ca](mailto:iucnael@uottawa.ca)

## Oslo Colloquium – June 20-25, 2016 (The Environment in Court)

**Call for Abstracts is now open**

**Submissions should be sent to**

**[iucnael2016@jus.uio.no](mailto:iucnael2016@jus.uio.no) by January 15, 2016**

## NEWLY ELECTED ACADEMY GOVERNING BOARD AT THE JAKARTA COLLEGIUM

Pursuant to the new Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, the Academy's Governing Board members are elected each year at the Collegium (Annual General Meeting). The first such election for the Academy took place in the Annual Collegium held in Jakarta, Indonesia, on September 11, 2015 during the Jakarta Colloquium. The newly elected Governing Board Members are:

Nilufer Oral, Chair (Istanbul Bilgi University, Turkey); Elizabeth Kirk, Deputy Chair (University of Dundee, UK); Robert Kibugi (CASELAP, University of Nairobi, Kenya); Jose Rubens Morato Leite (University of Santa Catarina, Brazil); Lye Lin Heng (National University of Singapore, Singapore); Paul Martin (University of New England, Australia); Gustavo Alanis Ortega (Universidad Iberoamericana, Mexico); Amber Pant (Tribhuvan University, Nepal); Melissa Powers (Lewis & Clark Law School, USA);

Professor Qin Tianbao (Wuhan University, China); Justice Antonio Benjamin (National High Court of Brazil (STJ), Brazil, and Chair, World Commission on Environmental Law); Dr. Alejandro Iza (Head, IUCN Environmental Law Programme and Director, IUCN Environmental Law Centre, Germany).

Special thanks to Professor Robert Percival of the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law, who acted as the electoral officer for this election.

Congratulations to the newly elected and re-elected Governing Board members. The Academy also expresses its deepest gratitude to the outgoing Governing Board members: Bharat Desai, Rob Fowler, Golly Ramos, Gilberto Rincon and Wang Xi for their years of service to the Governing Board during their terms.

## PRE-COLLOQUIUM WORKSHOPS IN JAKARTA, INDONESIA

The Teaching and Capacity Building Committee and the Research Committee once again organized two excellent Pre-Colloquium half-day Workshops in Jakarta.

### Teaching Workshop

Maria Marquès and Sophie Riley, the co-chairs of the Teaching and Capacity Building Committee (TCBC) extend their warmest greetings to our friends, colleagues and supporters of the IUCN Academy. The TCBC operates under the auspices of a strategic plan covering diverse areas such as the use of technology in learning and teaching, promoting a “Train the Teachers” program and promoting exchange programs for both students and teachers. In recent years, the Committee has concentrated on four areas: the pre-colloquium learning and teaching workshops; promoting the use of clinical legal education; sourcing and editing a teaching article for publication in the

Academy’s e-Journal; and, co-ordinating the selection of prizewinners for the Emerging and Senior Education Awards. In particular, the pre-colloquium workshops have proved a popular and informative way of focusing on good practices in the teaching and learning of environmental law at the international level.



Train the Teachers program sponsored by Asia Development Bank held in Manila in March 2015

At the Jakarta Colloquium, the workshops were held on Tuesday, 8 September 2015. Six papers were presented that not only highlighted the cross-disciplinary nature of environmental law but also showcased a range of innovative learning strategies: Andrew Allan & Michelle Lim, “‘Future Law’ in the Classroom – The Use of Scenarios as a Teaching Tool”; Volker Mauerhofer, “Teaching conservation law to biologists: experiences from the University of Vienna, Austria”; Taiwo Odumosu, “Clinical Legal Education in Nigeria: Olabisi Onabanjo University Law Clinic community project on Freedom of Information Act as a case study”; Kheng-Lian Koh, “Experiences in joint education projects (national and international) – the ASEAN region”; Karen Bubna-Litic & Griselda Mayo-Anda, “IUCN TTT Program – Experiences from Manila, 2015”; Alexander Paterson, Lydia Slobodian, Jamie Benidickson, Barbara Lausche & Patti Moore, “Developing legal literacy and governance expertise to promote effective and equitable protected areas”.

The papers were well-received and generated much discussion. The workshops also provided members of the Academy with an opportunity to network and engage in deeper discussions on learning and teaching.

Another aspect of the work of the TCBC that is highlighted at the annual colloquium is the announcement of the Emerging and Senior Education Awards. The standard of nominees in both categories has been consistently outstanding, reflecting the wealth of talent and expertise amongst the Academy's members. These very positive features, however, make the selection of a winner an extremely difficult task. Indeed, the TCBC would not be able to carry out this function without assistance from our members, who give freely of their time, to make nominations, write referees reports and serve on the selection panels.

