Urban Cities and Accessibility

Friday, February 14, 2020
10 a.m. - 5:10 p.m.

Costantino Room | Fordham Law School
CLE CREDIT for the program has been approved in accordance with the requirements of the New York and New Jersey States CLE Board for 5.5 (0.5 Ethics, 5.0 professional practice) credit hours. The content of the course is appropriate for transitional and nontransitional attorneys.

CLE course materials available at: law.fordham.edu/clematerials

GUEST WI-FI ACCESS
Visitors to campus may use either the Fordham-P or FordhamGuest network. The Fordham-P network is more secure than the FordhamGuest network, which is intended for the convenience of campus visitors. FordhamGuest provides unprotected and insecure access to the Internet, allows basic web browsing, and is limited to Internet-available services. Do not use the network for the exchange of sensitive or personal information.

FORDHAM-P NETWORK
1. Go to Settings>Wi-Fi and select Connect-Fordham-Wifi.
2. Open your web browser and navigate to a frequently refreshed URL, such as CNN.com. You will automatically be directed to the Fordham network welcome page. Select Join as a Guest. (Note: For Apple iOS devices, use only the Safari browser for this process.)
3. Agree to the acceptable use policy. You will be directed to a new website. Click Join Now.
4. Follow the prompts to complete the process, which includes downloading/installing a small configuration file that allows you to connect to our public Wi-Fi network. You may need to enter the password for the device/computer to complete the process.
5. You’ll receive a message confirming that you’ve joined the network. Click Done.

Guest Wi-Fi is available throughout Fordham University’s Lincoln Center campus. While guest access does not expire, on subsequent use with your device/computer, you may be prompted to agree to the acceptable use policy.

For more detailed, device- or computer-specific instructions, visit www.fordham.edu/wireless, pick up a more detailed instruction sheet at the information desk, or call the Fordham Law Helpdesk at 212-636-6786.

FORDHAM GUEST NETWORK
1. Go to Settings>Wi-Fi and select FordhamGuest and connect
2. Click on the “Accept” button
By choosing the “Accept” button, you indicate that you accept the risks associated with using the [Fordham Guest] network. Fordham is not responsible for any problems that might arise as a result of using this network.

For more information on the *Fordham Urban Law Journal* or the Symposium and Book, please contact the Symposium Editor, Rachel C. Smith, at uljsymposium@fordham.edu.
PROGRAM

9:30 – 10 a.m. Check-in & Breakfast

10 – 10:05 a.m. Opening Remarks

10:05 – 10:55 a.m. History and Hope for the Future
(0.5 Ethics, 0.5 Professional Practice)
Professor Samuel Bagenstos, Frank G. Millard Professor of Law, University of Michigan Law School
Professor Elizabeth Emens, Isidor and Seville Sulzbacher Professor of Law, Columbia Law School
Moderator: Professor Nestor Davidson, Albert A. Walsh Chair in Real Estate, Land Use and Property Law Faculty Director, Urban Law Center

10:45 – 11:10 a.m. Break

11:10 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. Urban Planning and Accessibility
(1.5 Professional Practice)
Commissioner Victor Calise, Commissioner of the New York City Mayor’s Office for People with Disabilities
Professor Robin Paul Malloy, E.I. White Chair and Distinguished Professor of Law, and Kauffman Professor of Entrepreneurship and Innovation, Syracuse University College of Law
Professor Michael Ashley Stein, Executive Director of the Harvard Law School Project on Disability, Harvard Law School
Dr. Holly Jeanine Boux, Executive Director of the Harvard Law School Project on Disability, Harvard Law School
Professor Nicolas Dagen Bloom, Professor of Urban Policy and Planning, Hunter College
Moderator: Professor Samuel J. Levine, Professor of Law and Director of the Jewish Law Institute, Touro Law Center

