

**GOLDEN GATE UNIVERSITY**

*We Do More Than Teach Law,  
We Train lawyers.*

**SCHOOL OF LAW**



**THE GOLDEN GATE UNIVERSITY  
SOMPONG SUCHARITKUL CENTER  
PRESENTS:**

**What International Law Values**

*The 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Fulbright Symposium*

**APRIL 7, 2017**

**The Sompong Sucharitkul Center for Advanced International Legal Studies  
Thanks the Following Sponsors of the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Fulbright Symposium:**



**\$2,500 - \$5,000**

Dr. Robert Abedi  
Ms. Dana Romanovska  
Mr. Thuy Quang Ngo

**\$1,000 - \$2,499**

Mr. John Haramalis  
Mr. Chau Huy Quang  
Dr. Gustave Lele

**\$500 - \$999**

Dr. Ashmeed Ali  
Mr. Kuruvila Mathen  
Ms. Atoosa Zeinali

**\$100 - \$499**

Dr. Zakia Afrin  
Dr. Marc Santamaria

**Complimentary Wi-Fi during the Symposium**

**Network:** *GGU-Guest*

**Username:** *fbright*

**Password:** *4cgFbd*

1. Open your list of Wi-Fi connections and select "GGU-Guest".
2. There is no key or token needed to connect.
3. Once connected, open a browser. The browser will redirect you to a login page.
4. Use the username/password credentials provided above.
5. On the next page, review and accept GGU's Acceptable Use Policy to proceed.

## DIRECTOR'S WELCOME MESSAGE

### CELEBRATING AND STRENGTHENING OUR CENTER AT 27

I welcome all the participants to the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Fulbright Symposium. This Annual Meeting is the one time during the year that a sizable proportion of Fulbright scholars, jurists, and students come together in one place and for a common purpose. The annual Fulbright meeting was inaugurated twenty-seven years ago at GGU under the auspices of the Center for Advanced International Legal Studies. In 2007 the Center was re-named in honor of its first Director, Distinguished Dean Emeritus, Professor Dr. Sompong Sucharitkul. The Symposium offers an amazing opportunity to discuss an array of cutting-edge issues that touch on many aspects of international law.

The Center has continued to work hard over many years in its effort to disseminate the principles of international law among legal scholars of all nationalities. Our main task lies, and still remains, in the internationalization of the concept of legal education in the United States of America. Through the activities of the Center, concerted efforts are made to build bridges across legal cultures and civilizations of the world by hosting presentations from leading thinkers and experts in international and comparative law.

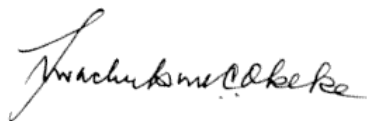
We have assembled participants from many countries under one roof to discuss an important theme: What International Law Values. Our morning and afternoon panels showcase outstanding presenters as outlined in the conference brochure. We are very pleased to present another great line-up of speakers in the twenty-seventh year of the symposium.

It is my pleasure to bring to your notice that the Center has published its reputable and widely circulated scholarly journal, *The Annual Survey of International and Comparative Law Journal* (ASICL) which features 200 quality papers. ASICL has continued to grow in circulation with commendable academic recognition and impact across the world. The journal has had 214,000 total downloads; including 41,500 downloads in the past year. Additionally, ASICL has been listed among the top ten international law journals published by universities in the United States based on monthly downloads. Please feel free to collect one copy only of the old volumes at the registration desk.

A report on the success of the work of the Center would be incomplete without making reference to the success of the Scientiae Juridicae Doctor (S.J.D.) degree program which has recorded a bountiful harvest of 101 graduates from forty countries around the world. A number of the proud graduates from the program who have stayed in the United States are present with us today, playing different important roles to make sure that the conference goes well. I thank them very much.

Please feel free to convey your observations on the best ways to improve the conference. We thank you for your attendance and support and wish you very safe travels back to your various destinations.

Sincerely,



Christian Nwachukwu Okeke, Ph.D., C.O.H.

**PRESIDENT OF GOLDEN GATE UNIVERSITY**



**Dr. David J. Fike**

**DEAN OF GOLDEN GATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW**



**Professor Rachel Van Cleave**

**DIRECTOR OF THE S.J.D. PROGRAM AND THE SUCHARITKUL CENTER**



**Professor Dr. Christian Nwachukwu Okeke**

# **The 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Fulbright Symposium on International Legal Problems**

**Friday, April 7, 2017**

**536 Mission Street, Room 2203, San Francisco, CA**

**8:00am – 6:30pm**

## **PROGRAM SCHEDULE**

**Registration & Breakfast:**

**8:00am – 9:00pm**

**MORNING SESSION:**

**9:00am – 10:30pm**

**Master of Ceremonies:** Professor Dr. Remigius Chibueze

**Opening Remarks:** Professor Kimberly Stanley, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs

**Conference Report:** Professor Dr. Christian Nwachukwu Okeke; “Reflections on International Law in an Era of Changes and Confusion.”

