

KLAU CENTER *for* CIVIL *and* HUMAN RIGHTS

YEAR IN REVIEW 2018-19

EDUCATE

INQUIRE

ENGAGE

Alexander McLean
Klau Center Inaugural Lecture
September 6, 2018



KLAU CENTER
FOR CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS



KLAU CENTER
YEAR IN REVIEW
2018-19
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FROM *the* DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

What a year it's been. In the fall, we celebrated the extraordinary generosity and vision of Rick and Molly Klau and their endowment of the Klau Center for Civil and Human Rights. In the academic year that followed, with the blessings of their partnership and support, the Klau Center began a new phase of expansion. It has been my privilege to lead the Center at this exciting time, and I am pleased to provide you with this report on our progress.

I have likened this year to framing a house. With the solid foundation of an endowment, we can now begin to dream and build a structure that can endure as a testament to the vision of Fr. Hesburgh and the generosity of the Klau family. Our first task is to set the cornerstone – to articulate our core mission and invest wisely in people and programs that will directly advance it.

The Klau Center's mission is at once both ambitious and fundamental: we seek to advance the God-given dignity of all human persons. We anchor this work in an integrative approach to civil and human rights. We aspire to provide transformative education, innovative research, and meaningful engagement with students and with the broader community. We do this work within the Keough School of Global Affairs as part of an interdisciplinary team devoted to holistic human flourishing. Most importantly, we do this work at Notre Dame, which encourages us to explore these critical issues in the context of our rich Catholic social tradition and, ultimately, to cultivate in our students “a sense of human solidarity and concern for the common good.”

Foundation poured and cornerstone set, we gathered our first group of student and faculty affiliates – a remarkable community of scholars eager to engage with the Klau Center. Fueled by these blossoming partnerships, the Center has been developing curricular plans, presenting a series of speakers, supporting research and internships, launching a new initiative on race, and convening an academic roundtable of prominent academics and practitioners. As the following pages will show, it has been a busy, productive, and gratifying year.

We will continue to build the Klau Center and to engage the Notre Dame community on vital questions of civil and human rights. In this inaugural year, I am proud of all the Klau Center has done and so grateful for the possibilities that lie ahead.

In Notre Dame,

Jennifer Mason McAward

JENNIFER MASON McAWARD

*Director,
Klau Center for Civil and Human Rights*

*Jennifer Mason McAward
with Klau Center student affiliates
at the Keough School* ►



“The Klau Center’s mission is at once both ambitious and fundamental: we seek to advance the God-given dignity of all human persons.”

Jennifer Mason McAward



INAUGURATING *the* KLAU CENTER

On Wednesday, September 5, 2019, the Keough School of Global Affairs inaugurated the Klau Center for Civil and Human Rights. A transformative gift from Rick and Molly Klau put the Center on a new trajectory to fulfill the founding vision of Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C.

Before a gathering of the Keough School community, key university leaders expressed their hopes and expectations for a strengthened civil and human rights center. Participants discussed extending the academic reach of the center, possibilities for interdisciplinary enrichment, and thoughts on long-term goal setting.

The following day Alexander McLean, founder of the African Prisons Project, delivered the Klau Center's inaugural lecture. *For more on this event, see page 20.*

SHARING VISIONS FOR THE KLAU CENTER

HUGE PAGE

*Vice President and Associate Provost
for Undergraduate Affairs,
Professor of Theology and Africana Studies*

DIANNE PINDERHUGHES

*Notre Dame Presidential Fellow,
Professor of Political Science and Africana Studies*

DIANE DESIERTO

*Associate Professor of Human Rights Law
and Global Affairs*

SCOTT APPLEBY

*Marilyn Keough Dean,
Keough School of Global Affairs*



◀ Scott Appleby, Jennifer Mason McAward,
Molly Klau, and Rick Klau



KLAU CENTER

YEAR IN REVIEW 2018-19

EDUCATION AND INQUIRY

PLACING CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS AT THE HEART OF A NOTRE DAME EDUCATION

Through formal and informal educational programs, the Klau Center seeks to engage an increasing number of students with questions of justice and human dignity, both at home and around the globe. It is our mission is to make the study of civil and human rights one of the centerpieces of education at the University of Notre Dame.

