

16th ANNUAL INDIGENOUS LAW CONFERENCE


OCTOBER 10-11, 2019 • EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN • KEYNOTE CHRISSI ROSS NIMMO

We collectively acknowledge that Michigan State University occupies the ancestral, traditional, and contemporary Lands of the Anishinaabeg – Three Fires Confederacy of Ojibwe, Odawa, and Potawatomi peoples. In particular, the University resides on Land ceded in the 1819 Treaty of Saginaw.

We recognize, support, and advocate for the sovereignty of Michigan's twelve federally-recognized Indian nations, for historic Indigenous communities in Michigan, for Indigenous individuals and communities who live here now, and for those who were forcibly removed from their Homelands.

By offering this Land Acknowledgement, we affirm Indigenous sovereignty and will work to hold Michigan State University more accountable to the needs of American Indian and Indigenous peoples.

For an extended Land Acknowledgement, please visit aisp.msu.edu

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|-------|---------------------------------------|--|
| 3 | Welcome | |
| 4 | Keynote speaker | |
| 5 | About the Hosts |  |
| 6 | About the Conference & Art | |
| 7-8 | Sponsors |  |
| 9 | General Information: Wifi & Addresses |  |
| 10 | Pre-Conference Activities | |
| 11-12 | Day 1 Schedule |  |
| 13-14 | Day 2 Schedule | |
| 15-23 | Speaker Biographies |  |
| 24-25 | TICA Board Member Biographies |   |

Boozhoo! Yá'át'ééh! Posoh! Hello!

On behalf of ILPC and TICA, we are so happy to have you here at the annual Indigenous Law Conference. You are on the lands of the Anishinaabeg, or the Confederacy of the Ojibwe, Odawa, and Bodewademi.

Over the next few days, we hope to foster excellent discussion and provide you with useful, unique information tailored to those who practice directly for tribes. Each February we put out a call for panels, and those submissions create an engaging conference with a lot of CLEs and a lot of laughter.

The support of our sponsors is key to the functions of this conference, including travel for presenters, the delicious food, the materials, and the excellent TICA swag. We also want to thank MSU Technology, Events, and Communications for all of their work and support.

During your stay please feel free to ask us for anything you might need. Our goal is to make you feel welcome while you learn. This booklet includes helpful information, so please peruse it at your leisure. We encourage you to engage with other conference participants, including law school students who are eager to meet you, and enjoy yourself while here on this beautiful campus.

Miigwetch! Ahéhee'! Waewaenan! Thank you!

TICA Conference Commitee

Doreen McPaul
Stephen Greetham
James Washinawatok

ILPC

Kate Fort
Matthew L.M. Fletcher
Neoshia Roemer
Monica Williamson



CHRISSI ROSS NIMMO

DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL
CHEROKEE NATION

Chrissi Ross Nimmo, Cherokee Nation citizen, is the Deputy Attorney General for Cherokee Nation. Chrissi is the managing attorney for the staff of 9 attorneys. She was lead counsel for Cherokee Nation in *Adoptive Couple v. Baby Girl* (known as “Baby Veronica”) before the United State Supreme Court. She primarily focuses on in-house counsel duties, gaming, and the Indian Child Welfare Act. She regularly presents continuing legal education on Indian law across the country and is passionate about the legal defense of the Indian Child Welfare Act.



Chrissi serves as a founding Board member for Partnership for Native Children, “a 501(c)(3) non-profit started by a group of motivated women from across Indian Country who were increasingly concerned with the intense negative media coverage of the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) and accompanying legal cases. Primarily a group of working attorneys engaged with anti-ICWA litigation around the country, the PNC knows firsthand the children and families ICWA protects, and the devastating consequences of what happens when those families are torn apart.”

Chrissi was recently elected to the Tahlequah Public Schools Board of Education and serves on the Northeastern State University Foundation Board of Trustees. Chrissi and her husband Jim, a Tulsa firefighter, reside in Tahlequah with their 5 year old twins, Mattie and James, and 2 year old Emmy.

THE TRIBAL IN-HOUSE COUNSEL ASSOCIATION

is geared toward providing service and resources to attorneys who provide legal services directly to Tribes and Tribal Governments. TICA provides both a forum and community for Tribal Government legal issues by connecting members through the annual conference, receptions, and ListServ.

TICA was formed in 2012 out of a growing Tribal in-house practice structure. Either for governmental need or cost-effective solutions, more and more Tribes find that an internal legal structure in addition to any law firm issue-specific representation is a necessity. While there are several legal associations geared for Tribal practitioners in general, TICA focuses on issues and practices specific and unique to lawyers employed directly by a Tribal Government, Tribal Enterprise, or other similar entities.

