

## MEGHAN L. MORRIS

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### ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2020- Assistant Professor of Law, University of Cincinnati College of Law  
Affiliate Faculty, University of Cincinnati Department of Anthropology
- 2017-2020 ABF/NSF Postdoctoral Fellow in Law and Inequality, American Bar Foundation

### EDUCATION

- 2018 Ph.D., Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago  
Dissertation: *Property in the Shadow of Post-Conflict Colombia*  
Recipient of the Daniel F. Nugent Dissertation Prize
- 2008 J.D., *cum laude*, Harvard Law School
- 2008 M.A.L.D., The Fletcher School of Law & Diplomacy, Tufts University
- 2002 B.S. with Honors and Distinction, Department of Policy Analysis & Management,  
Cornell University

### PUBLICATIONS AND WORKS IN PROGRESS

(\*indicates peer review)

#### Books, articles, and chapters

- Forthcoming “Property and the Social Life of Things.” *Tulane Law Review*.  
2023
- 2022 “Property in Transition: Legal Fantasies, Land ‘Reforms,’ and Contracting Peace  
in Colombia.” *American Anthropologist* 124(1): 53-63.\*
- 2022 “Property’s Relations: Tracing Anthropology in Property Theory.” *Alabama Law  
Review*.
- 2021 “Las propiedades de la deuda: Reciprocidad, Precariedad y Obligación Social en  
Medellín (The Properties of Debt: Reciprocity, Precarity, and Social Obligation in  
Medellín).” In *Propiedad sobre la tierra en Colombia: viejos y nuevos dilemas  
sobre la distribución* (Property over Land in Colombia: Old and New Dilemmas

- over Distribution) (Helena Alviar García and Tatiana Alfonso Sierra, eds.). Bogotá: Universidad de los Andes.
- 2021 “Ground Fictions: Soil, Property, and Markets in the Colombian Conflict.” In *Land Fictions: The Commodification of Land in City and Country* (D. Asher Ghertner and Robert W. Lake, eds.). Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press.
- 2020 (ed., with Jessica Corredor Villamil) *Pandemic Inequality: Civil Society Narratives from the Global South*. Spanish edition: *La desigualdad pandémica: narrativas de la sociedad civil desde el Sur Global*. Bogotá: Center for the Study of Law, Justice and Society (Dejusticia).
- 2019 “Speculative Fields: Property in the Shadow of Post-Conflict Colombia.” *Cultural Anthropology* 34(4): 580-606.\*
- 2018 (ed., with César Rodríguez-Garavito) *Justice through Transitions: Conflict, Peacemaking, and Human Rights in the Global South*. Bogotá: Center for the Study of Law, Justice and Society, Dejusticia. Spanish edition: *Hacer justicia en tiempos de transición: El papel del activismo y las instituciones en el fortalecimiento democrático*. Buenos Aires: Siglo Veintiuno Editores.
- 2018 (with César Rodríguez-Garavito) “Writing Justice through Transitions.” In *Justice through Transitions: Conflict, Peacemaking, and Human Rights in the Global South* (César Rodríguez-Garavito and Meghan L. Morris, eds.). Pp. 10-17. Bogotá: Center for the Study of Law, Justice and Society, Dejusticia. Spanish edition: “Escribir la justicia a través de las transiciones.” In *Hacer justicia en tiempos de transición: El papel del activismo y las instituciones en el fortalecimiento democrático* (César Rodríguez Garavito and Meghan L. Morris, eds.). Pp. 13-19. Buenos Aires: Siglo Veintiuno Editores.
- 2017 “La cuestión de la tierra: el despojo y la posesión en el trabajo etnográfico” (“The Question of Land: Dispossession and Possession in Ethnographic Inquiry”). *Revista Colombiana de Antropología* (Colombian Journal of Anthropology) 53(1): 27-57.\*
- 2015 “Property in the Shadow of the ‘Post-Conflict.’” (“La propiedad en la sombra del ‘posconflicto.’”) *Fieldsights - Hot Spots*, Cultural Anthropology Online.
- 2015 “Situated Storytelling: Vision in the Writing of Law and Justice.” In *Human Rights in Minefields: Extractive Economies, Environmental Conflicts, and Social Justice in the Global South* (César Rodríguez-Garavito, ed). Pp. 370-377. Bogotá: Center for the Study of Law, Justice and Society, Dejusticia. Spanish edition: “Historias situadas. La perspectiva en la escritura del derecho y la justicia.” In *Extractivismo versus derechos humanos: Crónicas de los nuevos campos minados en el Sur Global* (César Rodríguez Garavito, ed.). Pp. 371-378. Buenos Aires: Siglo Veintiuno Editores.