Toward this end, the 2018-19 academic year saw the Klau Center greatly expand its student-oriented activities. We added new academic programs, created a student community that drew upon a wider, more interdisciplinary group of students, initiated exciting learning experiences outside the classroom, and offered expanded support for research and fellowships.

*Students at the Keough School of Global
Affairs are at the heart of the
Klau Center's educational initiatives*



"The support of the Klau Center provided me with an opportunity to contribute to establishing mechanisms for accountability and effective protection of human rights."

*Nataliia Voitseshyna
Student Affiliate*

NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAMS *at the* KEOUGH SCHOOL

The 2018-19 academic year brought two foundational changes to civil and human rights education in the Keough School. In the Fall semester, the Master of Global Affairs program added a specialization in international human rights. This was followed, in the Spring semester, by the establishment of an undergraduate concentration in civil and human rights. Both initiatives are led by the Klau Center and anchored by the teaching of Klau Center faculty member, Diane Desierto.

LL.M. *and* J.S.D. PROGRAMS *in* INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW

Now in its 31st year, the LL.M. Program in International Human Rights Law welcomed a new class of human rights lawyers to Notre Dame. This joint program of Notre Dame Law School and the Klau Center enrolled 17 lawyers from 15 countries, with Mali and Kyrgyzstan represented for the first time in the program's history. Our doctoral program welcomed three new candidates, who joined six returning students.

The Klau Center is proud to administer funding for the Rita Bahr Scholars, who focus on human rights issues in Latin America. This year's Rita Bahr Scholars were:

LIGIA MARIA DEL VALLE VEGA, *Guatemala*
MARTINA RAPIDO RAGOZZINO, *Ecuador*
JOSE SALDANA CUBA, *Peru*



"This grant provided an opportunity to engage with other students who are passionate about promoting human dignity with their legal education. This would not have been possible without the support of the Klau Center."

Jake Crammer
Student Affiliate



STUDENT AFFILIATE PROGRAM

A new student affiliate program, created in the 2018-19 academic year, brought the multidisciplinary character of the Keough School to bear upon Klau Center educational initiatives. Drawing students in law, global affairs, sociology, and political science, the affiliate program was a first step in creating a truly diverse community of student scholars to address issues of civil and human rights at Notre Dame.

STUDENT ROUNDTABLES

This new series of student-centered gatherings brought Klau Center affiliates into focused conversation with current topics in civil and human rights. Structured as small-group discussions hosted by a faculty member or visiting scholar, 2018-19 roundtables included:

TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE AND CRIMINAL VIOLENCE, GUILLERMO TREJO, LUCIA TISCORNIA, AND JUAN ALBARRACÍN
CLIMATE CHANGE AND HOMELESSNESS, DIANE DESIERTO
TITLE IX AND CAMPUS SEXUAL ASSAULT, JENNIFER MASON McAWARD
THE CHURCH'S RESPONSE TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING, JOHN McCARTHY
EUROPEAN RESPONSES TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING, SIOBHAN MULLALLY
WHY STATES CONFORM TO INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS NORMS, SHANNA CORNER

◀ | *Klau Center student affiliates talk with Alexander McLean following his talk*

2019 KLAU CENTER SUMMER FELLOWSHIPS

The Klau Center sponsors summer fellowships for Notre Dame law students working in public interest organizations that promote civil or human rights and/or the enforcement of federal rights on behalf of underrepresented minorities. Fellows receive funding to assist with travel and living expenses, and upon their return to campus, share their experiences with the wider law school community. Fellowships for Summer 2019 were awarded to:

SARAH KARCHUNAS

*Equal Employment
Opportunity Commission*

PROJECT:
EMPLOYMENT
DISCRIMINATION

CHEN KUANG

*Civil Practice of the Legal Aid
Society of New York City*

PROJECT:
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND
HUMAN TRAFFICKING

2018 SUMMER FELLOWS SHARE THEIR EXPERIENCES

In September, the 2018 Summer Fellows provided a briefing on their work with civil and human rights organizations. Left to right: Jessica Skocik worked on human trafficking issues at the Department of Justice's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section. Bill Green advocated for the rights of indigent defendants at the Illinois Office of the State Appellate Defender. Tom Dwyer worked with the Sargent Shriver Poverty Law Center in Chicago on housing discrimination. Skocik's fellowship was made possible thanks to the generous support of the Pasquale Family Endowment for Excellence.



"Klau Center funding added a huge benefit, which is that it allowed me to punch above my weight in terms of the prestige of an organization to host my internship."

Tom Dwyer

PROFESSOR DIANE DESIERTO

We were delighted to welcome Diane Desierto to the Keough School in August 2018, as Associate Professor of Human Rights Law and Global Affairs. Diane's deep experience in economic, social, and cultural rights is the cornerstone of the Klau Center's academic programs, and her tireless dedication to both students on campus and human rights advocacy around the globe brings distinction to the Keough School and the Klau Center.

A graduate of Yale Law School, Diane is an expert in international economic law, including international trade law, international investment law, and arbitration law. Before coming to Notre Dame, she was associate professor of law and the Michael J. Marks Distinguished Professor in Business Law at the University of Hawaii's William S. Richardson College of Law. She also served as co-director of the ASEAN Law and Integration Center.

This year, Diane taught courses in International Law and Human Rights; Human Rights, Sustainability, and the Global Commons; Economic, Social and Cultural Rights; and Human Rights and the Global Economy. She also directed an LL.M. thesis, "Human Rights, Climate Change, and the Natural Resource Extractive Industries," as well as multiple directed readings.

Throughout the year, Diane traveled widely to advise and participate in human rights conferences. Most recently, in May 2019, she attended a United Nations working group session in Geneva, to prepare for the drafting of a treaty on the right to development.



"We are privileged to teach at a university that places human dignity at the core of its mission. The Klau Center plays a vital role in realizing that mission."

Diane Desierto

THE KLAU CENTER EXPERTS' ROUNDTABLE: HUMAN RIGHTS FACT-FINDING IN THE ERA OF FAKE NEWS

MARCH 26, 2019 KEOUGH SCHOOL WASHINGTON OFFICE

The growth of strongmen governments around the world—in Hungary, the Philippines, Turkey, Russia, China, Egypt, Venezuela, among others—has been paralleled by pushback against the reliability and accuracy of human rights reporting, as well as the independence and impartiality of third-party human rights fact-finding.

The 2019 Experts' Roundtable gathered a panel of experts in Washington, DC to examine the effects of social media and misinformation campaigns on human rights fact-finding. Discussions included broad issues of compliance with human rights standards and more detailed investigations of qualitative and quantitative methods in fact-finding. Panel members brought their particular experiences and insights to bear, with the goal of assembling a statement of recommendations for submission to the United Nations. Participants included:

ADOTEI AKWEI, *Deputy, Advocacy and Government Relations, Amnesty International USA*

SCILLA ALECCI, *International Consortium of Investigative Journalists*

ADEJOKE BABINGTON-ASHAYE, *Senior Counsel, World Bank*

PATRICK BALL, *Director of Research, Human Data Analysis Group*

BEN BATROS, *International Law, Accountability, and Human Rights Consultant, Open Society Foundations*

AGNÈS CALLAMARD, *United Nations Special Rapporteur for Extrajudicial, Summary or Arbitrary Executions*

DIANE DESIERTO, *Associate Professor of Human Rights Law and Global Affairs, University of Notre Dame*