**THE INDIGENOUS LAW AND POLICY CENTER** at MSU

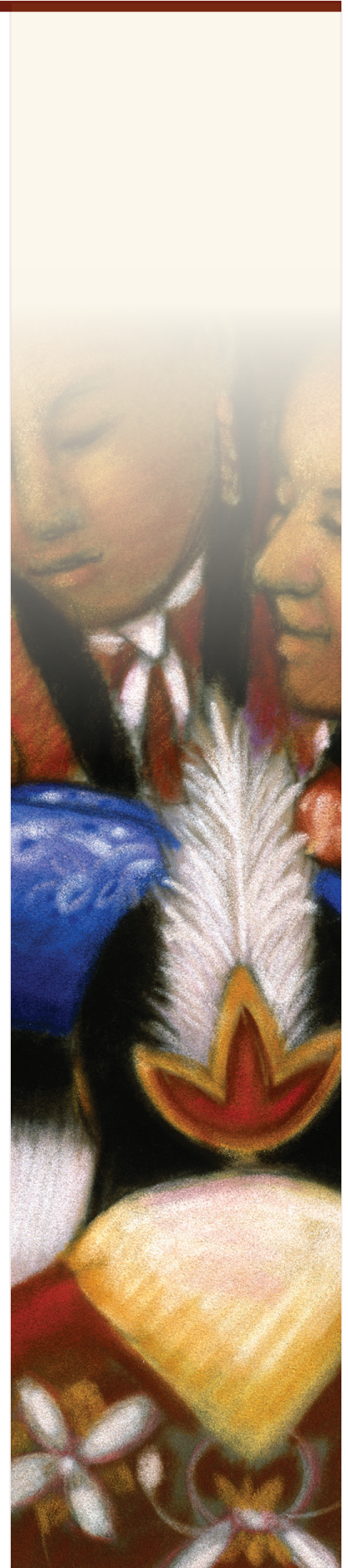
Law is one of a handful of Indigenous law certificate programs in the United States. Our dual mission is to increase the number of Native lawyers and train lawyers in Indigenous law. ILPC alumni work across Turtle Island in practice settings that range from small and large tribes, major law firms, non-profits, and the federal government.



THE INDIGENOUS LAW CONFERENCE was an obvious priority when the ILPC was established in 2003 at Michigan State University. A collaborative partnership with TICA that began in 2015 allowed the Indigenous Law Conference to become a cutting edge event led by those in the field. In-House counsel are some of the most important people working for tribal self-governance. Today, the conference's main goal is to provide useful information for Tribal In-House counsel. Prior to this partnership, the conferences have been centered on a variety of themes.

The ILPC/TICA Indigenous Law Conference gives new and interesting scholars a forum, provides students an opportunity to meet professionals in the field, and promotes Indian Law within our law school, Michigan State University, the State of Michigan, and beyond.

THE ARTIST, DANIEL BORJA RAMIREZ, was born on June 1st, 1953 and is a certified descendant of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe of Michigan. His mother was born in 1917 and was full blood Saginaw Swan Creek Black River Chippewa. For many years, his dedication to painting contemporary woodland images has been in memory of his mother. With her as an inspiration, Mr. Ramirez has received his Bachelor's degree and a Master's in Fine Arts, both from the University of Michigan, and has built a successful art business. Mr. Ramirez has won several awards across America in prestigious art competitions. He has been well recognized for his work in watercolors and acrylics and for his drawings in charcoal and pastels. The piece used for the 16th Annual Indigenous Law Conference is titled, "The Welcoming."



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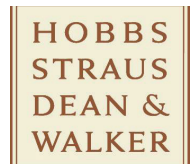
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GENERAL INFORMATION

For wifi access, please connect to *Law Guest*.
If you have difficulties, please wait and try again.

Afer the conference, presentation material will be available at
TurtleTalk.blog on the *2019 ILPC/TICA Annual Conference* page.

Conference Location

MSU College of Law
648 N Shaw Lane, East Lansing, MI 48824

Parking Location

Wharton Center
750 E Shaw Lane, East Lansing, MI 48824

Lodging and Michigan Flyer Location

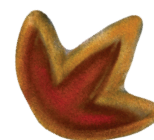
Marriott at University Place
300 M. A. C. Ave, East Lansing, MI 48823

Welcome Reception Location

Beggar's Banquet
218 Abbot Rd, East Lansing, MI 48823

Thursday Reception Location

HopCat
300 Grove St, East Lansing, MI 48823



16TH ANNUAL ILPC/TICA INDIGENOUS LAW CONFERENCE

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9

PRE-CONFERENCE

Events are held in 343 Castle Board Room unless otherwise noted.

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 9:00-1:00 | TICA Board Meeting |
| 1:00-4:00 | Blood Memory Documentary Screening Moot Court Room, 4th floor |
| 4:00-5:00 | ICWA Attorney Meeting Moot Court Room, 4th floor |
| 4:00-5:00 | Tribal Intern Recruitment and Information Session |
| 6:00-8:00 | Conference Welcome Reception Sponsor • Chickasaw Nation Beggars Banquet (see page 7 for details) |





16TH ANNUAL ILPC/TICA INDIGENOUS LAW CONFERENCE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10

DAY 1

Events are held in 343 Castle Board Room unless otherwise noted.

- 8:15 Registration and Continental Breakfast
- 8:45 **Welcome**
Mary A. Ferguson, Assistant Dean for Diversity & Equity Services
Professor Matthew L.M. Fletcher, ILPC
President Doreen N. McPaul, TICA
- 9:00 **Keynote Chrissi Ross Nimmo, Cherokee Nation**
Sponsor • Choctaw Nation
- 10-10:25 **ICWA Q&A**
Chrissi Nimmo, Cherokee Nation
Kate Fort, ILPC
April Olson, Rothstein Donatelli LLP
- 10:30-12:00 **Lessons from Standing Rock: Criminal Defense and Civil Litigation**
Sponsor • Rothstein Donatelli • Indian & Environmental Law Group
Moderator • Chloe Elm, MSU College of Law
April Olson, Rothstein Donatelli LLP
Peter Schoenburg, Rothstein Donatelli LLP
Nicole Ducheneaux, Big Fire Law & Policy Group LLP



DENTONS



Indian and Environmental
Law Group, PLLC

WB
WHITTEN BURRAGE

ROTHSTEIN | DONATELLI

MBSS
MAYNES, BRADFORD, SHIPPS & SHEFTTEL LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

KOGOVSEK
& ASSOCIATES, INC.

