UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON | LAW CENTER

Center for U.S. and Mexican Law

POWERING MEXICO-US RELATIONS

REPORT 2016

UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON | LAW CENTER
Center for U.S. and Mexican Law

Report

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1. DIRECTOR STATEMENT

(*Spanish version below*)

The Center for US and Mexican Law at the University of Houston Law Center was founded in 2012 by Professor Stephen T. Zamora (1944-d. 2016). As a Professor of International Law and former Dean of this prestigious Law Center, Professor Zamora envisioned the first independent research center, through his invaluable recognition that there was a need for a university institution that could bridge an increasingly evident gap in Comparative and International Law studies on the legal relations between Mexico and the United States. In addition, the University of Houston's strategic location in the vibrant city of Houston, Texas, sets a high academic benchmark as one of the fastest-growing and most diverse cities in the United States that now ranks alongside major cities like Los Angeles and New York, as a premier site in which to conduct cross-national comparative studies.

At the Center for US and Mexican Law, we aim to conduct rigorous academic research on comparative and international legal issues between Mexico, and the United States that could be useful for society and decision makers, disseminating results through publications and recommendations. Conceived as a *think tank*, we would like to generate a proactive and constructive dialogue between all parties involved. Through this methodology, our approach allows us to compare concepts and legal systems in all of our main focus areas of research: Energy and Environmental Law, Health Law, Immigration Law, Commercial Law, and professional practice advocacy issues on both sides of the border. Also, among our activities, we aim to organize seminars, congresses and colloquia on current comparative and international law issues.

Both Mexico and the United States possess a prolific history of law originated from two different legal systems. Thus, the comparative method becomes more accurate when seeking solutions to common issues that might arise. While Mexico's legal system is rooted in the Roman Law Justinian Code, that would subsequently structure the Iberian Peninsula, and later develop Spanish Law that then ordered the Law in Latin America, the Law in the United States' would arrive through the Anglo-Saxon British legal system aboard the Mayflower.

Current legal statuses of both nations deserve a systemic study because they are intensely dynamic, and because Mexico and the United States are countries with strong identities and cultural diversity, with many more aspects that unite them, than those that divide them. Today, the greater interaction of countries outside of their national border, leads Comparative and International Law to be an instrument that analyzes the different situations that are presented, allowing us to face problems and solve them in the most appropriate way, and in the interests of each party. The fair dialogue between the United States and Mexico, respecting the sovereignty for each country, and within the principle of loyal cooperation that guides countries that seek to develop cooperation and integration systems, should they be in trade agreements immigration or in other aspects, can undoubtedly contribute to bring useful solutions to common approaches.

Alfonso López de la Osa Escribano
Director of the Mexican and US Law Center

Palabras del director:

El Centro de Derecho mexicano y estadounidense de la Facultad de Derecho de la Universidad de Houston fue fundado en el año 2012 por el Profesor Stephen T. Zamora (1944-2016), Profesor de Derecho Internacional y antiguo Decano de dicha Facultad, como el primer centro de investigación jurídica independiente dedicado al estudio de las relaciones entre México y Estados Unidos. La visión del Profesor Zamora sobre la necesidad de crear un instituto universitario de estas características que cubriera un vacío evidente en el ámbito nacional, fue inestimable. Su ubicación en la Universidad de Houston, Texas, que cuenta con renombre y relevante presencia a nivel nacional e internacional, su estratégica situación geográfica en la vibrante y diversa ciudad de Houston, considerada una de las ciudades con mayor crecimiento de Estados Unidos y de mayor densidad demográfica detrás de Nueva York y Los Ángeles, le convierte en un lugar idóneo a la hora de abordar estudios comparados transnacionales.

Desde el Centro de Derecho mexicano y estadounidense, tenemos como objetivo llevar a cabo una investigación académica rigurosa que pueda resultar útil para la sociedad y las autoridades decisorias, divulgando los resultados a través de publicaciones. Erigido como grupo de expertos o *think tank*, pretendemos generar un dialogo proactivo y constructivo entre las distintas partes implicadas. Nuestro análisis a través del método de Derecho comparado de los sistemas jurídicos e instituciones de México y Estados Unidos, se centra en el Derecho de la Energía y del Medioambiente, el Derecho de la Salud, el Derecho de la Inmigración, así como en el Derecho Mercantil y cuestiones relacionadas con la práctica profesional de la abogacía a ambos lados de la frontera. Dentro de nuestras actividades, contamos igualmente con la organización de seminarios, congresos y coloquios sobre actuales temas jurídicos de Derecho comparado e Internacional.