BRIAN FINUCANE, *Attorney-Adviser, United States Department of State, Office of the Legal Adviser*

JENNIFER MASON McAWARD, *Director, Klau Center for Civil and Human Rights, University of Notre Dame*

SIOBHÁN MULLALLY, *Director and Established Professor of Human Rights Law, Irish Centre for Human Rights, NUI Galway*

GERALD L. NEUMAN, *Professor of International, Foreign, and Comparative Law and Director, Human Rights Program, Harvard Law School*

SEAN O'BRIEN, *Concurrent Assistant Professor of Law and Human Rights LL.M./J.S.D. Program Manager, Notre Dame Law School*

ANÍBAL PÉREZ-LIÑÁN, *Professor of Political Science and Global Affairs, University of Notre Dame*

JAMES J. SILK, *Binger Clinical Professor of Human Rights, Director, Lowenstein International Human Rights Clinic, Yale Law School*

PENELOPE VAN TUYL, *Associate Director of the Handa Center for Human Rights and International Justice, Stanford University*

◀ *Adejoke Babington-Ashaye of the World Bank
at the Experts' Roundtable in Washington, DC*



KLAU CENTER YEAR IN REVIEW 2018-19 ENGAGEMENT AND EVENTS

ENGAGING WITH FACULTY, STUDENTS, AND THE WORLD ON MATTERS OF CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Building broad awareness around civil and human rights is central to our mission. The Klau Center is committed both to offering support to students and faculty working in these areas and to engaging viewpoints that come from beyond the academy.

In the 2018-19 academic year, the Klau Center increased support for faculty research and course development and supported student work outside the classroom. We launched projects aimed at investigating core civil and human rights issues and encouraged scholarship in these areas. Lastly, we engaged with practitioners, advocates, and those affected by injustice to bring their stories and insights to Notre Dame.

The Klau Center had multiple opportunities to build its profile at Notre Dame and beyond. The Center was featured in presentations on campus, including with the Notre Dame Alumni Association leadership and diversity councils, the Alumni Association's "Fr. Ted Said" series, and the "Hesburgh Women of Impact" event. In addition, the Klau Center was featured at a conference for directors of university human rights centers held at the University of Michigan.

*Human rights activist Xiao Qiang
speaks at the Keough School about
surveillance and information
control in China*



"The Klau Center not only helped me share my findings, but also helped others who need protection and attention from the international community."

*Iuliia Emtseva
Student Affiliate*





WITH VOICES TRUE

THE KLAU CENTER ARCHIVE ON RACE

► CAMPUS ENGAGEMENT

The Klau Center’s newest initiative, *With Voices True*, was launched in 2018. It seeks to give voice to the Notre Dame community on issues of racial identity, race relations, and the challenging task of navigating our civic and interpersonal spheres through these lenses.

With Voices True will collect—through audio or video recordings, written narratives, photography or art—the stories of Notre Dame. These materials will be cataloged, coded, and made available for research through University of Notre Dame Archives. Additionally, a selection of the materials will be featured in an online multimedia presentation for immediate use in classrooms, campus outreach, and other university programming.

With Voices True is a collaborative project of the Klau Center, the John W. Gallivan Program in Journalism, Ethics, and Democracy, and the University of Notre Dame Archives.

► STUDENT AND FACULTY ENGAGEMENT

RESEARCH *and* COURSE DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

The Klau Center provides funding for student affiliates to prepare and present research on topics related to our mission. Student affiliate grants in the 2018-19 academic year included:

NATALIIA VOITSESHYNA

Grant to attend International Law Weekend, New York City, to deliver her paper, “Transfer and Deportation of Civilian Population from Russia-Occupied Crimea”

JAKE CRAMMER

Grant to participate in Emory University Civil Rights and Liberties Moot Court

IULIIA EMTSEVA

Grants to present a report entitled “Fair Trials in the Kyrgyz Republic” at the Central Eurasian Studies Society Annual Conference, Pittsburgh, and at Columbia University

