



**Elisabeth Haub
School of Law**

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW PROGRAM



UNIVERSITY of HAWAII at MĀNOA
**WILLIAM S. RICHARDSON
SCHOOL OF LAW**

August 25, 2016

Dear Colleagues,

Delegations from the Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University and William S. Richardson School of Law at University of Hawai'i will join thousands of other world leaders in environmental law for the International Union of the Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) World Conservation Congress (Congress). At President Obama's invitation, the Congress will be held in the United States for the first time—in Honolulu Hawai'i from September 1-10, 2016. When the Congress' 6,000+ delegates convene in Hawai'i, it will be recorded as the largest and most important environmental conference in America's history.

IUCN is a hybrid international organization, accorded intergovernmental Observer Status by the United Nations General Assembly. IUCN's forthcoming meeting in Hawai'i will establish global priorities for environmental conservation to guide IUCN and its institutional members over the next four years. The Richardson School of Law School and the Elisabeth Haub School of Law are full voting members of IUCN, along with 85 sovereign states and 1,000 non-governmental organizations. As such, both schools will have delegations present at the Congress and take part in the deliberations and votes on critical sustainability and conservation issues. In addition the schools have joined forces to hold an international environmental law moot court, the ICJ4ICJ Moot Court, focused on intergenerational climate justice and the international law response to the global climate crisis.

Environmental Law is of critical importance to IUCN's work. In the 1960s, IUCN assembled the first teams of scientists and lawyers to build what became environmental law, and it was instrumental in establishing the work the UN Environmental Programme undertook to foster international environmental law. IUCN's Red List of Threatened Species and Ecosystems are the authoritative measure of biodiversity, and its World Commission on Protected Areas is the world's premier network of protected area expertise. Additionally, IUCN's Commission on Environmental Law led development of the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species and the Convention on Biological Diversity, among other treaties. At the Congress in Hawai'i IUCN will launch a Global Judicial Institute on the Environment to serve the continuing judiciary education needs of courts as they grapple with ever more complex environmental law cases.

We look forward to participation in this historic event, and the commitments to conservation and sustainability through environmental law that come out of the Congress. To read more about our involvement in the Congress, please read the [Haub Environmental Law Program at Pace University Press Release](#) and the [Richardson School of Law Press Release](#).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason J. Czarnecki".

Jason J. Czarnecki
Associate Dean and Executive Director
Environmental Law Programs
Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Denise Antolini".

Denise Antolini
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
William S. Richardson School of Law
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