12:45 – 1:45 p.m. Lunch

1:45 – 3:15 p.m. Technology and Accessibility
(1.5 Professional Practice)
John D. Blascovich, Board Chair, The Matthew Foundation; Partner, A.T. Kearney, Inc.
Professor Christopher Buccafusco, Director, Intellectual Property & Information Law Program, Cardozo Law
Rebecca Rodgers, Esq., Staff Attorney, Disability Rights Advocates
Moderator: Geeta Tewari, Director, Urban Law Center

3:15 – 3:30 p.m. Break

3:30 – 5 p.m. The Impact of Inaccessible Urban Cities
(1.5 Professional Practice)
Dr. Mariette Bates, Academic Director, Disability Studies Program, CUNY School of Professional Studies
Ruth Lowenkron, Esq., Director, Disability Justice Program, New York Lawyers for the Public Interest
Professor Jessica L. Roberts, Director of the Health Law & Policy Institute and the Leonard Childs Professor in Law, University of Houston Law Center (Via Video Conference)
Selma Sulejman, Graduate Scholar, Master of Arts in Disability Studies, CUNY School of Professional Studies

5 – 5:10 p.m. Closing Remarks
Professor Samuel Bagenstos  
Frank G. Millard Professor of Law  
University of Michigan Law School

Samuel Bagenstos is the Frank G. Millard Professor of Law at the University of Michigan Law School. He specializes in constitutional and civil rights litigation. From 2009 to 2011, he was a political appointee in the U.S. Department of Justice, where he served as the Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights. Among other responsibilities in that position, he supervised all disability rights enforcement at the Department of Justice. Professor Bagenstos has published two books on disability rights laws, as well as articles in a wide array of law journals and non-academic outlets. He also has argued four cases in the Supreme Court, three of which involved the Americans with Disabilities Act. Professor Bagenstos served as a law clerk for Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg on the Supreme Court and for Judge Stephen Reinhardt on the Ninth Circuit. He is a graduate of the University of North Carolina and the Harvard Law School.

Dr. Mariette Bates  
Academic Director, Disability Studies Program  
CUNY School of Professional Studies

Mariette J. Bates is the Academic Director of Disability Studies programs and a Distinguished Lecturer at CUNY’s School of Professional Studies. She began her career as a systems change advocate, working with emerging groups of people with rare or multiple intellectual or genetic disorders who had difficulty accessing the service system. For over a decade, she also convened court-appointed monitors overseeing consent decrees and other institutional reforms to provide training and other resources. The nonprofit she co-founded completed a variety of systems change advocacy projects for un- and underserved populations, in addition providing direct services to Russian-speaking families in New York City. She came to CUNY in 2008, developing an MA in Disability Studies, and the first Bachelor’s in Disability Studies in the country. She also created the first Master’s degree for those providing accommodations to college students with disabilities. She holds a doctorate in Philanthropy and Disability and has received numerous awards including the Sussman Dissertation Prize, Outstanding Alumna awards from both Empire State College and the Union Institute, the CUNY Accessibility Award, and congressional recognition for outstanding service to the community.

John Blascovich  
Board Chair, The Matthew Foundation  
Partner, A.T. Kearney, Inc.

John Blascovich is the Board Chair of the Matthew Foundation, a private operating charitable foundation that strives to make a meaningful impact for persons with Down syndrome. The Matthew Foundation has extensive relationships within the national and global Down syndrome community as well as externally with both governmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). John is also a Partner at Kearney, a management consulting firm, and is currently the global leader of the firm’s Sourcing practice within Operations. John holds an MBA from the NYU Stern School as well as M.S. and B.S. degrees in Aeronautics and Astronautics from MIT.