On this last point, it is worth emphasising that although the TCBC takes the lead in a strategic sense, its achievements would not occur without input and assistance from our colleagues, friends and supporters. For this we thank you and look forward to a continued and fruitful association.

## Research Workshop

The Academy's pre-colloquium workshop on Forest Value Claims in the Global Economy was organized by Carmen G. Gonzalez (Seattle University, USA, co-chair of the Research Committee), Benjamin Richardson (University of Tasmania, Australia), and Tracy-Lynn Humby (University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa). Carmen Gonzalez and Robert Percival (University of Maryland, USA) moderated the session.

The workshop was designed to commemorate the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Bandung conference – the summit of Asian and African leaders that took place in Bandung, Indonesia, in April 1955. Featuring some of the leading lights of the anti-colonial movement (including Sukarno of Indonesia, Nehru of India, and Zhou Enlai of

China), the Bandung conference was the first attempt at multilateral cooperation among the countries of the global South to achieve greater social and economic development for their peoples and continue the process of political and economic decolonization. The solidarity forged at Bandung later gave rise to the Non-Aligned Movement and the Group of 77, the two bodies through which the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America have put forth joint positions in international trade and environmental negotiations.

Through case studies of the forestry sector, the workshop examined the fate of the world's forests decades after Bandung. Forests constitute a significant economic resource for many nations, especially those that participated in or observed the Bandung summit. Yet the world's forests have shrunk dramatically in the 60 years since the Bandung conference. The workshop sought to examine the different ways that forests are valued by different groups (as sources of timber and forest products, as carbon sinks, as providers of ecological services upon which local communities depend, and as habitat for biodiversity) and to evaluate the governance mechanisms that can be adopted to protect these values (including corporate social responsibility, payment for ecosystem services, and certification and labeling schemes).

The workshop consisted of three plenary presentations followed by moderated roundtable discussion. The first plenary speaker was Lee Paddock (George Washington University, USA). The title of his presentation was "The Role of Transnational Corporations in Forestry and Efforts toward Corporate Social Responsibility." The second plenary speaker was Jona Razzaque (Bristol Law School, University of the West of England). The title of her paper was "Greening the Economy: Forest Ecosystem Services, the North and the South." The third plenary speaker was Shawkat Alam (Macquarie University, Australia). The title of his paper was "Trade and Sustainable Forest Management: Challenges and Options for the Global South."

The workshop was distinct from the colloquium in that it sought to emphasize the priorities and concerns of the states and peoples of the global South.

Consistent with this emphasis, the workshop was followed by the launch of *International Environmental Law and the Global South* (Cambridge University Press, 2015), edited by Shawkat Alam, Sumudu Atapattu, Carmen G. Gonzalez, and Jona Razzaque. *International Environmental Law and the Global South* examines the conflicts between affluent and poor nations (the North-South divide) that have compromised international environmental law, leading to deadlocks in environmental treaty negotiations and noncompliance with existing agreements. The book examines both the historical origins of the North-South divide in European colonialism as well as its contemporary manifestations in a range of issues including food justice, energy justice, indigenous rights, trade, investment, extractive industries, human rights, land grabs, hazardous waste, and climate change. Born out of the recognition that global inequality and profligate consumerism present threats to a sustainable planet, the book offers innovative strategies to bridge the divide.

## JAKARTA COLLOQUIUM

The Academy's 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Colloquium was held at Atma Jaya Catholic University in Jakarta, from September 7-12 this year. It was another huge success with participation of over 200 environmental scholars from 45 plus countries. There were 5 plenary sessions and 40 panel sessions on topics such as climate change and biodiversity challenges, forest biodiversity, endangered forest species, forest conservation sustainable forests, forest environment and water protection, coastal and marine biodiversity, economy and environment, forest products trade and sustainability.

The Academy would especially like to thank the Atma Jaya Law Faculty led by Dean Yanti Fristikawati and law students who went all out to make the Colloquium a successful one.



Three Academy Fellows also attended: Judge Christopher Weeramantry (former Judge and Vice-President of the International Court of Justice), Professor Nick Robinson and Justice Antonio Benjamin.

