

**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*

**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT LOS ANGELES**  
*Bachelor of Arts, Cum Laude, English Literature*

**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.

*Author, LexisNexis Practice Guide: North Carolina Environmental Law* 2018- Present  
Author of practice guide for students and practitioners of environmental law in North Carolina.

*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.

**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. 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 and motions. Argued motions, negotiated settlements and conducted depositions.

### **BAR MEMBERSHIPS**

North Carolina (admitted 2011); District of Columbia (admitted 1995); California (admitted 1988).

### **SELECT HONORS AND SERVICE**

**FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR AWARD** 2012

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

**NORTH CAROLINA BAR ASSOCIATION TASK FORCE ON EQUITY & INCLUSION**

Task Force Member 2020 – Present

**NORTH CAROLINA BAR ASSOCIATION ENVIRONMENTAL, ENERGY AND  
NATURAL RESOURCES COUNCIL**

Council Member 2010 - Present

### **FACULTY ADVISOR**

**Environmental Pro Bono Projects** 2000 - Present

Current project address well contamination in rural North Carolina. Voted Pro Bono Faculty of the Year by students in 2020.

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

*Founding Trial Attorney*

Helped establish ABA program creating volunteer opportunities for attorneys across the country to represent political asylum applicants at the Mexico – U.S. border. Program is ongoing.

### **BIBLIOGRAPHY, SCHOLARSHIP AND PRESENTATIONS**

#### **PUBLICATIONS:**

North Carolina Environmental Law Practice Guide, Lexis-Nexis (2023)

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

## **PRESENTATIONS:**

### *Environmental Justice Update*

UNC Festival of Legal Learning, Environmental Law Symposium, February 2020, 2021

### *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

### 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

*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*

UNC Journal of International and Commercial Regulation, 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.

**Environmental Justice Course:** RWE/ Experiential course comprised of weekly class meetings that combine lectures on substantive law with extensive practical writing and individual feedback.

### **UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

**Current Service:** Chair, International Committee; Building Task Force Member.

**Past service** includes Elected Law School Representative to UNC Faculty Council, 2014 – 2018; University Teaching Awards Committee; 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 focuses on examining and explaining the practice of environmental law and environmental justice, as well as exploring regulatory and market responses to pollution control, climate change and climate justice

## **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 from UNC School of Law.