

MARIA SAVASTA-KENNEDY
Clinical Professor of Law
UNC School of Law
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EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT LOS ANGELES, SCHOOL OF LAW

Juris Doctor

Moot Court Honors Program

Extern, U.N. Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Branch, Vienna, Austria

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT LOS ANGELES

Bachelor of Arts, Cum Laude, English Literature

Honors Thesis

UNIVERSITY OF EXETER, United Kingdom, Junior Year Abroad

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA, SCHOOL OF LAW 2000 - Present *Clinical*

Professor of Law

Teach Environmental Law, Environmental Practice & Policy and Environmental Justice.

Director, Externship Program

2005 - Present

Oversee and direct program, supervise and counsel students, and provide support for site supervisors. Teach externship companion classes focusing on experiential learning process, lawyering skills and ethical issues. Serve as faculty liaison to legal community.

Fulbright Lecturer

2012

Taught Lawyering Techniques at Northwest University in Xi'an China to Chinese graduate students. Co-taught extra-curricular seminar on Michael Sandel's Justice writings; lectured on climate justice issues; served as faculty advisor for moot court team.

Co-Director, Externship Program

1999- 2005

Designed and administered program; designed and taught and companion externship courses.

Adjunct Professor of Law

1998

Taught Legal Research, Reasoning, Writing & Advocacy, using original simulated case problem.

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY, SCHOOL OF LAW

1995 - 1997

Instructor of Law, Lawyering Program

Taught intensive year-long course for 1L students using simulated case problems in brief and memo writing, interviewing, counseling, negotiating and advocacy to develop a systematic and reflective approach to lawyering tasks. Extensive use of video-taping and small group critiques.

ROSEN, BIEN & ASARO, San Francisco, CA 1993 - 1994
Senior Litigation Associate
Litigated federal and state environmental, civil rights and commercial matters at trial and appellate levels. Researched and drafted successful appellate brief to Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Published opinions include *Association of National Advertisers, Inc. v. Lungren*, 44 F.3d 726 (9th Cir. 1994); and *Committee to Save the Mokelumne River v. East Bay Municipal Utility District*, 13 F.3d 305 (9th Cir. 1993).

SIERRA CLUB LEGAL DEFENSE FUND, San Francisco, CA 1991- 1993
Associate Attorney
Litigated federal environmental cases at trial and appellate levels. Drafted pleadings, motions and discovery. Prepared experts for testimony. Researched, wrote and successfully argued three motions for summary judgment. Researched, wrote and argued appellate brief before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Published opinions include *Association of National Advertisers, Inc. v. Lungren*, 809 F.Supp. 747 (N.D. Cal. 1992).

PETTIT & MARTIN, San Francisco, CA 1988 - 1991
Litigation Associate
Litigated federal and state environmental and commercial cases. Researched and drafted pleadings, motions and discovery. Argued motions, negotiated settlements and conducted depositions.

HONORS

FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR AWARD 2012
Council for the International Exchange of Scholars (CIES), Institute of International Education
Lecturer, Xi'an China

BIBLIOGRAPHY, PRODUCTS OF SCHOLARSHIP AND PRESENTATIONS

PUBLICATIONS:

North Carolina Environmental Law Practice Guide, Lexis-Nexis (2018)

The Newest Hybrid; Notes Toward Standardized Certification of Carbon Offsets,
34 N.C. J. Int'l L. & Com. Reg. 851 (2009).

PRESENTATIONS:

Environmental Justice; Old Stories and New Challenges

UNC Festival of Legal Learning, Environmental Law Symposium, February 2019

National v. Supra-National Climate Litigation: A Comparison of The Children's Trust Cases and the EU People's Climate Case

Presentation at Legal Italy, June 2018

PRESENTATIONS CONTINUED:

JOLT Symposium, February 2017

Moderated panel discussing the Benefits and Impacts of Demand Response Technology

Environmental Justice Update

UNC Festival of Legal Learning, Environmental Law Symposium, February 2017

Ethics and Supervision

UNC Festival of Legal Learning, February 2017

Presentation on legal and ethical response to sea level rise

Parr Center Workshop on Climate Change Ethics, October 2016

Environmental Justice Update

UNC Festival of Legal Learning, Environmental Law Symposium, February 2016

Ethical Supervision: Working with Beginners

Presenter for UNC Festival of Legal Learning, February 2015

CLE Presentation: Ethical Supervision, Working with Beginners

Co-Presenter, UNC School of Law, May 2014

Energy Injustice

Presenter for North Carolina Environmental Justice Network Summit: “Dismantling Environmental Racism in a “Color Blind” Society

October 2013

Addressing the Needs of the Energy Poor

Presenter for University of Minnesota Law School Consortium on Legal & Policy Pathways for Energy Innovation, April 2013

The Clean Water Act at 40

Presenter for UNC Festival of Legal Learning, Environmental Law Symposium, February 2013

Legalizing China; What Lawyers Need to Know About the New China

Co-Presenter, UNC Festival of Legal Learning, Environmental Law Symposium, February 2013

Carbon Reduction Tunnel Vision

UNC/Duke Junior Faculty Workshop, Chapel Hill, October 2012

Carbon Reduction Tunnel Vision

Presenter at Colloquium on Environmental Scholarship, Vermont School of Law, October 2012

The Evolution of Environmental Justice in the United States

Fulbright Lecture, Sichuan University, China, April 2012

Private Market v. Government Regulation of Pollution; Can the Market Regulate Itself?