**Judge Weeramantry** gave a meaningful and insightful talk on international environmental law and global wisdom.

He noted that it is sad to reflect that no generation since the human race began has inflicted so much permanent damage on the environment as we are presently inflicting on it. Moreover even if previous generations caused environmental damage in one way or another that damage was to a large extent reparable. Much of the damage we cause today is irreversible.

To this peril is added the possible peril of damage for thousands of generations to come resulting from the possible use of nuclear weapons.

This contrasts with the vision shared by all traditional societies and the teachings of all religions which focus on the needs of humanity for generations to come. The needs of the next balance sheet which is one year ahead or the next ballot box which is three or four years ahead

did not determine their choice of action in major matters concerning their communities.

These false perspectives need urgently to be corrected and a world-wide campaign needs to be carried out by spiritual leaders, lawyers, environmentalists, academics, and thoughtful community leaders to spread an awareness of the unprecedented dangers facing our planetary home and the global family of humanity. Judge Weeramantry welcomes occasions such as the Academy's annual colloquium which can highlight these dangers and emphasize the need for action at all levels to combat this danger to the continuance of human life and civilization.

Judge Weeramantry emphasizes that each one of us is under a solemn duty to protect our children and our children's children from this growing menace. No obligation could be greater than the obligation lying so heavily on us to save all that we stand for from the danger of irreversible damage if not elimination.

Protection of the environment may well be described as the sacred trust of civilization towards generations yet unborn. Not one of us can afford to betray this trust.



**Judge Weeramantry** was presented at the Colloquium Dinner by the Chair of the Academy, **Nilufer Oral**, with a MovaGlobe to mark the occasion of Judge Weeramantry being appointed a Fellow of the Academy.

**Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr.**, former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Philippines,

was the distinguished speaker. He noted that climate change covers practically all major issues related to or connected with the gravest challenge of our generation and of those yet to come. He ended his speech with the "Prayer for our Earth" composed by Pope Francis. The complete speech by Chief Justice Davide is now available on the Academy website [http://www.iucnael.org/images/Chief Justice Davide Speech on climatechange-9sept2015.pdf](http://www.iucnael.org/images/Chief_Justice_Davide_Speech_on_climatechange-9sept2015.pdf)

A book launch and seminar on *Regional Environmental Law: Transregional Comparative Lessons In Pursuit Of Sustainable Development* was held in the morning of September 8. Speakers included Werner Scholtz, Jonathan Verschuuren, Hennie Strydom, Niel Lubbe, Ben Boer, Koh Kheng Lian, Lovleen Buhllar and Javier de Candra de Larragan.

The various Academy Awards were announced and presented to the following scholars during the Colloquium Gala Dinner and Cultural evening on September 10, 2015. The Awards were presented by Nilufer Oral, Chair of the IUCN Academy Governing Board.

## 2015 DISTINGUISHED ENVIRONMENTAL LAW EDUCATION AWARDS

The 2015 Distinguished Environmental Law Education Awards were announced by Professor Sophie Riley, Co-Chair of the Teaching and Capacity Building Committee.

**Professor Charles Okidi** of the Centre for Advanced Studies in Environmental Law and Policy (CASELAP), University of Nairobi (Kenya), was the recipient of the Education Award in the Senior Scholars Category.

**Professor D. Kapua'ala Sproat** of the University of Hawaii (USA) was the recipient of the

Education Award in the Emerging Scholars category.

## 2015 ENVIRONMENTAL LAW SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The 2015 Environmental Law Scholarship Awards were announced by Professor Carmen Gonzalez, Co-Chair of the Research Committee.

**Professor Ben Boer**, Emeritus Professor of the University of Sydney (Australia) and Distinguished Professor of Wuhan University Law School was the recipient of the Senior Scholarship Award.



Professor Nilufer Oral presented the Award Certificate to Professor Ben Boer

**Professor Hannah Wiseman**, Assistant Professor at Florida State University College of Law (USA) and **Professor Sara Seck**, Associate Professor of the Faculty of Law, University of Western Ontario (Canada) were the recipients for this year's Scholarship Award in the Emerging Scholars category.

Both Professors Wiseman and Seck were not present to receive the Award.

For more information about these Awards, please visit

<http://www.iucnael.org/en/news/latest-news/96-featured/508-iucn-academy-of-environmental-law-2015-scholarship-awards>

The Academy congratulates all the recipients of this year's Education and Scholarship Awards for their distinguished achievements.

At the Gala Dinner, participants were introduced to the beautiful Indonesian musical instrument called angklung and had the opportunity to play the angklung ensemble with the Indonesian musicians. It was a fun-filled and culturally enriching evening.

