Immigrants’ Rights Under Siege and the Road Ahead

2019 Immigration Law Forum

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2019
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA LAW SCHOOL

This year’s forum will cover a wide range of topics including the historical context for the present immigration crisis, actions taken by state and local governments to protect immigrants, an overview of using habeas petitions to get clients out of detention, the devastating effects of border policies, and the attack on asylum, particularly for vulnerable women and girls.

Continuing Legal Education: An application for 7.0 Continuing Legal Education credits (CLE) has been submitted. CLE code #280765.
Immigrants’ Rights Under Siege and the Road Ahead
2019 Immigration Law Forum

8:30am–9:05am  Registration
9:05am–9:20am  Welcome Remarks
9:20am–10:50am  The Current Crisis in Context: Understanding Immigration History to Support Present Day Advocacy
   Moderator:
       Deepinder Mayell, Binger Center for New Americans, University of Minnesota Law School
   Panelists:
       Erika Lee, University of Minnesota, Immigrant History Research Center
       Dr. Chantel Rodriguez, University of Maryland
       Dr. Andrew Urban, Rutgers University

This panel will bring together three historians of race and United States immigration that engage in bridge-building to connect the past to the present to better respond to the challenges that immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers face in our contemporary immigration moment. The panel will put the current rise in xenophobia, ongoing mistreatment of immigrant detainees, and expanding exclusionary policies into historical context to inform advocacy moving forward.

10:50am–11:00am  Break
11:00am–12:30pm  The Border Comes Home: Escalating Immigration Enforcement in the Interior of the U.S. and Minnesota
   Moderator:
       Linus Chan, Binger Center for New Americans, University of Minnesota Law School
   Panelists:
       Ana Pottratz Acosta, Mitchell Hamline School of Law
       Ruben Loyo, National Immigrant Justice Center
       Julie Mao, Just Futures Law

This panel will examine the tools of internal ICE enforcement and what local and state communities can do in an era of intensified enforcement in the interior of the country. Panelists will discuss current methods and practices to conduct immigration enforcement including the use of detainers and internal databases. The panel will also address strategies to protect immigrants including court litigation, local advocacy, and more.
12:30pm–1:10pm  Lunch

1:10pm–2:40pm  Mass Detention: Using Habeas Petitions in Federal Court to Release Detainees

Moderator:
  Kathleen Moccio, Binger Center for New Americans, University of Minnesota Law School

Panelists:
  John Bruning, Kim Hunter Associates
  Paul Dimick, American Civil Liberties Union – Minnesota
  Mary Georgevich, Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota

The use of mass incarceration to enforce immigration laws is resulting in high numbers of immigrants spending long periods in jail. This panel will provide an overview of immigration detention and the increasing use of habeas corpus petitions in federal courts to secure release from ICE custody. The panel will also discuss the development of legal resources available to detained immigrants including pro se materials.

2:40pm–2:50pm  Break

2:50pm–4:20pm  The Attack on Asylum at the Border and in the Law

Moderator:
  Stephen Meili, Binger Center for New Americans, University of Minnesota Law School

Panelists:
  Zachary Albun, Harvard Law School
  Daisy Ocampo Felt, University of California Davis Law School
  Jodi Goodwin; Alison Griffith, The Advocates for Human Rights
  Alison Griffith, The Advocates for Human Rights

This panel will consider increased restrictions on access to asylum in the United States from a variety of perspectives, including conditions of confinement for children, the Remain in Mexico program, recent United States Attorney General opinions curtailing claims based on sexual violence and family membership, and limitations on judicial discretion.

4:20pm–4:30pm  Break

4:30pm–5:30pm  Keynote Address: Karen Musalo
  Professor and Director, Center for Gender & Refugee Studies
  University of California - Hastings College of the Law

5:30pm–6:00pm  Reception
Panelists

Ana Pottratz Acosta
Ana Pottratz Acosta is an assistant teaching professor at Mitchell Hamline. She is a clinical instructor for the Health Law Clinic and is the organizer for immigration legal screening clinics through the Mitchell Hamline Mobile Law Office in the Twin Cities and Greater Minnesota.

