

ANNA MANCE

3315 Daniel Avenue, Dallas TX 75205

amance@smu.edu

(414) 534-2803

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

SMU Dedman School of Law, Dallas, TX

Assistant Professor of Law, 2022—present

- *Courses*: Civil Procedure, Environmental Law, Climate Change and the Clean Energy Transition, Environmental Enforcement

Stanford Law School, Stanford, CA

Thomas C. Grey Fellow and Lecturer in Law, 2018–2022

- *Courses*: Federal Litigation in a Global Context, Legal Research and Writing
- *Service*: Public Interest Mentor

EDUCATION

University of California-Berkeley, Berkeley, CA

M.S.-MDP, Sustainable Development, 2016

- *Thesis*: Greening India's Financial Market: Investigating Opportunities for Clean Energy Financing
- *Graduate Student Instructor*: Political Economy, Contemporary Theories (three semesters)

University of Miami School of Law, Miami, FL

J.D., *cum laude*, 2008

- *Honors*: CALI Award: Excellence for the Future in International Environmental Law; Dean's List; Dean's Certificate of Achievement; Florida Bar Foundation Fellow (for public service)
- *Clerkship*: Hon. Judge Pedro P. Echarté, Jr., Eleventh Judicial Circuit of Florida
- *Clinic*: Community Health Rights and Education Clinic
- *Research*: Conducted fieldwork and published report on UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti
- Leipzig-Miami International Law Exchange (selected participant)
- Student Organization for Human Rights (founding member)
- Research Assistant to Professor Edgardo Rotman

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI

B.A., Double major in English and French and Double Certificates (akin to a minor) in Environmental Studies and European Studies, *cum laude*, 2003

- *Activities*: NCAA Women's Lightweight Crew Team
- *Study Abroad*: Université de Provence, Aix-en-Provence, France, 2001–2002

PUBLISHED OR ACCEPTED SCHOLARLY WORKS

The Real Story of Federal Permitting Weaponization (submitted; offers extended)

In this paper, I investigate what types of plaintiffs are bringing NEPA suits from 2009-2024. I collected a unique dataset of approximately 2,500 cases during this time-period, the most comprehensive dataset on this topic. I first provide an empirical portrait of NEPA's private enforcers across a broad range of projects. I then focus on NEPA suits involving clean energy projects and provide a granular portrait of those plaintiffs and the types of cases they bring, their longevity, and their outcomes. This project provides actual data to critique the popular argument that NEPA and its required processes are a

primary culprit for delays in the national effort to build the infrastructure necessary to speed the clean energy transition.

[*How Private Enforcement Exacerbates Climate Change*](#), 44 CARDOZO L. REV. 1493 (2023) (article)

[*The Bribery Double Standard: Leveraging the Foreign—Domestic Divide*](#), 74 STAN. L. REV. 1 (2022) (with Dinsha Mistree) (article)

[*Environmental Liability Litigation Could Remedy Biodiversity Loss*](#), CONSERVATION LETTERS (2021) (with Jacob Phelps et al.) (peer reviewed article)

[*The Last Summer Olympics? Climate Change, Health, and Work Outdoors*](#), 388 THE LANCET 10045 (2016) (with Kirk Smith et al.) (article)

[*Buying the Farm: Protecting Human Rights and the Environment in the Face of Global Agricultural Expansion*](#), 28 NAT. RESOURCES & ENV'T 2 (Fall 2013) (article)

[*The Uncertain Future of Hydroelectric Dams on China's Transboundary Rivers*](#), 15 INT'L ENVTL & RESOURCES L. COMMITTEE NEWSL. 3 (August 2013)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Extreme Heat and the Changing Landscape of Heat Injury and Illness Prevention Standards, ABA SEER ESG and Sustainability Newsletter (submitted December 2024; under review)

This piece explains the divergent state-level approaches to protect workers from extreme heat in the indoor and outdoor workplaces. Worker safety due to extreme heat is highly precarious and largely unregulated. Only six states currently require employers to take steps to protect workers from heat related injury and illness in the workplace in indoor and outdoor settings. Some states, including Florida, have taken the opposite approach, passing laws preventing local government from implementing protections for workers from extreme heat, making a federal standard even more important as the risks of extreme heat are likely to pose an increasing threat to workers. While a federal standard has been recently proposed to address extreme heat in the workplace and protect workers, it is unlikely to pass in the current administration making efforts to expand state level protections essential.