**Introduction of Keynote Speaker:** Professor Dr. Christian Nwachukwu Okeke, Director, The Sompong Sucharitkul Center for Advanced International Legal Studies, Golden Gate University

**Keynote Address:** Professor Dr. Ved Nanda, Founding Director, Ved Nanda Center for International and Comparative Law, University of Denver; “The Moderating Role of International Law in Uncertain Times.”

**MORNING PANEL:**

**10:30am – 1:00pm**

**Moderator:** Professor Leslie Burton

**Rapporteur:** Dr. Marc Santamaria

**Morning Speakers:**

Professor Dr. Andrew Conteh; “Pacific Settlement of International Disputes: An Alternative to the Use of Force in International Law.”

Professor Dr. Zakia Afrin; “Bangladesh War Crimes Tribunal: Justice Delayed, yet not Denied.”

Professor Parapaporn Rojsiriruch; “A Guideline on Appropriate Remedies for the Victims in Cases of Human Rights Violations in Thailand.”

Professor Rene Vark; “Russia’s Approach to International Law: Doctrine or Practice?”

Dr. Sapri Kota; “The Future of Egyptian-Israeli Peace Treaty 1979 Under the Doctrine of Fundamental Change of Circumstances (Rebus Sic Stantibus)”.

**The 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Fulbright Symposium on International Legal Problems**

**PROGRAM SCHEDULE**

**Lunch: Suite 5202**

**1:00pm – 2:00pm**

**AFTERNOON PANEL:**

**2:00pm – 5:00pm**

**Moderator:** Professor Dr. Chinyere Okpala-Chukwuka

**Rapporteur:** Dr. Innocent Onwuazombe

**Afternoon Speakers:**

Professor Benedetta Faedi-Duramy; “Children’s Right to Food in Haiti”

Professor Dr. Ashmeed Ali; “The Legitimacy and Authority of International Courts.”

Professor Warren Small; “International Humanitarian Law: A Paper Tiger in Syria Tries to Bare its Teeth.”

Attorney Noel Obiora; “The New Energy Diplomacy for Regulatory Paradigm in Developing and Under Developed Countries.”

Professor Nguyet Le; “The Jurisprudence of International Investment Arbitration Awards on State-Owned Enterprises: The Quest for SOE Law Revision in Developing Countries.”

Professor Dr. Dana Razeyeva; “The Role of International Law: The Values of Kazakhstan.”

**Closing Remarks:** Professor Dr. Christian Nwachukwu Okeke

**5:00pm – 5:05pm**

**Reception:** Wine and Cheese in GGU Lecture Hall Lobby

**5:05pm – 6:30pm**



## **Director's Conference Report**

### **Professor Dr. Christian Nwachukwu Okeke**



Christian Nwachukwu Okeke is a Professor of International Law, Jurisprudence, and Comparative Law. He is the Director of the Sompong Sucharitkul Center for Advanced International Legal Studies at Golden Gate University School of Law. He is also the Director of LL.M. and S.J.D. Programs in International Legal Studies at the University. He earned a Master of Law (LL.M.) with honors (summa cum laude) from Kiev State University, Ukraine, and Doctor in de Rechtsgeleerdheid (Ph.D.) from Free University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Before joining Golden Gate University, School of Law, he was Emeritus Pioneer Dean and Professor of Law at Nnamdi Azikiwe University, Awka, Nigeria (1985-1991), and Enugu State University of Science and Technology, (ESUT), Nigeria (1991-1995) respectively. He was a Deputy Vice Chancellor of ESUT. Professor Okeke was a partner at the Law Firm of Ilegbune, Okeke and Co. for many years. He is a Solicitor and Advocate of the Supreme Court of Nigeria.

He is acknowledged as a comparatist. He is widely published. His publications include six books, numerous book chapters and articles in international law, comparative law and international relations. He is Editor-in-Chief of the Annual Survey of International and Comparative Law (ASICL) and member of Editorial Boards of several law journals, including the prestigious Comparative Law in Africa. He is a Visiting Professor of Law at the Mount Crest University College of Laws in Accra, Ghana. Okeke is a longstanding active member of both the American Society of International Law (ASIL), and the American Society of Comparative Law (ASCL) serving as a Director of the later. A 768-page compendium titled Contemporary Issues on International and Comparative Law: Essays in Honor of Professor Dr. Christian Nwachukwu Okeke edited by His Lordship, Honorable Justice C.C. Nweze (JSC), with a forward by His Excellency, Judge Abadul G. Koroma, former Judge of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) was published by Vandeplas Publishing Company in 2009.