México y Estados Unidos son dos países que cuentan con una prolífica historia del Derecho y con sistemas jurídicos de diferente origen, por lo que el método comparativo se hace todavía más pertinente a la hora de buscar soluciones a los diferentes planteamientos que se les puedan presentar. Mientras México hunde sus raíces el Código Justinianeo del Derecho Romano que estructuraría la península ibérica, creando el posterior Derecho español que ordenaría a continuación el Derecho en Latinoamérica, el Derecho en Estados Unidos llegaría a través del sistema jurídico británico anglo-sajón a bordo del Mayflower.

La actualidad jurídica de ambas naciones es dinámica e intensa y merece un estudio sistemático, pues México y Estados Unidos, son países con fuerte identidad y diversidad cultural, y cuentan con más aspectos que les unen, que aquéllos que les separan. Hoy en día, la mayor interacción de los países fuera de sus fronteras, lleva al Derecho Internacional y al Derecho comparado a ser un instrumento de gran utilidad para el análisis de los problemas jurídicos, que permite resolverlos de la manera más apropiada para los intereses de cada parte, ajeno a cualquier tipo de imposición, y con la mirada puesta en perspectivas de colaboración. El diálogo equitativo entre México y Estado Unidos, en absoluto respeto de la soberanía de cada estado y dentro del principio de cooperación leal que debe guiar a los países que se planteen desarrollar sistemas de integración, sea comercial, sobre inmigración o de otra índole, puede sin duda contribuir a aportar soluciones útiles a planteamientos comunes.

Alfonso López de la Osa Escribano. Director del Centro de Estudios Jurídicos México-Estados Unidos

2. ABOUT THE CENTER FOR U.S. AND MEXICAN LAW

The Center for U.S. and Mexican Law is the first research center in any U.S. law school devoted to the independent, critical study of Mexican law and legal aspects of U.S. – Mexico relations. Based at the University of Houston Law Center, the Center for U.S. and Mexican Law capitalizes on Houston's position as a gateway between the United States and Mexico.

In carrying out projects, the Center works in partnership with other organizations, to combine the Center's expertise on Mexican law and U.S. – Mexican relations with the resources of partner organizations. The Center's goal is to provide sophisticated, balanced analyses that take into account differences between the legal cultures of Mexico and of the United States.

The Center's four main pillars of engagement are the following:

A. Academic research.
The Center for U.S. and Mexican Law is the only research center dedicated to the systematic study of legal issues that U.S. and Mexican actors confront. Our research projects are central to the Center's agenda, and lead to related programs, such as those described below.

B. **Academic conferences and symposia to increase U.S. – Mexico understanding.**
Through the Center's program of Mexico Briefings, and through symposia, lectures and conferences, the Center promotes U.S. – Mexico dialogue, and greater understanding of Mexican law and legal institutions.

C. Educational programs designed to prepare law students for careers that engage U.S. – Mexico relations.
The Center places UH law students in summer internships in Mexico, and also in semester exchange programs with Mexican law schools. In addition, through the efforts of the North American Consortium on Legal Education (NACLE), the Center promotes student exchanges by Canadian, Mexican and U.S. law students enrolled in the member law schools.

D. Professional Training and Development.
Since the beginning of 2014, the Center has successfully conducted, in collaboration with the EENR Center and with ITAM University, training programs for Mexican lawyers and other professionals to understand the international oil and gas market and the new legal and regulatory measures that Mexico faces under energy reform.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Center for U.S. and Mexican Law's research programs aim to increasing the understanding of Mexican laws and legal institutions in the United States, and of U.S. laws and legal institutions in Mexico.

The Center's principal goals are:

- *To improve understanding in the United States of Mexican laws and legal institutions, and to improve understanding in Mexico of U.S. laws and legal institutions;*
- *To study Mexican laws and legal institutions, with the goal of providing independent, objective analysis of the development of Mexican laws and legal systems;*
- *To undertake independent research and educational programs to further the development of laws and policies that will improve U.S. – Mexico relations;*
- *To promote cross-border education of law students, lawyers, judges and other professionals from Mexico and the United States;*
- *To promote cross-border understanding and cooperation in North America generally, including understanding of Canadian law and cooperation with Canadian institutions*

3. REMEMBERING FORMER DEAN AND PROFESSOR STEPHEN ZAMORA

University of Houston Law Center ***Professor Emeritus Stephen Zamora***, an authority on International and Mexican law, died Friday, July 8th, 2016, in Mexico City at the age of 72. Zamora joined the Law Center faculty in 1978, and served as the Law Center's dean from 1995 to 2000. He founded in 2012 and continued to direct the Center for U.S. and Mexican Law at the law school, served as director of the North American Consortium on Legal Education, and as an adviser to the Houston Journal of International Law. He retired in November 2014 from the classroom where he taught courses on International Business Transactions, International Trade, NAFTA and others.