Process v. Outcome: Tradeoffs in the Clean Energy Transition (work in progress)

This Article draws on the empirical results of the *Private Power in Private Enforcement* piece and focuses on the real and theoretical tradeoffs stakeholder parties experience and must grapple with in spearheading, facilitating, and contesting the clean energy transition. This piece responds to challenges by some scholars that too much process can be detrimental and tests that theory in the context of the environmental review process. I summarize the landscape of key stakeholders and their positions in this rapidly evolving process and employ democratic theories to argue that procedural tools such as NEPA's environmental review process are necessary safeguards in this transition and that we should focus efforts on how to remedy the now-common abuses of the law rather than targeting the law as a whole.

Environmental Review Federalism (early work in progress)

This Article focuses on obstacles to the clean energy transition at the state-level and assessing them in relation to the ongoing challenges and debates at the federal level. State level environmental review laws share common roots with the federal corollary, but these seemingly similar laws have developed

and shifted in dramatically different ways in response to different pressures and legislative environments; they vary widely in their requirements, impacts, and effectiveness in encouraging state and local decision makers to account for impacts on the natural environment. This divergence has significant implications for the clean energy transition and for the power of private citizens to ensure thorough environmental review through procedural mechanisms. This project would be the first scholarly account to assess these emerging and varied approaches to improve permitting the infrastructure necessary to speed the clean energy transition.

Clean Energy Anti-Democracy (early work in progress)

This future project examines the relationship between democracy and the transition to a clean energy economy. Oil was and is an essential component of building modern democratic states. My working hypothesis in this paper is that the transition to renewable power, with its more localized geographic scope and impacts and shifts on local production and transmission, is correlated with the increasing push towards anti-democratic rhetoric and preference for nationalism versus globalization. I envision this project as being a series of articles and a future book project.

Climate litigation (future project)

This future set of projects focuses on the nature of litigation finance, access to the courts, the nature of remedies, and the question of who should benefit from successful private climate litigation. While climate litigation globally has exploded, taking on various forms and claims against various types of defendants, the role of climate litigation in the U.S. has been slow, piecemeal, and a fraction of the global narrative so far. If indeed, U.S. cases become part of the narrative through wins in court, an important question is what message they send about who is deserving of compensation. For instance, decisions on liability in key sea level rise cases are expected in the coming years and, if successful, they will have wide-ranging impacts. Litigation tends not to lend itself to unity or equitable distribution of harms and remedies. It is an important but imperfect and unequal way of distributing climate justice. This article will further explore the necessity of a multilateral mechanism that provides public grant funding and hosts a recovery fund. Such a mechanism has the potential to operationalize responsibility and equity and access to those most affected communities.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

[*HAITI: Human Rights Investigation*](#), University of Miami Center for the Study of Human Rights (2006) (with Irwin Stotzky, Quinn Smith, and Rebecca Yagerman)

PRESENTATIONS

Berkeley/Penn Energy Scholars Conference, UC-Berkeley School of Law, July 11, 2025 (selected participant)

Offshore Oil & Gas Decommissioning Workshop, Columbia University Sabin Center for Climate Change Law and Ocean Conservancy, May 2, 2025 (invited participant)

Southwestern Institute for International and Comparative Law, The Center for American and International Law, invited to teach a day long course on international litigation in US courts at the five-week intensive Academy in June 2025

AALS, San Francisco, CA, Jan. 11, 2025 (presented work in progress)

Environmental Law Workshop, online, November 11, 2024 (presented work in progress)
Environmental Junior Scholars Conference, Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University, White Plains, NY, Sept. 7, 2024 (presented work in progress)

Grey Fellows Forum, Stanford Law School, Palo Alto, CA, May 24, 2024 (presented paper)

Law of Abundance Workshop, Johns Hopkins University, Washington D.C., Nov. 2-3, 2023 (invited participant)

Faculty Speaker, University of New Mexico School of Law, Nov. 1, 2023 (invited speaker)

Faculty Forum Speaker, University of Arkansas-Fayetteville School of Law, Sept. 13, 2023 (invited speaker)

Permitting Symposium, Case Western School of Law, Sept. 7-8, 2023 (invited participant)