In 2012 he was knighted by Pope Benedict XVI who bestowed on him the “Cross-Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice” (Cross of Honor) – the highest honor conferred by the papacy on the laity, in recognition of his outstanding services to the Church and to humanity at large. He is happily married to Tina Okeke. Professor Okeke is fluent in Igbo, English, Russian and Dutch.

Currently, Professor Okeke teaches a range of courses in international law, Jurisprudence and Comparative Law. His subject specialties are Public International Law, International Investment Law, Comparative Legal Systems, Law of International Organizations, Air, Space and Telecommunications Law. He is the Chair of SJD Committees at GGU.

**Keynote Speaker**  
**Professor Dr. Ved Nanda**



We are delighted to welcome Professor Ved Nanda to the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Fulbright Symposium. Professor Nanda is Evans University Professor and Thompson G. Marsh Professor of Law at the University of Denver, and has taught at the University of Denver since 1965. He serves as director and founder of the Ved Nanda Center for International & Comparative Law, was a past president of the World Jurist Association, as well as a member of the U.S. Institute of Human Rights Advisory Council.

Professor Nanda launched the Ved Nanda Center for International and Comparative Law at the University of Denver in 2006. The Center hosts programs for lawyers, students and community participants as well as promoting scholarship in the field of international law.

In addition to his academic experience, Professor Nanda has served as U.S. Delegate to the World Federation of the United Nations Associations, and Vice-Chair of its Executive Council. He has also served on the board of directors for the United Nations Association-USA. He currently serves as a council member for the American Bar Association's Section on International Law.

**Topic:** The Moderating Role of International Law in Uncertain Times

Today's world is a world with extreme nationalism rising protectionism, multilateralism under siege, and migrants and asylum seekers on the move driven by ethnic and religious violence and the challenge of climate change. In this period of uncertainty, international norms such as the "International Bill of Rights," prohibition against torture, and conventions and customary international law to provide protection and secure human rights for migrants and refugees provide a ray of hope.

## **MASTER OF CEREMONIES.**

**Professor Dr. Remigius Chibueze.**



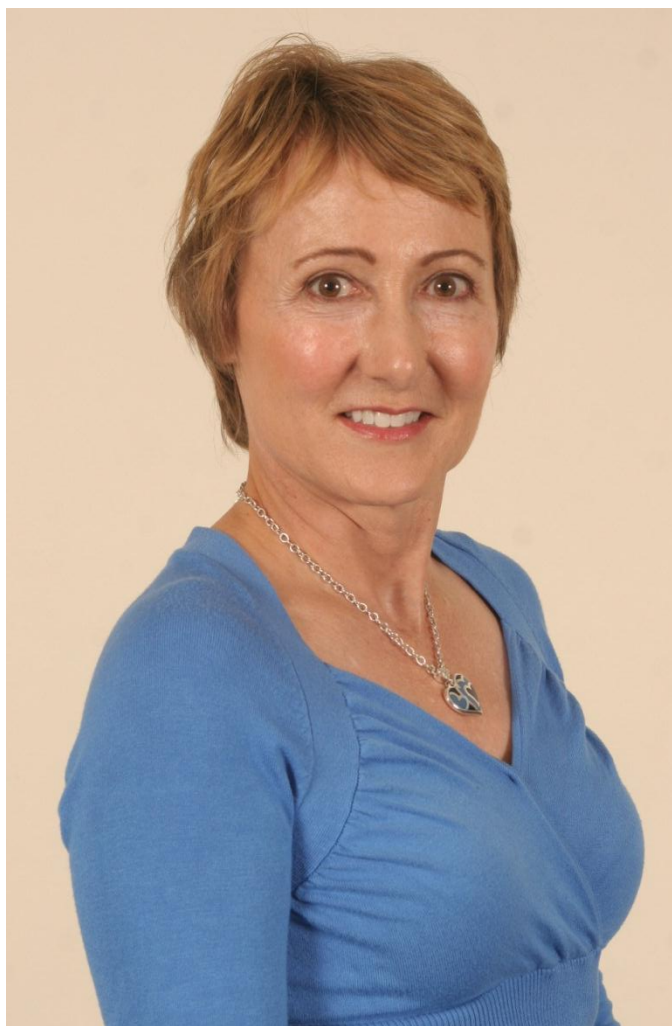
Remigius Chibueze is an adjunct professor at Golden Gate University School of Law. He teaches Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, S.J.D. Dissertation Seminar, International Investment Law, International Criminal Law and the Law of International Organizations. Dr. Chibueze has also taught Intellectual Property Survey at John F. Kennedy University School of Law. He has published academic works in International Law, International Commercial Arbitration, and International Criminal Law.