2010 (with César Rodríguez Garavito, Natalia Orduz Salinas, and Paula Buriticá) “La consulta previa a pueblos indígenas: Los estándares del derecho internacional” (“Prior Consultation of Indigenous Peoples: International Law Standards”). Bogotá: Universidad de los Andes.

### Works in Progress

*Making Peace with Property: Specters of Post-Conflict Colombia* (Book manuscript under review).\*

“Soil Forensics: Property and the Buried Truth in Medellín” (Article manuscript under review).\*

“Paramilitary Property” (Law review article manuscript in preparation).

### Blogging (selections)

#### Center for Law, Justice and Society Blog (Blogger)

Indigenous Sovereignty and the Wars on Drugs in the Americas (May 7, 2018)

Hurricane Politics (Oct. 23, 2017)

The Alien Tort Statute’s Stakes for Property (May 16, 2017)

The Panama Papers and Collaborative Advocacy (Apr. 11, 2016)

Not for Sale (Nov. 16, 2015)

Greece and Legacies of Violence (Aug. 18, 2015)

Black Lives at the United Nations (May 18, 2015)

U.S. Success in Colombia? (Mar. 16, 2015)

Human Rights and the Thawing of the U.S.-Cuba Deep Freeze (Dec. 23, 2014)

Property and Authority in Lands without Lights (Oct. 6, 2014)

The Battle against Informality (Apr. 21, 2014)

#### PropertyProf Blog (Invited Guest Blogger)

The Hidden Stakes of *Kiobel* (Feb. 28, 2013)

Gun Violence, Property Taxes, and Community on Chicago’s South Side (Feb. 17, 2013)

Tinkering with Property, from Havana to Hershey (Feb. 9, 2013)

What Would de Soto Say? (Feb. 2, 2013)

## **HONORS, GRANTS, AND AWARDS**

2021-2023 University Research Council Faculty Scholars Research Award, University of Cincinnati

2021 Wenner-Gren Foundation Workshop Co-Grantee

2021 Goldman Prize for Excellence in Teaching, Univ. of Cincinnati College of Law

2018 Daniel F. Nugent Dissertation Prize, Department of Anthropology, University of Chicago

2016-2017 Pozen Human Rights Dissertation Completion Fellow, University of Chicago  
 2015-2017 Associate, Dept. of African and African American Studies, Harvard University  
 2010-2016 University Fellowship, University of Chicago  
 2013-2014 Social Science Research Council International Dissertation Research Fellow  
 2013-2014 Wenner-Gren Foundation Dissertation Fieldwork Grantee  
 2013-2014 Inter-American Foundation Grassroots Development Fellow  
 2013 Pozen Graduate Research Fellow, Human Rights Program, Univ. Chicago  
 2012-2013 Ignacio Martín Baró Prize Lecturer, University of Chicago  
 2012 Leiffer Award Recipient, Dept. of Anthropology, University of Chicago  
 2012 Land Deal Politics Initiative Grant Recipient  
 2012 Field Research Grantee, Center for Latin American Studies, Univ. Chicago  
 2011 Field Research Grantee, Center for Latin American Studies, Univ. Chicago  
 2008-2009 Harvard University Sheldon Fellow  
 2008-2009 Harvard University Committee on Human Rights Studies Fellow  
 2008-2009 Irving R. Kaufman Public Interest Fellow, Harvard Law School  
 2007-2008 Environmental Law Fellow, Harvard Law School  
 2007 Harvard Law School Summer Academic Fellow  
 2006-2007 Tufts Institute for the Environment Fellow, Tufts University  
 2006 David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies Grant Recipient

