



Research Centers Newsletter, November 2019



"Agency and Race in the Criminal System," December 5, 2019

Professor Ion Meyn will be hosting "**Agency and Race in the Criminal System**" on Thursday, December 5th. The conference brings together scholars who examine how the criminal system denies agency to the defendant, and how the criminal system works to reflect and reaffirm racial hierarchies.

Discussions will follow the timeline of the criminal system, from the police encounter on the street, to pretrial detention, to pretrial information exchange, and sentencing. A critical lens will be applied, the focus being on how social, legal, and institutional dynamics have resulted in alarming racial disparities and a system-wide deprivation of defendant's agency to participate in his own case.

For more information, please visit the [conference webpage](#).



Wisconsin Law in Action Podcast

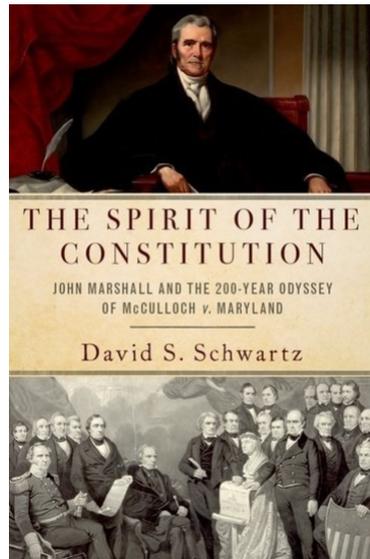


Wisconsin Law in Action is a monthly podcast featuring new or forthcoming scholarship from the University of Wisconsin Law School. The podcast explores a variety of legal topics and examines new developments in the legal academic field by discussing these topics with UW Law School Faculty. Topics to date include corporate governance, intellectual property and copyright law, and the effect of speech pathology on criminal interrogations, specifically the Brendan Dassey confession as highlighted in "Making a Murderer." Podcast interviews are generally 10-15 minutes in length and are conducted by the University of Wisconsin Law School Library. The podcasts are available on SoundCloud.

[**Access the Wisconsin Law in Action Podcast archive.**](#)

"A Government of Limited Enumerated Powers"

The UW Law School, the American Constitution Society, and the Federalist Society invite you to "**A Government of Limited Enumerated Powers: Is it the Constitution's Original Meaning,**" a point and counterpoint event featuring [**Professor David Schwartz**](#), UW Law School and [**Professor Kurt Lash**](#), University of Richmond School of Law. The event will take place at **5:00pm on Wednesday, November 20th** in **Room 2260 of the Law School** and will be followed by a reception. Copies of Professor Schwartz's book, "[**The Spirit of the Constitution: John Marshall and the 200-Year Odyssey of McCulloch v. Maryland**](#)," will be available for purchase. The event is free and open to the public. CLE credit for WI Attorneys is pending. Visit the [**event website**](#) for more information.



Selected Upcoming Events

- **November 7, 2019:** Ideas & Innovations Speaker Nikolas Bowie (Dean's Office)
- **November 15, 2019:** John Kidwell Memorial Lecture (Dean's Office)
- **November 19, 2019:** Documentary Film "For Sama" Screening and Discussion as part of International Education Week (HRP)
- **November 20, 2019:** EALSC Speaker Jean-Pierre Cabestan (EALSC)
- **November 20, 2019:** Point and Counterpoint Event with David Schwartz (Dean's Office)

For a complete list of upcoming events, visit: <http://law.wisc.edu/researchcenters/events.html>

Faculty Spotlight: Ion Meyn

Ion Meyn

Assistant Professor of Law Ion Meyn teaches in the area of civil rights, civil procedure, and criminal procedure. His research examines how the rules that govern litigation can work to reproduce race and class disparities.

His work-in-progress, "The Creation of Separate and Unequal Courtrooms," observes that rules of procedure in the United States were crafted during the Jim Crow era and can be understood to reflect the racial norms of that era. His article, "The Haves of Procedure," contends that to permit "criminal haves" (prosecutors) and "civil haves" (institutional players) to litigate in separate forums confers significant benefits to each. His article, "Why Civil and Criminal Procedure Are So Different," draws on archival material to tell the story of the personalities and interests at play that contributed to the moment of reform in which criminal procedure was segregated from civil procedure.