CARLOS BICHET NICOLETTI

Grant to present a paper, “Is There a Place for Restorative Justice at the International Criminal Court?” at the American Society of International Law works-in-progress conference

EDUARDO JOSE BADILLA VALDIVIA

Grant to receive training at a conference on Peacebuilding Approaches to Violent Extremism

The Klau Center also supports course development efforts that enrich the academic offerings in civil and human rights at Notre Dame. Course development funding in the 2018-19 academic year included:

MICHAEL TALBOT, Associate Director for the Master of Global Affairs program at the Keough School

Talbot received a grant to support development of a new course, “Transitional Justice in Context,” combining issues around societal transition from dictatorship with accountability for gross human rights violations.

JOHN W. GALLIVAN PROGRAM IN JOURNALISM, ETHICS, AND DEMOCRACY

The Gallivan Program received a grant to develop a course to collect stories around race, in support of *With Voices True*.

► STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

KLAU CENTER WRITING PRIZE

Supporting scholarship around civil and human rights themes, the Klau Center awards a writing prize for outstanding student work in these fields. The 2018-19 Writing Prize winner was:

RAY-YUN HONG

LL.M. PROGRAM IN INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS LAW

“The International Community’s Leverage over the Rohingya Crisis”

► PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

HUMAN TRAFFICKING EDUCATION MODULES

The Klau Center partnered with Catholic Relief Services to publish an innovative online curriculum focused on human trafficking. The teaching modules, which went live in October 2018, address various aspects of global human trafficking by presenting a wide range of approaches to the problem. Student engagement was key to the development of the curriculum, as modules were workshopped by Notre Dame professor Christine Cervenak’s students, who researched and refined the modules’ pedagogical approach.



► ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

“HESBURGH” A PRIVATE SCREENING OF THE 2019 DOCUMENTARY

MARCH 25, 2019 WASHINGTON, DC

In partnership with the Notre Dame Alumni Association, the Klau Center hosted a screening of the 2019 documentary, “Hesburgh,” directed by alumnus Patrick Creadon. The film was introduced by Klau Center Director Jennifer Mason McAward, who offered insights into the civil rights legacy of the former University president and founder of the Klau Center for Civil and Human Rights.

In her remarks, McAward drew special attention to the principles underlying Hesburgh’s work. “It’s vitally important to understand the philosophical and theological framework that formed the basis for Fr. Ted’s views,” she emphasized. “The crucial starting point was the sacred nature and God-given dignity of the human person. He argued that if we really believe that every person is innately sacred, then every instance of human suffering and foreclosed opportunity should affect us deeply and compel us to remedy the great inequalities and injustices of our time.”

► EVENTS

INAUGURAL LECTURE: ALEXANDER McLEAN “THE POWER OF THE LAW IN THE HANDS OF THE POOR”

Alexander McLean, founder of the African Prisons Project, delivered the Klau Center Inaugural Lecture on September 6, 2018. McLean’s organization provides legal education programs to both prisoners and prison staff in east Africa, who study the law side-by-side.

Acknowledging at the start the difficulties faced by the U.S. prison system, McLean appealed to the audience to see his stories of the suffering of the disenfranchised as having a universal message. “I hope,” he said, “we will be reminded that we have a shared humanity, regardless of our nationality or the language we speak or the circumstances in which we’re born. I believe that what’s happening in prisons in east Africa has something to speak to the situation in prisons in America.”

“Why is it that prisons are filled with poor people who don’t have connections, don’t have education, who’ve often got mental illness, or they’re vulnerable in other ways?” McLean asked. “In places where 80 or 90% of prisoners would never meet a lawyer, places where there are no juries, it didn’t seem that justice was guaranteed.” The approach adopted by the African Prisons Project became one of empowerment. Legal education programs were established in which prisoners and prison staff study the law together, building not only a set of skills but also a community of shared respect and trust.

