

STRENGTHENING CAPACITY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LAW IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC : DEVELOPING ENVIRONMENTAL LAW CHAMPIONS
Chiang Mai, Thailand, June 19-23, 2017

SESSION 19: DESCRIPTION of IUCNAEL and IUCN WCEL

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INTRODUCTION -THE IUCN ACADEMY OF ENVIRONMENTAL LAW

- A global network of university law schools and specialist research centres dedicated to teaching and/or research in environmental law
- Established in 2003 through the IUCN Environmental Law Commission and was launched at the 1st Academy meeting (Colloquium) in Shanghai in November 2003

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



THE 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 OBJECTIVES

- Build environmental law education capacity
- Promote conceptual development of environmental law
- Generate global research programs

- Promote international exchange on environmental law and policy

- Advance understanding of pressing environmental law and governance issues

THE ACADEMY & IUCN

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

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Academy Governing Board

First elected in 2008 with 10 members from 10 different regions of the world plus representatives of the IUCN WCEL and ELC

- Elections are held each year for 3 positions on the Board during the Academy's Annual Colloquium
- The Chair is also elected each year
- Current Board members for Asia are Professor Qin Tianbao (North Asia); Professor Amber Pant (South & West Asia); and Liza Osorio (South-East Asia)

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE (cont'd)

Academy Secretariat

- Academy incorporated as a not-for-profit body under U.S. law
- First Secretariat established in the Faculty of Law at University of Ottawa (Canada) in 2006
- Current Secretariat located at the University of Maryland Law School and Pace University Law School in the U.S.
- Current Co-Directors are Professor Bill Piermattei (University of Maryland Law School) and Ms. Alix Cotumaccio (Pace University Law School)





MEMBERSHIP OF THE ACADEMY

- Over 200 Law Schools from across over 60 different countries
- Comprises more than 800 individual scholars
- Currently 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



BENEFITS OF ACADEMY MEMBERSHIP (cont'd)

- Preferential rates to attend the IUCN Annual Colloquium and workshops
- Opportunity to contribute articles, country reports and book reviews to the IUCN Academy e-Journal
- Opportunity to contribute reading recommendations to the Academy's Essential Readings in Environmental Law
- Eligibility for nominations for the IUCN Academy's Environmental Law Education and Scholarship Awards



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**



BALTIMORE COLLOQUIUM



CEBU COLLOQUIUM



ACTIVITIES - RESEARCH

- Research seminars and conferences (climate change, biofuels, protected areas etc.)
- Also 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

<http://www.iucnael.org/en/directory-of-scholars?task=search>

ACTIVITIES - PUBLICATIONS

- **The Electronic Journal:** The Academy's E-Journal 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>
- **IUCN Academy Colloquium Proceedings and Other Publications :** through Edward Elgar Publishers.
<http://www.iucnael.org/en/academy-publications>
- **Environmental Law Presentations from Past IUCN Academy Colloquia** (classified in over fifty fields) available on Academy web-site
<http://www.iucnael.org/en/academy-colloquia/past-colloquia>
- Translations into French and Spanish of the **UNEP Training Manual on International Environmental Law** are currently under preparation

ACADEMY ENVIRONMENTAL LAW SERIES



ACTIVITIES – TEACHING AND CAPACITY-BUILDING

– Courses, syllabi and teaching workshops

- Course on implementation and enforcement of multilateral environmental agreements

<http://www.iucnael.org/en/online-resources/meas>

- Course on protected areas law and policy
- Climate law teaching resources (syllabi)

<http://www.iucnael.org/en/online-resources/climate-law-teaching-resources>

- Teaching workshop held each year immediately before the Annual Colloquium

ACTIVITIES – TEACHING AND CAPACITY-BUILDING

– Training the Teachers (TTT) Project

- Flagship activity of the Academy is its Training The Teachers (TTT) Project (Basic and Advanced courses)
- Under development by Academy since 2004, but concept originated with the ADB-funded training programme 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

ACADEMY ANNUAL AWARDS

- **Annual Scholarship Awards in Environmental Law**
 - Senior Scholar Category
 - Junior Scholar Category

- **Annual Environmental Law Education Awards**
 - Senior Scholar Category
 - Junior Scholar Category



ACADEMY WEBSITE

IUCNAEL Website: <http://www.iucnael.org>



1ST MEETING OF ACADEMY'S TEACHING & CAPACITY-BUILDING COMMITTEE, BONN, 2008



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•APCEL, National University of Singapore



•Chongqing University School of Law



•RIEL, Wuhan University



•University of Ottawa Faculty of Law



•Vermont Law School



•USAID



•Asian Development Bank



THE IUCN WORLD COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL LAW (WCEL)

- WCEL is one of six specialised 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
- 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 1,400 members across 120 countries
- Members serve in their personal capacity, although they might come from governmental or non-governmental organisations, might be active in private law practice, attached to a university or an international organisation.

WCEL CHAIRS

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



WCEL ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

- Led by a Steering Committee consisting of the Chair, the Deputy Chair and the Steering Committee Members
- Director of the Environmental Law Centre is an ex officio member of the Steering Committee
- Steering Committee meets at least once a year to discuss the implementation of the IUCN Law Programme and to decide on the future of Commission initiatives
- Supported by a WCEL Liaison Officer based in Washington DC and by the staff of the IUCN Environmental Law Centre, especially the Legal Officers.



WCEL SPECIALIST GROUPS

Specialist Groups

- Access and Benefit-Sharing (WCEL/SSC Joint Specialist Group)
- Armed Conflict and the Environment
- Energy and Climate Change
- Compliance and Enforcement
- Ethics
- Indigenous Peoples, Customary & Environmental Laws and Human Rights (SPICEH)

Chairs

- Tomme Young,
Lily Rodriguez,
Evanson Chege
- Carl Bruch, Michael Bothe
- Richard Ottinger, Wang Xi
- Kenneth Markowitz
- Klaus Bosselmann,
Peter Burdon
- Kristen Walker-Painemilla,
Juanita Cabrera Lopez



WCEL SPECIALIST GROUPS (cont'd)

- Oceans, Coasts and Coral Reefs
David VanderZwaag,
Nilufer Oral
 - Protected Areas Law and Policy Group
(WCEL/WCPA Joint Specialist Group)
Antonio Benjamin, Ben Boer
 - Sustainable Soil and Desertification
Ian Hannam, Irene Heuser,
Paul Martin
 - Water and Wetlands
Owen McIntyre
- Also: **WCEL Early Career Group**
Michelle Lim



OTHER WCEL ACTIVITIES

- ***Promote the IUCN Academy of Environmental Law*** – WCEL promotes 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



WCEL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

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



Thank you