Stunned colleagues at the Law Center remarked about Zamora's intelligence, determination to build relations between the U.S. and Mexico, and kindness to all.

"Steve Zamora was an incredibly accomplished member of the Law Center faculty," said Dean Leonard M. Baynes. "He was best known for his in-depth analysis of international economic issues, especially as they related to the U.S., Mexico, and the whole North American continent.

"His tenure as dean was notable for two reasons: First, he was the University of Houston and the Law Center's first dean of Hispanic origin; and second, at the same time, his wife, Lois, was dean at the University's College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, making them quite unique in academia.

"After his retirement," Baynes noted, "he continued to lead the Center for U.S. and Mexican Law, which is the premier institute in the country studying these issues. Steve possessed a dogged determination to advocate for stronger economic and legal relations between the U.S. and Mexico and better understanding between the lawyers of both nations. His unique voice brought clarity and understanding to these issues. He will be sorely missed."

"I am in disbelief and profoundly sad," said Professor Sandra Guerra Thompson. "He was such a dear friend, colleague, and dean. He didn't even know how to be unkind."

"I am in shock at the loss of a good friend who was critical in building our international law program," said Professor Jordan Paust.

"When somebody is so essentially decent, whatever you (say) can sound trite," said Professor Peter Linzer. "But decency isn't trite. Add Steve's piercing intelligence and culture and his devotion to his family and you have quite a man. *Un hombre."*

"Steve was the consummate gentleman," Bradley J. Richards, a partner in the firm of Haynes and Boone where Zamora served as of counsel for more than 15 years, wrote in a message to the firm. "He was kind, thoughtful, and even-tempered. He was a great professor. He was always prepared, shared his knowledge with enthusiasm, listened to his students and offered them a helping hand whenever he could.

"He was a great scholar. He co-wrote (with a Mexican professor) the single best book in English on the Mexican legal system, published broadly, and founded the Center for U.S. and Mexican Law at the UH. He was a great lawyer. He advised on international law issues (particularly involving cross-border arbitrations) and was sought as an expert on NAFTA and Mexican law, and he was diligent in every project undertaken by him. He was a great friend to this law firm, the Houston and Mexican legal communities and to me personally."

Zamora earned a B.A. degree from Stanford University in 1966 and a law degree from the University of California at Berkeley (Boalt Hall) in 1972, where he graduated first in his class and served as chief articles editor of the California Law Review. Together with Lois, he served in the Peace Corps in Colombia, South America, from 1967 to 1969.

Prior to joining the Law Center faculty, he practiced international law in Washington, D.C., first as an associate in the law firm of Clearly, Gottlieb, Steen and Hamilton, and then as an attorney with The World Bank. He had been a Senior Fulbright Lecturer in Mexico, and a visiting professor at Yale Law School and Fordham Law School. An expert on NAFTA, in 1996, Zamora served as a member of a dispute resolution panel that decided the first government-to-government dispute under NAFTA (U.S. v. Canada -- Dairy, Poultry and Eggs from the United States).

Zamora was a member of the American Law Institute, the American Society of International Law, and of the American Society of Comparative Law. In 2006, he received the highest distinction awarded by the Mexican government to a foreign national, the Order of the Aztec Eagle, in recognition of his work in promoting U.S. - Mexican understanding. He was the lead author of the book Mexican Law, published in 2004 by Oxford University Press, and has authored numerous articles and book chapters on international economic law, international banking law, international trade law (NAFTA), international monetary law, and Mexican law. His areas of expertise included contracts, international trade law, conflicts of law, Mexican Law, and NAFTA.

4. CENTER PROJECTS: NEW INITIATES

TEXAS ONEGULF SCIENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TOSAC) AND TEXAS ONEGULF CONSORTIUM LEADERSHIP (TOCL)

Texas OneGulf Center of Excellence *is a consortium of nine top state institutions led by the Harte Research Institute (HRI) for Gulf of Mexico Studies at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi with wide-ranging expertise in the environment, the economy and human health.*

- The Center has actively participated in various *Texas OneGulf Science Advisory Committee* (TOSAC) and *Texas OneGulf Consortium Leadership* (TOCL) meetings held in Texas in 2016. This year 2016, Dean Baynes and The Center for U.S. and Mexican Law nominated Professor Tracy Hester to represent The Center before the Texas OneGulf Consortium. Professor Hester has since traveled to Texas OneGulf meetings, continues to represent The Center on the Texas OneGulf Consortium Leadership (TOCL), and maintains The Center's contribution to the Texas OneGulf Network of Experts (TONE) list.

