

5TH ANNUAL ASPER INTLAW CONFERENCE

FEBRUARY 14-15, 2019

SPEAKERS:

Andrew Luesley

Andrew Luesley is a Doctor of Philosophy in Law student at the University of British Columbia, where he has also completed Juris Doctor and Master of Laws degrees. Originally born in Winnipeg, Manitoba; Andrew moved to BC at age 5 where he has lived ever since. Andrew's current research is in the area of contract, technology law and legal innovation, focusing on how the common law of contracts must evolve to deal with novel forms of electronic contracts including smart contracts. In his spare time, Andrew enjoys playing hockey for the UBC Law hockey team and learning Mandarin Chinese.

Jie (Jeanne) Huang

Dr. Jeanne Huang is an Associate Professor at the University of Sydney Law School. Her previous positions include Senior Lecturer at the University of New South Wales in Australia, Associate Professor and Associate Dean at Shanghai University of International Business and Economics School of Law in China. She was awarded Pujiang Rencai (Pujiang Scholar) in 2011 and Shuguang Xuezhe (Dawn Scholar) in 2013 by Shanghai Education Committee.

She obtained her Doctor of Juridical Science (S.J.D.) degree from Duke University School of Law in the US in 2010. She was a Foreign Research Fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Comparative and International Private Law in Hamburg, Germany, and also had research experience at The Hague Academy of International Law, and the Academy of International Arbitration Law, Paris, France.

She teaches and researches in the fields of private international law, e-commerce regulation, international investment law and dispute resolution (international litigation and arbitration). She has published four books including *Interregional Recognition and Enforcement of Civil and Commercial Judgments: Lessons for China from US and EU Laws*, published by Hart Publishing in 2014. Her articles have appeared in many peer-reviewed law journals, such as *Journal of Private International Law* and *Journal of International Economic Law*. Eleven of her articles are indexed by SSCI. Her research has been heavily funded by China National Social Science Fund (equivalent to Australia ARC Fund), China Ministry of Education, the China Law Society, Shanghai Government Development and Research Center Fund, and Shanghai Philosophy and Social Science Fund. In 2015, she won the First Prize of Excellent Scholarship awarded by the China Society of Private International Law and the Nomination Award of the Dong Biwu Prize for Youth Research in Law.

In addition, she works as an arbitrator at the Hong Kong International Arbitration Center, Shanghai International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission (Shanghai International Arbitration Center), Nanjing Arbitration Commission and Xi'an Arbitration Commission. She also serves as expert witness on issues of private international law and Chinese law in courts in Australia and the US.

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SPEAKERS:

Jorge Fabra-Zamora

Jorge Fabra-Zamora is Ph.D. Candidate with McMaster University's Philosophy Department. Jorge holds a law degree from University of Cartagena School of Law (Colombia) and a Master of Arts (Philosophy) from McMaster University. He is currently an instructor at McMaster's Peace Studies Department and a Research Assistant at the Project Indigenous Water Quality Tools.

Maria Lucia Passador, Ph.D.

Maria Lucia is currently a Research Fellow in Corporate Law at Bocconi University, Milan. She has published some papers in the fields of company law, financial markets law and comparative corporate law in the U.S. and in Europe. She mainly focuses on corporate governance codes in a comparative and empirical perspective, but her research interests involve corporate governance, protection of minority shareholders and directors' independence.

She is currently a Junior Academic Visitor at the Centre of Commercial Law at the University of Oxford, and she previously was Visiting Researcher at Max Planck Institute for Comparative and International Private Law (Summer 2018), at Columbia Law School (Spring 2018), at Harvard Law School - where she also worked as a Research Assistant - (Spring 2016 and 2017) and at Berkeley Law-Boalt Hall

Lauren Scharfstein

Lauren Scharfstein is an associate at the law firm of Stevenson Hood Thornton Beaubier, in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. She joined the firm in 2018 after completing a clerkship with the Court of Appeal for Saskatchewan in Regina. She received her Juris Doctor with Great Distinction from the University of Saskatchewan in 2017. She was awarded the Law Society of Saskatchewan Bronze Medal for finishing third overall in her graduating class.

Lauren maintains a general practice with an interest in corporate and commercial law, tax litigation, and wills and estate planning. She is actively involved with the Cententus Citizenship Education Foundation, a non-profit organization whose mandate is to advance education focused on responsible citizenship in an intentional manner. Lauren is committed to advancing Citizenship Education as she feels the world has reached a critical point in time where Citizenship Education is needed more than ever to ensure the advances made in the last-half of the 20th century in promoting and protecting human rights and democratic ideals, are maintained and advanced, with a new focus on citizenship responsibility.

Bashar H. Malkawi

Bashar H. Malkawi is Dean and Professor of Law at University of Sharjah. He received his S.J.D from American University, Washington College of Law, and LLM in International Trade Law from University of Arizona. His academic career has traversed both business and law schools, teaching a variety of business law courses in Jordan, UAE, Italy, and United States.

His research agenda focuses on the role of the World Trade Organization, regional trade agreements, Arab economic integration, with specific projects examining Arab countries' participation in the WTO dispute settlement mechanism, and business law (broadly conceived). Prof. Malkawi is the author of numerous books and monographs. His academic work has appeared or is forthcoming in several leading journals. In addition to law articles and academic books, his op-eds and other writings have appeared in the popular press in the U.S. and the Middle East. Many of his research papers and publications have been cited extensively. In addition to his scholarship, Prof. Malkawi regularly provides consulting service to international organizations, governments, and multinational law firms on matters related to commercial law.