Providing the means for the imprisoned to assume a measure of responsibility for their own futures, the project in turn produces advocates for justice that emerge from the ranks of both those denied justice and those responsible for the denial. As McLean explains, such an inclusive approach to social problems lies at the heart of the project. “We believe that for none of us does our past have to define our future,” he says. “We believe that we can all play a part in creating a more just society.”

The Klau Center welcomed the cosponsorship of the Kellogg Institute for International Studies and the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies, which along with the Klau Center represent the three institutions founded at Notre Dame by Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C.

*Alexander McLean delivers the
Klau Center Inaugural Lecture* ►

“We believe that for none of us does our past have to define our future. We believe that we can all play a part in creating a more just society.”

Alexander McLean

ANTHONY RAY HINTON

NOVEMBER 13, 2018

The Klau Center partnered with Notre Dame Exoneration Project, the American Constitution Society, and the Federalist Society to present a visit and public lecture by Anthony Ray Hinton.

Arrested for a series of capital murders in his hometown with no corroborating evidence, and with no history of violent crime, Mr. Hinton was convicted of all three murders. Insisting upon his innocence to the arresting officer, Mr. Hinton realized that race, not guilt, was at issue. “I told him, ‘You have the wrong man.’ He said, ‘I don’t care whether you did it or not. You will be convicted.’” Hinton was assigned a public defender who had no faith in his innocence and who hired an inexperienced ballistics witness to testify for him. He spent 30 years on Alabama’s death row.

In an emotionally powerful address, Hinton described the aftermath of life in prison as it affects him every day. Living in the house where he was arrested years ago, Hinton is unable to escape the psychological trauma of imprisonment. His sleep patterns, eating habits, and daily routines continue to be dictated by the lack of freedom he endured on death row. “What would you do if you had to spend every day in a cell the size of your bathroom?” Hinton asked. “What would you do after 30 long years, waiting to die, and you were finally set free? Who would you be?”

Hinton challenged students to change legal structures that continue to discriminate by race and deny basic civil rights to the vulnerable. “I am a broken man,” Hinton told the audience, “and I ask you to pray for me and for those who are innocent on death row. The system you believe in is badly faulted. You are going to inherit something that can only be fixed by you. I want you to become a great lawyer, a great prosecutor, but never sell yourself out.”

Mr. Hinton is the author of the best-selling book, *The Sun Does Shine*, which recounts his arrest, imprisonment, and search for forgiveness. During his visit, Mr. Hinton not only gave a public talk, but also met with small groups of students, including Klau Center student affiliates.

THE U.N. DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AT 70

SEPTEMBER 21, 2018

The Klau Center cosponsored, with the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies and the Keough-Naughton Institute for Irish Studies, this forum exploring the status and legacy of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Anthony Ray Hinton delivers a talk
to the Notre Dame community

“The system you believe in is badly faulted. You are going to inherit something only you can fix.”

Anthony Ray Hinton

CARMEN PEREZ

NOVEMBER 28, 2018

As executive director of The Gathering for Justice, Perez advocates for alternatives to mass incarceration and violence, and works to affect state and federal policy. In her talk, Perez inspired students with her personal story of coalition-building and community activism. The Klau Center cosponsored this talk with Notre Dame Law School and student groups.

THE U.N. CONVENTION ON GENOCIDE AT 70

DECEMBER 3, 2018

Klau Center Director Jennifer Mason McAward moderated a panel discussion exploring the legacy of the 1948 convention, presented in partnership with the Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies.

A CALL TO LOVE: BRIDGING THE RACIAL DIVIDE

JANUARY 25, 2019

Notre Dame's celebration of the life of Martin Luther King, Jr., "Walk the Walk Week," culminated with a panel discussion organized and moderated by Jennifer Mason McAward, and attended by several thousand members of the Notre Dame community.