Professor Chibueze holds an LL.B. (J.D. equivalent) from University of Benin, Benin City, Nigeria, LL.M. from University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada, and LL.M. in Intellectual Property Law and S.J.D. in International Legal Studies both from Golden Gate University School of Law. Professor Chibueze is a solicitor and advocate of the Supreme Court of Nigeria and a member of the State Bar of California. He is in private practice in Oakland, California.

Professor Chibueze serves as Special Rapporteur and a regular presenter at the Regional Meeting of the American Society of International Law held concurrently with the Annual Fulbright Symposium on current International Legal Issues at Golden Gate University School of Law. He also sits on several S.J.D. students' Dissertation Committees.

## **Morning Panel Speakers**

**Moderator: Professor Leslie Burton**



Leslie A. Burton is a native Californian. She graduated in the top 10% from Santa Clara Law School, and earned an LLM with honors from Golden Gate University School of Law. She clerked for the Chief Bankruptcy Judge of the Eastern District of California, spent a year as a prosecutor in the Sacramento County District Attorney's Office, and litigated bankruptcy cases for several firms in San Francisco, including what is now Arnold & Porter. She has been on the faculty at Golden Gate since 1994. She has taught US Law in France, the Czech Republic, Germany, and Turkey. She has also been a Fulbright recipient. She will be stepping down from her faculty position in June to concentrate on her consulting practice, Legal Writing LAB, which coaches attorneys on legal writing and coaches foreign attorneys on US Law.

**Rapporteur: Dr. Marc Santamaria**



Immigration attorney Dr. Marc Santamaria has several years of experience in immigration law and has also advised clients on pre-immigration tax planning. Licensed in California, Mr. Santamaria's firm focuses on business immigration through visas such as E-2 and L-1A to help businesses expand to Silicon Valley and beyond. He also has experience with other visas and immigration matters such as the O-1 visa for extraordinary individuals, adjustment of status and removal defense.

Dr. Santamaria graduated from the SJD program at Golden Gate University School of Law where he wrote his dissertation on why immigrants benefit the U.S. economy. His dissertation also addressed the legal and tax issues Chinese, Filipinos, Japanese and Vietnamese face when immigrating to the U.S. He also earned his LLM in Taxation from the University of San Francisco Law School. He's a member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association.

### **Morning Speakers: Professor Dr. Andrew Conteh**



Andrew Conteh, a Sierra Leonean-born American, was educated at Christ the King College, Sierra Leone, Kiev State University School of Law, and Oxford University. He did his post - doctoral work at Oxford University before returning to his country of origin.

Professor Conteh has had an illustrious academic and professional career. Following his extensive academic experience around the world, Professor Conteh returned to Sierra Leone to join the top level diplomatic cadre of his country. He served the Government of Sierra Leone as a Senior Assistant Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and represented the government as a Deputy High Commissioner to the United Kingdom before he was appointed to serve as Ambassador of Sierra Leone to the former Soviet Union with concurrent accreditation to the former East European Socialist States (1976-81). He was a member of the Sierra Leonean delegation to the United Nations General Assembly.

He is currently a professor at Minnesota State University, Morehead, where he teaches a variety of courses in the departments of Economics, Law, and Politics. As a great enthusiast of international relations, his areas of specialization are: International Relations, International Law, International Human Rights, International Migration Law, International Political Economy, and Conflict Management. He is widely recognized as a researcher and has published many books, monographs, and peer-reviewed articles in the areas of International Law and International Governmental Organizations.

**Topic:** Pacific Settlement of International Disputes: An Alternative to the Use of Force in International Law



## Morning Speakers: Professor Dr. Zakia Afrin



Dr. Zakia Afrin manages several programs at Maitri, a San Jose- based domestic violence victims' services provider. These include the helpline, peer counseling, immigration assistance and legal advocacy programs. She is an adjunct professor of law at Golden Gate University in San Francisco and teaches Introduction to Islamic Law, Intra-State Conflicts, and Peace Building, among other courses.

An alumnus of The Hague Academy of International Law, Dr. Afrin holds an LL.B from Dhaka University in Bangladesh (1998), and an LL.M and SJD specializing in public international law from Golden Gate University (, 2007). A social justice activist at heart, Dr. Afrin has authored numerous peer-reviewed and popular articles and two books, Transitional Authority in Iraq and Legal Remedies for Women Victims of Violence in Bangladesh.