### **TEACHING**

2020- University of Cincinnati College of Law  
 Property; Public International Law; Environmental Law

2013 University of Chicago  
 Human Rights and the Environment in Latin America

2009-2010 Harvard Law School  
 Supervision of students in International Human Rights Clinic

2008-2009 Universidad de los Andes Law School, Bogotá, Colombia  
 Supervision of students in the Program on Global Justice and Human Rights and the Public Interest Law Group

### **ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE**

2012-2020 Senior Researcher, Dejusticia (Center for Law, Justice and Society)

2007-2008 Environmental Law Fellow, Harvard Law School

2007 Law Clerk, Schonbrun Desimone Seplow Harris & Hoffman, Los Angeles, CA

2006 Consultant, EarthRights International, Peru

2005 Law Clerk, EarthRights International, Washington, D.C.

## MEMBERSHIPS

New York State Bar (admitted 2009)  
Association of American Law Schools  
American Anthropological Association  
Law and Society Association  
Latin American Studies Association  
Association for Political and Legal Anthropology  
Anthropology and Environment Society

## LANGUAGES

Spanish (Fluent), Modern Greek (Conversational), French (Intermediate)

## SERVICE

### Editing

2019-2020 Member, Editorial Committee, *Law and Social Inquiry*  
2014-2020 Editor, Amphibious Accounts: Human Rights Stories from the South (Relatos Anfibios: Historias de Derechos Humanos desde el Sur) Blog  
2007-2008 Co-Editor-in-Chief, *Unbound: Harvard Journal of the Legal Left*  
2004-2007 Member, Editorial Board, *Unbound: Harvard Journal of the Legal Left*  
2004-2005 Member, Editorial Board, *Harvard Human Rights Journal*

### Reviewing

*American Anthropologist; American Ethnologist; Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East; Current Anthropology; Environment and Planning E; Geographical Review; Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology; Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute; Journal of Peasant Studies; Law and Social Inquiry; Maguaré; Political and Legal Anthropology Review; Revista Colombiana de Antropología; Revista de Estudios Sociales; University of Chicago Press*

### University and Professional Service

2021-2023 Faculty Senator, University of Cincinnati  
2021-2022 Member, Faculty Advisory Committee, University of Cincinnati College of Law  
2020-2021 Member, International Programs Committee, University of Cincinnati College of Law  
2020-2021 Member, Research, Development, Library, and Tech Committee, University of Cincinnati College of Law  
2018-2019 Co-Chair, American Bar Foundation Seminar Series  
2011-2013 Co-Founder and Co-Coordinator, Workshop on Latin America and the Caribbean, University of Chicago

## CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

### Conferences and Panels Organized

Workshop Co-Organizer, Demarcation: The Making of Property's Subjects and Objects. Reed College. Scheduled for October 2022.

Double Panel Co-Organizer, Prospects for an Anthropology of Property. 2019 American Anthropological Association/Canadian Anthropology Society Conference. Vancouver, BC, Canada. November 2019.

Panel Co-Organizer, Critical Legal Geographies. 2012 International Conference on Law and Society. Honolulu, HI. June 2012.

Workshop Series Organizer, Critical Perspectives on Human Rights. Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA. 2007-2008 workshop series.

Conference Co-Organizer, Confronting Empire: Five Years of War in Iraq. Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA. March 17-19, 2008.

### Papers Presented (selected)

"Property and the Social Life of Things." University of Pittsburgh School of Law, Pittsburgh, PA. February 2022.

"That Was No Landslide: Soil Forensics, Territorial Order, and the Buried Truth in Medellín." Department of Anthropology, University of Cincinnati. October 2021.

"Property's Relations: Tracing Anthropology in Property Theory." Legal Anthropology Workshop. University of Alabama. February 2021.