DAY 1 CONTINUED

12:00-12:45

Lunch

Sponsor • Jill Grant & Associates, LLC

12:45-2:15

Tribal Employment and #MeToo

Sponsor • Sonosky, Chambers, Sachse, Miller & Monkman, LLP

Moderator • Corey Hinton, Drummond Woodsum
Martina Gast, Forest County Potawatomi
Kaighn Smith, Drummond Woodsum
Amber Crotty, Navajo Nation
Katherine Belzowski, Navajo Nation



2:30-4:00

Tribal NAILS Programs/Legal Aid

Sponsor • Dentons • Whitten Burrage

Moderator • Yasmeen Farran, MSU College of Law
Dorothy Alther, California Indian Legal Services
Howard Belodoff, Idaho Legal Aid Services
Bill Brooks, Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi
Cameron Fraser, Michigan Indian Legal Services

4:00-4:15

Coffee Break

Sponsors • Kutak Rock • Hogen Adams

4:15-5:15

Diversifying the Legal Profession *Elimination of Bias*

Sponsor • Kogovsek & Associates • Maynes, Bradford, Shipps, & Sheftel LLP

Moderator • Austin Moore, MSU College of Law
Michele Mitchell, Seneca Nation of Indians
Lee M. Redeye, Lippes Mathias Wexler Friedman LLP
Neoshia Roemer, MSU ILPC

6:00

Reception

Sponsor • Cherokee Nation

END OF DAY 1





16TH ANNUAL ILPC/TICA INDIGENOUS LAW CONFERENCE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11



DAY 2

Events are held in 343 Castle Board Room unless otherwise noted.

8:15 Continental Breakfast

8:30-10:00

Secret Life of Litigators

Sponsor • Holland and Knight • Rosette LLP

Moderator • Sarah Zlotnicki, MSU College of Law

Jessica Intermill, Hogen Adams

Paul Spruhan, Navajo Nation

Zeke Fletcher, Fletcher Law PLLC

10:00-10:15

Coffee Break

Sponsors • Berg Hill Greenleaf Ruscitti LLP •

• Industrial Economics, Incorporated

10:15-11:45

Evaluating Business Proposals

Sponsor • Hobbs, Straus, Dean & Walker, LLP • Red Maple Consulting

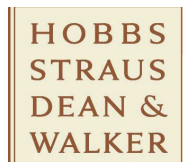
Moderator • Kathryn Petersen, MSU College of Law

TJ McReynolds, Pueblo of Nambé

Jennifer Whitener Ulrich, The Whitener Group

David Whitener, Squaxin Island Tribe

Jessica Intermill, Hogen Adams



Green Law Firm, P. C.



Attorneys at Law

Sacks Tierney P.A.
ATTORNEYS

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DAY 2 CONTINUED

11:45-12:45

Lunch

12:45-2:15

Working With States: Tax Disputes

Sponsor • Sacks Tierney P.A. • Green Law Firm, P.C.

Moderator • Cassandra Church, MSU Law

Tim Hennessy, Frederick Peebles & Patterson LLP

Rebecca Kidder, Fredericks Peebles & Patterson LLP

Skip Durocher, Dorsey & Whitney LLP

2:15-2:30

Coffee Break

Sponsor • Lewis Roca Rothberger Christie

2:30-4:00

Ethics In and Out of Indian Country: Transitioning Roles *Ethics*

Sponsor • Rey-Bear McLaughlin, LLP

Moderator • Sapphire Long Knife

Wenona T. Singel, Governor's Office, Michigan

Bryan Newland, Bay Mills Indian Community

Kim Varilek, Environmental Protection Agency

END OF CONFERENCE



**HOGEN
ADAMS**

Lewis Roca
ROTHGERBER CHRISTIE



BERG HILL
GREENLEAF RUSCITTI LLP

IEC

INDUSTRIAL ECONOMICS, INCORPORATED

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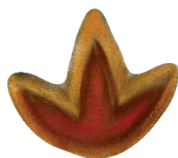
SPEAKERS & TICA BOARD MEMBERS

BIOGRAPHIES

Dorothy Alther was appointed the Executive Director of CILS in July 2013. Ms. Alther is the recipient of the national 2010 Pierce Hickerson Award which is granted to distinguished Indian legal services attorneys. She also received the “Outstanding Achievement in California Indian Law” award from the California Indian Lawyers Association in 2014. Dorothy has been an attorney with CILS since 1989 and has practiced Indian law since 1985. Ms. Alther was in the Bishop CILS Office until she relocated to the Escondido Office in 2003. In addition to her executive and administrative duties, Ms. Alther maintains an active case load serving as legal counsel for several Tribes and tribal entities. Her current work focuses on impact litigation on matters for federal Indian law as well as working directly with tribes on building tribal governmental infrastructure. Dorothy is a member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe and graduated from University of South Dakota and earned her J.D. from Northeastern University. Ms. Alther served as Managing Attorney at DNA’s People’s Legal Services in Crownpoint, New Mexico prior to coming to CILS and has acted as Tribal Attorney for the Suquamish Tribe in Washington.

Howard Belodoff began his career in 1978 with Idaho Legal Aid Services, Inc. after receiving a Reginald Heber Smith Fellowship. Since 1980 he has served as ILAS’s Director of Litigation and the Indian Law Unit. In 1996 he started a part time private practice that includes complex trial and appellate civil rights cases. He has successfully argued thirteen appeals in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. His work has established several case precedents of national significance involving in civil rights and Native American trust land management involving leases, utility rights of way, condemnation, and trespass cases and ICWA issues. He has given numerous presentations on civil rights, Indian law, trial skills, attorney fees, and strategic advocacy. He has been invited to speak to the LSC Board of Directors on Native American funding and delivery issues and has served on the NAILS Steering Committee and as NAILS’s representative on the NLADA’s Civil Policy Committee. He was recognized by the Idaho Trial Lawyers Association as the 2018 “Trial Lawyer of the Year” and has been named a “Super Lawyer” for the Rocky Mountain Region since 2010. He received his JD from the University of Idaho College of Law.