**Topic:** Bangladesh War Crimes Tribunal: Justice Delayed, yet not Denied

Nearly 40 years after independence, in 2009 Bangladesh set up a War Crimes Tribunal to bring justice to the millions affected by the 1971 liberation war against Pakistan. By 2016, 16 judgments had been handed out, with cases still being filed. The Tribunal has rejuvenated a new generation, satisfied the surviving veterans, and yet has come under constant negative scrutiny from the international community. This presentation takes a closer look at the law that regulates the Tribunal, triumphs and challenges of the Tribunal and asks the question, "has justice been delivered?"

### **Morning Speakers: Professor Prapaporn Rojsiriruch**



Prapaporn Rojsiriruch is a full-time lecturer of law specializing in Tort and Intellectual Property Law at Assumption University School of Law in Thailand. Currently, she is a Doctor of Law Candidate in Thailand with a Junior Research Scholarship from Fulbright Thailand (TUSEF). She is currently conducting research at the University of San Francisco, School of Law. Her research topic is “A Guideline on Appropriate Remedies for the Victims in Case of Human Rights Violations by the State of Thailand”.

There are various dimensions of human rights issues in Thailand. Lacking sufficient measures to address human trafficking, failing to protect forced labor of migrant workers, expanding military involvement in the administration of justice, and expanding the usage of martial law are some examples of human rights problems that were addressed by Amnesty International in its 2014-2015 report. Torture, ill-treatment and use of lethal force by the state to civilians in southern Thailand and political protestors are deemed as serious problems. The victims of violence in the Deep South of Thailand complain that the compensation process is delayed and unjust.

Freedom of expression and the right to peaceful assembly are continually restricted on the reason of “national security” after the military coup in May 2014. After the violence, there are many times human rights abused victims find it difficult to seek compensation from the state perpetrator either through judicial or administrative processes.

The problem of human rights violations in Thailand is an ongoing one, especially, the issue of reparation and compensation to human rights violation victims who suffered from political violence. As a result, when their fundamental rights are violated, it is burdensome for them not only to seek for the truth whether who is liable for the damage but also to seek for the reparation there are supposed to receive.



### **Morning Speakers: Professor René Värk**



Dr René Värk is Associate Professor of International Law and Deputy Head of the Department of Public Law at the School of Law, University of Tartu, Estonia. He is also Associate Professor of Constitutional and International Law at the Estonian National Defence College. His specialities are military-related law, including the use of armed forces and the law of armed conflict, as well as international criminal law. His military education includes the courses at the Estonian National Defence College, the British Army, the Baltic Defence College and the German Army. As a reserve officer, he acts as a legal adviser to a brigade headquarters.

He is regular guest lecturer at the Estonian School of Diplomacy, the Estonian Academy of Security Sciences, and the Baltic Defence College. In recent years, he has been involved in international law training projects in Armenia, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, and Ukraine. He is a member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration.

**Topic:** Russia's Approach to International Law: Doctrine or Practice?

Russia stresses the role and importance of international law in its doctrinal documents, notably in the Foreign Policy Concept. They indicate which international instruments, norms and principles are considered essential for the peaceful and mutually beneficial international relations in the eyes of Russia. The painted picture looks nice, but the practice does not match the theory. Russia has deliberately disregarded or misinterpreted international law in recent situations. Although Russia has simply violated international law in various instances, it is worth asking whether Russia and the Western States are speaking the same language of international law. It is evident that when Russia and the Western States refer to the same terms it does not mean that they share the same understandings. When speaking about the need to protect sovereignty, do they have the same aim and object in mind?

### **Morning Speakers: Dr. Sapri Kota**



Sapri Kota is a Post-Graduate Research Fellow at Santa Clara University, School of Law with special attention in Middle East History and Conflicts. His areas of specialization include International Law, Islamic Law, International Human Rights, International Organizations, and United States Immigration Law. He has been a member of the Egyptian Bar Association since 1994, and a member of the Arab Lawyers Union since 1996.

Dr. Kota earned an LL. B. degree from Alexandria University School of Law in 1992, two LL. M. degrees from Santa Clara University School of Law in 2012 and 2015, and will receive an SJD degree from Golden Gate University this spring.

**Topic:** The Future of Egyptian-Israeli Peace Treaty 1979 under the Doctrine of Fundamental Change of Circumstances (*Rebus Sic Stantibus*)

The general rule of Civil Law and International Law is *Pacta Sunt Servanda* meaning “agreements must be kept”. Unilateral denunciation or modification of any Contract or International Agreement is prohibited, and all parties of the treaty must agree to any modification. The only exception to the general rule is *Rebus Sic Stantibus*, or “Fundamental Change of Circumstances”. This legal doctrine is part of The Customary International Law.