He serves as the Reporter for the American Bar Association's Standards on Diversion. This multi-year project brings together prosecutors, judges, defense attorneys, and policy experts to recommend procedures to guide the development and implementation of diversion programs. When completed, these standards will provide stakeholders across the country with a template to consider alternatives to traditional criminal justice approaches. He also serves as the Co-Chair to the Academic Committee of the ABA's Criminal Justice Section, which hosts an annual conference in Washington D.C. that brings together criminal law scholars to discuss new areas of research and inquiry.

Professor Meyn is hosting "Agency and Race in the Criminal System," featured above, at the University of Wisconsin Law School on December 5, 2019.



Professor Ion Meyn

EALSC Summer Interns

Three law students participated in the summer internship program in East Asia sponsored by the East Asian Legal Studies Center:

Liam Pisan, Chandler MHM

Liam Pisan interned at Chandler MHM in Bangkok, Thailand, during the Summer of 2019. Interning at Chandler MHM provided the opportunity for him to learn a different legal system and structure and to delve into the world of corporate law. Early on, Liam connected with the Business Development team, which led to him conducting extensive research on current business and legal developments in Thailand, with a specific focus on immigration practices, arbitration laws, and public-private partnerships. This research was the most interesting part of his time at CMHM, and he was able to translate that research into a couple of official newsletters which were distributed to the firm's clients. He also worked on several tasks with one of the firm's founding partners, Mr. Albert Chandler, which helped him develop a broader understanding of the Thai legal system. Liam enjoyed spending the summer in Bangkok. The cuisine, culture, and urban environment were unique and different from anything he had experienced in the United States. He also enjoyed traveling outside of Bangkok, with his favorite spot being the islands of Phang Nga Bay. Overall, his experience was valuable and immensely memorable, and he hopes more students are able to experience Thailand for themselves.



Phang Nga Bay (Liam Pisan)



Sunny Cho

Sunny Cho, Chandler MHM

Sunny Cho interned at Chandler MHM in Bangkok, Thailand, during the Summer of 2019. While working at the firm, she read over legal documents, worked on papers that the firm was publishing, created summaries for the attorneys and proofread legal memoranda. One of the most memorable things she was able to do was attend a panel on flooding caused by dams breaking in the Mekong River, a devastating event that she would never have heard about if she had not been in Thailand. Sunny enjoyed her time in Bangkok and found it to be one of the most affordable cities she has ever been to. She

had the opportunity to travel to a few neighboring countries such as Cambodia, Vietnam, and Indonesia. Overall, she had an amazing time through this program and would highly recommend it to anyone that is interested in doing an internship abroad.

Dennis Rios, YKVN

Dennis Rios spent the summer of 2019 working in Hanoi, Vietnam at YKVN. YKVN is a Vietnamese law firm with offices in Hanoi, Saigon, and Singapore. His work there mainly consisted of conducting legal research, contract and document review, and drafting legal memos. The attorneys and staff at YKVN were very knowledgeable and friendly. Dennis was able to learn a lot about Vietnamese law, international contracts and transactions. In addition to his time spent working at YKVN, Dennis was able to explore Vietnam - from Hanoi, Halong Bay and Sapa in the North, to Ho Chi Minh, Da Nang, and Hoi An in the South. Dennis enjoyed Vietnam's food, culture, and people, and he hopes to be back some day.



Dennis Rios

News and Announcements

- **Save the Date:** The **Wisconsin International Law Journal** will host the **2020 Wisconsin International Law Scholars Conference (WILSC)** on the theme "**Climate Change and Human Rights**" on **April 2-3, 2020**. The Keynote Speaker will be **Ambassador Dessima Williams**.
- **Save the Date:** The **Mildred Fish Harnack Lecture**, featuring **Professor David Kaye (UCI Law)** will take place on **Thursday, April 16th** at the Pyle Center.
- **Save the Date:** The **2020 ILS Midwest Law & Society Retreat** will take place **11/13 - 11/14** at the Pyle Center.



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