Katherine Belzowski has been practicing for six years with the Navajo Department of Justice. During this time, she has worked in Litigation and Employment, and more recently Economic and Community Development. During her time working on employment cases Ms. Belzowski saw first-hand the struggles of sexual harassment in the work place. Prior to joining the Navajo Department of Justice Ms. Belzowski worked in the Indian Law Program at Nevada Legal Services representing individual and tribal clients. Ms. Belzowski received her J.D. from the University of Minnesota and a L.L.M. in Indigenous Peoples Law and Policy from the University of Arizona. She is a member of the Michigan, Arizona, and Navajo bar.

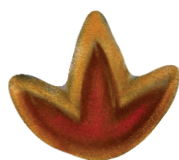


SPEAKERS

William Brooks received his law degree from the University of Colorado-Boulder (1988) and received his B.S. degree cum laude from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point (1984) where he majored in Wildlife Management, Natural Resource Management and Public Administration and Policy Analysis. Mr. Brooks currently serves as Special Counsel to the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi ("NHBP") Tribal Government after serving as Chief Legal Officer from 2008-2018. Mr. Brooks also serves as General Counsel for FireKeepers Development Authority, the instrumentality through which the NHBP owns and operates FireKeepers Casino Hotel and as counsel to Waseyabek Development Company, LLC, the tribally-organized limited liability company through which NHBP pursues non-gaming economic diversification. Mr. Brooks previously served as General Counsel for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians in Manistee, Michigan from 1997 through Feb. 2006, where he coordinated a wide range of legal work for the Band's government. Mr. Brooks previously worked at Michigan Indian Legal Services from 1989-1994. He has represented tribal governments in the negotiation of inter-governmental agreements including gaming compacts, taxation, law enforcement and environmental regulation. Mr. Brooks has also served as adjunct faculty at Michigan State University College of Law where he has taught Advanced Topics in Indian Law.

Delegate Amber Kanazbah Crotty is a member of the 24th Navajo Nation Council. She serves on the Budget and Finance Committee and is a member of Naabik'iyáti' Sexual Assault Prevention Subcommittee. She has worked to improve the safety of Navajo women both in and out of the workplace. In 2016 Delegate Crotty successfully introduced language that amended the Navajo Nation Code to strengthen sexual harassment protections for employees on the Nation. Her advocacy includes the campaign to increase awareness of missing and murdered Navajo people. Delegate Crotty completed her B.A. in American Indian Studies at the University of California Los Angeles, with a focus on Indigenous policy and government structures. She is born from the Kinyaa'ánii Clan, her Cheiis are Deeshchii'nii and from To'Halstoi (Sheep Springs, NM). She comes from a long legacy of women leaders, strong weavers, tenacious shepherders, and loving grandmas. As a delegate, mother, and community member, Delegate Crotty advocates for Navajo citizens who have little to no political agency, such as domestic violence victims, sexual assault survivors, children, LGBTQ2Si, mentally ill homeless, and ICWA children/families.

Nikki Ducheneaux is a litigator. She represents tribes and tribal entities in state, tribal, and federal courts, including state, tribal, and federal appellate courts and the U.S. Supreme Court. Ms. Ducheneaux's experience includes complex commercial litigation, federal regulatory litigation, and suits proceeding under the Administrative Procedures Act. Substantive areas include Indian Country e-commerce, tribal sovereign immunity, tribal civil jurisdiction, administrative law, environmental law, religious freedom, matters involving tribal sovereign immunity from suit, tribal treaty rights, constitutional law, election law, land-into-trust, taxation, tobacco, and cases arising under the Indian Child Welfare Act. Ms. Ducheneaux has experience coordinating concurrent



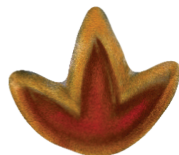
SPEAKERS

federal civil regulatory litigation and federal criminal investigations on behalf of tribal entities. Ms. Ducheneaux also has experience managing large e-discovery collections and productions in both civil and criminal matters. Recently, Ms. Ducheneaux has been lead litigation counsel for the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe (co-lead plaintiffs with the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe) in the ongoing Dakota Access Pipeline litigation, which resulted in a significant victory on summary judgment on the issue of treaty rights in June 2017. Ms. Ducheneaux was also on the team that represented the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Tribe of Potawatomi Indians (Gun Lake Tribe) in their 2017 victory in the U.S. Supreme Court in *Patchak v. Zinke*, 138 S.Ct. 897 (2017).

Skip Durocher is a partner with the international law firm Dorsey & Whitney LLP. He is co-Head of the firm's largest office, located in Minneapolis. He practices in the areas of complex commercial litigation and regulatory affairs, with particular emphasis on Indian and gaming law issues. He has represented Indian tribes, tribal entities, and other entities doing business in Indian country for over 25 years in federal, state and tribal courts. He has also represented tribal gaming commissions and other entities in background investigations and commission hearings. Mr. Durocher has been co-Chair of Dorsey's Indian Law Practice Group since 2009, and is recognized on a national basis by Chambers and The Best Lawyers in America in the field of Native American law.

Ezekiel "Zeke" Fletcher is an enrolled citizen of the Match-e-be-nash-she-wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians (a/k/a Gun Lake Tribe) located in West Michigan. Zeke is a graduate of the University of Michigan, and the University of Wisconsin Law School; and, he is licensed to practice in the state courts of Michigan and Wisconsin, federal courts in Michigan, Wisconsin, and Oklahoma, and numerous tribal court jurisdictions. Zeke has been a licensed attorney for over ten years, and founded Fletcher Law, PLLC in 2012. Zeke represents tribes and other tribal entities in all forums. He has represented tribes in federal court litigation involving tribal regulatory agencies, management contractors, as well as challenges to tribal trust land acquisitions by area landowners. State court litigation experience ranges with sovereign immunity issues, zoning disputes with local governments, to insurance cases involving torts relating to tribal governments and tribally-owned businesses including gaming facilities. Tribal Court litigation ranges from internal matters between branches of government, sovereign immunity matters, and enrollment/leadership disputes.