"Property in Transition: Legal Fantasies, Land 'Reforms,' and Contracting Peace in Colombia." American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting. Vancouver, BC, Canada. November 2019.

"Property and the Social Life of Things." Property Works in Progress. Northeastern University School of Law, Boston, MA. September 2019.

"Property and the Social Life of Things." Association for Law, Property and Society Annual Meeting. Syracuse, NY. May 2019.

"Speculative Fields: Property in the Shadow of Post-Conflict Colombia." Department of Sociology Colloquium. Northwestern University, Chicago, IL. February 2019.

“Peace through Property: Land Restitution and Post-Conflict Politics in Colombia.” Fellows Research Advisory Committee, American Bar Foundation. Chicago, IL. December 2018.

“*Levantamientos*: Mapping Plots and Raising the Dead in Colombia’s Land Restitution Process.” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting. Washington, D.C. December 2017.

“Matters of Faith: Property and Disorder in the Shadow of the Post-Conflict.” Thinking about Law and Violence in the Colombian Post-Conflict with Jean and John Comaroff. Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá, Colombia. October 2017.

“Goods with Roots: The Things of Property in the Colombian Conflict.” 2017 Conference on Law and Society. Mexico City, Mexico. June 2017.

“Land Restitution in Colombia: A Perspective from Law and Anthropology.” Colombian Colloquium. Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. April 2017.

“Mapping the Plot: Building the Inventories of Property in Colombia.” SJD Workshop. Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA. March 2017.

“Soil Dreams: Fear and Fantasy in the Shadow of Post-Conflict Colombia.” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting. Minneapolis, MN. November 2016.

“Soil Conflicts: Property in the Shadow of Post-Conflict Colombia.” Political Anthropology/ Political Ecology Workshop. Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. September 2016.

“Paramilitary Pastoral: The Infrastructure of Property and Order in Colombia.” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting. Denver, CO. November 2015.

“Victims and their Properties: Land Restitution and Victimhood in Colombia.” XXXIII International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association. San Juan, Puerto Rico. May 2015.

“Markets in Movement: Property and Dis/possession in Colombia.” Ethnography of Movement and Mobility Research Cluster Launch. The New School, New York, NY. May 2015.

“Markets in Movement: Property and Dis/possession in Colombia.” The 8<sup>th</sup> MaGrann Conference: Land Fictions: The Commodification of Land in City and Country. Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ. May 2015.

“Altamira’s Windstorm: Jurisdiction and Property in Colombia.” Harvard Law School Institute for Global Law and Policy Workshop. Doha, Qatar. January 2015.

“Property and Land Restitution in Colombia.” Heterodox Innovations and Development Pathways: Mapping, Method, and Critique. Harvard Law School Institute for Global Law and Policy/Sciences-Po Law School Pro-Seminar. Paris, France. May 2014.

“Produciendo propiedad: despojo y restitución de tierras en Colombia.” Universidad de los Andes Law School, Bogotá, Colombia. March 2014.

“Res Publica, Res Privata: Property and Sovereignty in Colombia.” 2013 Conference on Law and Society. Boston, MA. June 2013.

“Property and Collectivity: The Making of Ethnic Claims to Land Restitution in Colombia.” Global Land Grabbing II: An International Conference on Large-Scale Land Deals. Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. October 2012.

“Property and Land Claims in Colombia.” Midwest Law and Society Retreat. Madison, WI. September 2012.

“Reconsidering the Lawless Land: Legal and Economic Ordering in Colombia’s Banana Region.” 2012 International Conference on Law and Society. Honolulu, HI. June 2012.

“From Cacao to Chocolate in the Ecuadorian Amazon.” The Field Museum, Chicago, IL. October 2011.

“Litigio estratégico y defensa de grupos vulnerables: una mirada crítica” (Strategic litigation and defense of vulnerable groups: a critical take). Latin American Public Interest Clinics Conference. Bogotá, Colombia. November 2009.

“Intellectual Property Rights and Plant Genetic Resources in Cuba.” Cuba Today: Transitions, Innovations, and Transformations. Tufts University, Medford, MA. December 2006.