

Five Outstanding Law Teachers On Tap For UH Law 'January-Term' Mini-Courses

Five leading legal scholars and lawyers, including a nationally-recognized environmentalist; the founder of the Urban Justice Center, which conducts legal outreach to the homeless; and an expert on the creation of affordable housing in expensive urban centers, are among those who will teach a week of intensive seminars in January for UH law students.

J-Term annually also includes a visiting scholar from Harvard Law School, funded through the generosity of the late Frank Boas, a Harvard alumnus who was a long-time supporter of the Richardson School of Law and who helped to start the J-Term over a decade ago. The 2019 Frank Boas Visiting Harvard Law Professor is Joseph Singer, the Bussey Professor of Law and an expert on Property Law, American Indian Law, and related fields.

The fifth J-Term Professor this year is Lauren Robel, Provost and Executive Vice President of Indiana University and Van Nolan Professor of Law. She will teach a seminar titled "Taking Trump To Court: Suing and Prosecuting A Sitting President."

Each year the January Term - known as the J-Term - brings outstanding jurists, lawyers, and law professors to the William S. Richardson School of Law, offering a bonus series of mini-courses to students. This year the J-Term will run from Monday, January 7, to Friday January 11.

Most J-Term classes offer a final session that is open to the public, and this year the Law School added a panel on homelessness, which will take place Wednesday, January 9, from noon-1: 30 p.m. in Classroom 2. It will be free and open to the public.

According to William S. Richardson School of Law Dean Avi Soifer, "We are very proud that our J-Term Faculty is always stellar, and this year's group is among the most impressive. Our students and the community clearly benefit from the J-Term, but we have seen over the years that J-Term faculty members also learn important things about Hawai'i and our exceptional students." He added, "This was the original plan, and it has worked out even beyond our optimistic expectations."

The J-Term visiting professors this year include:

- **Vicki Been**, the Boxer Family Professor of Law at New York University School of Law. Professor Been served as the Commissioner of Housing Preservation and Development for the City of New York before rejoining NYU in 2017. In her capacity as Commissioner, she designed and implemented Housing New York, a strategy for addressing the affordable housing crisis; as

well as financing and supervising preservation or new construction of 62,000 affordable homes in just three years, among other actions.

- **Doug Lasdon**, Executive Director of the Urban Justice Center and an Adjunct Professor of Law at Cornell Law School. Professor Lasdon founded UJC in 1984 to provide needed legal services to single, homeless adults, one of New York City's most underserved populations. He went directly to soup kitchens with his outreach legal clinics, the first organization to use that approach. Today the UJC has 12 projects and more than 200 staff members.
- **Richard Revesz**, the Lawrence King Professor of Law, Dean Emeritus, and Director of the Institute for Policy Integrity at New York University School of Law. As former Dean of the law school, Professor Revesz increased support of students from disadvantaged backgrounds to increase diversity in the legal profession and to improve legal assistance to disadvantaged communities. During his tenure, he raised a record-breaking \$550 million to support such initiatives and oversaw development of the law school's Washington Square campus.
- **Lauren Robel**, Provost, Indiana University-Bloomington, and Executive Vice President of Indiana University and Van Nolan Professor of Law. As provost, Professor Robel vastly expanded the academic programs at the Bloomington campus, including the development of many new schools. She has also worked to solidify IU Bloomington's reputation for renowned international partnerships in collaborative research and academic initiatives.
- **Joseph Singer**, the Bussey Professor of Law at Harvard Law School. Professor Singer is an expert in property law and American Indian Law and has published more than 80 law review articles. He is one of the executive editors of the 2012 edition of *Cohen's Handbook of Federal Indian Law* (with 2015 supplement.) He also writes about legal theory, with an emphasis on moral and political philosophy.