Speaker Biographies

Alfred Brownell

*PHRGE Visiting Scholar*

Alfred Brownell is the Lead Campaigner and Founder of Green Advocates, Liberia’s first public interest environmental law and human rights organization. Alfred started Green Advocates to work with impoverished rural communities to ensure them a voice in decisions affecting their communities’ natural resources. Alfred has been one of the lead campaigners advocating for the reform of Liberia’s land, extractive and natural resources sectors since 2001. Before founding Green Advocates, Alfred represented and provided legal support to local communities affected by natural resource extraction operations such as rubber and palm oil plantations. Between 2006 and 2010, he campaigned for the recognition of the customary land and property rights of indigenous communities throughout Liberia. Alfred holds a Bachelor of Science in General Agriculture from the University of Liberia, a magna cum laude JD/LL.B degree in law from the Louis Arthur Grimes School of Law of the University of Liberia, and an LL.M in Environment and Energy Law from the Tulane Law School, New Orleans, USA.

Alice Blondel

*Swedwatch*

Alice Blondel is the Director of Swedwatch, an independent, non-governmental organization that investigates and reports on Swedish business relations in developing countries, with special attention to social and environmental concerns and poverty reduction in the global south. She has experience in strategic management and development, and has led investigation, research, and advocacy initiatives in the field of human rights, resource-based conflicts and climate change. Her academic background is in development studies and she has a Master’s Degree in International Humanitarian Assistance from Uppsala University in Sweden.

Chloe Ginsburg

*Rights and Resources Initiative*

Chloe Ginsburg has supported Rights and Resources Initiative as a Tenure Tracking Associate since March 2015, in addition to contributing to the Rights and Climate theme at RRI. She graduated from Drake University with a B.A. in environmental policy and politics with a concentration in primate studies. As an undergraduate student, she spent a semester studying in northeast Thailand, where she focused on social and environmental justice in the face of development. She also conducted field research on a chimpanzee population in Gishwati National Park in Rwanda.
Chris Jochnick  
Landesa

Chris Jochnick is an expert in global land rights and social entrepreneurship with decades of experience in international development. Since August 2015, he has been the CEO of Landesa, a civil society organization working with governments, communities, and other stakeholders in more than 50 countries to advance land rights reforms through pro-poor, gender sensitive law and policy. Prior to joining Landesa, he led Oxfam America’s Private Sector Department, working to advance sustainable and ethical business practices through shareholder engagement, value chain assessments, and collaborative advocacy initiatives, including the successful “Behind the Brands” campaign. Before joining Oxfam, he worked as a corporate attorney on Wall Street, working on corporate governance and social responsibility issues. He spent several years working in Latin America, where he worked to address threats to the land rights of indigenous peoples. He also co-founded and directed two pioneering non-profit organizations: the Center for Economic and Social Rights and the Ecuador-based Centros De Derechos Economicos y Sociales. Jochnick is a graduate of Harvard Law School, where he now teaches a course on business and human rights. He is also a former fellow of the MacArthur Foundation and Echoing Green. He is Chair of the Business and Human Rights Resource Centre and on the Steering Committee of the Sorensen Center for International Peace and Justice. He is also a member of the advisory council of the International Land and Forest Tenure Facility, and of the Center for Business and Human Rights at NYU Stern School of Business.

Irit Tamir  
Oxfam America

Irit Tamir is the Advocacy Manager for Oxfam America’s Private Sector Department. In her role, Irit oversees Oxfam’s advocacy and campaigns work focused on corporate behavior, working with companies to ensure that their business practices result in positive social and environmental impacts for vulnerable communities throughout the world. Most recently, she served as the policy lead for Oxfam International’s Behind the Brands campaign. Irit has also contributed to numerous Oxfam reports and publications focusing on business and human rights issues, and was co-author of the 2015 report Community Voice in Human Rights Impact Assessments. She is also a frequent commentator for major news outlets such as NPR, The Guardian, and the New York Times, discussing the intersection of agricultural policies, labor, human rights and business practices. Irit holds a JD from Boston College Law School and a master’s in international law from the University of Miami Law School where she was a Ford Foundation fellow. She has had years of experience in government relations, and she formerly served as a prosecutor supervising civil rights prosecutions and hate crimes.
Jeremy Paul
*Northeastern University School of Law*