SYMPOSIUM: THE FIGHT AGAINST ONLINE SEX TRAFFICKING

FEBRUARY 15, 2019

Organized by Klau Center student affiliate Jessica Skocik, this day-long symposium explored the legal and constitutional ramifications of legislation intended to impede online sex trafficking.

JOHN McCARTHY: HOW TO ERADICATE SLAVERY BY 2030

FEBRUARY 25, 2019

Chair of the Sydney Archdiocesan Antislavery Taskforce and Former Australian Ambassador to the Holy See, McCarthy visited Notre Dame to discuss the Catholic Church's role in ending modern slavery. The Klau Center was among the cosponsors of this Keough School event.

SIOBHÁN MULLALLY: PROTECTIONS FOR TRAFFICKING VICTIMS

APRIL 1, 2019

Mullally, Director of the Irish Centre for Human Rights at the National University of Ireland, Galway, outlined measures within the European human rights system to offer protections to those victimized by human traffickers. The Klau Center cosponsored this talk with the Keough-Naughton Institute for Irish Studies.

XIAO QIANG: THE RISE OF A BRAVE NEW CHINA

MAY 2, 2019

The human rights activist and founder of *China Digital Times* discussed the Chinese government's surveillance and information-control technologies and its attempts to roll back advances in freedom of expression brought about by the internet's social networks. The Klau Center partnered with the Liu Institute for Asia and Asian Studies and the Department of Physics to present the talk.

HUMAN RIGHTS ND LECTURE SERIES

In partnership with Human Rights ND, Notre Dame's undergraduate human rights club, the Klau Center sponsored a year-long series of talks featuring student affiliates from the LL.M. Program. Oriented toward a broader undergraduate audience, talks for 2018-19 included:

GENDER AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN TAIWAN, [RAY-YUN HONG](#)

HUMAN RIGHTS AND ARMED CONFLICT IN UKRAINE, [NATALIIA VOITSESHYNA](#)

FREEDOM OF SPEECH: PAST AND FUTURE CHALLENGES IN ECUADOR, [MARTINA RAPIDO RAGOZZINO](#)

PROMOTING ACCOUNTABILITY AND JUSTICE IN SRI LANKA, [LUWIE GANESHATHASAN](#)

WHY SILICON VALLEY IS IMPORTANT FOR DEMOCRACY IN AFRICA, [TONNY KIRABIRA](#)

HUMAN RIGHTS AND CORRUPTION IN GUATEMALA, [LIGIA MARIA DEL VALLE VEGA](#)

BRAZIL AND PERSPECTIVES ON HUMAN RIGHTS, [FERNANDA BERTOLACCINI](#)

FROM ATROCITY TO JUSTICE: HUMAN RIGHTS IN VENEZUELA, [ELIZABETH JIMENEZ MORA](#)

THE EUROPEAN SYSTEM OF HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION, [ANISA METALLA](#)

AGNÈS CALLAMARD
"HUMAN RIGHTS FACT-FINDING IN AN ERA OF FAKE NEWS"

MARCH 26, 2019

In a public event to accompany the 2019 Klau Center Experts' Roundtable in Washington, DC, Dr. Agnès Callamard, United Nations Special Rapporteur for Extrajudicial, Summary or Arbitrary Executions, spoke of a crisis in the human rights framework centered on a rise in populism and widening social and economic inequalities. "Although the diagnoses may vary in emphasis and lead causes, the conclusions are strikingly similar," she said. "Liberal and democratic values are in jeopardy, as is a rule-based international system. The norms it embodied are subject to multiple attacks that, once taboo, now quite to the contrary, are both claimed and carried out with pride."

Turning to the role of contemporary information technologies in such attacks, Callamard focused in on the degradation of "facts" as foundational truths. "I think there are facts that sustain the test of intense scrutiny and extreme gazing, including human rights facts," she explained, "but a warning against the solidity of facts, or rather, our belief in the solidity of facts, does resonate in the new political and informational ecosystem of the 21st century. It seems as if social media eats fact with great appetite."

