



ANNUAL CONFERENCE (3-5 SEPT)

STUDENT CONFERENCE (7-9 SEPT)

**(RE)CONFIGURING ENVIRONMENTAL
LAW AMIDST COVID-19**

PROGRAMMES

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE VIA ZOOM
ZOOM DETAILS TO BE PROVIDED ON REGISTRATION
TO REGISTER, CLICK [HERE](#)



2020 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

PROGRAMME

(RE)CONFIGURING ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AMIDST COVID-19

Virtual conference via Zoom
Click [here](#) to register
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3-5 September 2020

Registered for 1 CPD point (SACNASP)
Validation number: 2020-0683-001483

3 SEPTEMBER 2020

- 11:00** **Welcome and keynote address**
Chair: Melanie Murcott (University of Pretoria)
- 11:15 Peter Kantor (Chair: Environmental Law Association of South Africa (ELA))
Welcome
- 11:10 Louis Kotzé (North-West University)
Keynote: *(Re)configuring Environmental law: Towards Earth System law*
- 12:00** **Session 1: Developments in environmental law and environmental education amidst COVID-19**
Chair: Amanda Makhonza (IMEL, University of Cape Town) / Tanya Wagenaar (Nelson Mandela University)
- 12:00-12:20 Amanda van Reenen (Department of Environmental Affairs, Fisheries and Forestry, South Africa)
New developments in environmental legislation: Responding to environmental, social and economic challenges
- 12:20-12:40 Jacolette Adam (Exigent Environmental)
Biodiversity financing – A critical aspect of post-COVID-19 recovery plans
- 12:40-13:00 Tarun Arora (Central University of Punjab, Bathinda)
Analysis of Indian National Education Policy, 2020 with special reference to the SDGs
- 13:00-13:20 Paul Hardcastle (Director: Planning and Policy Coordination
Chief Directorate: Environmental Governance, Policy Coordination and Enforcement Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning)
Key issues to consider in a future impact management system for South Africa
- 13:20-13:50 Discussion
- 13:50-14:30** **Optional (voluntary) networking session (chat privately/publicly in Zoom)**

- 16:00 Session 2: Climate change amidst COVID-19**
Chair: Ademola Jegede (University of Venda) / Michael Kidd
(University of KwaZulu-Natal)
- 16:00-16:20 Wil Burns (Co-Director, Institute for Carbon Removal Law & Policy,
American University, Washington, DC)
*Governance of marine geoengineering approaches to address climate
change*
- 16:20-16:40 Pasquale Viola (Post-doctoral researcher at the Charles University,
Prague, Czech Republic)
*(Re)Configuring legal responses to environmental degradation and
anthropogenic climate change: a comparative inquiry*
- 16:40-17:00 Andrew Gilder (Co-Director, Climate Legal, UKZN (Honorary Lecturer)
and NWU (Extraordinary Senior Lecturer))
*Implications of the COVID-19 Pandemic for Global Climate Change
Responses* – find the report on which the paper is based [here](#)
- 17:00-17:20 Discussion

4 SEPTEMBER 2020

11:00-12:00 **Session 3: Panel Discussion – Recent developments in South African case law and their significance amidst COVID-19 - Peter Kantor, Chair: ELA**

Peter Kantor

National Council of the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals v Minister of Environmental Affairs and Others [2019] ZAGPPHC 337 (6 August 2019)

Michael Kidd (UKZN)

Some thoughts about Uzani Environmental Advocacy CC v BP Southern Africa (Pty) Ltd 2019 (5) SA 275 (GP)

Adam Gunn (Adam Gunn Attorneys)

Minister of Environmental Affairs and Another v ArcelorMittal South Africa Limited [2020] ZASCA 40 (17 April 2020)

Kate Handley (Cullinan & Associates)

South Durban Community Environmental Alliance v MEC for Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs [2020] ZASCA 39 (17 April 2020)

12:00-13:00 **Environmental Law Association Annual General Meeting for ELA members**

13:00-14:00 **Optional (voluntary) networking session (chat privately/publicly in Zoom)**

16:00 **Session 4: Enhancing animal protections amidst COVID-19 Chair: Kate Handley (Cullinan & Associates) / Patrick Forbes (Garlicke & Bousfield)**

16:00-16:20 Melanie Murcott and Michaela Tafani (University of Pretoria)

The significance of emerging animal law in South Africa amidst COVID-19

16:20-16:40 David Bilchitz (University of Johannesburg)

The Integrative Approach to the Environmental Right: Why Live Export of Sheep is Unsustainable

16:40-17:00 Ashleigh Dore, Yolán Friedmann and Harriet T Davies Mostert (Endangered Wildlife Trust)

Towards a legal framework ensuring the well-being of wildlife during its ecologically sustainable use

17:00-17:20 Discussion

5 SEPTEMBER 2020

- 10:30** **Session 5: Sustainable, just and resilient cities and water and waste management amidst COVID-19**
Chair: Tumai Murombo (University of the Witwatersrand / Oliver Fuo (North-West University))
- 10:30-10:50 Anél du Plessis (North-West University)
Moving from containment to recovery: the relevance of Covid-19 for urban development in South Africa
- 10:50-11:10 Felix Dube (North-West University) and Rosemary Mwanza (University of Eastern Finland Law School)
Cities and Plastic Pollution in the Age of COVID-19: Towards Solutions for a Post-Pandemic Era
- 11:10-11:30 Purity Wangigi (Strathmore University, Nairobi, Kenya)
Human Rights Approach to Waste Management System in Nairobi during the COVID-19 Pandemic
- 11:30-11:50 Lisa Chamberlain (University of the Witwatersrand) and Alana Potter (Socio-Economic Rights Institute of South Africa)
COVID-19, water and resilience-building
- 11:50-12:30 Discussion
- 12:30-13:00 Closure: Peter Kantor (Chair: ELA)**



