Congress established the Center for Constitutional Law (CCL) at Akron in 1986 as one of four national resource centers dedicated to legal research on constitutional issues. Akron Law created the John F. Seiberling Chair of Constitutional Law to fulfill this mission. The Center has hosted visiting U.S. Supreme Court Justices Sandra Day O’Connor and Arthur Goldberg.

The Center fosters scholarly research, public education, and student engagement on current topics of constitutional import. Follow us on Twitter @conlawcenter

**CCL Faculty Fellows**

Kristen Barnes teaches Property, Comparative Law, International Human Rights and Real Estate and researches in race discrimination.

Dean Marty Belsky teaches Constitutional Law, Prosecutorial Function, and Post-Conviction Remedies and researches in freedom of religion.


Brant Lee teaches Property, Feminist & Race Theory, Employment Discrimination & researches race discrimination.


**TRACY THOMAS**

Director of CCL and Seiberling Chair of Constitutional Law

Her work focuses on questions of gender and civil rights remedies. She is editor of the Gender Law Prof Blog. As a practicing attorney at Covington & Burling in Washington, D.C., Thomas litigated pro bono cases of constitutional prison conditions, gender equality, and criminal procedure.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Sept. 16, 2016 12pm**
Professor Laurie Levenson, Constitution Week Lecture: *Innocence and the Constitution: How We can Do Better.*

**Oct. 20 & 21, 2016**
Symposium: The U.S. Feminist Judgments Project: Rewriting Constitutional Law
The 5th Annual Symposium on Constitutional Law
The U.S. Feminist Judgments Project: Rewriting the Law, Writing the Future
October 20-21, 2016

This year’s symposium focuses on questions of gender and equality. It flows from the U.S. Feminist Judgments Project, a book pulling together a group of leading feminist legal scholars in the United States to rewrite, using feminist reasoning, the most significant Supreme Court cases on gender from the 1800s to the present day.

The symposium picks up where the book leaves off, beginning the discussion of how to integrate feminist thinking and appreciation of gender equality into judicial decision making.

The keynote luncheon speaker will be Sally Kenney, author of Gender & Justice: Why Women in the Judiciary Really Matter and professor of political science at Tulane University. A special panel will feature women judges reflecting on their experiences in decision-making. Other speakers include the editors and contributors from the U.S. Feminist Judgments book as well as scholars from multiple fields exploring the intersection of gender and lawmaking.

For information and registration (free to all) visit the symposium website at: https://www.uakron.edu/law/ccl/symposium

ConLawNOW

ConLawNOW is an online legal journal published by the Center for Constitutional Law at the University of Akron School of Law. The short essay format (5-10 pgs.) provides debate and analysis of legal issues of constitutional import in the headlines including pending Supreme Court cases, and events as they happen.

ConLawNOW is always looking for submissions from both academic authors and practitioners. For questions or submissions, please contact the journal editor at conlawjournal@uakron.edu.

Articles from Volume 7, Issue 1
- Pursuing Procedural Justice: Reflections by an Attorney in the Tamir Rice Case
  Walter Madison
- Toward a Judicial Bulwark Against Constitutional Extravagance - A Proposed Constitutional Amendment for State Consent Over Judicial Appointments
  Steven T. Voigt
- Obergefell’s Prescription: Why the Fourteenth Amendment Trumps State Employees’ Free Exercise Claims
  Douglas B. McKechnie
- Obergefell v. Hodges: How the Supreme Court Should Have Decided the Case
  Adam Lamparello
- Why We Need Reed: Unmasking Pretext in Anti-Panhandling Legislation
  Joseph Mead
- Tying the Knot with a Surname? The Constitutionality of Japan’s Law Requiring a Same Marital Name
  Koji Higashikawa

Want to learn more about constitutional law?
Visit the CCL resource page at https://www.uakron.edu/law/ccl/resources
CCL STUDENT FELLOWS

The CCL sponsors Student Fellowships each academic year. Fellows engage in all aspects of the Center’s work including research, social media, conferences, lectures, and public education. They may also write individual directed research thesis papers with CCL faculty. Students have opportunities for individualized faculty mentorship in the field of constitutional law including work on special projects, co-authored papers and networking with faculty and alumni.

The CCL Student Fellows for 2016-17

Constitutional Law Discussion Forums

The CCL hosts a Constitutional Law Discussion Forum the last Tuesday of the month. Topics usually reflect current events or recent court decisions.

Last year’s topics included:
- Marriage Equality and Religious Liberty Conscientious Objection
- Constitutionality of the Death Penalty
- Criminal Justice Reform
- Constitutional Issues Surrounding Gun Control
- Constitutional Issues Surrounding Immigration
- The Presidential Election, the Supreme Court, and the Constitution

Join us on Sept. 27, Oct. 25, and Nov. 15
12:30 to 1:15 in Room 140
Let your voice be heard!