Egypt seeks to amend the Peace Treaty signed in 1979 to impose its authority and its full sovereignty over the whole Sinai Peninsula, especially in the light of fundamental change of circumstances and the increasing number of Jihadist groups in the area. The Egyptian-Israeli Peace Treaty is a good model of Fundamental Change of Circumstances Doctrine, and all doctrine conditions apply to it. These include the fact that the change is fundamental, was unforeseen by both parties, the effect of the change is radical enough to transform obligations, and the change did not exist at the time the treaty was concluded.

## AFTERNOON PANEL

**MODERATOR: Professor Dr. Chinyere Okpala-Chukwuka**



Chinyere Christiana Okpala-Chukwuka is an adjunct professor at Golden Gate University School of Law. She teaches terrorism and Counter-terrorism Law.

Professor Okpala-Chukwuka holds an S.J.D. in International Legal Studies from GGU, an LL.M. in American Legal Jurisprudence with certification in International Law from Whittier Law School, Costa Mesa, California and an LL.B. from Nnamdi Azikiwe University Awka, Anambra State of Nigeria. Additionally, she holds a Higher National Diploma, B.Sc equivalent, in Business Administration and Management.

She was an Associate Professor and Chair of Department of Business Management, Eastern Polytechnic in Kenema, Sierra Leone, where she lectured on core law courses. She currently supervises students' dissertations. Dr. Okpala Chukwuka was a Graduate Research Assistant to Director of the LL.M. program at Whittier Law School and is currently a Graduate Research Assistant to the Director of the SJD program in international Legal Studies at GGU. She is a Solicitor and Advocate of the Supreme Court of Nigeria. She practiced law with Mogboh, Offiah & Co. and Chris O. Okpala, both in the eastern part of Nigeria.

Professor Okpala- Chukwuka served both as a Rapporteur and Presenter at the GGU 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Fulbright international legal studies Symposuim. She also sits on S.J.D. students' Dissertation Commitees.

Her book titled *Confronting Terrorism: Quo Vadis African Union?* was published in 2015 by Vandepas Publishing.

**Rapporteur: Dr. Innocent Onwuazombe**



Dr. Onwuazombe holds Associate Degrees in Biology/Chemistry from Anambra State College of Education Awka, Nigeria, and in Liberal Arts (Math & Science) from Contra Costa College, San Pablo, California, as well as a Bachelor's Degree in Biology Education from the University of Port Harcourt, Nigeria. Additionally, he holds an LL.B from the University Of Nigeria Nsukka, an LL.M in International Law from Golden Gate University School of Law, and an S.J.D. in International Legal Studies from GGU Law. His S.J.D. Dissertation was on Re-Assessing the Nigerian Legal Framework with Regard to Human Rights Violation in the Oil-Producing Communities in the Niger Delta Region.

His post-doctoral research areas include social justice in Nigeria and the United States, the intersection of International Law (Sovereignty) and Humanitarian Law with special focus on the Arab Spring, Corruption in Nigeria, and Law Enforcement Agents and Human Rights in Nigeria and the United States

Core research interests of Dr. Onwuazombe include International Law, International Business Transaction, Human Rights, and Oil/Environmental Pollution.

Dr. Onwuazombe is a solicitor and advocate of the Supreme Court of Nigeria and practiced law in Nigeria specializing in contract, real estate, corporate law, probate, and human rights. He served as an external secretary to the Board of Directors of Citizen's Investment and Securities Limited, Victoria Island, Lagos State Nigeria. Additionally, Dr. Onwuazombe advises Nigerian companies with business interests in the United States.

Dr. Onwuazombe sits on S.J.D. students' Dissertation Committees and also serves as a special Rapporteur at the 27th Annual Fulbright Symposium on Current International Legal Issues at Golden Gate University School of Law.