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SPEAKERS:

Omolola A. Ogbolumani BSc, Msc, COREN, MNSE, MNCS, MIEEE, MCP, MCSA

Omolola A. Ogbolumani is a certified engineer and Lecturer in the Department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering at the University of Lagos. She was a consultant with Jobix Computech Consult Ltd., an Information Technology consulting firm in Lagos (2003-2013). She is currently working on her doctoral degree at the University of Lagos. She has authored and co-authored to articles in learned journals and papers in conferences. She received a best researcher awards at the 11th UNILAG Annual Conference and Fair 2016. Her current research field is Embedded Systems (Intelligent Systems, Remote Data Collection and Environmental Sustainability).

Howard Chitimira

Prof. Howard Chitimira teaches at the Faculty of Law of North-West University. He is also an advocate of the High Court of South Africa and a National Research Foundation (NRF) grant holder and rated legal scholar. Prof Chitimira holds the degrees LLB cum laude (UFH), LLM (UFH) and LLD (NMMU). For his doctorate he specialised in securities and financial markets law. To date, he has published three books and over thirty journal articles in this field. Prof Chitimira is a reviewer and editorial board member of several law journals in South Africa and elsewhere, as well as an external examiner for LLB, LLM and LLD degrees at several universities.

Mahan Ashouri

Mahan Ashouri a national of Iran, is an LLM student at McGill University, faculty of law, whose interest is in the field of international trade law. He is currently the president of McGill International Business and Trade Law Society, and his research focuses on the influence of economic sanctions on international trade law. He also holds an LLM degree in American Laws from the University of Richmond, Virginia, an LLB in Law, and a B.A. in sociology from the University of Tehran, Iran.

Peter Bowal

Peter has been a Professor of Business Law at the Haskayne School of Business, University of Calgary since 1991. His primary fields of research interest are international business corruption, employment law, regulation of whistleblowing, administrative regulation, and dispute resolution. His award-winning research appears in many Canadian and international law journals, professional publications and newspapers. He was twice a Canadian Fulbright scholar, produced and hosted his own weekly Alberta-wide radio talk show (LawTalk), and he served for 12 years as a Presiding Justice of the Peace for Alberta. Peter is member and chair of numerous quasi-judicial tribunals, and received the Alberta "Consumer Champion" award in recognition of his extensive and distinguished service to the consumer interest. He is the only non-American Judicial Fellow to work at the United States Supreme Court.

Bryan Schwartz

Dr. Bryan Schwartz (JSD Yale) is the Asper Professor of International Business and Trade Law at the University of Manitoba Law School. He is the founding editor of the *Asper Review of International Business and Trade Law*, and the principal author of ten books and over eighty academic articles.

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Asper Chair of International Business and Trade Law

In 1999, the Faculty of Law at the University of Manitoba established the Asper Chair of International Business and Trade Law. The Asper Chair sponsors a variety of research including academic conferences in international business and trade law. An internship program allows up to four students a year to work with the Asper Chair and creates opportunities for students to advance their education, while gaining skills necessary to pursue careers in law or business with an international focus. Additionally, students involved in the Asper program have the opportunity to participate in international commercial dispute resolution competitions.



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AGENDA - THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2019

7:00am - 9:00am	Breakfast & Introduction	
9:00am - 9:45am	Prof. Bashar H. Malkawia	Digitalization of Trade in Free Trade Agreements with Reference to the WTO and the USMCA: A Closer Look
9.50am - 10:35am	Prof. Bryan Schwartz	Asper Chair - Welcome note
10:35am - 10:50am	Break	
10:50am - 11:35am	Prof. Peter Bowal	Development and Enforcement of Canadian Anti-Corruption Law for International Business
11:40am - 12:25pm	Jorge Luis Fabra-Zamora (Video Conference)	A Hartian Practice-Based Account of Law of the World Trade Organization
12:25pm - 1:00pm	Lunch	
1:00pm - 1:45pm	Omolola Ogbolumani	Net Neutrality, Net Filtering, Internet Blackout: Political and Economic Implications of Mediation of Rights to Information on the Cyberspace
1:50pm - 2:35pm	Prof. Jeanne Huang	Internet (Un)Immunity: Where does China Stand?
2:35pm - 2:50pm	Break	
2:50pm - 3:35pm	Prof. Howard Chitimira	Prudential Regulation and the Combating of Fraud, Corruption and Maladministration in the South African Banking Institution after the VBS Scandal
3:40pm - 4:25pm	Maria Lucia Passador (Video Conference)	In Vogue Again: The Re-Rise of Spacs in the IPO Market

AGENDA - FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2019

7:00am - 9:00am	Breakfast	
9:00am - 9:45am	Andrew Luesley	The Law of Smart Contracts: Code is Law?
9:50am - 10:35am	Samson Ogana (Video Conference)	The Potential Application of Blockchain Smart Contracts to Oil and Gas Transactions in Nigeria: A New Legal Flexibility
10:35am - 10:50am	Break	
10:50am - 11:35am	Lauren Scharfstein	Freedom of Expression, Hate Speech and the Internet.
11:35am - 12:25pm	Dr. Kishore Dere	Understanding International Economic Impact of Blockchain Technology
12:25pm	End of Conference	

**Please note that this schedule may be subject to change. Eligible for up to 11.5 hours of professional development.*