- **Texas OneGulf Consortium Leadership (TOCL)**
  - In July, 2016, the Center for U.S. and Mexican Law appointed Professor Tracy Hester as its intern delegate for the *Texas OneGulf Consortium Leadership* (TOCL).
  - The Leadership consists of nine members, one from each of the original consortium member organizations. Together, these members make-up an executive board, which decides funding, project initiatives, and the consortium's administration.
  - Professor Zamora held the Leadership vote for the Center for U.S. and Mexican Law.

- ***Texas OneGulf Network of Experts (TONE)***

  Are part of TONE from the Center for U.S. and Mexican Law, in 2017 the following individuals:

  - ***Guillermo Garcia Sánchez****, Co-Director, US México Gulf of México Research*
  - ***Tracy Hester****, Visiting Assistant Professor*
  - ***Gina Warren****, Associate Professor, University of Houston Law Center*
  - ***Allison Winnike****, Research Director, Health Law and Policy Institute*
  - ***Alfonso Lopez de la Osa Escribano****, Director of the Center for US and Mexican Law*

HEALTH LAW

The Center is in the planning stages of finding collaborative projects with *The UHLC Health Law & Policy Institute* and *The Mexican PPAL Bureau de Asuntos Públicos y Comunicación*, S.C. In Spring 2016, *The Center for US and Mexican Law* Affiliate Scholar Alfonso López de la Osa Escribano met with the *Health Law & Policy Institute* faculty, and Mexican guests Dr. Lourdes Motta-Murguía, CEO, PPAL Bureau de Asuntos Públicos y Comunicación, S.C., and Trizia Herrera Navas, COO, to formulate new research projects and workshop topics relating to health law policies in Mexico and the USA.

5. CENTER PROJECTS: LONG TERM RESEARCH PROJECTS

GULF OF MEXICO PROJECT

A binational study of U.S.-Mexico Exploration of Offshore Transboundary Hydrocarbons.

Guillermo J. Garcia Sánchez (Mexico) and ***Dr. Richard McLaughlin*** (USA) serve as country co-directors for the Gulf of Mexico Project. Garcia Sánchez is a doctorate candidate at Harvard Law School (S.J.D.) specializing in international adjudication, international investment law, and comparative constitutional law. Dr. McLaughlin is Endowed Chair for Coastal and Marine Policy and Law at the Harte Research Institute for Gulf of Mexico Studies (HRI) at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi.

2016

- 2016 - Symposium takes place in Galveston, TX - Improving Cooperation for a Sustainable Gulf of Mexico after the 2014 Mexican Energy Reforms
- 2016 – Co-directors are in final stages of editing an article regarding symposium findings.
- 2016-2017 – Upon completion, symposium article is to be published by the *Sea Grant Law & Policy Journal*

2016 SYMPOSIUM ON IMPROVING COOPERATION FOR A SUSTAINABLE GULF OF MEXICO AFTER THE 2014 MEXICAN ENERGY REFORMS

- The Center presented a symposium supported by a grant from the Sea Grant Law Center at the historic Tremont Hotel in Galveston on February 25, 2016.

- The symposium, organized by Dr. Richard McLaughlin and Guillermo J. Garcia Sanchez, the two Co-Directors of our Center's Gulf of Mexico research project, was entitled "Improving Cooperation for a Sustainable Gulf of Mexico after the 2014 Mexican Energy Reforms."

- Officials from the U.S. and Mexican governments (BOEM, BSEE, CNH, ASEA) discussed the potential for cooperation, and the challenges to development. The program was not open to the public, due to the sensitivity of U.S. and Mexican government officials who are in the midst of negotiations on this subject.

THE RULE OF LAW AND MEXICO'S ENERGY REFORM

The Center for U.S. and Mexican Law, in conjunction with *The Mexico Center of Rice University's Baker Institute*, held a Rule of Law Workshop on February 11th, 2016 at Rice University.

This event is connected to one of the Center's major research projects, which is being carried out in collaboration with the *Baker Institute's Mexico Center*, directed by Dr. Tony Payan. A major research effort was launched in an effort to examine rule of law issues arising under the Mexico energy reform.

In the workshop, leading experts on Mexico's energy reform presented their analysis of key issues in its transition to competitive energy markets. Experts included scholars, professors and researchers from both U.S. and Mexican institutions.