The Colloquium field trip was to Pramuka Island (Thousand Islands) by small boats. Participants were met by the Head of the Thousand Islands National Park who gave a talk on the Indonesian Mangrove and Turtle Conservation Program to the group. The group was then led by the Program staff to participate in planting mangrove trees and coral reefs and in releasing 14 small sea turtles to the ocean. These were all very unique and meaningful experiences for the group.



Pramuka Island

Once again, Professor Robert Percival led a contingent of undergraduate law students from the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law to attend the Jakarta Colloquium. The Academy appreciates the continuing support of Maryland Law School to bring young environmental law students to attend the Academy's annual colloquium.

Also, the Academy would like to take this opportunity to especially thank Professor Percival to help the Academy deliver the MovaGlobe memento to another Fellow of the Academy, Professor Edith Brown Weiss early this year in Washington, D.C.

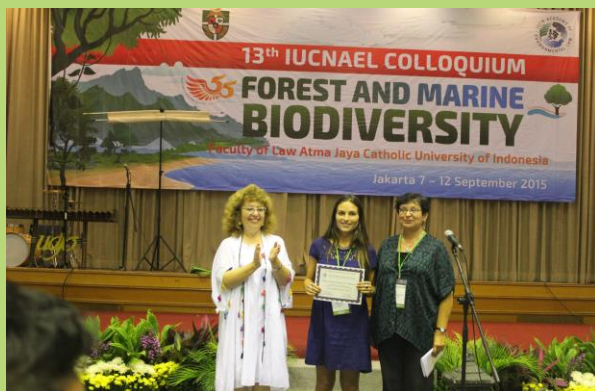


Professor Robert Percival & Professor Edith Brown Weiss

## 2015 BEST GRADUATE STUDENT PAPER AWARD

**Marcia Fajardo Cavalcanti de Albuquerque**, a PhD student at both Paris Pantheon-Sorbonne, France, and Mackenzie University of Sao Paulo, Brazil, and **Dignité Bwiza**, a PhD student at the University of Witwatersrand, South Africa, are the winners of the 2015 Best Graduate Student Paper Award.

Many congratulations to both Marcia and Dignité for their distinguished achievements.



Marcia Fajardo Cavalcanti de Albuquerque with Professors Nilufer Oral and Carmen Gonzalez

## GRADUATE STUDENTS FORUM

Since the inception of the Graduate Students Forum at the Wuhan Colloquium led by Professor Robert Kibugi (who was a PhD law student at the University of Ottawa at that time), the Graduate Students Forum has become an integral part of the Academy's annual colloquium. This year, over 25 graduate students participated in the Graduate Students Forum and they all expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to learn from experts in environmental law in various respects.

## 2016 JANUARY TERM VISITING SCHOLAR AT THE UNIVERSITY OF OTTAWA & IUCN ACADEMY

Professor Vincent Chapaux from the Université libre de Bruxelles will be the IUCN Academy January scholar in 2016. He will be teaching a course on "*Le droit international des animaux (International Animal Law)*". Here is Professor Chapaux's bio: <http://cdi.ulb.ac.be/a-propos-du-centre/membres-du-centre-2/vincent-chapaux/>

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Since the last newsletter, the Academy has gained 8 new institutional members and they include:

Escuela Jacobea de Posgrado, Mexico  
University of Southern Cross, Australia  
Thompson Rivers University, Canada  
University of Hawaii, USA  
Open University of Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka  
Centre for Advanced Study on Courts and Tribunals, India

Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration, Ghana  
University of Bremen, Germany

We gained two more countries: Sri Lanka and Ghana. Welcome to all new members and we welcome your participation in Academy events in the future.

The Academy Secretariat welcomes members to introduce potential institutional members to us. If you have contact names and emails of potential new members, please let the Secretariat know at [iucnael@uottawa.ca](mailto:iucnael@uottawa.ca).

