



Hello From Space (Law)! This is our eighth biannual (fall/spring semester) Space, Cyber, and Telecommunications Law program newsletter and updates for alumni. This newsletter includes program updates and notes on upcoming events.

Welcome from the Graduate Assistant



Elsbeth Magilton, Matt Schaefer, Gus Hurwitz, Jack Beard, Frans von der Dunk, and I want to thank all of you for your continued support and engagement with our program. As we start out the new year, we have many new initiatives and events to look forward to in 2020! This newsletter reviews many of our recurring events, as well as some new ones. I've selected just a few things to highlight below.

As I enter my second and final semester as the graduate assistant for the program, writing this newsletter is a good time for me to personally reflect on last semester as well as look forward to what is next for the program and my own education. It has been a great experience to learn more about the world of Space, Cyber, Telecommunication Law, work with everyone here at Nebraska Law, and be exposed to things I know I wouldn't have been otherwise. I am certainly grateful for this opportunity to have been a part of the team, even if just for a little while. As alumni of Nebraska's SCTL program, you all are part of a network of exceptional people, and I wish you the best in your future endeavors.

I hope 2020 proves to be a prosperous and happy new year for you and your family!

Kristin Vankat, Graduate Assistant

We had a remarkable fall semester and saw many of you out on the road! Learn more about our fall activities:

4th Annual Advanced Operations Law Conference Deemed a Success

The 4th Annual Advanced Operations Law Conference was a success again this year, held at the Dougherty Conference Center on Offutt Air Force Base. On September 4th and 5th, a number of active military and civilian attendees gathered to discuss "Law and Global Warfighting: The Challenges in 21st Century Practice."

General John Hyten, Commander of U.S. Strategic Command, kicked off the conference with a welcome, followed by speakers Jessica Tok, Space Policy Advisor to the Secretary of Defense; LTC Zachary Irvine, Deputy Director Commander's Action Group; Christopher T. Kuklinski USSTRATCOM's Assistant Deputy Director of Global Operations; among other



esteemed leaders and experts in the field of national security and space law. Topics included Civilian and Military Effects from Low-Yield Nuclear Weapon Detonations, Nuclear Decision-Making Process, Presidential Authority under Article 2, and further engaging and thought-provoking issues.

All guests were welcomed to an evening reception for refreshments and networking at the end of each day.

University of Nebraska hosts FCC Chairman Ajit Pai

The University of Nebraska hosted Chairman Ajit Pai, head of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) on Wednesday, September 18. The day-long visit began off campus at a precision agriculture farm; a visit coordinated by the Robert B. Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute at the University of Nebraska. The Chairman visited Steve Althouse Farms, just outside of Waverly, for a discussion of dryland farming operations, the precision technology used for planting and harvesting, and the data collected. Giltner, Nebraska farmer, Brandon Hunnicut, also joined the visit to provide some perspective about rural connectivity and the use of precision technology in an irrigated system.

Afterward, the Chairman joined students and community members for three unique sessions throughout the day. At a lunch for Law, Business, Engineering, and Journalism students, he discussed the FCC's work as well as the world of federal policy more generally. Following lunch, the Chairman joined a roundtable discussion about federal communications policy with interested members of the Nebraska community.



The visit concluded with a public "Fireside Chat" at the Nebraska Union. The event began with a discussion between Chairman Pai and College of Law Professor Gus Hurwitz, before opening to questions from and discussion with the audience. This event was open to all UNL students as well as the broader University and Lincoln community.

Chinese Translation of von der Dunk's Space Law Handbook Completed

Professor von der Dunk's book, Handbook of Space Law, was translated into Chinese this year. The Handbook of Space Law addresses the legal and regulatory aspects of activities in outer space and major space applications from a comprehensive and structured perspective. It fundamentally addresses the dichotomy between the state-oriented character of international space law and the increasing commercialization and privatization of space activities. The text is part of the Research Handbooks in International Law series from Edward Elgar.

Nebraska Law Students Tour NASA Goddard Space Flight Center



On Thursday Oct. 17, thirteen Nebraska Law LLM and JD students and two Space Law Network law student awardees traveled from NASA Headquarters in Washington DC to Greenbelt, Maryland to the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center. The tour was intended to help the group contextually prepare for their attendance at the 12th annual Nebraska Space Law conference on Oct. 18.

The tour included sessions on data visualization processes, the James Webb Telescope project, and the space environment simulator. The tour was coordinated by Jessica Deihl, attorney at NASA Goddard, and Space, Cyber, and Telecommunications Law executive director, Elsbeth Magilton.