Oscar P. Lugo Serrato, Director of Faculty of Law and Criminology at the *Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León*, served as moderator of a panel discussion about global energy markets and investment protection, while Stephen Zamora, Director of the Center for U.S. and Mexican Law at the University of Houston Law Center, moderated a panel that discussed oversight and legal issues encountered by Mexico/

CROSS BORDER LEGAL SERVICES PROJECT

A research project designed to analyze the effects of increased social and economic integration between the United States and Mexico on the delivery of cross-border legal services between the United States and Mexico.

2016

- ***Professor Stephen T. Zamora*** and ***Dr. Alberto Abad Suárez Ávila*** initiated contact with Manuel A. Gomez and Rogelio Perez Perdomo to narrow the scope of the Cross Border Legal Services Project (CBLSP).

- Professor Manuel A. Gomez is Associate Dean of International and Graduate Studies, Florida International University College of Law and will serve as the CBLSp project Mexico co-director.

- Professor Rogelio Perez Perdomo is Visiting Professor of Law, Stanford University and will serve as the CBLSP project US co-director.

6. PERSONNEL

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR STEPHEN ZAMORA

The leadership role of Executive Director of the Center for U.S. and Mexican was held by University of Houston Law Center Professor Emeritus Stephen Zamora, an authority on International and Mexican law, until July, 2016.

Professor Stephen Zamora passed away in Mexico City on July 8, 2016.

Stephen Zamora
Founding Director, Center for U.S. and Mexican Law
Founding Director, North American Consortium on Legal Education (NACLE)

Alfonso Lopez de la Osa Escribano, J.D., Ph.D.
Director of the Center for US and Mexican Law, appointed by Dean Leonard Baynes in April 2017.

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- ALFONSO LÓPEZ DE LA OSA ESCRIBANO, was appointed Affiliate Scholar for the Center of U.S. and Mexican Law by Professor Stephen Zamora in September 2015, before being appointed Director of the Center for US and Mexican Law.
    - Lopez de la Osa Escribano has a PhD in Public Law (through a Comparative Law method) from the *Université de Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne*. He is a Professor at the Complutense University of Madrid since October 2003 until February 2012 (*currently on leave of absence*), and former Associate Professor at the Law Center of the University of Pau et des Pays de l'Adour (from September 2013 until June 2015).
    - Lopez de la Osa Escribano was invited by Professor Stephen Zamora to be to be an Affiliate Scholar to the Center for US and Mexican Law at the University of Houston Law Center, to work collaboratively on research projects involving US and Mexican legal systems.
    - He is interested in Comparative and International Legal perspectives, as well as European Union Law studies. He has taught *European Union Law*, *Administrative Law*, *Constitutional Law*, *Civil Servants legislation*, *French Public Law*, and *Gender Equality and non-discrimination Law* (from national and comparative perspectives). He has also taught *Human Rights*, *Biotechnology and the Law*, *Life Sciences legislation* as well as *Medical Malpractice* and *Medical Risk Management* issues, and he regularly directs doctoral dissertations on comparative legal issues involving US and Mexican legal systems. He is the author of many books, chapters, and essays related to comparative legal systems, public law and health law.
    - López de la Osa Escribano was appointed Adjunct Professor at the University of Houston Law Center to teach *Comparative Health Law* in the Fall 2016.
    - He is a lawyer in Madrid Bar (Spain) doing Litigation before civil, criminal and administrative jurisdictions, and an associate member of two research centers at the *University Institut d'etudes lberiques et iberico-americaines* and the *Centre Pau Droit Public.*
    - In 2016, Lopez de la Osa belonged to two European research projects:
        - *La nueva protección jurídica de las personas vulnerables*, DER 2015-69120-R, IIPP. Chaired by Prof. Dr. Cristina Guilarte Martín-Calero and Prof. Dr. Javier García Medina (2016-2017), Universidad de Valladolid, Universidad Carlos III, Madrid, Spain.
        - SIFORAGE project, **SIforAge consortium: Providing innovative solutions for an active and healthy ageing,** whose conclusions were presented in November 2016 in Barcelona, Spain: **http://www.siforage.eu/. SiforAge,** "Social Innovation for Active and Healthy Ageing- project pursues to strengthen cooperation among the stakeholders working on active and healthy ageing". At putting together scientists, end-users, civil society, public administrations and companies, the target is to improve the competitiveness of the European Union regarding the promotion of research and innovative products for longer and healthier lives. The **SIforAGE** consortium is integrated by a wide range of stakeholders along the value chain of innovation, such as private foundations, care centers, civil society associations representing aged people, universities, public policy makers, think tanks and experts at European and International level in order to bridge the existing fragmentation among them.

AFFILIATE SCHOLARS

Affiliate Scholars of the Center for U.S. and Mexican Law participate actively in research and educational projects undertaken by the Center. The inclusion of Affiliate Scholars expands the reach of the Center's programs, and also permits a broad range of viewpoints and expertise in guiding the projects and activities of the Center.