**Research Center for European  
Environmental Law, University of  
Bremen, Germany**



The Research Center for European Environmental Law (FEU), which is part of the law faculty of the University of Bremen, was founded in 1994 and has since been directed by Prof. *Gerd Winter* who retired and will be replaced by a successor in due time. Employing continually 10 to 15 postgraduate and postdoctoral scholars mostly on funds from external sources, FEU looks back to 20 years of research, teaching and consultancy in many fields of environmental law. At present the following persons among others work at FEU: Dr. *Evanson Chege Kamau*, a Kenyan-German, is taking his research experience in access to genetic resources and benefit sharing to establish a consultancy on that very subject. Dr. *Till Markus*, a known expert in marine environmental law, works on a book on comparative law as a

means to interpret and develop international environmental law. Dr. *Olaf Dilling* is rounding up his doctrinal and empirical studies to produce a book on informal environmental regulation by transnational industry and administrative networks. *Marie Schloen* who was trained as agronomist changed from FAO services to academia to write a dissertation on transnational exchange pools of plant and animal genetic resources in view of the new requirements to share benefits from utilizing genetic resources with provider states. *Michael Stadermann*, an expert in product policy, prepares his dissertation on enhancing the life time of products by means of civil and public law. Product policy is also addressed by Tasso Cipriano from Sao Paulo, his subject being waste avoidance in comparison EU – Brazil. Marine environmental issues are tackled by *Nina Khuchua* from Tbilisi in her dissertation on the performance of the Black Sea Convention as compared to the Baltic Sea Convention, as well as by *David Gehrmeier* who examines the preventive regulation of offshore minerals exploitation, and by *Anna-Maria Hubert* in her work on environmental protection limits to marine research activities. *Gerd Winter* has during the past years studied the developments of biotechnology advocating a new comprehensive regulation of genetic engineering, modern breeding techniques and synthetic biology. He recently produced a report for IUCN on how to assess states' performance concerning the Aichi targets. He was also engaged in the drafting of a comprehensive planning and construction code for the state of Georgia. New projects are just starting on the role of environmental risk models in judicial proceedings (*Sarah Bartolomé*), on legal problems of coastal protection under conditions of rising sea levels (*Linda Schumacher*), and on marine subsoil protection (*Pradeep Singh*). See further <https://www.jura.uni-bremen.de/institutes/research-centre-for-european-environmental-law/en/>

## Centre for Advanced Study on Courts & Tribunals, India



The Centre for Advanced Study on Courts and Tribunals (CASCT) was established in 2012 as a Registered Society in India. Dr. Balraj K. Sidhu serves as the Executive Director. It is a unique centre of excellence dedicated to an advanced study of international courts and tribunals as well as workings and comparative study of the apex courts at the domestic level.

The Centre is well placed to provide expertise on the role and function of courts and tribunals in the settlement of disputes, development of legal jurisprudence and their contribution as a subsidiary means for the determination of rules of law. It undertakes periodic study on contemporary legal issues - modes for settlement of international disputes; access to justice; role of environmental courts & tribunals; international environmental governance; shared transboundary water governance; natural resources management; post-conflict justice mechanisms; international criminal court; hybrid and internationalized criminal courts & tribunals.

CASCT has made an active contribution in the field through capacity-building as well as organizing of scholarly dialogues such as: (i) *New Delhi Dialogue on Role of Courts & Tribunals in the Changing Global Order* organized on 15 March 2013. It sought to focus on green courts & tribunals as well as criminal courts & tribunals. (ii) *Amritsar Dialogue on Green Courts & Tribunals*:

*Challenges and Opportunities* was held during 23-24 November 2013. It witnessed coming together of judges from Supreme Courts of the South Asian region with the support of the Asian Development Bank, Manila. The Centre is engaged in designing post-graduate teaching courses in Universities as well as training courses for diplomats, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations. It is engaged in major research studies such as *Hybrid Courts and Tribunals as Post Conflict International Criminal Justice Mechanism*, *Crimes against the Environment* as well as *Advent of the Green Courts: A Study of National green Tribunal*. Another futuristic study underway is: *International Environment Court: Legal Study of an Ideal*. It will be published by a leading US publisher in 2016.

The Centre has plans for teaching, research and capacity building on cutting-edge issues such as environmental crimes; sustainable development goals 2030; and designing of a futuristic blueprint for settlement of environmental disputes among and within the sovereign states.

## REGIONAL ACTIVITIES OF MEMBERS

### South America

#### Montevideo IV, 7-11 September 2015

This year, the fourth Montevideo Programme was held in Montevideo, Uruguay from September 7-11. The Montevideo Programme identifies priority areas for action in the field of environmental law, to be undertaken by the international law community and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The current programme, Montevideo Programme IV, covers twenty – seven programme areas, clustered under four themes: cross cutting issues that have an impact on the effectiveness of environmental law; the conservation, management and sustainable use of natural

resources; challenges for environmental law, such as climate change, poverty, pollution prevention and control and new technology; and the relationship between environmental law and other fields, including human rights, trade, security and military activities. The meeting assessed and evaluated developments for the first 5 years of implementation of Montevideo IV and set priorities for action for the next 5 years.