EnviroSchmoosze Faculty Workshop, Texas A&M School of Law, Aug. 24-25, 2023 (presented paper)

Young Scholars Environmental Law UCLA/Colorado Symposium, University of Colorado School of Law, Boulder, CO, Aug. 9-11, 2023 (selected participant; presented early-stage paper)

SEALS, Boca Raton, FL, July 23-28, 2023 (presented work in progress)

Association of International Energy Scholars Workshop, Miami, FL, June 2, 2023 (presented paper)

Grey Fellows Forum, Stanford Law School, Palo Alto, CA, May 24, 2023 (presented paper)

Civil Procedure Workshop, Northwestern Pritzker School of Law, Chicago, IL, May 18-19, 2023 (selected participant)

Resources for the Future Workshop, The Foundation for National Resources and Energy Law, Mexico City, Mexico April 22, 2023 (presenter)

Environmental Law Workshop, online, April 20, 2023 (presented work in progress)

Enterprise and Ethical Considerations: Making a Career (or a Career Change) in Environmental Law, Environmental Law Section of the Dallas Bar Association, Nov. 1, 2022 (invited speaker)

Vermont Law Colloquium, Vermont Law School, Sept. 23-25, 2022 (presenter)

Grey Fellows Forum, Stanford Law School, May 2022 (presenter)

Northern California International Law Scholars Conference, UC Davis School of Law, 2021 (presenter)

Grey Fellows Forum, Stanford Law School, 2021 (presenter)

LatCrit Biennial Conference, Georgia State University College of Law, 2019 (presenter)

Grey Fellows Forum, Stanford Law School, 2019 (presenter)

Clinical Writers' Conference, NYU School of Law, 2019 (presenter)

ABA Fall Meeting, *Drones, GMOs, and Biotech: Can Technology Save Nature? Or Does the Law Get in the Way?* Montreal, Canada, Oct. 23, 2015 (moderator)

Commonwealth Working Group on Virtual Currencies, *Role of Virtual Currency in Stimulating Growth and Private Investment in Developing Economies*, London, England, Aug. 25, 2015 (invited speaker)

ABA Section of International Law Meeting, *Summary of Report on Renewed Efforts on Accession to the U.N. Law of the Sea Convention*, Buenos Aires, Argentina, Oct. 21, 2014 (presenter)

Ecological Society of America Annual Conference, Earth Stewardship Initiative, *Climate Change Adaptation along the American River Parkway*, Sacramento, CA, Aug. 8, 2014 (presenter)

Florida Bar International Litigation and Arbitration Conference, *Aguinda v. Chevron: The Case of Chevron in Ecuador*, Miami, FL, Feb. 4, 2011 (moderator)

RESEARCH & OTHER EXPERIENCE

University of California-Berkeley School of Public Health, Berkeley, CA, *Global Environmental Health Researcher with Kirk Smith* (May–Sept. 2016)

- Conducted research on heat health, outdoor labor, and climate change
- Collected data and published paper on how projected temperature rise over the course of the century would impact cities' abilities to host the summer Olympic Games due to the effects of rising extreme heat on long-distance and other athletes and the implications for other forms of outdoor labor.

Natural Resources Defense Council, San Francisco, CA, *Climate Change Fellow, India Program* (Sept. 2015–May 2016)

- Drafted policy reports on innovative solutions for OECD-NRDC initiative on clean energy finance including green financial models and opportunities and barriers to clean energy deployment.

Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, New Haven, CT, *Earth Stewardship Initiative Team* (May–Sept. 2014)

- Selected participant researcher in project using community-based planning and designed experiments to monitor environmental health of urban systems.
- Drafted climate adaptation plan for the American River Parkway and presented work at the Ecological Society of America Conference.

Environmental Law Institute, Washington, DC, *Visiting Attorney—Post-Conflict Natural Resource Management Team* (Oct. 2013–Oct. 2015)

- Researched the role of natural resource policies in international and domestic peace treaties.
- Edited book chapter on law and governance issues pertaining to foreign land investment.

Institute for Justice and Democracy in Haiti, Port-au-Prince, Haiti & Miami, FL, *Human Rights Researcher* (Nov. 2005–May 2006)

- Designed original research and conducted fieldwork on the mandate of UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) to support local community groups amid political and social upheaval.
- Published report in conjunction with the University of Miami Center for Human Rights and IJDH.