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HOSTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA**



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7-9 September 2020

7 SEPTEMBER 2020

- 10:30 Conference opening**
Prof Charles Maimela (Deputy Dean, Faculty of Law University of Pretoria)
Welcome and opening address
Dr Melanie Murcott (University of Pretoria)
Setting the scene: COVID-19 and Environmental Law & House Rules
- 11:00 Session 1 Strengthening environmental law amidst COVID-19**
Chair: Mr Clive Vinti (University of the Free State) / Dr Brews Soyapi (North-West University)
- 11:00-11:15 Lungile Jere (Chancellor College Lilongwe, Malawi)
The COVID-19 Pandemic; An Opportunity to Strengthen the Enforcement of Environmental Law in Malawi
- 11:15-11:30 Sifuna Stephane Namalelo (Kenya School of Law)
Reconfiguring environmental laws in Kenya amidst COVID-19
- 11:30-11:45 Chantelle Gloria Moyo (North-West University)
Legislative and policy responses in addressing the impact of COVID-19 on the renewable energy sector
- 11:45-12:00 Rongedzayi Fambasayi (North-West University)
Children's rights and the African Union's responses to COVID-19: A reflection on recent developments and challenges
- 12:00-12:30 Discussion
- 16:00 Session 2: Greening cities, the retail sector and biodiversity**
Chair: Mr John Rantlo (North-West University) / Ms Bella Phore (University of the Free State)
- 16:00-16:15 Jessica Strydom (University of Pretoria)
The Reconsideration and Enhancement of Legislation regulating Food Waste within the South African Retail Sector: A Socio-Ecological Concern.
- 16:15-16:30 Mathuto Mofokeng (North-West University)
Legal reflections on private investment in green transport infrastructure in South African cities
- 16:30-16:45 Onkarabile Osiele (North-West University)
Municipal planning law for climate change mitigation in South African cities
- 16:45-17:15 Discussion

8 SEPTEMBER 2020

- 11:00** **Session 3: Water law**
Chair: Dr Germarié Viljoen (North-West University) / Ms Sue George (IAIASa)
- 11:00-11:15 Uchizi Madhlopa (University of the Free State)
An analysis of the implementation of the right of access to water for poor citizens in South Africa
- 11:15-11:30 Johandri Wright (North-West University)
SA law for water services provision: A tissue for corruption in COVID-19 type procurement?
- 11:30-11:45 Melandri Steenkamp (North-West University)
Legal Perspectives on Ecosystem Services Protection for Water Security in South African Cities
- 11:45-12:00 Nicolene Steyn (North-West University)
Towards the Fulfilment of the South African Constitutional Right to Water: The Adequacy of the Law in Addressing Cities' Water Service Delivery Challenges
- 12:00-12:30 Discussion
- 16:00** **Session 4: Mining law**
Chair: Dr Melanie Murcott (University of Pretoria) / Mr Leon Gerber (University of Pretoria)
- 16:00-16:15 Kamogelo A Thaisi (University of the Free State)
Women in South African mining: A critical analyse of 'gender norms' and state of 'legislative gender transformation' in South African core mining operations (interim title)
- 16:15-16:30 Zama Sithole (Centre for Environmental Management, University of the Free State)
Shortcomings of the South African Legislative Framework in Addressing Communal Artisanal Small-scale Mining: A Blaauwbosch Case Study
- 16:30-16:45 Catherine Stead (University of Pretoria)
How the Interim Protection of Informal Land Rights Act 31 of 1996 can aid in pursuing environmental justice for communities impacted by proposed mining activities
- 16:45-17:15 Discussion

9 SEPTEMBER 2020

- 11:00 Session 5: Ecosystems, biodiversity and animal protection law**
Chair: Prof Alexander Paterson (University of Cape Town) / Mr Patrick Forbes (Garlicke & Bousfield)
- 11:00-11:15 Maricelle Botes (North-West University)
Protection of microclimate regulation as an urban ecosystem service: A South African environmental law perspective
- 11:15-11:30 Nicola Irving (University of Pretoria)
Conservation crime and pangolin poaching: Tensions between customary use and conservation efforts
- 11:30-11:45 Joseph Orangias (Utrecht University and University of Cape Town)
Transnationalizing public trust doctrines: Global challenges of biological diversity loss, climate change and oceans management
- 11:45-12:00 Lebona Mohale (University of the Free State)
Regeneration over Sustainability: Leveraging Indigenous Knowledge Systems to promote environmental regeneration, a move away from sustainability
- 12:00-12:30 Discussion
- 16:00-17:00 Session 6: Oceans, protection of species and exploration**
Chair: Ms Tanya Wagenaar (Nelson Mandela University) /Ms Bronwen Qumbu (North-West University)
- 16:00-16:15 Aidan Bodeo-Lomicky (Monmouth University, New Jersey)
A Colossal Climate Change Challenge: Adapting to Protect the North Atlantic Right Whale in a Dynamic Marine Environment
- 16:15-16:30 Adelaide A Karomo (Nelson Mandela University)
The adequacy of South African law to protect marine species from seismic survey noise
- 16:30-16:45 Discussion
- 16:45-17:30 Conference closure**
Dr Melanie Murcott and Dr Martha Bradley (University of Pretoria), and other law lecturers
Research tips and advice
Award of prizes: Best Speaker at the 2020 Annual Student Conference, and Student Essay Competition (2019/20)