### **Afternoon Speakers: Professor Benedetta Faedi Duramy**



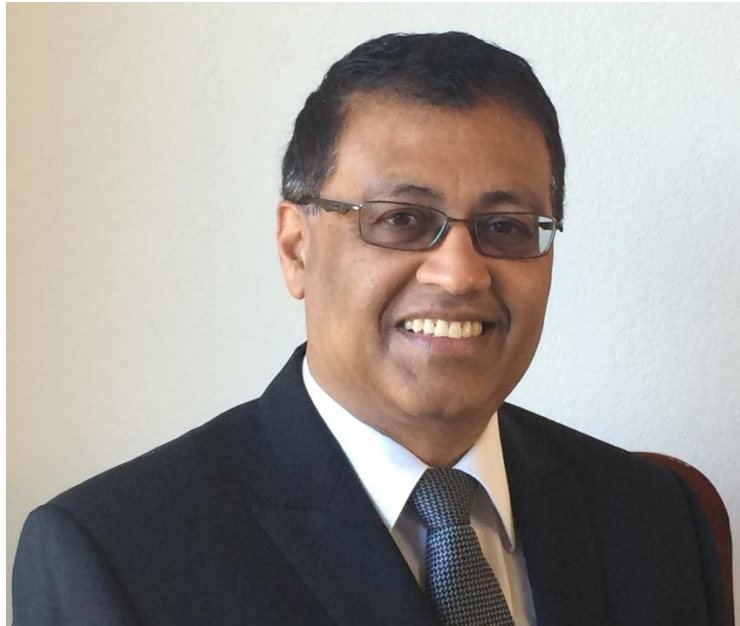
Benedetta Faedi Duramy is a Professor of Law and Associate Dean of Faculty Scholarship at Golden Gate University where she teaches Family Law, International Human Rights, and Gender and Children's Issues in International Law. Professor Faedi Duramy completed her JSD at Stanford Law School where she has received numerous awards for her extensive research and scholarship on gender-based violence. Her book Gender and Violence in Haiti: Women's Path from Victims to Agents was published in 2014, and her edited volume "International Perspectives and Empirical Findings on Child Participation" was published in 2015.

She received an LLM from the London School of Economics and Political Sciences, an MA in Political Science from the University of Florence, and an LLB from the University of Rome. She was a researcher for the Child Protection Unit of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti and worked in private practice in London.

#### **Topic:** Children's Right to Food in Haiti

The earthquake that struck Haiti in 2010 affected around 3 million people, devastating the capital of Port-au-Prince and the surrounding countryside, and exacerbating already challenging economic and social conditions. Assessments conducted immediately after the earthquake showed that about 1.3 million people were food insecure. The natural disaster significantly increased the risk of death and malnutrition for infants, young children and pregnant women. The World Food Program (WFP) provided 3.5 million Haitians with food assistance, including specific nutrition support for vulnerable groups such as children and pregnant women. This article describes child food insecurity in the aftermath of the earthquake; it examines children's right to food under international and domestic law, and it provides an assessment of the current programs in place to eradicate child food insecurity.

### **Afternoon Speakers: Professor Dr. Ashmeed Ali**



Dr. Ashmeed Ali, an Adjunct Professor of Law at Golden Gate University School of Law, has over 14 years of legal experience in the area of Workers' Compensation. Prior to this, he worked with the State-owned Electricity Commission in Trinidad and Tobago. He obtained his LL.B. from the University of London. While pursuing his LL.M. and S.J.D. degrees at Golden Gate University School of Law, Dr. Ali had the privilege of studying under Dr. Sompong Sucharitkul and Professor Dr. Christian N. Okeke.

Based on the extensive research of comparable regional courts during his doctoral studies, Dr. Ali was able to develop the instructional materials and content for an innovative new Law Course, Transnational Courts. Dr. Ali also lectures in International Law and Comparative Legal Systems Law Courses at Golden Gate University School of Law.

**Topic:** "The Legitimacy and Authority of International Courts."

This paper will address some of the concerns and challenges international courts face with respect to their legitimacy and authority. Unlike national courts, which invoke the authority of sovereign states, it is not always clear what is the basis of the international courts' authority. Several concerns have arisen that international courts do not appear to be under the same system of regulation, oversight and accountability found in the national context.

The further expansion of these international courts and their jurisdiction without seriously addressing their perceived legitimacy may result in legal implications that would complicate the purpose and mission of these courts. If international courts lack justified authority, so will their interpretations of international law. If we fail to respond to legitimacy concerns, we endanger both the courts and the law they interpret.



### **Afternoon Speakers: Professor Warren Small**



After spending twenty-five years in the United States Navy as a commissioned officer, Professor Small began pursuing his J.D. degree at the Golden Gate University School of Law in San Francisco, specializing in International Law. Upon his graduation from law school in 1996, Professor Small joined the faculty of Golden Gate University as an Adjunct Professor of International Law and Intellectual Property Law. Professor Small is also a member of the adjunct faculty of the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey and recently joined the faculty at the Santa Clara University School of Law as an Adjunct Professor of International Law.

Professor Small is actively involved in the academic community and frequently delivers guest lectures on international legal issues arising from operations sponsored by the Department of Defense. He has been a regular participant in the American Society of International Law Regional Meetings in San Francisco where he has presented numerous papers dealing with the Law of Armed Conflict.