For more information on this event, see <http://www.publiclaw.uct.ac.za/news/proferis-participated-montevideoiv#sthash.iBPqwEqb.dpuf>

## South East-Asia

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Asia Environment Lecture 2015 "Greening the Built Environment: Ramping Up Global Progress"

The Third Asia Environment Lecture (AEL) was held at the Shaw Foundation Alumni House, National University of Singapore (NUS) on Friday, 6 November 2015. This Lecture is an annual event initiated by two NUS multi-disciplinary programmes on the environment (the Master of Science in Environmental Management (MEM) and the Bachelor in Environmental Studies (BES)), together with the Law Faculty's Asia-Pacific Centre for Environmental Law (APCEL). Each of these two programmes involve the collaboration of nine faculties and schools at NUS. They endorse the NUS view that effective management of the environment requires an

integrated multi-disciplinary and inter-disciplinary approach.



This year's lecture, the third in this series, focused on green buildings and is co-hosted by the Building and Construction Authority (BCA) and City Developments Ltd (CDL).

The speaker was Ms. Christine Ervin, the first President and CEO of the influential US Green Building Council and former US Assistant Secretary of Energy, leading the nation's billion dollar portfolio of energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies. Ms. Ervin is widely recognised as a major force behind the vibrant green building market in the United States.

The event was attended by policy makers, urban planners, architects, engineers, persons in the building industry, environmental practitioners, Faculty members and students.

The Lecture was chaired by Ambassador-at-Large Professor Tommy Koh, who also chairs the Advisory Committees for APCEL and the MEM programme. It was generously funded by City Developments Ltd (CDL), Singapore's leading "green" developer.

## Impact of Earthquake in Legal Education in Nepal

By Prof. Dr. Amber Prasad Pant

Nepal is in an earthquake prone belt and has so far faced several earthquakes. This year's

earthquake of April 25 measuring 7.8 magnitude with aftershocks of 26<sup>th</sup> April and 12<sup>th</sup> May measuring 6.8 and 7.3 magnitude respectively was followed by more than 419 and 50,000 aftershocks greater than 4.0 and less than 4.0 magnitude respectively in 14 districts of Central Nepal. The earthquake devastated 500,000 houses and partially damaged 250,000 houses of people, Government, Universities, judiciary, world heritage sites and other area of importance in addition to nearly 9,000 human losses and millions of human injuries.

In higher education, in addition to complete and partial destruction of buildings and walls, there were also heavy losses of desks, benches, library resources, book rack, laptop, equipments, computers, moot courts, seminar and class rooms with an estimated cumulative losses of NPR 28 billion. This figure may climb still higher once information of detailed losses is updated. Tribhuvan University, the oldest and largest University accounting for more than 88 percent of student enrolment i.e. altogether 405,341 student enrolment in 2014-2015 and has 7,966 teaching faculty and 7,230 staffs also suffered from post traumatic stress disorder with symptoms of stress, anxiety, and fear related to potential psychological impacts. On legal education alone, six Constituent and two affiliated Campuses have altogether 8,000 plus students, 138 law faculties and 75 staffs who avoid attending classes regularly and sitting in office whole day because of cracks and damages in building and fear of further big aftershocks.

Due to the extensive damage caused by the recent earthquake, the university and Faculty of Law has prepared a master plan design of new buildings and for retrofitting and has also established "Tribhuvan University Earthquake Damage Reconstruction Fund" appealing publicly and to faculty, staff to contribute for the renovation, reconstruction and supply of library and other material equipment. An idea of scholarship for students and support to faculty, staffs as a motivation are also emphasized for consideration. The Faculty of Law is also looking

forward to find opportunity to send faculty member for training and studies on disaster related law courses and also thinking to design curriculum and introduce new courses on disaster related law. **Following two bank accounts are opened for donations:**

**Name: Tribhuvan University**  
**Bank: Nepal Bank Ltd, Kirtipur Branch, Kathmandu, Nepal**  
**Account No: Account No: 0217110007204**  
**Swift Code: NEBLNPKA**

**Name: Tribhuvan University**  
**Bank : Nepal bank Ltd, Kirtipur Branch, Kathmandu, Nepal**  
**Account No: Account No: 45-10-84173**  
**Swift Code: NEBLPKA**



Damage to Tribhuvan University caused by earthquake

## UNEP InforMEA E-Learning

The *Training Manual on International Environmental Law*, completed in 2006 under the direction of Lal Kurukulasuriya and Nick Robinson was one of the IUCN Academy of Environmental Law's first collaborations with UNEP. Now, as explained at the Jakarta Colloquium by Eva Duer of UNEP's Division of Environmental Law and Conventions, a new generation of educational materials on Multilateral Environmental Agreements is being development within the InforMEA framework.