Fulbright Lecture, Sichuan University, China, April 2012

PRESENTATIONS CONTINUED:

Climate Change and Fairness

Fulbright Lecture, Wuhan University, Research Institute of Environmental Law, China, May 2012

Market Solutions to Climate Change; Do they Work and are They Fair?

Fulbright Lecture, Northwest University, School of Politics and Law, China, June 2012

Creating a Just Economy: Strategies Moving Forward

Presenter at Duke Forum for Law and Social Change, Fourth Annual Symposium:
A Just Transition to a Green Economy, Duke School of Law January 2012

Air Pollution and the Surprising Role of the States

Presenter for UNC Festival of Legal Learning, Environmental Law Symposium, February 2011

Climate Change and Fairness

Presenter at AALS Mid-Year Property Meeting, NYC, June 2010

Geoengineering and Ethical Challenges of Technology

Presenter Washington and Lee University School of Law, March 2010

Progressivism and Environmental Justice

UNC Festival of Legal Learning, Environmental Law Symposium, February 2010

The Newest Hybrid; Notes Toward Standardized Certification of Carbon Offsets

University of Houston Law School, February 2009

Organics as a Model for Standardizing Carbon Offsets

Presenter at Symposium, UNC Journal of International and Commercial Regulation, “The Greenhouse Gas Marketplace; Commercial Regulation of Climate Change Solutions” November 2008

State and Regional Climate Change Measures

UNC Festival of Legal Learning, Environmental Law Symposium, February 2008

Solid & Hazardous Waste: Mega-Landfills

UNC Festival of Legal Learning, Environmental Law Symposium, February 2007

The Red Wolf in North Carolina

UNC Festival of Legal Learning, Environmental Law Symposium, February 2007

Preparing Witnesses for Deposition

UNC Festival of Legal Learning, February 2006

Legal Ethics and Professionalism: Listening Skills for Lawyers

UNC Festival of Legal Learning, February 1999

Freedom Speaks: Advertising and the First Amendment.

Served as environmental advertising expert on public television program produced by The Freedom Forum First Amendment Center, Nashville TN, 1995

Commercial Speech: Public Interest v. Private Gain.

Presenter at The Freedom Forum First Amendment Center, Arlington VA, 1992

TEACHING ACTIVITIES

EXTERNSHIP:

Semester in Practice Program: Supervise 7 to 12 students in distance learning course comprised of telephone and video conferences; journal submissions, group writing forums; onsite visits and group meetings. Traditionally taught in the fall semester only.

Fall and Spring Externship Program: Supervise 20 to 26 students each semester in course comprised of periodic class meetings, individual conferences, journal submissions, group writing forums.

Summer Externship Program: Supervise 20 – 25 students in summer course comprised of bi-weekly class meetings, individual conferences, journal submissions, group writing forums; fieldtrips.

ENVIRONMENTAL COURSES:

Environmental Law: Upper level survey course.

Environmental Law Practice Course: RWE/ Experiential course comprised of weekly class meetings that combine lectures on substantive law with extensive practical writing and individual feedback. Taught in spring semester on alternating basis with Environmental Justice. 16 or more students.

Environmental Justice Course: RWE/ Experiential course comprised of weekly class meetings that combine lectures on substantive law with extensive practical writing and individual feedback. Taught in spring semester on an alternating basis with Environmental Law Practice. 16 or more students.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

COUNCIL MEMBER	2010 -Present
North Carolina Bar Association, Environment, Energy and Natural Resources Council	
CHAIR of Sustainability Committee	2017 – Present
Wrote and oversaw sustainability essay contest for North Carolina High School students.	
CHAIR of Diversity Committee	2013 - 2017

FACULTY ADVISOR

Environmental Law Project

2010 - Present

Serve as faculty advisor to environmental student group; supervise numerous pro bono student projects over the years.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TRIAL ADVOCACY

Co-Director, Southeastern Regional Trial Program, 1998 - 2003

Instructor, Deposition workshops, 2003 - 2011

BAR EXAM GRADER, California Bar Exam, 1993, 1994

AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION, PROBAR Project, Harlingen, TX July 1989

Trial Attorney

Helped establish ABA program creating volunteer opportunities for private attorneys across the country to represent political asylum applicants at the Mexico – U.S. border. Provided trial assistance to Central American refugees applying for political asylum. Interviewed and prepared clients and witnesses for trial. Argued political asylum cases before United States Immigration Court. Co-authored *Coming to America, with Fear*, Barrister Magazine, Spring 1990.

MEMBER, State Bar of North Carolina, admitted 2011; State Bar of the District of Columbia, admitted 1995; State Bar of California, admitted 1988.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Current Service: Dean’s Advisory Committees; Judicial Clerkships Committee, 2014 – Present; Faculty Adviser for Environmental Law Project, 2004 – present; CE3 Board member.

Past service includes Elected Law School Representative to UNC Faculty Council, 2014 – 2018; Chair, Judicial Clerkship Committee; and service on various faculty committees including: Admissions Committee; Environmental Chair Search Committee; International Committee; Judicial Clerkship Committee; Skills Committee; Readmission Committee.

RESEARCH STATEMENT

My scholarship will continue to focus on examining and explaining the practice of environmental law and environmental justice, as well as exploring regulatory and market responses to pollution control and climate change.

TEACHING STATEMENT

I strive to meet each student where they are and work with them to apply legal principles, reasoning and analysis to real life (or simulated real life) matters. I came to teaching through the model of “experiential learning” and that is the method I employ in my courses. My goal is to facilitate the development of the students to become skilled, ethical, self-aware and engaged practitioners, law clerks, or whatever their next step may be when they graduate.