Professor Tracy Hester has joined Professors Victor Flatt and Gina Warren as a co-director of the Environment, Energy, and Natural Resources Center (EENR) here at the University of Houston Law Center. He is a co-founding director of the Center for Carbon Management in Energy at the University of Houston. Hester currently chairs the Association of American Law Schools Section on Environmental Law, is a Regent of and co-directs the educational work of the American College of Environmental Lawyers and sits on the Climate Change Task Force for the American Bar Association’s environmental section. He also chairs the Texas Environmental Research Consortium, a non-profit public-private partnership dedicated to air quality and climate research.

Hester’s work explores how environmental laws and standards apply to emerging challenges, including decarbonization, climate intervention, and transnational environmental risks. Before joining academia, he led the Houston environmental practice group of Bracewell LLP for 16 years, and he worked in private practice for 25 years at Baker Botts LLP and Sidley & Austin. Hester also served as the interim director of the Commission of Environmental Cooperation’s environmental submissions unit and has served in numerous leadership roles in the national and local bars.

U.S. News & World Report ranks EENR in the top 20 for Environmental Law programs and alongside co-directors Flatt and Warren, Hester’s leadership will no doubt continue to bolster EENR’s achievement and impact. EENR will continue as a powerhouse among legal scholars focusing on environmental protection, energy transition, and sustainability. Likewise, EENR is committed to the energy evolution and providing a forum for education and analysis at the intersection of climate change, energy production, pollution management, and natural resources.