

STRENGTHENING CAPACITY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LAW IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC: DEVELOPING ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CHAMPIONS

Train-the-Trainers Program in Siem Reap, Cambodia

27 November - 1 December, 2017

SESSION 19: *DESCRIPTION OF IUCNAEL & IUCN WCEL*

Winnie Carruth, IUCNAEL Project Manager



IUCN ACADEMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAW (IUCNAEL)

- A unique global network of university law schools and specialist research centres dedicated to teaching and/or research in the field of environmental law
- The Academy was established in 2003 through the IUCN Environmental Law Commission and its first meeting (Colloquium) was held in Shanghai in November 2003

LAUNCH OF THE IUCN ACADEMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAW, SHANGHAI, NOVEMBER 2003



VISION & MISSION OF THE ACADEMY

- **Vision** of the Academy
“Environmental law is essential for the achievement of a sustainable world that values and conserves nature under the rule of law and justice”
- **Mission** of the Academy
“to promote the teaching and research of environmental law, particularly in developing countries”
- Academy website: www.iucnael.org



THE ACADEMY & IUCN

- The Academy is independent of IUCN but uses the name of IUCN under a license agreement
- It works collaboratively with the IUCN Environmental Law Centre (located in Bonn – Director, Dr. Alejandro Iza) and the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law (chaired by Justice Antonio Benjamin)
- The ELC and WCEL have representation on the Academy's Governing Board



THE ACADEMY SECRETARIAT

- The Academy is an incorporated not-for-profit body under U.S. law
- Its first Secretariat was established in the Faculty of Law at the University of Ottawa (Canada) in 2006
- The current Secretariat is located jointly at the University of Maryland Law School and Pace University Law School (since 2016) in the U.S.



GOVERNANCE OF THE ACADEMY

- The Governing Board was first elected in 2008 and has 10 members representing 10 regions of the world (plus representatives of the IUCN WCEL AND ELC)
- Elections are held each year for 3-4 positions on the Board
- The Chair is also elected each year:
 - 2003-2008: Prof Nicholas Robinson (Pace University, USA)
 - 2008-2013: Prof Robert Fowler (University of South Australia, Australia)
 - 2013-2016: Prof Nilufer Oral (Istanbul Bilgi University, Turkey)
 - 2016-present: Prof Elizabeth Kirk (Nottingham Trent University, UK)
- Current Board members for Asia: Prof Qin Tianbao (North Asia); Prof Amber Pant (South and West Asia); Prof Liza Osorio (South East Asia)



MEMBERSHIP OF THE ACADEMY

- Over 200 law schools from over 60 different countries are institutional members of the Academy
- Comprises more than 800 individual scholars
- Currently there are very few members from law schools in the ASEAN or Mekong regions
- The Academy welcomes you! Please consider having your Law School join the Academy



BENEFITS OF ACADEMY MEMBERSHIP

- Becoming part of a global environmental law education network
- Invitations to participate in the annual Academy Colloquium
- Sending a voting representative to the Academy Collegiums representing your region
- Opportunities to participate in the research initiatives of the Academy
- Opportunities to participate in the Academy's teaching and capacity-building programs
- Access to regular Academy newsletters, featuring updates on initiatives from Academy members



MEMBERSHIP CRITERIA

- **Membership criteria for Law Schools:**
 - One or more lecturers specialized in the teaching of environmental law
 - Teaching, on a regular basis, at least one environmental law subject
 - One or more lecturers with a record of publishing an environmental law journal or articles and books on environmental law
 - Commitment to supporting participation of one or more of its environmental law lecturers in Academy activities



MEMBERSHIP FEES

- US\$560 annually (high-income economy countries, including Brunei, Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore, South Korea and Taiwan)
- US\$140 annually (middle-income economy countries, including Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, PRC (except Western China) Sri Lanka and Thailand)
- US\$70 annually (low-income economy countries, including Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Laos, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Vietnam and Western China)
- For online application form, see <http://www.iucnael.org/en/membership>



ACADEMY ANNUAL COLLOQUIUM

- 2003 – Shanghai, China
- 2004 – Nairobi, Kenya
- 2005 – Sydney, Australia
- 2006 – White Plains, New York, USA
- 2007 – Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- 2008 – Mexico City, Mexico
- 2009 – Wuhan, China
- 2010 – Ghent, Belgium
- 2011 – Eastern Cape, South Africa
- 2012 – Baltimore, Maryland, USA
- 2013 – Hamilton, New Zealand
- 2014 – Tarragona, Spain
- 2015 – Jakarta, Indonesia
- 2016 – Oslo, Norway
- 2017 – Cebu, Philippines
- 2018 - to be held in Glasgow, Scotland from July 2-6



THEMES OF PAST COLLOQUIA

- 2003 – The Law of Energy for Sustainable Development
- 2004 – Human Habitats and Land Stewardship
- 2005 – Biodiversity: Bridging the Divide
- 2006 – Compliance and Enforcement of Multilateral Environmental Agreements
- 2007 – Rio+15: A Legal Critique of Ecologically Sustainable Development
- 2008 – Poverty Alleviation and Environmental Protection
- 2009 – Environmental Governance and Sustainability
- 2010 – Linkages Between Biodiversity and Climate Change
- 2011 – Water and the Law: Towards Sustainability