Broadly, InforMEA is the first project established by the UNEP's MEA Information and Knowledge Management (IKM) Initiative. The Initiative brings together MEAs to develop harmonized and interoperable information systems for the benefit of Parties and the environment community at large. InforMEA displays COP decisions and resolutions, news, events, MEA membership, national focal points, national reports and implementation plans. It organizes the world's environmental law for those who need it to steer and implement global environmental policy.

More specifically from a capacity-building perspective, the InforMEA E-learning Platform <http://e-learning.informe.org> is a key benefit of the portal. It provides free, self-paced introductory courses on each MEA and seeks to build knowledge and greater understanding of International Environmental Law. Clusters of instructional modules have been created for Climate, Atmosphere and Land (3); Biological Diversity (8); Oceans and Freshwater (2); and Hazardous Chemicals and Wastes (4). Further courses on International Environmental Law and Governance are under development. At the end of each course a certificate of completion can be obtained.

Thanks to IUCN Academy of Environmental Law member institutions at Rennes and Wuhan, the E-Learning Platform is currently being translated into French and Chinese. This will allow even more learners to access this valuable source of knowledge. The Secretariat has worked closely on this project with Professor Nathalie Hervé-Fournereau at l'université de Rennes and Hu Bin at Wuhan, and with their students and colleagues who have contributed enormously to the challenge of making these e-learning materials widely available. Their dedicated and professional work deserves our deepest appreciation.

The accompanying photograph shows members of the Wuhan translation team. Many thanks to everyone involved at Rennes and Wuhan for their work and contribution.



Wuhan University Chinese translation team led by Professor Hu Bin

On the basis of reports to date, Academy scholars have already begun to introduce the InfoMEA E-Learning modules to their students, many of whom have completed certificates.

## ESSENTIAL READINGS IN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

The Essential Readings in Environmental Law series was launched following the Waikato, New Zealand, Colloquium in 2013 and now includes over fifty guides to key readings selected and annotated by experts and environmental law researchers. With contributions in English, Spanish and French from scholars around the world, the Essential Readings series is a valuable example of collaborative capacity-building. Some of the topics are national or regional in orientation. The Essential Readings guides also cover many environmental law principles and concepts. In addition, the series contains a growing number of specialized guides.

The most recent addition to the collection are the following: Biodiversity and Wildlife Law (Erika J. Techera), Environmental Constitutionalism (Louis J. Kotzé), Environmental Justice (Lee Paddock), EU Chemicals Regulation (Eckhard Reh binder), Local Governments (Cities) in the

Pursuit of Sustainability Governance Perspectives and Environmental Law (Anèl du Plessis), National Resources Governance in Australia (Jacqueline Williams and Amanda Kennedy), Whaling and Law (Ed Couzens).

To consult the Essential Readings list, go to the IUCN Academy of Environmental Law website at: <http://www.iucnael.org/en/essentials-readings-in-environmental-law-topics>

## UPCOMING CONFERENCES / SYMPOSIA BY ACADEMY & MEMBER INSTITUTIONS

### CALL FOR PAPERS

**IUCN Academy of Environmental Law eJournal Issue 7 2016** (to be published in June 2016)

The eJournal is an open access, free to publish, peer reviewed journal. It accepts five different forms of contributions: (1) Substantive articles; (2) Country reports; (3) Short Notes/Insight Pieces; (4) Book Reviews; and (5) Teaching Articles. The full details regarding the length and nature of these contributions are available on the eJournal's website: (<http://www.iucnael.org/en/e-journal/>).

The Editors would like to extend a specific invitation for **substantive articles; short notes, Teaching articles**. The Editors would also welcome submissions of **Country reports** particularly from the following regions: South America; Central and Eastern Europe and Africa.

Submissions should be sent to: ([IUCNAELJournal@gmail.com](mailto:IUCNAELJournal@gmail.com)). Please note that the **due date for substantive articles** was **1 November 2015** but has been extended to **31 December 2015**. The **due date for all other forms of submission** is **31 December 2015**.

