

Thomas Michael McDonnell
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Experience

Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University:

Professor of Law; 2003-present; Associate Professor, 1992-2003.

Subjects: International Law, International Human Rights Law, Immigration Law, Immigration Justice Clinic, International Comparative Refugee Law, Criminal Law, Constitutional Law, Sales (Article 2 of the Uniform Commercial Code), International Sales (UN Convention on Contracts for the International Sale of Goods), Conflict of Laws, Legal Writing.

University of Florida College of Law:

Director of the Department of Legal Research and Writing and Appellate Advocacy; teaching a section; hiring, training and supervising six full-time attorney-instructors and 45 teaching assistants, in a Department responsible for teaching over 800 students annually.

California Western School of Law:

Visiting Assistant Professor, Acting Director of the Legal Skills Program.
Instructor, teaching Commercial Paper, Legal Research and Writing, and Appellate Advocacy.

University of Puget Sound School of Law (now Seattle University School of Law):

Instructor, teaching Legal Research and Writing, and Pretrial and Appellate Advocacy.

Publications

Book: UNITED STATES, INTERNATIONAL LAW, AND THE STRUGGLE AGAINST TERRORISM
(Revised Paperback edition, Routledge 2011).

(Hardcopy edition, Routledge 2009).

Journal Articles and Commentaries:

Work in Progress: Unsafe Anywhere, at Any Speed: “Safe” Third Country Agreements – Offshoring International Responsibilities Owed to Refugees and Asylum-Seekers.

(Thomas M. McDonnell, lead author; with Vanessa Merton) Enter at Your Own Risk: Criminalizing Asylum-Seekers, 51 COLUM. INT’L HUM. RIGHTS L. REV. 1 (November 2019). Named, “Immigration Law Article of the Day,” Immigration Prof Blog, Nov. 22, 2019, <https://lawprofessors.typepad.com/immigration/2019/11/immigration-article-of-the-day-enter-at-your-own-risk-criminalizing-asylum-seekers-by-thomas-m-mcdon.html>.

Commentary on Corrigendum of the “Decision on the Confirmation of Charges”, Prosecutor v. Abdallah Banda Abakaer Nourain and Saleh Mohammed Jerbo Jamu, International Criminal Court, Pre-Trial Chamber, 7 March 2011 in 52 ANNOTATED LEADING CASES OF INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNALS 113 (Cambridge: Intersentia 2018).

Rule of Law in the Age of the Drone: Requiring Transparency and Disqualifying Clandestine Actors: The CIA and the Joint Special Operations Command, 72 U. MIAMI L. REV. 34 (Fall 2017).

The Egyptian Coup, United States, and a Call to Strengthen the Rule of Law and Diplomacy rather than Military Counter-Terrorism, 41 N. CAR. J. INT’L L. 325 (2016)

Sow What You Reap?: Using Predator and Reaper Drones to Target and Kill Suspected Islamic Terrorists, 44 GEO. WASH. INT’L L. REV. 243 (2012).

The Death Penalty: An Obstacle to the ‘War against Terrorism’? 37 VAND. J. TRANS. L. 353 (2004).

Targeting Immigrants by Race and Nationality: Counterproductive in the ‘War on Terrorism’? 16 PACE INT’L L. REV. 19 (2004).

Cluster Bombs over Kosovo: A Violation of Humanitarian Law? 44 ARIZ. L. REV. 32 (Spring 2002).

Playing Beyond the Rules: A Realist and Rhetoric-Based Approach to Researching the Law and Solving Legal Problems, 67 UMKC L. REV. 285 (1998).

Defensively Invoking Treaties in American Courts—Jurisdictional Challenges under the U.N. Drug Trafficking Convention by Foreign Defendants Kidnapped Abroad by U.S. Agents, 37 WM. & MARY L. REV. 1401 (1996).

Joining Hands and Smarts: Teaching Manual Legal Research Through Collaborative Learning Groups, 40 J. LEGAL EDUC. 363 (1990).

Blog Essays, Amicus Brief, Op-Ed Pieces, and Newsletters

Editor, AALS Human Rights Law Section Newsletter, January 2021.

The Case for Closing Guantánamo Bay, HOMELAND SECURITY TODAY, March 28, 2016, <http://www.hstoday.us/columns/guest-commentaries/blog/the-case-for-closing-guantanamo-bay/6d7ac04cce3677b73fc3a96ec133ad64.html>

Editor, AALS International Law Section Newsletter, December 2015.

