Erin Scharff  
Associate Professor of Law

How should the power to tax be allocated among the different levels of government? This is one of the important questions that Erin Scharff, our newest tax professor, asks as she explores how best to design tax systems in multi-jurisdictional systems. Erin challenges the common wisdom and the status quo as she delves into these important, but often under-appreciated, areas. "State and local taxation is often an afterthought when talking about tax, but it touches every aspect of life and business and implicates important Constitutional concepts like Federalism," Erin said. Erin's passion for these topics is infectious and her scholarship is both important and timely, as we struggle to develop an efficient and fair tax system."  

--Adam Chodorow

Kaiponanea T. Matsumura  
Associate Professor of Law

"How will contract law respond to intimacy? Increasingly, people are using contracts to organize their personal relationships. Intimacy is about promises, and promises are the heart of contract law. Kaiponanea Matsumura, one of our newest colleagues, is looking at private ordering in intimate life, and he's off to a promising start. "My work examines the decisions people make when structuring their personal relationships and how the law responds to those decisions," Kaipo explains. A vibrant blend of cutting edge theory and traditional doctrinal work, Kaipo's scholarship uncovers moments where law must confront changing realities in the way people live their lives. What excites me most about Kaipo's work is the depth of his contributions. He is not just looking at how contract law will deal with intimacy but how intimacy can reveal blind spots in traditional contract doctrine, I'm looking forward to reading Kaipo's work over the years."  

--Zachary Kramer

Laura Napoli Coordes  
Associate Professor of Law

"The Bankruptcy Code is among the most wide-reaching statutes in United States law, yet it routinely falls short in advancing some of its most basic policy goals. Laura Napoli Coordes, a newly-hired associate professor of law, is already gaining recognition in legal academia for writings that could materially impact the evolution of this essential area of law. Laura's insightful critiques of such complex issues as the Bankruptcy Code's venue selection provisions and its municipal bankruptcy rules bring these obscure topics to light in accessible and insightful ways, exposing important policy shortcomings and suggesting creative means of addressing them. ASU Law is truly fortunate to have added such a gifted and promising young scholar to its faculty ranks."

--Troy Rule

Karen Bradshaw Schulz  
Associate Professor of Law

"Environmental law is widely seen as pioneering new modes and instruments of regulation and policy implementation, both domestically and transnationally. But there is still much to learn about these approaches, especially the rapidly expanding modes of 'new governance' that involve industry groups, NGOs and other private actors along with, or instead of, public agencies. Karen Bradshaw Schulz, one of our new colleagues at ASU Law, is already making important contributions to scholarship on these important developments, from industry self-regulation to regulation by information, and from contracting for control of landscapes to outsourcing agency mandates for the relocation of endangered species. Karen's work is exemplary in combining the strong use of theoretical frameworks, especially from economics, with 'gritty, detail-oriented' case studies of regulation in practice. Karen is passionate, positive, productive and personable."  

--Kenneth Abbott

Rhett Larson  
Associate Professor of Law

"Water is the stuff of life; without water, people die. But does this mean that people should have a 'right' to water? In his provocative article, 'The New Right to Water,' Rhett Larson answers yes and no. Creating a right to the provision of water, he argues, raises problems of enforceability, equity, and sustainability. Not only will it fail to ensure access to water, it could actually be counter-productive, by precluding water pricing and cost recovery and thereby discouraging investments in water infrastructure. But recognizing procedural rights to information and participation will help empower people to get access to more and better water. Similarly, in addressing transboundary water issues, Rhett proposes a new collaborative adaptive management approach, which can appropriately incentivize technological innovations such as desalination and deep fossil aquifer drilling. Rhett's deep knowledge of, and passion for, water law, infuses everything he writes, and makes him one of the most important new voices on this critical subject."

--Dan Bodansky

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