

Sooner Lawyer Archive

Volume 2016 | Issue 1
Spring/Summer 2016

2016

Faculty News

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Recommended Citation

(2016) "Faculty News," *Sooner Lawyer Archive*: Vol. 2016: Iss. 1, Article 8.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.law.ou.edu/soonerlawyer/vol2016/iss1/8>

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Faculty honors

▶ Aswad receives award for global engagement



Professor Evelyn Aswad received OU's 2016 David L. Boren Award for Outstanding Global Engagement at the university's annual event, "A Tribute to the Faculty." The award was established to recognize faculty who have exhibited outstanding commitment to and support for the university's international mission.

"Professor Aswad is a remarkable example of global engagement within the OU community," said Dean Joe Harroz. "Her background in international law is unrivaled and the countless opportunities she provides students because of her continued presence in the international law community enhances their academic experience in meaningful ways. Because of her important work, our students are exposed to global issues, and are challenged to participate and engage in a diverse world that they will one day lead. We are grateful for and proud of Professor Aswad's leadership in her field."

Aswad is the Herman G. Kaiser Chair in International Law at the OU College of Law, where she teaches courses on International Human Rights Law, International Law Foundations, International Business and Human Rights and Arab Spring and Legal Reform. She joined the OU Law faculty in 2013 after serving for 14 years as an attorney in the Legal Bureau at the U.S. Department of State, most recently as the head of the Office of Human Rights and Refugees. Her research focuses on the fundamental freedoms of expression, religion and assembly.

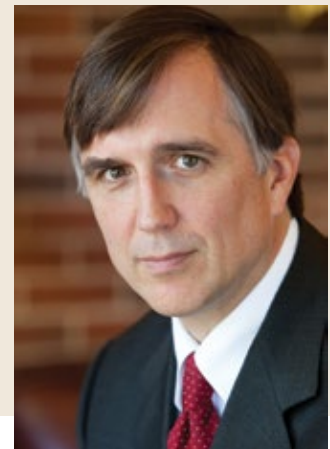
In her time at the OU College of Law, Aswad has developed an innovative international curriculum that combines international law and practice, current events and a focus on vulnerable communities abroad. She has brought numerous leading voices on international human rights law issues to speak at OU Law and to meet with her students in small-group settings.

As a testament to her commitment to the university's international mission, Aswad consistently uses her countless service positions within the international community as learning opportunities for her students. Whether by crafting courses, creating programs or taking students with her to U.S. Department of State advisory committee meetings, Aswad exposes her students to real-world applications of international law.

▶ Bacone symposium taps Robertson for Warrior for Justice Award

Professor Lindsay Robertson was honored as a Warrior for Justice at the inaugural Warriors for Justice Symposium at Bacone College in Muskogee, Oklahoma. Robertson received the award in recognition of his "dedication and work in Indian Country in the field of law."

Robertson also delivered the symposium's keynote address. Sponsored by the Rennard Strickland School of Tribal Law and Criminal Justice, the symposium is named in honor of OU Law Senior Scholar in Residence and former OU Law Professor Rennard Strickland.



Beyond the classroom

▶ *AILR* symposium spotlights Indian Child Welfare Act

OU Law hosted the *American Indian Law Review's* annual Indigenous Peoples, Law, and Power Symposium April 15 in the Dick Bell Courtroom. The Indian Child Welfare Act was the focus of the symposium, co-sponsored in partnership with the OU College of Arts and Sciences Native American Studies Department.

Seven experts in the field of Native American child welfare spoke throughout the day. Keynote speakers were Jodi Gillette, policy adviser at the Sonoksy Firm and former special assistant to the president for Native American Affairs, White House Domestic Policy Council, and C. Steven Hager, director of litigation for Oklahoma Indian Legal Services.

"This year's Indigenous Peoples, Law, and Power Symposium comes at a time when its theme – the Indian Child Welfare Act – is garnering much attention throughout the country," said Dean Joe Harroz. "The issue is a sensitive one, and we're pleased to have the partnership of the OU College of Arts and Sciences Native American Studies Department as we host the country's leading voices on the intricacies and nuances of the Indian Child Welfare Act. Focusing the symposium on this timely topic affords our students the opportunity to gain a greater understanding of nationwide current events."



Jodi Gillette delivers the morning session keynote address of the symposium focused on the Indian Child Welfare Act.

▶ Robertson joins Oklahoma Governor's International Team

Lindsay Robertson was named to the Oklahoma Governor's International Team, a nonprofit corporation consisting of nearly 50 Oklahoma citizens from the private, governmental and educational sectors.

OKGIT is dedicated to a stronger Oklahoma in the global economy through business development supported by a climate of international engagement among the general public, as well as the business, educational and government sectors. It seeks to accomplish this mission by advocating for sustainable economic development through export trade and the attraction of foreign direct investment, and encouraging and facilitating the internationalization of Oklahoma.