Questions on President Obama’s Strategy against ISIS, THE HILL’S CONGRESS BLOG, Sept. 17, 2014, <http://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/homeland-security/217888-questions-on-president-obamas-strategy-against-isis>.

United States, the Egyptian Coup, and the Threat of Terrorism, in INTERNATIONAL LAW PROF BLOG, Sept. 11, 2013, http://lawprofessors.typepad.com/international_law/2013/09/guest-editorial-.html.

The Death Penalty and the Boston Bomber, in PACE CRIMINAL JUSTICE CENTER BLOG, Apr. 29, 2013, at <http://pcjc.blogs.law.pace.edu/2013/04/29/the-death-penalty-and-the-boston-bomber/>

Expanding the Executive’s Power to Kill: The U.S. Justice Department’s Memo in INTERNATIONAL LAW PROF BLOG, Feb. 12, 2013, at http://lawprofessors.typepad.com/international_law/2013/02/expanding-the-executives-power-to-kill-the-us-justice-departments-memo.html.

Respect for International Law, McCain’s Record is Mixed, Op-Ed, THE NATIONAL LAW JOURNAL, April 28, 2008.

Death Penalty Won’t Deter, Op-Ed, THE NATIONAL LAW JOURNAL, May 15, 2006, at 15.

Assassination/Targeted Killing of Suspected Terrorists — A Violation of International Law? Posted on *Jus in Bello* Blog, Dec. 1, 2005.

Chair’s Column, Newsletter of the Association of American Law Schools Section on Legal Writing, Reasoning and Research, Fall 2004, at 2, available at <http://www.law.pace.edu/AALS/Fall%202004.09.14.04.pdf>.

Chair's Column, Newsletter of the Association of American Law Schools Section on Legal Writing, Reasoning and Research, Spring 2004, at 2, available at <http://www.law.pace.edu/aals/Spring%20200404-09-04.pdf>.

The Invasion and Occupation of Iraq: A Violation of International Law? PACE ALUMNI MAGAZINE, Winter 2004, at 16.

Editor, Newsletter of the Association of American Law Schools Section on Legal Writing, Reasoning and Research, Spring and Fall 2002, available, respectively, at:
Spring: <http://www.law.pace.edu/aals/pdf/spring2002.pdf>;
Fall: <http://www.law.pace.edu/aals/pdf/fall2002.pdf>.

Toward Teaching Editing: The Structured Self-Review Assignment, Newsletter of the Association of American Law Schools Section on Legal Writing, Reasoning and Research, Fall 1999.

Principal Author, Brief, Amicus Curiae, to the New York Court of Appeals in People v. Grant, dealing with right to counsel, on behalf of the New York Defenders Association, January 1998.

A Potentially Explosive Execution, THE NATIONAL LAW JOURNAL, at 17, Monday, July 7, 1997 (arguing against executing Timothy McVeigh).

Presentations

“Armenian Prisoners of War Held by Azerbaijan in Apparent Violation of International Law,” for panel sponsored by the Peace-Building and Rights Institute for the Study of Human Rights, at Columbia University, August 10, 2021.

Organized and moderated the panel entitled, “Criminalizing Asylum-Seekers as a Violation of International Law,” International Law Weekend, American Branch of the International Law Association, New York City, October 11, 2019.

“Revisiting Human Rights: the Universal Declaration at 70,” Panel Moderator, Pace International Law Review Symposium, White Plains, N.Y., April 5, 2019.

“The Global Refugee Crisis, the Rise of Ultra-Nationalist Leaders in the West, and the Response of International Law,” Panel of the International Law Section, American Association of Law Schools Annual Meeting, New Orleans, Jan. 5, 2019.

“The Trump Administration, Refugees and Asylum, and International Law,” Panel of the International Law Section,” American Association of Law Schools Annual Meeting, San Francisco, Jan. 3, 2018.

“The Trump Administration’s Foreign Policy—A Return to the Wild West? Westchester Business Council, White Plains, N.Y., Nov. 28, 2017.

“The Trump Administration’s Draconian Executive Order on Immigration,” Address to the Undergraduate Faculty at Pace University, N.Y., N.Y., Feb. 1, 2017.

“The Presidential Election 2017, Consequences for Immigrants,” Panel Discussion, arranged by Westchester County ACLU, White Plains, N.Y., Oct. 27, 2016.

“Energizing the Seminar by Enabling Students to Argue, Judge, Publish, Blog, and Tweet,” New England Consortium of Legal Writing Teachers Conference, Suffolk Law School, October 18, 2015.