Nebraska Law Hosts 12th Annual Nebraska Space Law Conference

On Friday, Oct. 18 the Space, Cyber, and Telecommunications Law program hosted our 12th Annual Space Law Conference in Washington DC, "Global Perspectives on Space Law and Policy." The event brought together over 200 registrants to discuss modern issues in space law and policy. Topics discussed over the course of the day included: "Commercial Space Legislation: US and Global Developments," going back to the moon, international collaboration, the roles of different international agencies, "Spectrum Challenges for Space Activities: What's on the Line for Satellites at ITU WRC19 and Before the FCC?" and "Woomera Manual: Military Activities in Outer Space." NASA General Counsel, Sumara Thompson-King, Deputy General Counsel of Blue Origin, Audrey Powers, and Director of Program Planning for Secure World Foundation, Brian Weeden, were among the many renowned speakers and panelists who contributed to the day's discussions.





During the conference Dennis Burnett, President of the Nebraska Law Space, Cyber and, Telecommunications Law advisory board and adjunct professor at Nebraska Law, announced the creation of the United States Center for Space Law. In addition to policy work, the center will raise funds to help students wanting to study space law, carrying on Nebraska's work on behalf of a major NASA Space Law education grant.

The event concluded with "A Celebration of Women in Space Law Reception" at the National Press Club. Students from the Space, Cyber, and Telecommunications Law student group assembled table decor featuring photos and biographies of notable women in space law.

Celebrating a Successful Year Encouraging Women to Join National Security Programs

In December 2018, the Executive Director of the Space, Cyber, and Telecommunications Law Executive Director Elsbeth Magilton and political science Professor, Dr. Tyler White, were awarded a University President's Office Inclusive Excellence Development Grant Award for their project, "Recruiting, Retaining and Supporting Women in the Security Field." The project, shorthanded as WiNS or Women in National Security, hosted several large events throughout 2019 focused on encouraging women to consider jobs in national security.

The last event of the project, hosted in November, brought in Mary (Beth) Barnes who had a 32-year career with the CIA. Barnes was awarded the Career Intelligence Medal at her retirement in 2019. While on campus, Beth joined undergraduate security classes for a discussion of her career. She then joined students at the law college for a discussion on the role of law in intelligence and a discussion on gender issues in the national security field. Following lunch, Beth sat with students in the IC Scholar programs to provide one-on-one resume and job application feedback.



This development grant permitted White and Magilton to create support and interest in programming targeting women in national security, including Magilton's development of a book chapter in collaboration with faculty at the University of Adelaide in South Australia. The book plans to focus on women working in different sectors of space industry, with her chapter focused on women in national security space law.

Professors Beard, Schaefer, Lepard, von der Dunk Present at International Law Weekend

Professor Jack Beard, Brian Lepard, Matt Schaefer and Frans von der Dunk presented at the American Branch of the International Law Association's (ABILA's) International Law Weekend hosted by Fordham University. The theme for the weekend was "The Resilience of International Law."



Professor Beard, an ABILA board member, chaired a panel on the "Growing Risk of War in Space: What Role Will International Law Play?" The panel covered a wide range of legal and policy issues. Given the Woomera Manual representation on the panel, the audience also showed considerable interest in the work of the Woomera Manual project and the issues and methodology adopted by the project. Professor Schaefer chaired a panel presentation entitled "The Resilience of the International Law of Outer Space in Light of Technology, Business and Military Developments" discussing the hard and soft international laws governing the increasingly competitive, congested, and contested outer space domain.

Professor Lepard and Professor von der Dunk presented on the panel themed "At a Crossroads: Can Customary International Law Provide a Stabilizing Influence in a Fractious World?" The panel explored the challenges posed by rising nationalism and factionalism to the ability of customary international law to generate consensus-based norms that can effectively regulate politically charged problems such as the use of outer space, international investment, and human rights.

Christmas mailing

In December, we sent out a Christmas mailing to all alumni with a token of our appreciation for you and your continued support of the program. If you did not receive your package, please contact me (kvankat22@huskers.unl.edu) or Elsbeth Magilton (elsbeth@unl.edu) so that we can get an updated mailing address for you.

Lachs Space Law Moot Court 2020 Team

We have selected our 2020 Lachs Space Law Moot Court team and congratulate Dave Fuxa (returning 3L), Sarah Barrett (3L), and Sarah Mirs (2L). The team is working hard in preparation for the competition and is being coached by Professor von der Dunk, Elsbeth Magilton and alumni Adam Little.

Save the Date!

The 2020 D.C. Space Law conference will be held on Friday October 2nd. Details will be coming soon on our website.

Program Merchandise

The College of Law has its own merchandise store, open year-round. The SCTL program has opened a “sub-store” inside that shop for anyone to purchase SCTL or College of Law gear at any time.

College of Law: <https://nebraskalawstore.com/>

SCTL Store: <https://nebraskalawstore.com/sctlp/>

Social Media

All alumni and law college students are welcome to join our private Facebook group. This group posts interesting articles, job openings, publishing opportunities, and more: www.facebook.com/groups/196215660478708.

You can also follow Elsbeth Magilton on Twitter to keep up with program news and our travels, at [@spacecyberlaw](https://twitter.com/spacecyberlaw).