Kathryn (Kate) E. Fort is the Director of the Indian Law Clinic at the Michigan State University College of Law. In 2015, she started the Indian Child Welfare Act Appellate Project, which assists tribes in ICWA cases across the country. She is also the author of *American Indian Children and the Law*, published by Carolina Academic Press. In her role with the Center she teaches the Indian Law Clinic class and traditional classes in federal Indian law, researches and writes on behalf of Center clients, and manages administrative aspects of the Center. Ms. Fort has written articles on laches and land claims and has researched and written extensively on the Indian

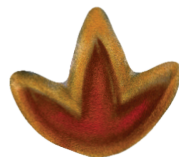


SPEAKERS

Child Welfare Act. Her publications include articles in the Harvard Public Health Review, George Mason Law Review, Saint Louis University Law Journal, and American Indian Law Review. She co-edited Facing the Future: The Indian Child Welfare Act at 30 with Wenona T. Singel and Matthew L.M. Fletcher (Michigan State University Press 2009). She co-edits the popular and influential Indian law blog, TurtleTalk with Matthew Fletcher. Ms. Fort graduated magna cum laude from Michigan State University College of Law with the Certificate in Indigenous Law, and is licensed to practice law in Michigan. She received her B.A. in History with honors from Hollins University in Roanoke, Virginia.

Cameron Fraser is the Executive Director for Michigan Indian Legal Services. She rejoined the MILS staff in 2007 after having served as a law clerk during the summer of 1998. Cami received her Bachelor of Science from the University of Iowa in 1997, where she majored in Political Science and minored in Anthropology and earned a certificate in American Indian and Native Studies. She earned her Juris Doctor from the University of Michigan in 2000. Upon graduation from law school, Cami practiced law in Alaska for over two years and then worked for a tribe in Washington State. She is a member of the Delaware Tribe of Indians, where she serves as an elected judge, and is also enrolled with the Cherokee Nation. She sits on the Steering Committee for the National Association of Indian Legal Services, is a past chair of the Indian Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan, and is a member of the State Bar's American Indian Law Committee.

Martina Gast is an attorney specializing in tribal labor and employment matters. She is currently employed with the Forest County Potawatomi Community in Wisconsin. She advises HR professionals on a daily basis regarding a wide range of matters related to the nearly 4,000 employees employed by the Tribe and its entities. Matters include risks assessments for discipline and terminations, pay practices, employment records and data, employee training and development, new employee onboarding, and social media usage. She is also responsible for drafting and analyzing policies and agreements, responding to state and federal agency requests, improving processes and procedures, and litigating employment cases in tribal, state, and federal courts, and before federal administrative agencies. Prior to joining the Forest County Potawatomi Community Legal Department, Martina practiced Indian law in Arizona with the Rothstein Law Firm handling a variety of matters for tribes and tribal entities, including employment grievance hearings, child welfare issues, and investigations. Martina began her legal career as a labor and employment attorney at Godfrey & Kahn in Wisconsin and Steptoe & Johnson in Arizona, where her practice focused on defending labor issues for a multinational retail corporation. Martina earned her JD from the University of Wisconsin Law School. As an undergraduate she received her BA from the University of Wisconsin – Madison in Anthropology and American Indian Studies. Martina is a member of the Red Rock Ojibwe First Nation.

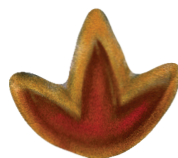


SPEAKERS

Tim Hennessy joined Fredericks Peebles & Patterson LLP (formerly Fredericks Peebles & Morgan LLP) in 2008, after graduating from Pomona College in 1997 and completing law school at the University of California, Davis, in 2004. He is admitted to practice in state and federal courts in California, the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribal Court, the D.C. District Court, U.S. Tax Court, and U.S. Courts of Appeal for the 8th, 9th, and Federal Circuits. Mr. Hennessy's experience includes civil litigation on behalf of Indian tribes before federal, state, and tribal courts and federal and state agencies, on a range of matters that include tribal gaming, tribal/state/federal regulatory and taxing jurisdiction, tribal governance, federal administrative law, tribal land claims, tribal per capita distributions, contract enforcement and fraud claims. Mr. Hennessy has advised tribal tort boards and employment review panels, and drafted legislation and policies for tribal government clients. He lives in Roseville, California with his wife and their two children.

Jessica Intermill is a founding member of Hogen Adams PLLC. She specializes in complex-case and treaty-rights litigation and advises tribes and their partners on federal Indian law, treaty rights, tribal governance, and sovereign immunity. Jessica has partnered with in-house counsel to represents tribes in tribal, federal, and state courts across the country, including the U.S. Supreme Court. She also assists tribes regarding governance issues, code drafting, and the day-to-day administration of tribal constitutions and codes. Jessica consistently earns Super Lawyer and AV-Preeminent ratings from her peers, and frequently publishes and presents on various Indian-law and tribal-sovereignty topics. Jessica has also partnered with the Minneapolis Public Schools to start the district's first-ever Indian law moot-court curriculum. Learn more about Jessica at <http://hogenadams.com/team/jessica-intermill/>.

