

MARINE & ENVIRONMENTAL LAW INSTITUTE

Ocean & Coastal Governance, Climate Change, Maritime Law, Law of the Sea, Environmental Assessment

Dalhousie Law School, with its location in the vibrant port city of Halifax, is internationally recognized for excellence in marine and environmental law teaching and research.

Teaching

Since its establishment in 1974 as an area of specialization for Dalhousie LL.B. students, the **Marine & Environmental Law Programme (MELP)** has provided LL.B. and post graduate students (LL.M. and Doctoral) with one of the most extensive academic course offerings in these two fields in the world. With more than 15 full and part-time faculty members currently teaching in the Programme, students have a unique opportunity to learn about public and private law practice in marine (including shipping) and environmental law taught from domestic and international perspectives. Students wishing to specialize in these fields have the option of obtaining a **certificate of specialization** in either **Marine** or **Environmental Law** or both, while completing the three year LL.B. degree.

Dalhousie Law School also hosts two other research institutes, the Health Law Institute and the Law & Technology Institute, and offers concentrations in the fields of international law, business law and public law. In addition to the required courses in the MELP specialization students are also encouraged to undertake research/courses in these and other fields in the LLB curriculum. This allows students to engage with emerging and cross-cutting topics such as biotechnology, environment and health, ethics, indigenous rights, animal rights, international trade law and human rights.

Research

The 30 years of **research excellence** of the Dalhousie Law School MELP faculty was formally recognized by the Dalhousie Board of Governors in 2004 with the creation of the **Marine & Environmental Law Institute (MEL Institute)**. The Institute, which is housed in the Law School, carries out research and consultancy activities and also directs the MELP academic specialization. Its current Director and primary researcher is the holder of an appointment as a senior **Canada Research Chair in Ocean Law & Governance**. In addition to their scholarly research and publication activities, MELP faculty, associates and staff carry out research projects and provide advisory services to agencies of the United Nations, international non-governmental organizations, and regional organizations as well as assisting government departments and non-governmental organizations in Canada and overseas.

The Marine & Environmental Law Institute is also the editorial office of the **Ocean Yearbook**, a major international interdisciplinary annual, devoted to ocean affairs. Dalhousie law students have the chance to gain experience working as research assistants on the Institute's research projects and workshops, and assisting with editing the *Ocean Yearbook*.

Collaboration and Community

The MEL Institute supports student collaboration in addressing environmental issues through the Environmental Law Student Society and the East Coast Environmental Law Association, a nongovernmental organization dedicated to environmental law education and advocacy. The MEL Institute encourages interdisciplinary collaborations within the Dalhousie community including the School for Resource and Environmental Studies (SRES), the Marine Affairs Program (MAP), the International Development Studies (IDS) Program, the Centre for Foreign Policy Studies, and the recently established Ocean Tracking Network (OTN) led by the Department of Oceanography. The MEL Institute also promotes national collaborations, for example, through the Ocean Management Research Network (OMRN). International linkages include, among others, the Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts and Islands and the IUCN Academy of Environmental Law.



Courtesy of the Nova Scotia Barmisters' Society

Dr. Meinhard Doelle, Associate Director and
Dr. David VanderZwaag, Director

Courses Offered for the MELP Specialization Certificate

Marine Law

- Law of the Sea (required)
- Maritime Law and Practice (required)
- Coastal Zone Management
- Fisheries Law
- Law of International Trade and Shipping
- Marine Environmental Protection Law
- Ocean Law and Policy
- Oil and Gas Law

Environmental Law

- Environmental Law I (required)
- Int'l Environmental Law (required)
- Business and Environmental Law
- Coastal Zone Management
- Energy Law
- Environmental Law II – Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Climate Change
- Environmental Law Placement
- Fisheries Law
- Marine Environmental Protection Law
- Oil and Gas Law
- Planning Law
- Regulatory Systems in Environmental and Health Laws

NOTE: not all electives are offered each year

With the approval of the MELP Director, students may also apply to have a paper approved for the purpose of one of the electives in a MELP Certificate, that is to be written in another relevant course.