Callamard, however, made clear that technology alone does not explain the current climate of distrust. "What I want to insist upon here is that there is nothing organic or inherent to the digital technology in this phenomenon. Instead there are individuals, leaders, keen and eager on using the unprecedented capacities of the new technology for ends varying from political opportunism to spreading ideas and ideologies for which they probably could not have found an audience otherwise. And the main guarantee of that process is trust – trust in institutions, and trust in fact."

Dr. Callamard's address was followed by responses from James Silk, Director of the Orville H. Schell, Jr. Center for International Human Rights at Yale Law School; Penelope Van Tuyl, Associate Director of the Handa Center for Human Rights and International Justice at Stanford University; and Gerald Neuman, Director of the Human Rights Program at Harvard University. Diane Desierto, Klau Center Faculty Affiliate and Associate Professor of International Human Rights Law and Global Affairs, moderated the event.

*Agnès Callamard speaks on misinformation
campaigns and human rights fact-finding*

"Liberal and democratic values are in jeopardy, as is a rule-based international system. The norms it embodied are subject to multiple attacks that, once taboo, now quite to the contrary, are both claimed and carried out with pride."

Agnès Callamard



KLAU CENTER STAFF



JENNIFER MASON McAWARD
Director, Associate Professor of Law



DORY MITROS DURHAM
Assistant Director



KEVIN FYE
Communications Manager



SHEILA CHRISTOPHOROU
Administrative Assistant



ANNE RIORDAN
Events Manager

FACULTY ADVISORY COMMITTEE



TED BEATTY
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Keough School of Global Affairs



PAUL V. KOLLMAN, C.S.C.
Associate Professor of Theology



DIANNE PINDERHUGHES
Notre Dame Presidential Fellow, Professor of Political Science, Professor of Africana Studies



PAOLO CAROZZA
Director, Kellogg Institute for International Studies, Professor of Law



SEAN O'BRIEN
Human Rights LL.M./J.S.D. Program Manager, Concurrent Assistant Professor of Law



BILL PURCELL
Director, Catholic Social Tradition, Center for Social Concerns



DIANE DESIERTO
Associate Professor of Human Rights Law and Global Affairs



HUGH PAGE
Vice President and Associate Provost for Undergraduate Affairs, Professor of Theology and Africana Studies



MAURA RYAN
Vice President and Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs, John Cardinal O'Hara, C.S.C., Associate Professor of Christian Ethics

KLAU CENTER FACULTY AFFILIATES

Faculty Affiliates for 2018-19 come from a wide range of disciplines. Bringing unique perspectives to bear on our work, our affiliates are scholars in law, political science, theology, sociology, history, Africana studies, global affairs, and Catholic social teaching.

PAOLO CAROZZA, *Professor of Law, Concurrent Faculty, Department of Political Science*

DARREN DAVIS, *Professor of Political Science*

DIANE DESIERTO, *Associate Professor of Human Rights Law and Global Affairs*

DANIEL GROODY, C.S.C., *Associate Professor of Theology*

MARIA McKENNA, *Associate Professor of the Practice, Department of Africana Studies*

ANÍBAL PÉREZ-LIÑÁN, *Professor of Political Science and Global Affairs*

RICHARD PIERCE, *Associate Professor of History, Concurrent Associate Professor of Africana Studies*

DIANNE PINDERHUGHES, *Professor of Political Science and Africana Studies*

BILL PURCELL, *Director, Catholic Social Tradition, Center for Social Concerns*

GUILLERMO TREJO, *Associate Professor of Political Science*

ERNESTO VERDEJA, *Associate Professor of Political Science*

CALVIN ZIMMERMANN, *Assistant Professor of Sociology*

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4130 Jenkins Nanovic Halls
University of Notre Dame
Notre Dame, Indiana 46556

p: 574-631-3495
e: klaucenter@nd.edu

klau.nd.edu

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