“International Law, World Public Order, and the Challenge of ISIS,” Law and Society Association Annual Meeting, Seattle, May 30, 2015.

“Engineering Bodies of War,” Panelist, New York University School of Engineering, Feb. 12, 2015.

“The Egyptian Coup, United States, and the Genesis of Islamic Terrorism,” Faculty Colloquium, Suffolk Law School, Boston, November 17, 2014.

“The Egyptian Coup and its Relationship to United States Counter-Terrorism Policy and Practice,” Law and Society Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, May 29, 2014.

“Using Predator and Reaper Drones to Carry Out Assassinations or Targeted Killings of Suspected Islamic Terrorists,” Robotic Weapons Control Symposium, New York City, June 5, 2013.

“Using International Law in Federal and State Courts,” Pace Continuing Legal Education, New York City, April 24, 2013.

“Teaching International Law Beyond the Classroom,” Moderator and Principal Organizer of American Society of International Law, Teaching International Law Interest Group Conference, Pace University School of Law, May 6, 2011.

“Using Predator and Reaper Drones to Carry Out Assassinations/Targeted Killing of Suspected Islamic Terrorists—A Violation of International Law?” Faculty Roundtable, Pace University School of Law, June 10, 2010.

“The Challenges and Reward of Teaching International Students,” Moderator and Presenter, American Society of International Law, Annual General Meeting, Washington D. C., March 25, 2010.

“Innovative Approaches to Law Teaching,” Moderator, Teaching International Law Workshop, co-sponsored by the Teaching International Law Interest Group, American Society of

International Law, and the American Branch of the International Law Association, Hofstra University School of Law, October 19, 2009.

Co-Organizer, Teaching International Law Workshop, co-sponsored by the Teaching International Law Interest Group, American Society of International Law, and the American Branch of the International Law Association, Hofstra University School of Law, October 19, 2009.

“Using Simulations in International Law Teaching,” Moderator and Presenter, American Society of International Law, Annual General Meeting, Washington D. C., March 23, 2009.

“If not a War, What?”; Organized and moderated panel for the International Law Weekend of the American Branch of the International Law Association, New York City, October 26, 2007. Speakers included distinguished scholars Louise Doswald-Beck, Michael Scharf, and Michael Newton, and noted advocate for the Center on Constitutional Rights Gitanjali Gutierrez. Brochure: <http://www.ambranch.org/>.

“Why a Rose by any other Name Might Not Smell as Sweet—Using the ‘War on Terror’ to Eliminate Human Rights Law,” American Branch of the International Law Association, International Law Weekend, New York City, October 26, 2007.

“The International Criminal Court and the Critical Need for Outreach,” ICC Moot Court Conference, Pace University School of Law, November 2006.

“The World Trade Organization and Human Rights,” International Law Student Association Conference, Pace University School of Law, October 2005.

Address Honoring Professor Marilyn R. Walter, Brooklyn Law School, as Recipient of the 2005 Legal Writing Award, presented at AALS Legal Writing Section Luncheon, January 2005 in San Francisco.

“The Invasion and Occupation of Iraq: A Violation of International Law,” Introductory Presentation to the Blank Lecture, Pace University School of Law, Spring 2004.

“Shotgun Targeting of Immigrants: Counter-productive in the ‘War on Terrorism’?” Pace International Law Review Symposium on Immigration and Human Rights since 9/11, Fall 2003.

“Redefining Law to Embody Realism and Rhetoric in the Age of the Internet,” Legal Research & Writing Section, AALS Annual Meeting, New Orleans 2002.

“Redefining Law to Include Rhetoric, Custom, Oral Traditions, and Unpublished Rules,” Pace Faculty Colloquium, March 1999.

“Invoking Treaties in United States Courts,” Pace International Law Society Meeting, February 1999.

"Human Rights and Non-State Actors," organized and moderated the panel for the Association of the Bar of the City of New York's conference celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights," December 1998.

"Towards a Reflective Method of Learning Legal Research: Plans, Logs, and Student Self-Evaluation," Biennial Conference of the Legal Writing Institute, held at the Seattle University School of Law, August 1996.

"Pace's Innovative Integration of Legal Writing and Criminal Law," Meeting of the N.Y. Metropolitan Legal Writing Directors' Association, held at CUNY Law School, in December 1994.

"Writing Persuasively," Group Discussion Leader, Legal Research and Writing Workshop, ABA Annual Convention, held in Atlanta, August 1991.