GRANTS & AWARDS

External Grants, Awarded

Defra Illegal Wildlife Trade Challenge Grant

- **WILDS Project and Conservation Governance Lab**, University of Lancaster, UK, *Collaborator* (Sept. 2019–present) [collaborate on multi-faceted research, policy, and impact litigation project that re-conceptualizes harm from and remedies to the illegal wildlife trade]

Internal Grants, Awarded

SMU Dedman College Interdisciplinary Institute

- DCII Collaborative Research Grant, *Quantification of microplastic pollution in urban aquatic systems: insights into environmental justice in the DFW area*, Co-Principal Investigator with Alex Chase (SMU); \$5,000 requested (submitted March 14, 2025)
- Research Cluster Award, *Global Environmental Health*, Lead Convenor; \$4,000 (2024 to present) [on global health]
- Research Cluster Award, *Energy and Environmental Systems*, Lead Convenor, with Monika Ehrman (SMU) and Alexander Chase (SMU); \$4,000 (2023-present) [designated as part of SMU-wide Climate Resiliency Big Challenge, additional funding awarded to support the SMU Energy, Environment, and Natural Resource Colloquium]

Internal Awards

SMU Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE), Awarded Faculty Affiliate, 2023

LEADERSHIP & SERVICE

Organizational Leadership & Service

SMU Faculty Service Appointments

Faculty Secretary, 2022-2023

Endowed Lecturers and Faculty Forum, 2023-2024

Honor Council (alternate), 2023-2024, 2024-2025

Executive Committee, 2023-2024, 2024-2025

ABA Section on Environment, Energy and Resources Task Force on Climate Change and Sustainable Development in Legal Education

Task Force Member, 2025

The Foundation for National Resources and Energy Law

Trustee, SMU, 2023

SMU Law Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources (EENR) program

Founding Faculty Member (with Profs. James Coleman, Monika Ehrman, and John Lowe), 2023-present

Conservation-Litigation.org

Affiliate, 2021-present

Sustainable Economies Law Center, Oakland, CA,

Volunteer Attorney, 2019–2023

American Bar Association, Section on Environment, Energy, and Resources, International Environmental Law Committee

Vice-Chair of Policy, 2013–2016

- Drafted ABA reports and recommendations on various initiatives to ratify UNCLOS and for a global lead paint ban.

Vice-Chair of Publications, 2014–2015

- Editor-in-chief of newsletter series focused on topics in international environmental law.

Academic Conference Leadership

Natural Resources Law Teachers Workshop, Co-Chair, beginning 2025

Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources Symposium, Co-Chair, May 2025

Subsurface Resources Research Cluster Symposium, Co-Convenor, May 2023

Professional Conference Leadership

Florida Bar

- International Litigation and Arbitration Conference, Co-Chair of Steering Committee, 2011–2013
- International Business Transactions Conference, Co-Chair of Steering Committee, 2010

TEACHING INTERESTS

Primary: Civil Procedure, Environmental Law, International Law, International Environmental Law, Climate Change Law, Energy Law, Transnational Law

Secondary: Property, Torts, Federal Courts, Remedies, Legislation and Regulation, Environmental Crime, Toxic Torts, Environmental Justice, Health Law, Law and Development, Race and the Law

PRIOR TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of California-Berkeley, Berkeley, CA

Graduate Student Instructor, 2015–2016 (taught three semesters)

- *Course:* Political Economy, Contemporary Theories

Lycée des Arènes, Toulouse, France

High School Teacher, 2003–2004

University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI

Writing Fellow, 2002–2003

PROFESSIONAL LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Sher Edling LLP, San Francisco, CA, *Senior Litigation Consultant* (Jan.–Jul. 2017)

BitPesa, Nairobi, Kenya, *AML/CFT Compliance Counsel* (Jun.–Oct. 2015)

Aballi Milne Kalil, P.A., Miami, FL, *Litigation Associate* (Aug. 2008–Jul. 2013)

U.S. Attorney's Office, Economic and Environmental Crime Division, Miami, FL, *Certified Legal Intern* (Jan.–May 2008)

BAR ADMISSIONS

California (2016)

Florida (2008)

LANGUAGES

French (fluent), Spanish (professional fluency), Russian (beginner)