Rebecca Kidder, after graduating from University of Michigan in 1994 and Yale Law School in 1997, worked for the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe and Cheyenne River Housing Authority for more than ten (10) years as in-house counsel. In 2008, she joined the firm of Abourezk & Zephier, and then joined Fredericks Peebles and Patterson LLP (formerly Fredericks Peebles & Morgan LLP). She is admitted to practice in numerous Tribal courts, South Dakota, the United State Supreme Court, U.S. 8th Circuit and South Dakota District Courts, and the Federal Court of Claims. Mrs. Kidder's entire career has been dedicated to representing Tribes and tribal entities. She has experience litigating tribal jurisdictional matters and claims including: reservation diminishment claims by states, tax litigation, sovereign immunity, federal pre-emption, and infringement on tribe's right to make their own laws and to be governed by them, environmental and water law, housing, health care, and education matters. She has over twenty years' experience with negotiation of tribal-state tax agreements and has been involved in all aspects of tribal governance, housing, and tribal education from design and program development, to litigating and defending tribal governments and tribal entity claims. She also assists tribes in government-to-government consultation efforts in education, health, environmental issues, and Department of the Interior programs. Mrs. Kidder also serves as the Vice Chairwoman of the Board of Disability Rights South Dakota. She lives in Rapid City, South Dakota with her husband Stephen Brings Plenty. Together, they have eight children and ten grandchildren.



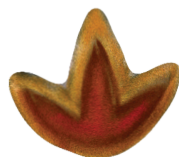
SPEAKERS

Thomas J. McReynolds (“TJ”) is an experienced and dedicated Indian law practitioner who currently serves as In-house General Counsel for the Pueblo of Nambe. He also serves as Of-Counsel for Kwenvoyouma Law, PLLC. He focuses on tribal economic development, energy & environmental matters, and Indian land and water rights. He has represented tribal clients in major fee-to-trust conversions, gaming and hospitality developments, land acquisition matters, monumental energy projects, oil and gas matters, and complex water rights settlements. He also provides legal advice to tribal governments concerning governance issues, corporate matters and also drafts laws, ordinances and regulations. His specialties include, Indian Gaming, fee-to-trust, tribal government, water, environmental law, oil and gas, and economic development. TJ was raised at the Pueblo de San Ildefonso, NM, and began his legal career in 2003. Upon graduating from the University of Denver, Strum College of Law, TJ clerked for the Honorable Nathan B. Coats of the Colorado Supreme Court and then joined an International Law firm in Washington, D.C. representing tribal governments and advocating for them before various federal agencies and congressional delegations. After his stint in Washington, D.C., TJ moved back west working as general counsel for a large tribe’s gaming regulatory body and then for a boutique Indian law firm where he continued his representation of tribal governments and tribally owned business and gaming facilities. TJ is admitted in Colorado, Washington, D.C., New Mexico and Arizona. He is also admitted to the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Michele Mitchell is a 1999 graduate of Cornell Law School. She currently serves as Acting General Counsel of the Seneca Nation. Her previous positions include Attorney at the National Indian Gaming Commission, the Native American Rights Fund, General Counsel of the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe, of which she is a member, and Deputy Counsel for the Seneca Gaming Corporation. Michele also currently sits as a Court of Appeals Judge for the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe. She has worked as in-house counsel for Indian Nations in New York since 2003 and has an extensive background in New York State-Indian Nation relations, Gaming Compacts and land claims.

Bryan Newland is the President/Chairperson of the Bay Mills Indian Community Executive Council. Bryan was elected to a two-year term of office in November 2017. As part of his duties as the President of the Bay Mills Indian Community, Bryan also serves on the Board of the Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority (“CORA”), which is a consortium of five federally recognized Indian tribes that were party to the 1836 Treaty of Washington. Prior to serving as President, Bryan Newland served as the Chief Judge of the Bay Mills Indian Community Tribal Court. From 2009 through 2012, he was a policy advisor to the Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs. Bryan Newland earned a law degree from the Michigan State University College of Law in 2007, where he also serves on the Board of Trustees; prior to earning a law degree, he earned a BA from Michigan State University’s James Madison College in 2003.

Chrissi Ross Nimmo, see page 9, Keynote Speaker.

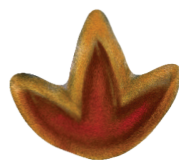


SPEAKERS

April Olson is a partner in the Tempe Office of the firm of Rothstein Donatelli LLP. She joined the firm in May 2010 after working for the Gila River Indian Community for three and a half years. April practices exclusively in the field of federal Indian law and tribal law and her Indian law experience includes a wide variety of practice areas including the dependency and adoption, criminal law, employment and labor law, civil litigation, tribal corporations and economic development, taxation and administrative law. A substantial part of April's practice also involves Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) matters. April has represented 9 tribes in ICWA matters in over 10 states across the country. April has provided ICWA representation to tribes at the trial court level and in appellate proceedings. In addition, April works with tribal social service departments and tribal courts to assess and make recommendations on existing practices and procedures and, in some instances, modify existing tribal codes. April also assists tribes in applying for and managing federal grants for tribal programs. Prior to law school, April did social work for the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa. April is licensed to practice in the State Courts of California and Arizona, the District Court of the Arizona, and has practiced in the tribal courts of the Gila River Indian Community, the San Carlos Apache Tribe, the Hualapai Tribe, the Kaibab Band of Pauite Indians, the Havasupai Tribe and the White Mountain Apache Tribe.

Lee M. Redeye is an attorney at the law firm Lippes Mathias Wexler Friedman LLP focusing on Indian law and general litigation matters. He is a member of the Seneca Nation of Indians where he previously served as: chairman for the Constitution and Law Reform Subcommittee, a Peacemaker's Court Clerk, a tribal Lay Advocate, and a Law Clerk in the Department of Law for the Seneca Nation. Lee currently serve as chairman of the board for Seneca VenCap LLC, an economic development corporation solely owned by the Seneca Nation of Indians.