Dr. José Ramón Cossío Díaz
Justice of the Mexican Supreme Court and Distinguished Jurist in Residence, University of Houston Law Center

Guillermo J. Garcia Sánchez
S.J.D. Candidate, Harvard Law School
LL.M. in International Law

Dr. Robert E. Lutz
Professor of Law at Southwestern Law School in Los Angeles

Dr. Richard McLaughlin
Endowed Chair for Marine Policy and Law at the Harte Research Institute for Gulf of México Studies (HRI) at Texas A&M University in Corpus Christi

Dr. Amalia Mena-Mora
Research Associate at Galer Law Firm, PLLC in Houston Texas and a Lecturer at the University of Houston

Dr. Alberto Abad Suárez Avila
Researcher at Instituto de Investigaciones Jurídicas de la Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (IIJ-UNAM) in Mexico City

- RICARDO COLMENTER Affiliate Scholar for International Energy Programs at the Center for U.S. and Mexican Law and the Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Center (EENR).

  Colmenter is Director of Entra Consulting, an international consulting firm that includes oil and gas industry professionals with valuable international, commercial and regulatory experience. Before founding Entra Consulting, Colmenter was General Counsel for the Western Hemisphere of Weatherford International, a member of Halliburton law department, partner at Johnson and Cato and Legal Director of the Venezuelan Patent and Trademark Office.

LAW FACULTY

Geoffrey A. Hoffman
Clinical Associate Professor and Faculty Supervisor of the University of Houston Immigration Clinic

Michael Olivas
William B. Bates Distinguished Chair in Law
Director, Institute for Higher Education Law and Governance, University of Houston Law Center

Sandra Guerra Thompson
University of Houston Law Foundation Professor of Law
Director, Criminal Justice Institute at the University of Houston Law Center

Jacqueline L. Weaver
A.A. White Professor of Law at the University of Houston Law Center

COLLABORATING FACULTY

Dr. Jerónimo Cortina
Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of Houston and Research Associate, Center for Public Policy

Dr. Susan Kellogg
Director, Latin American Studies Program at the University of Houston
Professor, University of Houston

Dr. Lydia Brashear Tiede
Associate Professor
Department of Political Science
University of Houston

ADVISORY BOARD

The Advisory Board consists of persons who possess valuable experience and expertise in regards to Mexican law and society, or in U.S.-Mexican relations. The Advisory Board provides advice and support in helping the Center to fulfill its mission.

MEXICAN ADVISORS *(in alphabetical order)*

- Cecilia Azar, Partner, DLA Piper, Gallastegui y Lozano, México City
- Dr. Gabriel Cavazos Villanueva,Associate Dean of the School of Business, Social Sciences and Humanities of the Tecnológico de Monterrey (Campus Monterrey), Monterrey
- Dra. Josefina Cortés, Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM), México City
- Dr. José Ramón Cossío Díaz, Justice of the Mexican Supreme Court, and Distinguished Jurist in Residence, University of Houston Law Center
- Arturo Dáger, General Counsel, ProMéxico, Mexico
- Dr. David Enríquez, Goodrich Riquelme y Asociados and ITAM law school, México City
- Dr. Héctor Fix Fierro, Director, Instituto de Investigaciones Jurídicas, Universidad Nacional Autó-noma de México (UNAM), México City
- Ambassador Miguel Ángel González Félix, Despacho Maney & Gonzalez Félix, Houston, TX – Mexico City
- Alejandro Landa Thierry, Partner, Holland & Knight, México City
- Dr. Sergio López Ayllón, Chancellor (Director General) of Méxi-co 's Centro de Investigación y Docen-cia Economicas (CIDE), México City
- Rogelio López Velarde, Founding partner and energy law expert, López Velarde, Heftye y Soria, México City
- Cristina Massa, Commissioner, Comisión Federal de Competencia, México City
- Dr. Luis Fernando Pérez Hurtado, Founding Director, Centro de Estudios Sobre la Enseñanza y Aprendizaje de Derecho (CEEAD), Monterrey
- Dr. Luis Rubio, President, Centro de Investigación para el Desarrollo, Asociación Civil (CIDAC), México City
- Dr. Diego Valadés, Instituto de Investigaciones Jurídicas, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), México City

