

Science and Technology Law

Program Overview

The Center for Law, Science and Innovation has been an established leader in addressing the extraordinary legal and regulatory problems caused by rapid developments in science and technology for over 30 years. The Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University was the first in the country to create a center to address these challenges. As technology increasingly assumes a central role in our lives, the center is uniquely positioned to be an innovator and leader in the teaching and application of 21st century law and policy.

With this goal in mind, science and technology law programs constantly evolve to address contemporary legal questions through a rich program of course offerings, conferences and workshops, research projects, scholarship, expert consultation, and community outreach. ASU Law currently offers more than 60 science and technology-related courses, three clinical programs, and specialized externship opportunities, and is home to the ABA's Jurimetrics journal.

Mission

Science and technology are rapidly transforming both the substance and practice of law. From robotics to genetics, nanotech to neuroscience, and bitcoin to big data, new innovations are raising novel legal issues with regard to regulation, liability, privacy, intellectual property, and individual rights.

ASU Law is dedicated to training 21st century lawyers who will have the expertise and competitive advantage in managing the contemporary legal aspects of these advances. The philosophy of our science and technology law programs is that lawyers and the law should and do play a central role in the development and use of safe and beneficial emerging technologies by managing technology risks, promoting technology benefits, and providing a forum to address the ethical and social impacts of emerging technologies. At a time when technology has become all the more pervasive and powerful, law must become proactive and innovative, and opportunities for the modern lawyer are vast.

Faculty Expertise

The Center for Law, Science and Innovation includes over 40 faculty fellows and a multitude of affiliates who facilitate unique interdisciplinary study and dialogue. Our faculty's current focus areas include:

- 3D Printers
- Anti-Aging
- Autonomous Vehicles
- Big Data
- Bioethics
- Biotechnology
- Bitcoin
- Cybersecurity
- Drones
- Genetics
- Health Care Technologies
- Human Enhancement
- International Coordination
- Internet of Things
- Military Technologies
- Nanotechnology
- National Security
- Neurotechnology
- Patenting Policy
- Personalized Medicine
- Robotics/Artificial Intelligence
- Soft Law/Standards
- Sustainable Technologies
- Synthetic Biology
- Technology and Access to Justice
- Technology and Privacy
- Technological Unemployment

Annual Conferences

Since 2013, the center has hosted the annual Conference on Governance of Emerging Technologies: Law, Policy and Ethics at ASU Law. This distinctive event consists of presentations and discussions on legal, policy, social, and ethical aspects of emerging technologies, including nanotechnology, biotechnology, genomics, human enhancement, telecommunications, surveillance and data analytics, sustainability, neuroscience, and robotics. The conference is premised on the belief that there is much to be learned and shared from and across the governance experience for new technologies. It is a truly interdisciplinary forum of scientists, lawyers, regulators, philosophers, ethicists, and more.

In addition, the center annually hosts conferences on eDiscovery and digital evidence, and neuroscience law and ethics, as well as several expert roundtable workshops. These events bring together renowned thought leaders, facilitate dialogue, create unique networking opportunities, and engage our students.

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Student Opportunities

The Center for Law, Science and Innovation aims to support and connect our students with our programs' vast resources. The center collaborates with programs in health, sustainability, and international law to create an interdisciplinary understanding of science and technology issues that are crucial for the modern lawyer.

Specifically, the center offers unique opportunities for students that include:

- Graduation certificates in Law, Science and Technology, with the option to specialize in areas including Genomics and Biotechnology, and Intellectual Property.
- Small research cluster groups, where students work closely with faculty peers to research and write a publishable article in the areas of Law and Neuroscience, Personalized Medicine, and Governance of Emerging Technologies.
- Annual conferences and workshops on hot topics in neuroscience, eDiscovery and digital evidence, molecular diagnostics, and technology governance, with new events each year on emerging issues such as GMOs and anti-aging technologies.
- Editorial positions and publication opportunities with *Jurimetrics: the Journal for Law, Science and Technology*, published by ASU Law in collaboration with the ABA's Section of Science and Technology Law.
- Clinical work placements assisting startup companies from the ASU community with their modern legal needs through the Innovation Advancement Program and Healthcare Entrepreneurship Clinic, or direct work experience with the USPTO in conjunction with the Patent Law Clinic.
- LLM and MLS degree programs, including a specialized degree in Genomics and Biotechnology, training lawyers and other professionals to be fluent in governance and policy issues for fast-evolving technologies.
- Student organizations collaborate with the center to host speakers, events, and networking opportunities.

Testimonials

"From an in-house perspective, as companies are taking a more modern, technological approach to their business, corporate counsel must be equipped with the tools and mindset necessary to take a modern, technological approach to their practice. The center and classes such as high tech licensing and IP in cyberspace, have sharpened me into a 21st century attorney able to adequately represent my company in various technological matters."

- **Jordan C. Redman, JD '10**

"The center inspired me to redirect my law school focus to emerging technologies. The many courses and variety of programs relating to emerging technologies, as well as the opportunities to research, write, and interact with faculty experts in these areas, were so interesting, innovative, and cutting edge that I spent the majority of my time in law school taking these courses and working within the center."

- **Blair Moses, JD '10**

"The breadth of emerging technology courses offered at ASU Law allowed me to pursue my passion for science, innovation, and the law by preparing me for important issues I was either sure to encounter in my career or that I would find fascinating regardless. I found the courses to be engaging, exciting, and innovative. I appreciated being able to branch out from traditional law school curriculum to better hone my skills in areas of the law I was, and still am, most passionate about."

- **Justin N. Redman, JD '10**

"My law career has taken me from national to global in the fields of health care and medical devices—none of which would be possible without the education I received through the center. In the Silicon Valley, I was surrounded by emerging technologies and it was fascinating, dynamic, and complex. I am now in an emerging technology company and the courses I took in law school have definitely served me well."

- **K Royal, CIPP/US, CIPP/E, JD '04**

"As a law student, the center gave me the opportunity to see the legal issues cast by emerging technologies. The technology transfer class, for example, exposed me to the nuances of licensing, informed consent, the regulatory process, and related ethical concerns. Moreover, our team project was to determine the viability of marketing a new invention that was submitted to the technology transfer office of the university. It is because of these invaluable lessons that I learned early on in my career of now 10 years that I am still active with the center both as a fellow and as a member of the community board."

- **May Mowzoon, JD '04**