**IUCNAEL 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Colloquium** will be held from June 20-25, 2016 at the University of Oslo in

Norway on the theme of The Environment in Court. A Call for Papers has been issued. Interested parties should submit papers to [iucnael2016@jus.uio.no](mailto:iucnael2016@jus.uio.no) by **January 15, 2016**.

The Pre-Colloquium Research and Teaching Workshops are being planned at the moment. As soon as information becomes available, the Academy Secretariat will inform members accordingly.

**Yearbook of International Environmental Law Vol. 26 (2015) - Addressing Climate Change in the Context of Sustainable Development Goals** by Oxford University Press. For information on submissions, please visit [http://www.oxfordjournals.org/our\\_journals/yiel/aw/call\\_for\\_papers\\_vol26.pdf](http://www.oxfordjournals.org/our_journals/yiel/aw/call_for_papers_vol26.pdf)

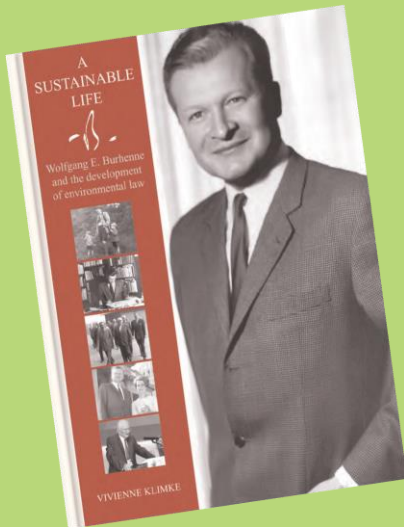
**New Frontiers Symposium, 11-15 April 2016 South Africa – “New Frontiers in Global Environmental Constitutionalism: Implementing Human and Environmental Rights in Global Contexts”**. It is co-hosted by the North-West University (South Africa); Widener University, Delaware Law School (USA); and the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and the Environment, John Knox. Deadline for submissions is **15 January 2016**. All abstracts are sent to Mr. Caiphas Soyapi [soyadrive@gmail.com](mailto:soyadrive@gmail.com) and all symposium related queries could be directed to Louis Kotze [louis.kotze@nwu.ac.za](mailto:louis.kotze@nwu.ac.za)

## CONGRATULATIONS

The Academy congratulates **Professors Jamie Benidickson and Yves Le Bouthillier** on receiving the University of Ottawa Faculty of Law's Excellence Award in their dedication on leading the IUCN Academy in their capacity as Executive Directors.

## NEW/RECENT PUBLICATIONS OF ACADEMY & ACADEMY MEMBERS

**Portrait of the amazing life of an outstanding professional: Wolfgang E. Burhenne - A Sustainable Life**



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**Wolfgang Burhenne** is a most renowned and highly honoured personality in environmental law worldwide. International instruments such as the African Convention on the Conservation of Nature, the World Charter for Nature, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) and others are rooted in his ideas, engagement and professional input.

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**Justice for Future Generation: Climate Change and International Law (Edward Elgar 2014)** by Dr Peter Lawrence, University of Tasmania,

Australia. Orders can be made on the following website - which includes discount on pre-order of paperback version just about to be launched ([http://www.e-elgar.com/shop/justice-for-future-generations?website=uk\\_warehouse](http://www.e-elgar.com/shop/justice-for-future-generations?website=uk_warehouse)). For summary of the argument of the book, click on 'Preface' -

<http://www.elgaronline.com/view/9780857934154.00005.xml>.

**Transboundary Marine Spatial Planning and International Law** co-edited by prof. Tuomas Kuokkanen, dr. Daud Hassan and Niko Soininen. The book was recently published by Routledge/Earthscan.

<https://www.routledge.com/products/9780415739702>

**International Environmental Law and the Global South** was published by Cambridge University Press. Here is a link to the table and contents and the introduction

[http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\\_id=2647022](http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2647022)

website: <http://www.cambridge.org/us/academic/subjects/law/environmental-law/international-environmental-law-and-global-south>

**Roads to Justice**

(<https://vimeo.com/119181783>). A documentary film on the inspirational work of Tony Oposa has recently been released and is now being made freely available for use as a teaching resource for any interested IUCN Academy of Environmental Law members.

Comments and enquiries to Justin Rose at [justinrosefilms@gmail.com](mailto:justinrosefilms@gmail.com)

**Research Handbook on International Marine Environmental Law** edited by Rosemary Rayfuse of the University of New South Wales, Australia and Lund University, Sweden and published by Edward Elgar Publishing.

<http://www.elgaronline.com/view/9781781004760.00034.xml>

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