

Seminar: Public Health Law and Health Leadership in the United States: What can Australia learn?



In 2016, life expectancy at birth in the United States fell for the second year in a row. Since his inauguration in 2017, President Trump and his administration have taken a number of actions that arguably weaken America's public health infrastructure.

At the same time, the United States remains one of the world's great innovators. With 52 States and more than 89,000 local and city governments, the United States frequently functions as a social laboratory for social policies, and public health laws and practices. While constrained in some areas by its constitutional design, the United States remains a leader in global health: its influence and innovations in public health law cannot be ignored.

What can Australia learn from recent American experience with public health law and regulation? What are the good ideas? What should be avoided? How can Australian jurisdictions adapt the best American innovations and create an enabling legal and political environment for public health and wellbeing? This seminar features presentations reviewing public health law and leadership in the United States, with particular reference to: communicable diseases and pandemic preparedness, non-communicable diseases, health care, injuries and global health leadership.

When

Thursday 19 July
6-7.30pm

Where

[Sydney Law School](#)
Law Foyer, level 2
New Law School Building (F10)
Eastern Avenue, Camperdown
The University of Sydney

Registration

[Click here](#) to register or email
law.events@sydney.edu.au

Chair:

[Professor Simon Jackman](#), CEO, United States Studies Centre

Speakers/topics:

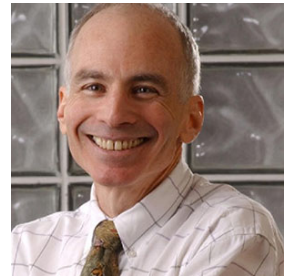
Pandemic preparedness and health institutions in the United States
[Adjunct Professor Alexandra Phelan](#), Georgetown University

US leadership (and not) in law and non-communicable diseases
[Professor Roger Magnusson](#), Sydney Law School

Keynote speaker:

US public health and global health leadership (or not)
[Professor Lawrence Gostin](#), Georgetown University

Lawrence Gostin is the Linda and Timothy O'Neill Professor of Global Health Law, Georgetown University, Washington DC, where he directs the O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law. He is also the Director of the World Health Organisation's Collaborating Centre on Public Health Law and Human Rights. Professor Gostin is a global health diplomat who has worked to advance health and human rights in numerous capacities in the international arena. These include membership of the WHO's Expert Advisory Panels on the International Health Regulations, on mental health, and on smallpox; the Independent Global Commission on the Ebola Epidemic, and the Global Fund/World Bank/WHO Equitable Access Initiative. He is the author of many books and is the Legal and Global Correspondent for the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. Professor Gostin was awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Sydney in 2012. He is currently in Sydney teaching *Global Health Law* within the Master of Health Law program at Sydney Law School.



Simon Jackman is the CEO of the US Studies Centre. Professor Jackman's teaching and research centres on public opinion, election campaigns, political participation, and electoral systems with special emphasis on American and Australian politics. He is the author of *Bayesian Analysis for the Social Sciences* (Wiley 2009), a widely used textbook on Bayesian statistical methods with an emphasis on applications in the social sciences. Professor Jackman's current research projects focus on the opportunities and challenges of web-based survey research, the political and scientific consequences of under-representing unlisted or hard-to-reach populations in social research, predictive models of political behaviour, and methods for large scale, automated coding and analysis of political speech.



Alexandra Phelan is an Adjunct Professor in law, Doctorate of Juridical Science candidate and General Sir John Monash Scholar at Georgetown University, Washington DC. Ms Phelan's research examines the intersection of different fields of international law and infectious diseases, including global health security, international environmental law, and human rights law. She has worked as a consultant for the World Health Organization, the World Bank, and Gavi: the vaccine alliance, and previously worked as a solicitor in Melbourne, Australia. She is admitted to the Supreme Court of Victoria and High Court of Australia. In 2015, Ms Phelan was a Johns Hopkins University Center for Health Security Emerging Leaders in Biosecurity Fellow and was granted the distinction of Associate Fellow of the Royal Commonwealth Society for her work during the Ebola outbreak.



Roger Magnusson is Professor of Health Law & Governance at Sydney Law School, where he directs the Master of Health Law program. He is also an Adjunct Professor of Law at Georgetown University. Roger is a member of the Public Health Scientific & Technical Expert Group which advises the Public Health Division of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community. Roger is affiliated with the Charles Perkins Centre at the University of Sydney, a multidisciplinary, university-wide Centre that is focused on addressing the problems of obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular disease. He teaches public health law in Sydney Law School's Master of Health Law program and has published extensively in this field.



Are you interested in studying health law? Sydney Law School offers a Master of Health Law (MHL) and Graduate Diploma in Health Law that includes units of study in medical law, public health law, mental health law and global health law and governance. It is open to both legally qualified candidates as well as those without a law degree. For more information, click on the following links: [Master of Health Law](#); [Units on offer in 2018](#); [About health law study](#) or contact the program co-ordinator, Professor Magnusson: roger.magnusson@sydney.edu.au