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- Ricardo Colmenter, Director, Entra Consulting LLC, Houston
- Congressman Henry Cuellar, U.S. House of Representatives (D -TX, 28th District)
- Alberto de la Peña, Partner, Haynes and Boone, Dallas
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- Lawrence Hanson, LW Hanson and Associates, Houston
- Christina Ibrahim, Executive Vice President, General Counsel & Corporate Secretary, Weatherford, Houston
- Tim Johnson, Partner, Locke Lord LLP, Houston
- David Lopez, Partner, Pulman, Cappuccio & Pullen, San Antonio
- William D. Marsh, General Counsel, Baker Hughes
- Charles E. Meacham, Partner, Gardere Wynne Sewell, Houston
- Judge Margaret McKeown, United States Court of Appeals, 9th Circuit, San Diego
- Ewell E. Murphy, Jr., Former partner, Baker Botts; Distinguished Lecturer, University of Houston Law Center
- Dallas Parker, Partner, Mayer Brown LLP, Houston
- Glenn L. Pinkerton, Partner, Sidley Austin, Houston
- Judge Josefina Rendón, Assoc. Judge, City of Houston Municipal Courts
- Doris Rodriguez, Partner, Andrews Kurth, Houston
- Judge Lee Rosenthal, United States District Court, Southern District of Texas, Houston
- Carlos Soltero, Partner, McGinnis Lochridge, Austin
- Peter K. Taaffe, Of Counsel, The Buzbee Law Firm, Houston
- Judge Vaughn Walker, United States District Court (retired), Northern District of California, San Francisco
- William Wood, Head of Energy and Infrastructure, Norton Rose Fulbright

7. ADVISORY BOARD MEETINGS

JULY 14TH, 2016 & OCTOBER 17TH, 2016

In 2016, The Center for U.S. and Mexican Law held biannual meetings with its Advisory in Houston and Mexico City to review ongoing projects and initiatives. The Center's Advisory Board, includes leading U.S. and Mexican academics, judges and professionals. The members of the Board are highly placed individuals.

In July 2016, members of the Advisory Board met to discuss the situation after the passing of Professor Stephen T. Zamora. Also, the financial status of the center including current and potential sponsorship opportunities, underwriters, and grants were matter of discussion in both meetings. Members also reviewed the mutual corporation agreement signed with CNH in 2015; the second hydrocarbons course; the Gulf of Mexico project as well as the Cross-Border Legal Services Project; The Rule of Law Workshop at Rice University; The 2016 Symposium on Improving Cooperation for a Sustainable Gulf of Mexico after the 2014 Mexican Energy Reforms; future collaborations with UHLC Health Law and Policy Institute; NACLE; and introduced the new affiliate scholars.

8. STUDENT PROGRAMS

The Center for U.S. and Mexican Law assists UH law students to arrange summer externships in Mexico City with one of three prestigious Mexican institutions: **Mexico's National Hydrocarbon's Commission** (CNH); **PEMEX and Mexico's Ministry of Foreign Affairs** (SRE). *The Center also sponsors activities to promote professional cooperation and comparative legal education in North America, through a partnership with the North American Consortium on Legal Education*

MEXICO CITY EXTERNSHIPS

Summer 2016

The Center accepted 8 UHLC students as summer externs. Six out of eight Center externs were awarded a Global Fellowships from the University of Houston Law Center. Two students received academic credit for their summer placements.

- **Mexico's National Hydrocarbon's Commission** (CNH) — 5 students
  To read more about The Center's partnership with CNH, please ***click here***.
- **PEMEX** — 2 students
- **Mexico's Ministry of Foreign Affairs** (SRE) — 1 student

Fernando Basilio - 1L
México's National Hydrocarbons Comission (CNH)
Mexico City
2016 GF

Ernesto Danache - 1L
PEMEX
Mexico City
2016 GF

J. Hellieth Guzman - 2L
Ministry of Foreign Affairs (SRE)
Mexico City
2016 GF

Sara Roque -1L
México's National Hydrocarbons Comission (CNH)
Mexico City
2016 GF

Carlos Ruiz -1L
México's National Hydrocarbons Comission (CNH)
Mexico City
2016 GF

Julia Valencia -1L
PEMEX
Mexico City
2016 GF

Spring 2017

During the fall of 2016, The Center promoted its ***Mexico Summer Externship Program*** and participated in the UH Law Center's spring *Public Interest Law Week & Government and Public Interest Table Talk* (GPITT).

- SRE indicated they would like to host UHLC students as externs in 2017.
- Pemex's legal internship program only accepts students from the UH Law Center and George Washington University.

NORTH AMERICAN CONSORTIUM ON LEGAL EDUCATION (NACLE)

NACLE is comprised of 13 participating law schools in Canada, Mexico, and the United States. The Consortium seeks to promote and share an understanding of the legal systems within North American countries as well as enhance the capabilities of each member to provide high quality legal education and research appropriate to the demands of the professional environment in North America.