"Designing Instructional Objectives to Enhance Law Teaching," Conference of the Legal Writing Institute, held at the University of Michigan School of Law, August 1990.

"Using Color Computer Graphics to Enhance and Enliven Legal Skills Instruction," Conference of the Legal Writing Institute, held at the University of Michigan School of Law, August 1990.

"The Politics of Ratifying the Torture Convention," Conference of Amnesty International Legal Support Network, held at the University of Cincinnati College of Law, February 1990.

Service Outside the Law School

Chair-Elect, Human Rights Law Section, American Association of Law Schools, January 2021 – present.

Executive Board Member, International Law Section, American Association of Law Schools, 2015 - present.

Chair, International Law Section, American Association of Law Schools, 2018 – 2019.

Member, ASIL Committee on 2013 Midyear Meeting in New York City.

Co-Chair, Teaching International Law Interest Group, American Society of International Law, 2008-2011; Vice-Chair, ASIL Teaching International Law Interest Group, 2006-2008.

Chair, American Association of Law Schools Section on Legal Writing, Reasoning and Research, 2004-2005; Vice Chair, AALS Section on Legal Writing Reasoning and Research, 2003-2004; Secretary, AALS Section on Legal Writing, Reasoning and Research (instituted and edited the Section Electronic Newsletter).

Lecturer, New York Judicial Institute, on Writing Effective and Persuasive Judicial Opinions.

Service Inside the Law School

Chair, Career Development Committee, Elisabeth Haub School of Law; and Member of the Pace University Student Learning Assessment Committee.

Previously Served as Co-Chair of the Appointments Committee responsible for hiring the Law School's first Latinx Faculty Member (Tony Varona) and as a member of various other committees both at the Law School and the University, including the Academic Standing Committee and the Middle States Accreditation Committee, as well as serving as Advisor to the Pace International Law Review, and the Drafter of the Library Section of the 2006-2007 Self-Study.

Faculty Advisor to the Jessup International Moot Court Team.

Memberships

American Branch of the International Law Association; International Committee for Robot Arms Control, American Immigration Lawyers Association; the Legal Writing Institute

Media Citations and Appearances

Guest, Bob Herbert's OP-ED.TV program, CUNY TV, February 25, 2020 (discussing the refugee crisis and President Trump's harsh immigration policies).

Interviewed on Connecticut's Weaponized Drone Proposal for Police, CBS 6 P.M. News, Channel 2, N.Y., N.Y., March 31, 2017.

Gloria Goodale, "Rolling Stone and 'El Chapo': Journalism or Entertainment?," THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, Jan. 12, 2016, <http://www.csmonitor.com/USA/2016/0112/Rolling-Stone-and-El-Chapo-Journalism-or-entertainment-video>.

Guest, Bob Herbert's OP-ED.TV program, CUNY TV, October 13, 2014 (discussing the rise of the Islamic State, United States, and Counterterrorism), <http://www.cuny.tv/show/opedtv/PR2003480>.

Quoted in lead article in USA Today, "Obama Calls on Nations to Confront Extremists," September 25, 2014, <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2014/09/24/obama-united-nations-general-assembly-syria-iraq-islamic-state/16143767/>.

Guest, Richard French Live, RNN News, September 5, 2014 (discussing Islamic State, United States, Russia and Ukraine), <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2wE2SVpsIt4>.

Quoted in Newsweek article, "Airstrikes Might Not Be Enough to Defeat ISIS," August 28, 2014, <http://www.newsweek.com/airstrikes-might-not-be-enough-defeat-islamic-state-267181>.

Education

Juris Doctor, Fordham Law School, Lincoln Center, N.Y., N.Y. 10023; Dean's List; Member of the Fordham Urban Law Journal; Chair of the Minority Group Recruitment Committee.

Bachelor of Arts, cum laude, Fordham University, Bronx, N.Y. 10458; Dean's List; Honors Program Member.

Practice

Sole Public Interest: Emphasizing consumer, immigration and social security law; Bwy. Plaza, 700 S. Flower, Los Angeles, CA 90017; Criminal Appellate Practice: Stapleton & McDonnell, Pen & Pencil Bldg., E. Setauket, N.Y. 11733.

Legal Services: Emphasizing consumer, immigration, and housing law, Legal Aid, 5228 Whittier Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90022; Williamsburg Legal Services, 260 Bwy., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11211.

Bar Admission and Language Skills

Admitted in New York and California.

Have a strong command of the Spanish language.

References Available on Request