Examples of courses that would be considered relevant are:

- Animals and the Law
- Aboriginal Peoples
- Health Care Ethics and the Law
- Health Systems: Law and Policy
- Intellectual Property II
- International Trade Law

Faculty Associates

Courses in the Marine & Environmental Law Programme are taught by a combination of full-time faculty members, marine and environmental law and policy practitioners and visiting scholars. The extent of involvement in MELP courses by particular MELP faculty members varies from year to year depending on the course offerings and graduate thesis supervision needs.

MELP Faculty Associates and their areas of interest

Aldo Chircop, BA, LL.D., LL.M., JSD – coastal and ocean law & policy, maritime law, law of the sea, International environmental law, coastal management, marine protected areas, Co-editor *Ocean Yearbook*

Robert Carmichael, B.Comm., LL.B. – natural resources and energy

Robert J. Currie, BA, MA, LL.B., LL.M. – international criminal law, wildlife law

Meinhard Doelle, BSc, LL.B., LL.M., JSD, Associate Director, Marine & Environmental Law Institute, Director, Marine & Environmental Law Programme (MELP) – environmental law, climate change, energy law

Howard Epstein, BA, LL.B. – land use planning

Sean Forman, LL.B., B.E.S. (Hons.) – environmental regulatory, energy and natural resources

David Henley, BBA, LL.B., LL.M. – fisheries law, maritime law

Hugh Kindred, LL.B., LL.M. – maritime law, carriage of goods, international law

James MacDuff, BCL, LL.B., B.Comm. (Hons.), BA – energy law

Constance MacIntosh, BA, MA, LL.B. – first nations law

Moirá L. McConnell, BA, LL.B., PhD – law of the sea, environmental law, maritime law, international law, Co-editor *Ocean Yearbook*, Assoc. Ed., *Yearbook of International Environmental Law*

Chidi Oguamanam, LL.B., BL, LL.M., PhD, Director, Law & Technology Institute – Biotechnology, indigenous knowledge

Alan Ruffman, BSc (Hons.), MSc, PGeo – land use planning

Dawn Russell, BA, LL.B., LL.M., Purdy Crawford Chair in Business Law – law of the sea, maritime boundaries, high seas fishing, international fisheries law and policy, international law

Phillip Saunders, BA, MA, LL.B., Dean of Law – law of the sea, maritime boundaries, fisheries, high seas natural resources

Wylie Spicer, QC – maritime law

David VanderZwaag, BA, MDiv, JD, LL.M., PhD, Director, Marine & Environmental Law Institute; Canada Research Chair (Tier 1) in Ocean Law & Governance – aquaculture law and policy, law of the sea, international environmental law, international fisheries law

Gilbert Winham, BA, Dip International Law, PhD, Professor Emeritus – international trade law

Honorary Fellows

Brian Flemming, CM, QC, DCL, BSc, LLB, LL.M., Dip. International Law – public international law of the sea, fisheries law and policy

Edgar Gold, CM, AM, QC, BA, LL.B., PhD, FNI, Master Mariner, Adjunct Professor – law of the sea, maritime law

Arthur J. Hanson, OC, BSc, MSc, PhD – fisheries, oceans and sustainable development.

Christian Wiktor, LL.M., MSLS, Professor Emeritus – Editor *Marine Affairs Bibliography*

Associates

Bill Charles, QC, Professor Emeritus – environmental area

Scott Coffen-Smout, BSc, Dip. Marine Affairs, MSc, Fisheries and Oceans Canada - marine affairs

Mark Covan, LL.B., LL.M., Public Prosecution Service of Canada – environmental compliance and enforcement

Neil Craik, BA (Hons.), LL.B., LL.M., SJD, University of Waterloo – environmental law

Linda Duncan, BA, LL.B., LL.M., International Consultant Environmental Law & Policy – compliance and enforcement

Ken MacInnis, BA, LL.B., LL.M., QC – marine and environmental law, ship source oil pollution

Susan Rolston, BA (Hons.), MA, Seawinds Consulting Services – marine affairs

Detailed biographies outlining the areas of expertise of the MEL Institute's Associates and Honorary Fellows can be found on the website at <http://www.dal.ca/law/MELAW>

For more information about the Marine & Environmental Law Programme email MELP@dal.ca or view the website at <http://www.dal.ca/law/MELP>

or contact the MEL Institute:

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