Professor Nicolas Dagen Bloom  
Professor of Urban Policy and Planning  
Hunter College

Nicholas Dagen Bloom is Professor of Urban Policy and Planning at Hunter College. His research analyzes long-term planning outcomes in essential urban systems such as subsidized housing and mass transportation. He is the author of Suburban Alchemy (OSU, 2001), Merchant of Illusion (OSU, 2004), Public Housing That Worked (Penn, 2008), The Metropolitan Airport (Penn, 2015), and How States Shaped Postwar America (Chicago, 2019). He is co-editor of four edited collections including the prize-winning Public Housing Myths (Cornell, 2015) and Affordable Housing in New York (Princeton, 2015). Bloom serves as Co-Editor in Chief of The Journal of Planning History, the flagship publication of the Society for American City and Regional Planning History.

Professor Bloom has been quoted extensively on housing and other topics in media outlets including WNYC, The New York Times, CNN, and The Washington Post. As a frequent contributor to Gotham Gazette, he has written extensively on issues related to public housing; his editorials have also appeared in Newsday, The Daily News, and City Limits. As a co-curator of housing exhibitions at Hunter College and the Skyscraper Museum he has highlighted overlooked dimensions of community life. Bloom frequently joins panel discussions on issues of concern to planners, historians, architects, and the general public. He has taught urban affairs courses to thousands of students in previous positions at NYIT, NYU, and Tulane.

His current research project explores how the demise of
America’s once excellent bus transit systems damaged the quality of life of all Americans and contributed to the rise of today’s highly segregated metropolis.

Dr. Holly Jeanine Boux, Ph.D.  
J.D. Student  
Harvard Law School

Holly Jeanine Boux earned a Ph.D. from Georgetown University in American Government, and is currently a J.D. student at Harvard Law School. She previously taught political science at Georgetown University and Colorado State University.

Professor Christopher Buccafusco  
Director, Intellectual Property & Information Law Program  
Cardozo Law

Professor Buccafusco’s research employs empirical social science methods to test fundamental assumptions about how the intellectual property system functions. IP law attempts to affect people’s creative behavior by offering them incentives to innovate, share, and use new works and inventions, but very little is known about whether these incentives actually work. Using novel creativity experiments, Professor Buccafusco’s research has shown that creators often do not behave the way that IP law assumes they will. His studies have explored how different kinds of incentives affect creativity, how creators think about borrowing from others’ efforts, and how creators assign value to their innovations. The results of these studies challenge important aspects of IP law, and they suggest opportunities for improving the legal system and creative economies.

Professor Buccafusco has teamed up with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and colleagues at Northwestern University to co-host the fifth annual Workshop on Empirical Studies of Intellectual Property. Professor Buccafusco, David Schwartz, and the PTO’s Chief Economists founded the workshop four years ago. The workshop allows researchers from around the world to present early stage empirical projects so they can receive feedback before they begin collecting data. This enables them to refine their ideas and methods and to improve the value of the resulting data.

Prior to coming to Cardozo, Professor Buccafusco taught at Chicago-Kent College of Law. He won the SBA teaching award in his first year on the faculty, and he later won the university-wide teaching award. At Chicago-Kent, Professor Buccafusco co-founded the Center for Empirical Study of Intellectual Property.

Commissioner Victor Calise  
Commissioner of the New York City Mayor’s Office for People with Disabilities

As Commissioner of the New York City Mayor’s Office for People with Disabilities, Victor Calise advocates for the disability community in all City decision-making.

Commissioner Calise chairs the Accessibility Committee of the City Building Code and leads efforts to integrate people with disabilities into the workforce through the NYC: ATWORK employment initiative. He also ensures that disability is at the forefront of the city’s emerging technologies including communication modes, autonomous vehicles, and digital accessibility.

Recognized as an expert on disability, the Commissioner frequently participates in national and international conferences. A dedicated public servant, Calise previously led efforts within the Department of Parks and Recreation to make the city’s park system—one of the most complex in the world—accessible in accordance with the Inclusive Design Guidelines.

Calise—an avid athlete—competed in the 1998 Paralympic Games as a member of the U.S. national sled hockey team. A native New Yorker, he is married with two daughters.