THEMES OF PAST COLLOQUIA (CONT'D)

- 2012 – Global Environmental Law at a Crossroads
- 2013 – He Tapuwae: key emerging themes of international, comparative and domestic environmental law and our journey in responding to them
- 2014 – Energy for a Fair Society on a Safe Planet
- 2015 – Forest and Marine Biodiversity
- 2016 – The Environment in Court: Environmental protection in national and international courts, tribunals, and compliance mechanisms
- 2017 – Stories of the world we want and the law as its pathway
- 2018 – The Transformation of Environmental Law and Governance: Innovation, Risk and Resilience



ACTIVITIES - RESEARCH

- Research seminars and conferences (climate change, biofuels, protected areas etc.)
- A special research workshop is conducted immediately before each Annual Colloquium
- Meeting and networking of postgraduate students during each Annual Colloquium
- Collaborative research projects amongst Academy members
- Register of research expertise among Academy scholars compiled by Academy Secretariat



ACTIVITIES - PUBLICATIONS

- The Electronic Journal: The Academy's **eJournal** is a particularly valuable source of “country reports” detailing recent developments in many jurisdictions around the world. Contributions are welcome: see <http://www.iucnael.org/en/e-journal/about-the-ejournal.html>
- **IUCN Academy Colloquium Proceedings (Academy Environmental Law Series) and Other Publications:** through Edward Elgar Publishing
- **Environmental Law Presentations from Past IUCN Academy Colloquia** (classified in over 50 fields) available on Academy website
- Translations into French and Spanish of the **UNEP Training Manual on International Environmental Law** are currently under preparation
- **Essential Readings in Environmental Law**



ACADEMY ENVIRONMENTAL LAW SERIES



ACTIVITIES – TEACHING & CAPACITY BUILDING

- Courses, Syllabi and Teaching Workshops
 - Course on implementation and enforcement of multilateral environmental agreements
 - Course on protected areas law and policy
 - Climate law teaching resources (Syllabi)
 - For further details, see IUCN Academy of Environmental Law ***Teaching Resources*** (course folder section 17)
 - Also, teaching workshop held each year immediately before the Annual Colloquium



ACTIVITIES – TEACHING & CAPACITY BUILDING (Cont'd)

- Training the Teachers (TTT) Project
 - Flagship activity of the Academy is its Training the Teachers Project (Basic and Advanced Courses)
 - Under development by Academy since 2004, but concept originated with the ADB-funded training program conducted by the Asia-Pacific Centre for Environmental Law (APCEL) at National University of Singapore in 1997 and 1998
 - First delivered in China (2011 and 2013)
 - Now being pursued in the Asian region with the support of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) – Developing Environmental Law Champions
 - Further discussion, Session 19



IUCN WORLD COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL LAW (WCEL)

- WCEL is one of six specialized Commissions within the IUCN
- It was established in 1960 as the Special Committee on Legislation and Administration
- Became a Commission in 1963, renamed Commission on Environmental Law in 1990 and WCEL in 2013
- Is a network of environmental law and policy experts from all regions of the world who volunteer their knowledge and services to IUCN activities
- Now has over 800 members across 120 countries
- Members serve in their personal capacity, although they might come from governmental or non-governmental organizations, might be active in private law practice, attached to a university or an international organization



WCEL CHAIRS

- 1963-1969 W.E. Burhenne
- 1969-1976 Lyndon Keith Caldwell
- 1977-1990 W.E. Burhenne
- 1990-1996 Parvez Hassan
- 1996-2004 Nicholas Robinson
- 2004-2012 Sheila Abed de Zavala
- 2013-present Antonio Herman Benjamin



SPECIALIST GROUPS

- Access and Benefit-sharing (WCEL/SSC Joint SG)
- Armed Conflict and the Environment
- Energy Law and Climate Change
- Enforcement and Compliance
- Ethics
- Indigenous Peoples, Customary & Environmental Laws and Human Rights (SPICEH)
- Oceans, Coastal and Coral Reefs
- Protected Areas Law and Policy (WCEL/WCPA Joint SG)
- Sustainable Use of Soil
- Water and Wetlands



OTHER WCEL ACTIVITIES

- Promote the IUCN Academy of Environmental Law – WCEL will promote the Academy as the world’s leading network of academic institutions, universities and professors engaged in the research and teaching of environmental law
- Support the Judiciary – WCEL will continue to work with the judiciary and relevant institutions, both international and national, to build their capacity to provide access to justice, to effectively adjudicate environmental issues, and to apply and enforce environmental law, through cooperation with judicial institutes and associations of judges and the use of information



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

- To apply for membership of WCEL, please refer to the online application form available at:

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/iucn_wcel_application_en?00m41L=WebIUCN



Thank you