Jeremy Paul has served as Dean of Northeastern University School of Law since 2012. A 1978 graduate of Princeton University, he received his law degree from Harvard in 1981. Before coming to Northeastern, Dean Paul served for 23 years on the faculty of the University of Connecticut School of Law, where he was dean and the Thomas F. Gallivan, Jr. Professor of Real Property Law from 2007 until 2012. Dean Paul’s scholarly work has been published in the *Texas Law Review, Michigan Law Review, University of Southern California Law Review* and *Washington Monthly*. In addition to his long-term career in teaching, Dean Paul served as a law clerk to Judge Irving R. Kaufman of the US Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit; as Professor-in-Residence at the Appellate Staff of the Civil Division of the US Department of Justice; and as assistant to the president of Travelers Group. He has also taught at the University of Miami and at Boston College Law School.

Kevin Murray
*Program on Human Rights and the Global Economy*

Prior to joining PHRGE in 2012, Kevin spent seven years at Kevin Murray Strategic Consulting, where he was Founder and Senior Consultant. He also served for 25 years in leadership positions within a variety of international development and human rights advocacy organizations including Oxfam America, Jesuit Refugee Service, Lutheran World Relief, Grassroots International and Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. He worked as a housing rights activist in Boston with City Life/Vida Urbana for much of the decade of the 1980s, and for six years, lived and worked in Central America, primarily El Salvador. His publications include two books (Inside El Salvador and El Salvador: Peace on Trial) a book-length monograph (Rescuing Reconstruction: The Debate on Postwar Economic Recovery in El Salvador) and dozens of published articles on topics ranging from the right to affordable housing in Boston to U.S. policy and human rights in the Middle East. Since his children entered the Boston Public Schools (BPS), Murray has been active in public education advocacy. He writes a popular blog on public education issues from a parent perspective, and recently published a PHRGE article entitled, “At What Cost? The Charter School Model and the Human Right to Education.” Murray holds a degree in Political Economy from the University of Massachusetts/Amherst and lives in Roslindale, Mass., with his wife, Ellen Coletti, and their two children.
Liz Alden Wily  
Land Rights Now

Liz Alden Wily is an independent researcher and expert in the field of land tenure security and governance. Liz works globally, and has experience advising on matters of land policy in numerous African countries including Tanzania, Kenya, Namibia, Ghana, Cameroon, and Gabon, as well as designing land and natural resource programs in post-conflict situations such as Liberia, Sudan, Afghanistan and Nepal. She has also conducted research on land rights issues, focusing on finding ways to improve the national law status of community land rights for rural and indigenous populations. She has worked directly in 15 states to secure the legal right to community lands, and has also provided support and advising on numerous other short-term and regional initiatives. She is a Fellow of the Rights and Resources Initiative, a coalition of development organizations working to advance the land and resource rights of Indigenous populations and local communities. She is an Honorary Member of ICCA (Consortium for Indigenous Peoples’ and Community Conserved Areas); and a Member of the Advisory Council of the Community Land Protection Program of Namati. In 2015, she gave the Third Al-Moumin Distinguished Lecture on Environmental Peacebuilding in Washington D.C.

Malcolm Childress  
Land Alliance

Dr. Malcolm Childress is the Co-Executive Director and Senior Practice Manager for Urban and Environment for the Land Alliance, a “think and do tank” focused on resolving land issues in order to enable the prosperity of people and places. The organization aims to advance learning and practice to achieve land tenure security, as well as inclusive and sustainable use of land and natural resources. He has a multi-disciplinary background with 25 years of experiences in the fields of land policy and governance, urban and rural property rights, and strategy for managing critical global ecosystems.