Neoshia R. Roemer is the Staff Attorney at the Indigenous Law & Policy Center at Michigan State University College of Law in East Lansing, Michigan where she supervises in the Indian Law Clinic and on the ICWA Appellate Project, mentors first-year students, develops and maintains effective pipeline to law, recruitment, and retention programs, and conducts scholarly research. Ms. Roemer's academic interests include federal Indian Law policy, child welfare, children's rights, juvenile defense, and violence against women. Ms. Roemer has authored several scholarly articles in these areas. Ms. Roemer serves as Adjunct Faculty at the Saginaw Chippewa Tribal College, where she teaches Violence against Women in Native American Communities and Native American Children and Child Welfare. Additionally, she serves as the Social Media Communications Coordinator for Partnership for Native Children, a non-profit organization that disseminates media on current events surrounding the Indian Child Welfare Act. Ms. Roemer is a 2013 graduate of Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI), and she is a 2017 graduate of the University of New Mexico School of Law, where she graduated cum laude, earned a Law & Indigenous Peoples Certificate, and served as a staff member on the Tribal Law Journal. Ms. Roemer also received a Master of Arts in Latin American studies in 2017 from the University of New Mexico.

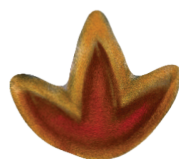


SPEAKERS

Peter Schoenburg is a partner in the Albuquerque offices of Rothstein, Donatelli, Hughes, Dahlstrom, Schoenburg & Bienvenu, LLP. He received his undergraduate degree at Yale University and his law degree at Rutgers Law School. He worked for over ten years at the state and federal public defender offices in New Mexico trying a wide variety of cases including capital homicides. He is also a past President of the New Mexico Criminal Defense Lawyers Association (NMCDLA). For ten years, Peter co-authored a bi-monthly column on the defense of drug cases in *The Champion*. In private practice since 1993, Peter specializes in complex criminal defense work in both federal and state courts. He is also a veteran trial advocacy teacher and an adjunct professor at the University of New Mexico School of Law. While in private practice he has also represented federal capital defendants as appointed 'learned counsel', most recently as part of the successful defense team in *USA v. Larry Lujan*, the first federal capital case tried in New Mexico since *Furman v. Georgia*. Peter has also successfully represented persons charged with a wide variety of white-collar criminal offenses involving political corruption, healthcare, tax crimes, environmental offenses, National Lab security violations, bank fraud, mail fraud, illegal trading in sacred tribal objects (NAGPRA and ARPA), and Foreign Corrupt Practices Act violations.

Wenona T. Singel is Deputy Legal Counsel and Advisor for Tribal Affairs for Governor Gretchen Whitmer. While working for the Governor's Office, Wenona is on leave from her position as Associate Professor of Law and Associate Director of the Indigenous Law & Policy Center at Michigan State University College of Law in East Lansing, Michigan. At MSU, Wenona teaches and publishes in the areas of Property; Federal Indian Law; and Natural Resources Law. She is a member of the American Law Institute and a Reporter for the Restatement of the Law of American Indians. She also received an appointment by President Barack Obama to the Board of the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation, a position she held for five years. Wenona is a member of the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, and she is married to Matthew Fletcher, with whom she has two sons named Owen and Emmett.

Kaighn Smith, Jr. leads Drummond Woodsum's nationwide Tribal Nations Services Group and is a member of the firm's Trial Services Group. He is a seasoned civil litigator in the field of federal Indian law and in civil rights, labor and employment, and contractual disputes. Kaighn fights for tribal nations in the federal, state, and tribal courts and before federal administrative agencies across the country. He has won cases in a wide range of areas, including jurisdiction and sovereignty disputes, gaming matters, labor and employment relations, land-in-trust and environmental matters, and fishing and water rights. Since 2012, Kaighn has served as associate reporter (with Professors Matthew L.M. Fletcher and Wenona Singel) on the Restatement of American Indian Law for the American Law Institute. In 2011, he published the leading treatise, *Labor and Employment Law in Indian Country*, with the Native American Rights Fund. He is listed in *Chambers USA* and in *Best Lawyers in America* for the category of Native American Law. Kaighn clerked for Judge Frank M. Coffin at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit and for Justice Louis Scolnik at the Maine Supreme Judicial Court. He serves as Adjunct Professor of American Indian Law at the University of Maine School of Law.



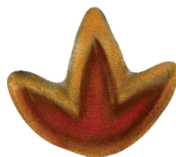
SPEAKERS

Paul Spruhan is Assistant Attorney General of the Litigation Unit at the Navajo Nation Department of Justice in Window Rock, Arizona. He received his A.B. in 1995 and his A.M. in 1996 from the University of Chicago. He received his J.D. in 2000 from the University of New Mexico. He has several Indian law articles published in law reviews, including A Legal History of Blood Quantum in Federal Indian Law to 1935, 51 South Dakota Law Review 1 (2006). His latest article, CDIB: The Role of the Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood in Defining Native American Identity, was published by the American Indian Law Journal in May, 2018. He and his wife, Bidtah Becker, have two children and live in Fort Defiance on the Navajo Nation.

Kim Varilek serves as the Regional Representative at the Environmental Protection Agency Tribal Program for Region 8. Kimberly is an Eastern Shoshone tribal member who recently returned to Denver and is a practicing attorney with an emphasis on federal Indian law issues, including jurisdiction and tribal environmental concerns. In 2016 she was a served as a chair on the Denver American Indian Commission. Varilek is the former Attorney General for the Eastern Shoshone tribe in Wyoming where she worked for over seven years on general Indian law issues, policy, and litigation. She was in private practice in Colorado prior to working internally for the Easter Shoshone tribe.

David Whitener Jr. currently serves on the tribal council for Squaxin Island Tribe, which is located in western Washington at the southern tip of the Puget Sound. David has a range of experience from law enforcement to IT. He also served as the GM of Island Enterprises, Squaxin's economic development arm, while the casino was in development and has served on various boards and commissions. Davey brings the perspective of elected leader to this conversation on evaluating business proposals.