**Topic:** International Humanitarian Law: A Paper Tiger in Syria Tries to Bare its Teeth

The 111<sup>th</sup> meeting of the American Society of International Law places its focus on what international law values and asks its participants to determine whether international law is achieving its goals. It asks whether or not international law reflects the values of the international community and how those values affect the practice and theory of international law. This paper attempts to answer those questions as they apply to the observation and enforcement of International Humanitarian Law – The Law of Armed Conflict during the ongoing Syrian Civil War.

### Afternoon Speakers: Attorney Noel Obiora



Noel A. Obiora has been an energy counsel at the California Public Utilities Commission since the California electricity crisis. He became lead counsel at the Commission's Office for Ratepayer Advocates for California's Long-Term Resource Planning and Long-Term Procurement Planning. He was also lead counsel for California's ambitious Renewable Portfolio Standard program from the inception of the program in 2003 through 2010.

In 2010, he became lead counsel on Transmission Planning for Regional and Inter-regional transmission infrastructure development, which encompasses green-house gas emission policies and integration of renewable resources to the grid. In addition to these roles, he has participated in General Rate Cases for all three major California electric utilities. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Economics from Southern Connecticut State University, a J.D. from the University of Texas, and an M.A. from Kings College London.

**Topic:** "The New Energy Diplomacy for Regulatory Paradigm in Developing and Under Developed Countries."

A basic competitive model of "us versus them" in efforts towards energy security is the old energy diplomacy, whose focus is entirely on the developed countries' need for sources of energy. The new energy diplomacy uses the same diplomatic activity, but is designed to enhance a broader access to energy resources, in the view that much of the instability arising from the old energy diplomacy had become a global crisis that was not and cannot be contained within the geographic boundaries of countries, particularly the energy producing underdeveloped countries.

New energy diplomacy can be traced to the World Bank's efforts towards the development of electricity regulatory commissions in much of Africa, South America, Central America and Eastern Europe in recent years. At its core it promises the greatest potential for the development of developing countries, not only in its recognition that access to energy resources in those countries is critical to their sustainable growth, but also that what is lacking for access is leadership.



### Afternoon Speakers: Professor Nguyet Le



Dr. Nguyet Thi Anh Le graduated from Nagoya University in 2010. She currently serves as Vice-Director of the Japanese Law Education & Research Center of Nagoya University in the Ho Chi Minh City University Center. She has lectured on the World Trade Organization, international trade law, US & EU anti-dumping law, CISG, and arbitration. Her major publications are *State-owned Enterprise Reforms in the TPP Negotiation: Is it a win-win for Vietnam?* and *Double counting in the US legislation against non-market economies: “as such” an “as applied” analysis*. In Vietnam, she co-operated with VIAC, GIG, NATLAW & the World Bank as a local consultant in international trade law projects. She also acted as leader of ministerial & institutional research groups on *WTO jurisprudence on trade remedies disputes; Human rights in WTO; CISG & Vietnam, ISDS & developing countries*. She has presented in international conferences in New Zealand and Japan. Since September 2016, she has worked as Fulbright Scholar at American University’s Washington College of Law on state-owned enterprises in ISDS.

**Topic:** The Jurisprudence of International Investment Arbitration Awards on State-Owned Enterprises: The Quest for SOE Law Revision in Developing Countries

### **Afternoon Speakers: Professor Dr. Dana Rizayeva**



Dr. Dana Rizayeva is a lawyer and Assistant Professor. She has worked at several different universities throughout Kazakhstan. Her areas of interest include International Law, Business Law of RK, Tax Law of RK, Investment Law, and Criminal Law.

#### **Topic:** The Role of International Law: Chairmanship of Kazakhstan in OSCE

On December 16, 2016, Kazakhstan celebrated its 25th year of independence, a large milestone for such a young country. Kazakhstan emerged as a new state after the collapse of the USSR in 1991. After independence, our national leader N.A. Nazarbayev initiated the creation of the CIS, but that initiative came from the position of the maintenance and development of trade relations between friendly nations without losing economic ties. N.A. Nazarbayev instructed K.K. Tokayev, who was in Moscow at the time, to work on establishing diplomatic relations. Mr. Tokayev noted that he was able to talk with many representatives of foreign states in Moscow and that they welcomed our decision to acquire independence but wondered what Kazakhstan was going to do with our nuclear weapons. For Kazakhstan, the question and the problem of nuclear weapons was a significant one. We are the first country that voluntarily renounced nuclear weapons and we are the first country to voluntarily disarm ourselves. By doing so, we have made a contribution to peacekeeping and continue to support a world without nuclear weapons. The Chairmanship of Kazakhstan in the OSCE organization showed our adherence to the main principles and values of international law.