Zachary Albun ’16
Zachary Albun ’16 is a graduate of the University of Minnesota Law School and is currently the Albert M. Sacks Clinical Teaching & Advocacy Fellow in the Harvard Law School Immigration and Refugee Clinical Program. He has served as co-counsel on several legal challenges to the Department of Justice’s latter-day formulations of the “particular social group” protected ground.

John Bruning ’17
John Bruning ’17 is an attorney with Kim Hunter Law and a graduate of the University of Minnesota Law School. He also has experience in criminal defense, civil rights litigation, and international war crimes cases, and has represented college students facing suspension and expulsion.

Paul Dimick ’19
Paul Dimick ’19 is a graduate of the University of Minnesota Law School and joined AC-LU-MN in 2019 as an Equal Justice Works Fellow. His work focuses on defending low-income immigrants in Minnesota against unlawful immigration detention.

Mary Georgevich ’18
Mary Georgevich ’18 is a graduate of the University of Minnesota Law School and an Equal Justice Works Fellow with the Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota.

Jodi Goodwin
Jodi Goodwin practices immigration law in the trenches on the border in Harlingen, Texas and is currently the lead attorney for the Pro Se Clinic project in Matamoros, Mexico. Since 1995 she has represented 1,000’s of asylum seekers, economic migrants, long-term permanent residents, businesses, families, and United States citizens in immigration and nationality matters.

Alison Griffith
Alison Griffith is a Staff Attorney for The Advocates for Human Rights’ Refugee & Immigrant Program. Where she mentors and supports pro bono attorneys handling asylum cases before the asylum office and the Immigration Court, as well as other humanitarian immigration matters.

Erika Lee
One of the nation’s leading immigration and Asian American historians, Erika Lee teaches American history at the University of Minnesota, where she is a Regents Professor, a Distinguished McKnight University Professor, and the Rudolph J. Vecoli Chair in Immigration History. Recently awarded an Andrew Carnegie Fellowship and named Incoming Vice President of the Organization of American Historians, she is a frequent commentator in the media and the author of three award-winning books in U.S. immigration and Asian American history.

Ruben Loyo
Ruben Loyo is a senior litigation attorney with NIJC’s Federal Litigation Project, where he works on litigation challenging ICE enforcement practices and supervises a new initiative to provide immigration services to individuals prosecuted for migration-related offenses.
Panelists (Continued)

**Julie Mao**
Julie Mao is the Deputy Director at Just Futures Law, a women of color-led immigration law office rooted in movement lawyering. She has nearly a decade of experience in the immigrant rights, police accountability, and labor rights movement. Recently, she has been engaged in legal strategies challenging migrant prosecutions, technology-based policing, and local police collusion with ICE.

**Karen Musalo**
Professor Karen Musalo is the founding director of the Center for Gender & Refugee Studies at U.C. Hastings. Prof. Musalo has litigated major cases in gender asylum, and has received numerous awards for her pioneering legal work, including an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Lehman College in 2012.

**Daisy Ocampo Felt**
Daisy Felt is a Staff Attorney for UC Davis School of Law Immigration Law Clinic. Prior to joining UC Davis School of Law Immigration Law Clinic, Felt was an attorney for the Immigration Unit at Community Legal Aid SoCal and the Immigration Unit for Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County (NLSLA).

**Chantel Rodriguez**
Chantel Rodriguez is an assistant professor in the department of history at the University of Maryland College Park, and a research associate at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History. Her area of focus is twentieth-century transnational history, with specializations in Latinx history, U.S.-Mexico borderlands, and medicine.

**Andrew Urban**
Andrew Urban is an associate professor of American Studies and History at Rutgers University, New Brunswick. Andy’s first book, Brokering Servitude (NYU Press, 2018), examines how federal immigration policies and private intermediaries shaped labor markets for domestic service in the nineteenth and early-twentieth century United States, and dictated the contractual conditions under which migration occurred.

**Moderators**

**Linus Chan**, Associate Clinical Professor and Director, Detainee Rights Clinic, Binger Center, University of Minnesota Law School

**Deepinder Mayell**, Executive Director, Binger Center, and Director of the Rural Immigrant Access Clinic, University of Minnesota Law School

**Stephen Meili**, James H. Binger Professor of Clinical Law and Director, Immigration and Human Rights Clinic, Binger Center, University of Minnesota Law School

**Kathleen Moccio**, Visiting Assistant Clinical Professor, Binger Center, University of Minnesota Law School