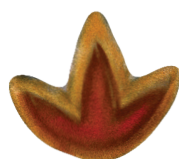
Jennifer Whitener Ulrich is the COO and a partner in the tribally owned consulting firm The Whitener Group. Jennifer has always wanted to own her own business. Jennifer is active in building The Whitener Group which is a growing family owned consulting business that helps tribes across the country with economic development planning, general strategic planning and tribal justice/court systems development. Jennifer holds an MBA in Sustainable Business and has diverse background in Indian Country work including economic development, strategic planning, nonprofit organizational development, entrepreneurial systems, marketing and financial analysis.



Stephan Greetham serves as Senior Counsel to the Chickasaw Nation. Greetham was previously a partner in the Albuquerque office of the Nordhaus Law Firm but has worked in-house with the Chickasaw for 12 years. His practice focuses primarily on complex litigation and negotiation matters relating to water and natural resources, taxation, and intergovernmental affairs. He has taught Federal Indian law courses at the University of New Mexico School of Law and Oklahoma University College of Law and will be teaching water law in spring 2019 at the Oklahoma City University School of Law. His most recent article—“Water Planning, Tribal Voices, and Creative Approaches: Seeking New Paths Through Tribal-State Water Conflict By Collaboration On State Water Planning Efforts”—appears in the Winter 2018 issue of the *Natural Resources Journal*.

Brian Guth has worked with Indian tribes for most of his professional career. For the last six years, he has served as In-House Counsel to the United Auburn Indian Community, a federally recognized Indian tribe located near Sacramento, California. His experience also includes roughly seven years working for a large national law firm that served as both outside counsel and General Counsel for a number of tribes across the country. In between those two jobs, he worked for a year with a small California law firm, representing cities and other public agencies. He attended college at La Sierra University and obtained his law degree from the University of California Berkeley School of Law (Boalt Hall).

Doreen Nanibaa McPaul is Navajo (Kinyaa’áanii) and grew up on the Reservation in Chinle, AZ. She is a graduate of Princeton University and earned her Juris Doctorate from the ASU College of Law, where she also received a Certificate in Federal Indian Law and served as a staff writer for the ASU Law Journal. She currently serves as the Navajo Nation Attorney General and oversees the Navajo Nation Department of Justice in Arizona. Previously, Ms. McPaul worked as an Assistant Attorney General for the Pascua Yaqui Tribe in Tucson, AZ. She has practiced law for 17 years, including over 10 years as a tribal in-house attorney. She has also worked as a judicial law clerk, a tribal court staff attorney, an associate attorney for a boutique Indian law firm, and as a visiting clinical law professor and legal clinic director. She is admitted to practice law in Arizona and New Mexico, as well as before several tribal and federal courts. She is a founding board member and the current president of the Tribal In-House Counsel Association (TICA). She is also the first Native American to serve on the State Bar of Arizona Board of Governors. On a personal note, Ms. McPaul is married to SFC Mark McPaul and they have three sons.



Peter Ortego is the General Counsel for the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, where he has been employed in the Tribe's Justice Department since Spring 2000. Peter received his Juris Doctor in 1993 from the University of Colorado, Boulder, and he received a B.A. in Philosophy in 1989 from the University of California, Berkeley. Peter has practiced law primarily in the areas of Indian Law, Criminal Law, and Family Law since 1994 and has practiced in Colorado state and federal courts, New Mexico federal courts, and the Court of Indian Offenses, Ute Mountain Ute Agency. Peter is on several tribal, local, state and federal boards and commissions including as a founding member of the Tribal In-House Counsel Association. Peter lectures annually on Indian Law topics at the Denver University Sturm School of Law, the University of Boulder Law School, and several conferences and events.

Virjinya Torrez is Cherokee, Seminole, and Muscogee Creek, and is an enrolled member of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma. She is currently an Assistant Attorney General for the Pascua Yaqui Tribe. She earned her B.A. at the University of Iowa, and then earned both her M.A. and J.D. from the University of Arizona. Virjinya started her legal career as an associate at Vingelli & Errico, a small general practice firm in Tucson, Arizona; and then opened her own law firm. Immediately prior to joining the Pascua Yaqui Tribe's Office of Attorney General, Virjinya served five years as an Assistant Attorney General for the Tohono O'odham Nation. Virjinya is the mother of three boys: ages 21, 8, and 4.

Paul Spruhan, see page 23, speaker biographies.

James Washinawatok II received his law degree from the University of Wisconsin Law School and a masters in law and policy from the University of Arizona College of Law's Indigenous Peoples Law & Policy Program. During law school, he clerked with the Indian Law Resource Center in Helena, MT and with the Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature. After law school, he was a legal fellow with the National Congress of American Indians and a part-time clerk with Hobbs Straus Dean & Walker. He relocated to the Southwest and joined the Nordhaus Law Firm in Albuquerque, NM. In 2007, he was accepted into the Southern Ute Indian Tribe's in-house attorney training program in coordination with Maynes Bradford Shipps & Sheftel. After completing the training program, James has been a tribal attorney with the Southern Ute Legal Department for the past 11 years. He has been a lawyer for about 15 years, and has spent 13 of those years practicing Indian law. He is admitted to practice law in Wisconsin, New Mexico, Colorado, the Southern Ute Tribal court and other federal courts. In 2015, he was appointed to the Tribal In-House Council Association's board. Mr. Washinawatok is enrolled Menominee and has Mohawk ancestry, and grew up on the Menominee Reservation. He is married to Brenna Clani-Washinawatok, who is also an attorney, and they have a son and a daughter and live in Farmington, NM.