Nicholas Tagliarino  
Land Portal

Nicholas joined the Land Portal in September 2016 as a Research Analyst. Previously, he worked at the World Resources Institute (WRI), an environmental think tank in Washington D.C. At WRI, he assessed the land tenure security of indigenous and community lands for LandMark, a global platform of community lands. He also examined and wrote about expropriation laws and practices as well as environmental regulatory frameworks for WRI’s The Access Initiative. In 2012-2013, Nicholas worked for the Law Reform Commission of Liberia in Monrovia and Oxfam India in New Delhi, where he conducted legal research related to land tenure, local governance, and other issues. He has a B.A.in Economics and Political Studies from Pitzer College and Doctor of Jurisprudence (JD) from Indiana University Maurer School of Law. Currently, he is pursuing at PhD at the University of Groningen Faculty of Law.
dissertation will focus on whether national expropriation, compensation, and resettlement laws in developing countries are adopting international standards designed to secure tenure rights and ensure responsible land governance.

**Peter Veit**  
*World Resources Institute*

Peter Veit is the Director of the Land and Resource Rights (LRR) initiative at the World Resources Institute. The LRR works to ensure the land tenure and natural resource rights of people in rural communities through research, the development of information platforms to document community rights, participation in policy and legislative reform processes, and supporting civil society organizations and actors in the field. Peter has over 25 years of experience working in environmental governance, with a particular focus on the links between environmental policy and democracy and human rights. He has conducted extensive research on natural resource management and environmental advocacy, including field research in Sierra Leone as a Fulbright Scholar, focusing on household variability in agricultural strategies and practices. He also served as Director of the Karisoke Mountain Gorilla Research Center in the 1970s, where he studied the behavior of mountain gorillas. He has held numerous research and teaching positions at the University of California, and he is currently and Adjunct Professor at the School of International Advanced Studies at Johns Hopkins University.

**Shalanda Baker**  
*Northeastern University School of Law*

Professor Shalanda Baker teaches courses at the law school and in the College of Social Sciences and Humanities related to her research interests in environmental law and energy law. She works closely with colleagues in Northeastern’s Global Resilience Institute, linking it to the School of Law’s new Center for Law, Innovation and Creativity (CLIC). She served as an Air Force officer prior to her honorable discharge under the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy, and became a vocal advocate for repeal of the policy. Following her graduation from law school, Baker clerked for Justice Roderick Ireland of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court. She also worked as a corporate and project finance associate for Bingham McCutchen LLP, initially in Boston and later in Japan. Professor Baker also completed a William H. Hastie Fellowship at the University of Wisconsin Law School, where she also received her LLM degree. In 2016, she won a Fulbright award and spent a year in Mexico exploring energy reform, climate change and indigenous rights. Before joining Northeastern's faculty, Professor Baker spent three years as an associate professor of law at the William S. Richardson School of Law, University of Hawai’i, where she was the founding director of the Energy Justice Program. Prior to that, she served on the faculty at University of San Francisco School of Law.
Téodyl Nkuintchu Tchoudjen
Citizen Voices for Change: Congo Basin Forest Monitoring Programme (CV4C)

Téodyl Nkuintchu is an anthropologist with 13 years of practical and academic experience in the field of natural resource and land governance. He has worked in a range of capacities to promote greater recognition of traditional knowledge in natural resource management in Africa, and has developed particular expertise in facilitating multi-actor dialogue, planning and decision-making processes. His recent appointments include: Regional Technical Advisor of a forest-related project in the Congo Basin (Current position) and Senior Programme Coordinator for the leading Cameroonian NGO ‘Centre for Environment and Development’ (CED). He has also led a range of Consultancy with various national and International agencies.

Ward Anseeuw
International Land Coalition

Ward Anseeuw is a Senior Technical Specialist at the International Land Coalition, a global alliance of civil society and intergovernmental organizations working to achieve people-centered land governance at the country level. He has background as a development economist and policy analyst, and is a research fellow at the Agricultural Research Centre for International Development (CIRAD). Prior to this, he served as a senior research fellow to the Post-Graduate School of Agriculture and Rural Development at the University of Pretoria. He also co-directed the Center for the Study of Governance Innovations (GovInn) which he founded in 2012. His experience is focused in agricultural and land policies, agrarian and land reforms, large-scale land acquisitions, and participatory approaches to data generation, governance and advocacy regarding land. He holds a PhD in Development Economics and a Master of Science in Agricultural Sciences.