Through the Consortium, students from member schools may participate in exchange programs, a biannual paper competitions, biannual NACLE Workshops, and mini-CEC workshops.

U.S. Campuses
- ***University of Houston Law Center***
- Southwestern Law School
- Suffolk University Law School
- University of Arizona
- George Washington University

Canadian Campuses
- Dalhousie University
- McGill University
- University of Ottawa

Mexican Campuses
- CIDE
- ITESM
- UNAM
- Universidad Panamericana

Administrative Office

The Center for U.S. and Mexican Law serves as the administrative headquarters of NACLE and employs three UHLC students to serve as Senior Coordinator, Communications Coordinator, and Faculty and Student Relations Coordinator.

Leadership

An Executive Committee serves as NACLE's governing body, and Professor Stephen Zamora served as the Director of NACLE before his passing. The Committee is in the process of selecting a new or interim Director of NACLE.

UHLC Faculty and Administrative Representatives

- Professor David Fagundes serves as the new Faculty Representative for the UH Law Center.
- UHLC Student Dominique Villarreal serves as the Administrative Representative and NACLE's Faculty and Student Relations Coordinator.

Spring and Summer 2016

- In March of 2016, NACLE faculty and students gathered in Monterrey, Mexico for a **Workshop** hosted by the Instituto Tecnológico de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey (ITESM). This year, the Workshop was entitled, "Lawyering and Judging in a Global Context: Challenges for the Profession and Legal Education in North America". Faculty and students from the UHLC attended the workshop.

- ***2016 NACLE Paper Competition***: A UHLC student was selected to present their paper at the *NACLE Student Paper Competition*. The student traveled to Monterrey, Mexico, where they presented their paper at the **2016 NACLE Workshop**.
- Through NACLE, one UHLC student interned at the Commission on Environmental Cooperation (CEC) in Canada this summer. The student was awarded a Global Fellowship from the University of Houston Law Center.

Spring 2017

- NACLE to co-sponsor 2017 Commission on Environmental Cooperation (CEC) mini workshop.

9. CENTER SPONSORS AND UNDERWRITERS

Center Sponsors and Underwriters

Underwriters	Lead Sponsors	Sponsors
Baker Hughes Foundation	Andrews Kurth	Entra Consulting
BHP Billiton	Haynes and Boone	Locke Lord
Norton Rose Fulbright	Holland & Knight	Sidley Austin
Weatherford US	Mayer Brown	
	Vinson& Elkins	

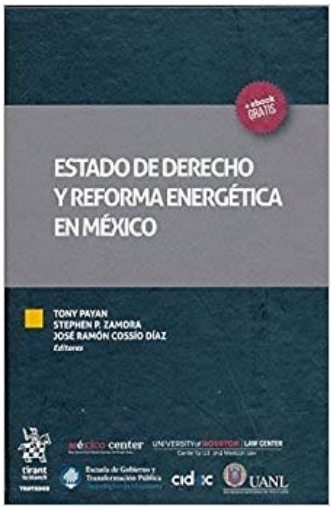
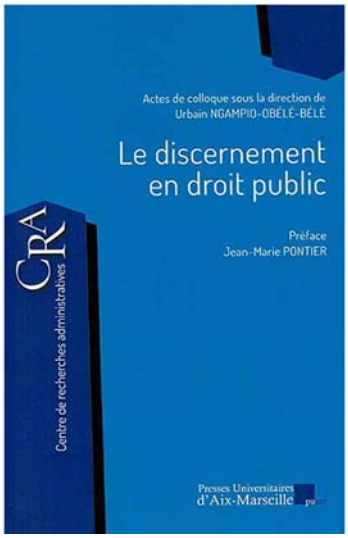
TINKER FOUNDATION

In **July 2016**, the Center for U.S. and Mexican Law received a $10,000 grant from the ***Tinker Foundation*** for the purposes of translating the articles and publishing their content.

A series of articles, which will be available in Spanish and English, will begin being published in 2017.

10. PUBLICATIONS

Payan, Tony; Zamora, Stephen P; and Cossío Díaz José Ramón, eds. *Estado de derecho y reforma energética en México*. Ciudad de México: Tirant lo Blanch, 2016.



Lopez de la Osa Escribano, Alfonso. "Une perspective espagnole sur le discernement en droit public avec quelques références de droit comparé des États-Unis d'Amérique." In *Le discernement en droit public: Actes de colloque sous la direction de M. Urbain Ngampio-Obélé-Bélé*, 89-116. Presses Universitaires d'Aix-Marseille - P.U.A.M. / Centre de Recherches Administratives - C.R.A., 2017.