Professor Nestor M. Davidson  
Albert A. Walsh Chair in Real Estate, Land Use and Property Law  
Faculty Director, Urban Law Center

Nestor Davidson joined Fordham in 2011 and was named the Albert A. Walsh Professor of Real Estate, Land Use and Property Law in 2017. Professor Davidson is an expert in property, urban law, and affordable housing law and policy, and is the co-author of the casebook Property Law: Rules, Policies and Practices (7th ed. 2017). Professor Davidson founded and serves as the faculty director of the law school’s Urban Law Center and previously served as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

Professor Davidson practiced with the firm of Latham and Watkins, focusing on commercial real estate and affordable housing, and served as Special Counsel and Principal Deputy General Counsel at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. He currently serves as a Member of the Board of the New York State Housing Finance Agency.

Professor Davidson earned his AB from Harvard College and his JD from Columbia Law School. After law school, he clerked for
Judge David S. Tatel of the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit and Justice David H. Souter of the Supreme Court of the United States.

**Professor Elizabeth Emens**  
*Isidor and Seville Sulzbacher Professor of Law*  
*Columbia Law School*

Elizabeth Emens is the Isidor and Seville Sulzbacher Professor of Law at Columbia Law School, where she teaches and writes in disability law, anti-discrimination law, contracts law, law and sexuality, and lawyer-leadership. She is also Director of the Law School’s Mindfulness Program. Emens has published articles in the Hastings Center Report, Harvard Law Review, Stanford Law Review, Nomos, Narrative, The Disability Studies Reader, Keywords in Disability Studies, and many others. In 2013, she co-edited a volume on Disability and Equality Law with Michael Ashley Stein (Ashgate Press). She is also the author of the book Life Admin (2019), which has been reviewed and excerpted in The Wall Street Journal, The Guardian, and The Sunday Times (London), among other places. Emens earned her BA and J.D. from Yale, and her Ph.D. from King’s College, Cambridge, where she studied as a Marshall Scholar. She is a member of the New York State Bar Association and American Bar Association.

**Samuel J. Levine**  
*Professor of Law and Director of the Jewish Law Institute*  
*Touro Law Center*

Professor Samuel J. Levine joined the Touro Law Center faculty in 2010 as Professor of Law and Director of the Jewish Law Institute. He previously served as Professor of Law at Pepperdine University School of Law, and he has served as the Beznos Distinguished Professor at Michigan State University College of Law. He has published two books and more than fifty law review articles and book chapters, and he has lectured throughout the United States on the subjects of legal ethics, Jewish law, criminal law, law and religion, and constitutional law.

Professor Levine has been described in the pages of the Notre Dame Law Review as “one of the leading legal-ethics and professional-responsibility scholars of his generation,” and in 2016, he received the Sanford D. Levy Award from the New York State Bar Association’s Committee on Professional Ethics, in recognition of his contributions to the field of legal ethics. He has been described by the Detroit Legal News as “one of the world’s foremost experts on the interplay of Jewish and American law.” He is the author of *Jewish Law and American Law: A Comparative Study (Two Volumes)*, and *Was Yosef on the Spectrum? Understanding Joseph Through Torah, Midrash, and Classical Jewish Sources*.

Professor Levine received a J.D. from Fordham Law School, graduating cum laude and Order of the Coif, an LL.M. from Columbia Law School, graduating with Highest Honors as a James Kent Scholar, and Rabbinical Ordination from Yeshiva University. He has served as an appellate prosecutor in the Brooklyn District Attorney’s Office, as a law clerk to United States District Court Judges Loretta A. Preska and David N. Edelstein in the Southern District of New York, and as an adjunct professor at Fordham Law School. He has also taught at St. John’s University School of Law and Bar-Ilan University Law School. He has appeared before a number of courts, including the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and the Supreme Court of the State of New York.


