

SYLVIA WAIRIMU KANG'ARA

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EDUCATION

HARVARD LAW SCHOOL, Cambridge, MA
Doctor of Juridical Sciences (SJD) (Comparative Private Law and Property Theory), 1998-2003
Master of Laws (LLM), 1997-1998

KENYA SCHOOL OF LAW, Nairobi, KENYA
Diploma in Law for admission to the Bar of the High Court of Kenya, 1996-1997

UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI SCHOOL OF LAW, Nairobi, KENYA
Bachelor of Laws (LLB) (Honors), 1992-1996

ACADEMIC AWARDS

Lincoln Institute of Land Policy Research Fellowship, 2001
Institute for the Study of World Politics International Law Fellowship, 2000
American Association of University Women (AAUW) International Fellowship, 1998
Samuel Morse Lane Harvard Scholarship, 1997

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON SCHOOL OF LAW, Seattle, WA
Assistant Professor of Law, 2006-2011
Affiliate Professor, African Studies Program, Jackson School of International Studies, 2009-2011

OKLAHOMA CITY UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, Oklahoma City, OK
Visiting Assistant Professor of Law, 2005-2006

HARVARD LAW SCHOOL, Cambridge, MA
European Law Research Center Teaching Fellow, 2002

WHITE & CASE LLP, New York, NY
Associate, ILP, 2003-2004

PUBLICATIONS

Why Take Private Law Seriously In Africa? Am. U. Int'l L. Rev. 2011 (forthcoming).

Analytical, Prescriptive, and Resistant Characterizations of "African" Conceptions of Property: A Critique of Mainstream Assumptions about African-Western Incompatibility, SJD DISSERTATION (Harvard Law School, 2003).

Rethinking Property: Language, Meaning & Institutions, 13 HAGUE YEARBOOK OF INTERNATIONAL LAW 35-42 (2000).

When the Pendulum Swings too Far: Structural Adjustment Programs in Kenya, THIRD WORLD LEGAL STUDIES JOURNAL 109-151 (1998-99).

The Private Property Rights Question as Raised by the 1992 Ethnic Land Clashes in Rift Valley Province, Kenya, LLB DISSERTATION (University of Nairobi, 1996).

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

2011

- Presentation: Faculty Roundtable on Legal Education, Symposium on Global Law and Its Exceptions: Globalization, Legal Transplants, Local Reception and Resistance, University of Washington School of Law, Seattle, WA (February 24, 2011).
- Presentation: Commentary to Keynote Address by Prof. Duncan Kennedy of Harvard Law School, Symposium on Global Law and Its Exceptions: Globalization, Legal Transplants, Local Reception and Resistance, University of Washington School of Law, Seattle, WA (February 25, 2011).
- Presentation: Gender and Traditional Cultural Expressions: What has Intellectual Property have to do with it? Washington College of Law, American University, Washington, DC, (April 1, 2011).

2010

- Presentation: Workshop on Kenyan Law and Culture for International Criminal Investigators and Prosecutors, International Criminal Court, The Hague, Netherlands (March 19-20, 2010).
- Presentation: Chair/Convenor, Special Session on Africa: Private Law and Social Justice, International Association of Comparative Law 2010 Annual Congress, Washington, DC (July 26, 2010).
- Presentation: Can there be Private Law? Private Law Workshop, Washington College of Law, American University, Washington, DC (July 28, 2010).
- Presentation: Western Legal Ideas in African Family Law, International Association of Comparative Law 2010 Annual Congress, Washington, DC (July 30, 2010).

2009

- Presentation: Critical Overview of the Development of British Colonial Family Law in Africa, Comparative Family Law Workshop, Washington College of Law, American University, Washington, DC (March 20, 2009).
- Presentation: Positivism and Identities: African Women Jurists in 20th Century Legal Discourse, Distinguished Speaker Series, Program on Law and Social Thought, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA (October 5, 2009).

2008

- Moderator: Women and the State, American Association of Law Schools Conference, New York, NY (January 3, 2008).
- Lecture: Internationalization of Feminist Legal Thought, Law Women's Caucus and International Legal Society, Social Justice Tuesday, University of Washington School of Law, Seattle, WA (January 22, 2008).
- Lecture: Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women, Health Law and Human Rights Class by Professors Kuzler and Rivin, University of Washington School of Law, Seattle, WA (February 2008).
- Moderator: Do International Financial Institutions Repress Development? American Society of International Law Conference, Washington, DC (April 9, 2008).

Lecture: Effects of Post-Election Violence on Women and Children in Kenya, Center for Human Rights and Justice and the African Studies Program, University of Washington School of Law, Seattle, WA (April 29, 2008).

Lecture: International Humanitarian Law at Crossroads, American Red Cross International Humanitarian Law Workshop, Seattle, WA (June 11, 2008).

2007

Presentation: African Women Jurists in the 20th Century – A History of Exclusion, Rejection, and Inclusion, Albany Law School, New York (April 20, 2007).

Presentation: Property Rights in Africa during Emergencies, UW Jackson School of International Studies, Seattle, WA (May 24, 2007).

Presentation: Globalization of Western Law in the 20th Century: Africa & the Middle East,” Global Law in Comparative Perspective Workshop, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA (June 17, 2007).

2006

Moderator: Law & Development Conference, University of Washington School of Law, Seattle, WA (March, 2006).

Presentation: The Rise of African Women Jurists, Center for Human Rights and Justice, University of Washington School of Law, Seattle, WA (November, 2006).

2001

Presentation: Is there an African Conception of Property? Conference on Land Regimes and Domination, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA (March 2001).

2000

Presentation: What Locals Think about Private Property Rights in Kenya, Conference on Structural Bias and Identity, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA (April 2000).

1999

Presentation: Rethinking Property: Language, Meaning and Institutions, Conference on New Approaches to International Law, The Hague, Netherlands (July 1999).

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Board Member: Washington Law Review

Board Member: Women for Justice in Africa

Selection Committee Member: Women’s Leadership Scholarship, Channel Foundation (2007/8).

Member: American Society of International Law

Member: Society of American Law Teachers

Member: Law & Society Association

Member: American Society for Political and Legal Philosophy

Member: International Commission of Jurists-Kenya

Member: International Federation of Women Lawyers-Kenya