**Ruth Lowenkron, Esq.**  
*Director, Disability Justice Program*  
*New York Lawyers for the Public Interest*

Ruth Lowenkron is the Director of the Disability Justice Program at New York Lawyers for the Public Interest. Lowenkron has been active in the field of disability law since 1981, working at Untapped Resources, Inc. (New York), the Community Health Law Project (New Jersey), the Education Law Center (New Jersey), and Disability Rights New Jersey. Lowenkron has assisted countless persons with physical, mental and other disabilities via impact litigation, legislative advocacy, and community outreach. She has taught disability law at Seton Hall Law School and CUNY Law School, and is a special education hearing officer for the New York State Department of Education. Lowenkron received her bachelor’s degree from Cornell University and her law degree with the inaugural class of CUNY...
Honors include Volunteer Lawyers for Justice’s Champion of Change award, the Essex County Bar Association’s Special Merit Award, the Hofstra University School of Law Public Justice Foundation’s Commitment to Public Service Award, the New Jersey Association for Advancement of the Mentally Handicapped Award and the ARC of New York State Robert Hodgson/August Jacobs Law Award.

Professor Robin Paul Malloy  
E.I. White Chair and Distinguished Professor of Law, and Kauffman Professor of Entrepreneurship and Innovation  
Syracuse University College of Law

Robin Paul Malloy is the E.I. White Chair and Distinguished Professor of Law, and the Kauffman Professor of Entrepreneurship and Innovation at Syracuse University College of Law. He is a leading expert on property, real estate transactions, and land use and zoning law. His book, Land Use Law and Disability: Planning and Zoning for Accessible Communities (Cambridge University Press 2015), and his casebook, Land Use and Zoning Law: Planning for Accessible Communities (Carolina Academic Press 2018) are leading books in the field. He has just completed a manuscript for Disability Law for Property, Land Use, and Zoning Lawyers to be published by the American Bar Association Press (release date is late spring 2020). He also edited (with Blanck) the book series Disability Law and Policy (Cambridge University Press). In addition to four books with Cambridge (one currently in progress), he is the co-author of the leading casebook on Real Estate Transactions and has published a total of 18 books and over 30 scholarly articles, in addition to numerous book chapters and essays. In addition to writing on topics related to real estate, property, and land use, Malloy has several books on issues addressing law and market theory. Several of his works on law and market theory have been translated into Spanish, Japanese, and Chinese.

Professor Jessica L. Roberts  
Director of the Health Law & Policy Institute and the Leonard Childs Professor in Law  
University of Houston Law Center


Rebecca Rodgers, Esq.  
Senior Staff Attorney at Disability Rights Advocates

Rebecca Rodgers is a Senior Staff Attorney at Disability Rights Advocates. She handles complex class action lawsuits advancing the civil rights of persons with disabilities at all stages, including investigation, litigation, settlement negotiations, and monitoring. Her practice focuses on advocating for persons with all types of disabilities in fields including transportation, access to public programs and services, emergency preparedness, health care, and technology. Her representative cases include Bronx Independent Living Services v. Metropolitan Transportation Authority, where she represents a class of individuals with mobility disabilities seeking to use the Middletown Road subway station, resulting in a ruling that renovations performed at the station triggered accessibility obligations regardless of cost. In United Spinal Association v. District of Columbia, she achieved a settlement on behalf of disability rights organizations and individuals with disabilities that establishes a comprehensive three-year-plan for Washington D.C. to update its emergency preparedness plans to better include people with disabilities. She was counsel in National Federation of the Blind v. Scribd, which held that Internet-based businesses are subject to Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act regardless of whether the business has a physical location. She received her J.D. from The George Washington University Law School in 2011 and her B.A. from The George Washington University in 2008.

Professor Michael Ashley Stein  
Executive Director of the Harvard Law School Project on Disability  
Harvard Law School

Professor Michael Ashley Stein is the co-founder and Executive Director of the Harvard Law School Project on Disability, and a Visiting Professor at Harvard Law School since 2005. Considered one of the world’s leading experts on disability law and policy, Dr. Stein participated in the drafting of the UN Convention on the
Rights of Persons with Disabilities; works with disabled peoples’ organizations and non-governmental organizations around the world; actively consults with governments on their disability laws and policies; advises an array of UN bodies and national human rights institutions; and has brought landmark disability rights litigation globally. Professor Stein has received numerous awards in recognition of his transformative work, including the inaugural Morton E. Ruderman Prize for Inclusion; the inaugural Henry Viscardi Achievement Award; and the ABA Paul G. Hearne Award. His authoritative and path-breaking scholarship has been published worldwide by leading journals and academic presses, and has been supported by fellowships and awards from the American Council of Learned Societies, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the National Institute on Disability Rehabilitation and Research, among others. Dr. Stein teaches at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government and Harvard Medical School, holds an Extraordinary Professorship at the University of Pretoria Faculty of Law’s Centre for Human Rights, and is a visiting professor at the Free University of Amsterdam Faculty of Earth and Life Sciences’ Athena Institute. He earned a J.D. from Harvard Law School (where he became the first known person with a disability to be a member of the Harvard Law Review), and a Ph.D. from Cambridge University (funded by a W.M. Tapp Studentship). Professor Stein previously was Professor (and Cabell Professor) at William & Mary Law School, taught at New York University and Stanford law schools, and was appointed by President Obama to the United States Holocaust Memorial Council.

Selma Sulejman
Graduate Scholar, Master of Arts in Disability Studies
CUNY School of Professional Studies

My name is Selma Sulejman, and I am a 31-year-old completely blind young woman. I along with my loved ones originate from a country titled Macedonia. My family structure consists of a remarkable mother, outstanding sister, adoring nephew, and wonderful brother-in-law. Currently I am in my final academic semester at the CUNY School of Professional Studies, completing my Masters of Arts in Disability Studies. Thus, as disability and chronic illness have shaped my life in countless ways, I always find myself partaking within advocacy platforms to assist others and improve existing mechanisms. Through experiential internships and pro-bono work, I have strived to be a voice for the voiceless in areas such as disability and employment, disability and chronic illness, inclusion and diversity, intersectionality, and much more. Some of the organizations I have had the honor of working with include, Weil Gotshal & Manges LLP, Hunter College, Suffering the Silence, Disability Rights New York, and Link20. I have a true passion to listen to others, help in any possible way with my given skill sets, and raising awareness for needed areas that lack acknowledgment. My interests include creative writing, attending and planning informative events, public speaking, conducting research revolving around the field of disability, reading for leisure, listening to music, and most of all spending time with my family. My scholarly experiences from a social justice standpoint, only drive me to create equality, innovation, and inclusion.

Geeta Tewari
Director, Urban Law Center
Fordham Law School

Geeta Tewari is the Director of the Urban Law Center at Fordham Law School, where she launched the Women in Urban Law Leadership Initiative in Spring 2019. She graduated from Cornell University with a B.A. in Government, and from Fordham University School of Law. At the Law School, she served as an editor for the Fordham International Law Journal and was granted the Archibald R. Murray Dean’s Award of Excellence for Outstanding Public Service. Tewari is admitted to practice in New York, New Jersey, and Washington, D.C., and has practiced with the New York City Law Department and the Washington D.C. Office of the Attorney General. Tewari also holds a Master of Fine Arts in Writing from Columbia University, where she has taught creative and expository writing, and served on the Fiction Board of the Columbia Journal of Literature and Art. Her fiction has appeared in Granta Magazine, New England Review, and other literary publications, and she is co-editor of Global Perspectives in Urban Law (Routledge, 2018) and Law and the New Urban Agenda (Routledge, forthcoming 2020). Tewari is a member of the New York Women’s Bar Association Advancing the Status of Women Committee, and her legal scholarship on gender equity and narrative justice has appeared in N.Y.U. Journal of Law and Business.