

MEGHAN L. MORRIS

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- 2023- Associate Professor of Law, Temple University Beasley School of Law
Affiliate Faculty, Temple University Department of Anthropology
- 2020-2023 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

- In Press *Making Peace with Property: Traces of Post-Conflict Colombia* (Duke
2027 University Press).*
- 2025 “Soil Forensics: Property and the Buried Truth in Medellín.” *Cultural
Anthropology* 40(4): 753-778.*
- 2025 “Paramilitary Property.” *Harvard Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Law Review* 60:
107-158.
- 2025 “Introduction: Property and the Matter of Belonging.” *Political and Legal*

- Anthropology Review (PoLAR)* 48:e70005. (Co-authored introduction to special issue of *Political and Legal Anthropology Review*).*
- 2025 “Partial Perspective, Objectivity, and International Law.” *Temple International and Comparative Law Journal* 39(2): 23-27.
- 2023 “The Land Question and Other Specters of the Colombian Left.” (“*La cuestión de la tierra y otros espectros de la izquierda colombiana*.”) Hot Spots, Cultural Anthropology Online.
- 2023 “Property and the Social Life of Things.” *Tulane Law Review* 97(3): 403-450.
- 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* 73(4): 767-782.
- 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.

Book Reviews

- 2024 Review of *Vital Decomposition: Soil Practitioners and Life Politics* by Kristina M. Lyons. *American Ethnologist* 51(4): 637-638.

Works in Progress

“The Paranoid Politics of Property: Dispossession and the American Dream” (Article manuscript).*

“Property and Peace: Contested Claims to Land (invited annual review article for *Annual Review of Law and Social Science*).*

Demarcation: The Making of Property's Subjects and Objects (Co-edited volume with LaShandra Sullivan and Gregory Duff Morton).*

“Surveying the Best Corner of America: The Boundaries of Protection in Post-Conflict Colombia” (Book chapter manuscript for *Demarcation: The Making of Property's Subjects and Objects*).*

“Ethnography of Property” (Book chapter manuscript for *Elgar Research Handbook on Ethnography, Law & Society*).

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

2024-2025	Center for the Humanities at Temple Faculty Fellow, Temple University
2024-2025	Bridge Grant, Temple University
2024-2025	New Faculty Research Fellowship, Temple Law School
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

2023-	Temple University Beasley School of Law Property; Natural Resources; Property, Race, Nature
2020-2023	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)
American Anthropological Association
Law and Society Association
Property Law Section, Association of American Law Schools
Latin American Studies Association
Association for Political and Legal Anthropology
Anthropology and Environment Society

LANGUAGES

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

SERVICE

Editing

2024-2027	Member, Editorial Board, <i>Political and Legal Anthropology Review (PoLAR)</i>
2019-2020	Member, Editorial Committee, <i>Law and Social Inquiry</i>
2014-2020	Editor, Amphibious Accounts: Human Rights Stories from the South (Relatos Anfíbios: Historias de Derechos Humanos desde el Sur) Blog
2007-2008	Co-Editor-in-Chief, <i>Unbound: Harvard Journal of the Legal Left</i>
2004-2007	Member, Editorial Board, <i>Unbound: Harvard Journal of the Legal Left</i>
2004-2005	Member, Editorial Board, <i>Harvard Human Rights Journal</i>

Reviewing

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

University and Professional Service

2026-2028	Faculty Senator, Temple University
2026-2027	Board Member, Association for Political and Legal Anthropology
2025-2026	Co-Chair, Association for Political and Legal Anthropology Program Committee, American Anthropological Association 2025 and 2026 Annual Meetings
2024-2026	Colloquium Committee, Temple University Beasley School of Law
2023-2025	Sustainability Committee, Temple University Beasley School of Law
2022-2023	Decanal Search Committee, University of Cincinnati College of Law

2022-2023	Faculty Appointments Committee, University of Cincinnati College of Law
2021-2023	Member (elected), Faculty Advisory Committee, University of Cincinnati College of Law
2021-2022	Faculty Senator, University of Cincinnati
2020-2022	Member, International Programs Committee, University of Cincinnati College of Law
2020-2022	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

Society for Cultural Anthropology Workshop Co-Organizer, Demarcation. Stony Point, NY. May 2025.

Wenner-Gren Workshop Co-Organizer, Demarcation: The Making of Property's Subjects and Objects. Reed College, Portland, OR. October 2022.

Double Panel Co-Organizer, Prospects for an Anthropology of Property. 2019 American Anthropological Association/Canadian Anthropology Society Annual Meeting. 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 2008.

Papers Presented (selected)

"This Land is My Land: Property, Endangerment, and the American Dream." Activism Workshop, Rice University. Houston, TX. December 2025.

"Of Owls, Cowboys, and Disappearing Fish: Anti-Regulatory Common Sense in the American West." American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting. New Orleans, LA. November 2025.

"Making Peace with Property: Traces of Post-Conflict Colombia." Faculty Colloquium, Johns Hopkins University Department of Anthropology. Baltimore, MD. November 2025.

“The Paranoid Politics of Property: Whiteness, Dispossession, and the American Dream.” Annual Meeting on Law and Society. Chicago, IL. May 2025.

“Surveying the Best Corner of America: The Boundaries of Protection in Post-Conflict Colombia.” Society for Cultural Anthropology Biennial Meeting. Stony Point, NY. May 2025.

“Surveying the Best Corner of America: The Boundaries of Protection in Post-Conflict Colombia.” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting. Tampa, FL. November 2024.

“Paramilitary Property.” Faculty Colloquium, University of Richmond School of Law, Richmond, VA. March 2024.

“Soil Forensics: Property and the Buried Truth in Medellín.” Princeton-Mellon Forum on the Urban Environment, Princeton University. Princeton, NJ. February 2024.

“Making Peace with Property in Post-Conflict Colombia.” Latin American Studies Colloquium, Temple University. January 2024.

“The Paranoid Politics of Property: Whiteness, Dispossession, and the American Dream.” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting. Toronto, Canada. November 2023.

“Soil Forensics: Property and the Buried Truth in Medellín.” Yale Agrarian Studies Colloquium, Yale University. New Haven, CT. September 2023.

“Paramilitary Property.” Annual Meeting on Law and Society. San Juan, Puerto Rico. June 2023.

“Paramilitary Property.” Constitutional Studies Luncheon workshop, University of Texas at Austin School of Law. Austin, TX. April 2023.

“Paramilitary Property.” Faculty Colloquium, University of California College of the Law, San Francisco. San Francisco, CA. February 2023.

“Paramilitary Property.” New Voices in Property Law, Association of American Law Schools. San Diego, CA. January 2023.

“The Properties of Debt: Reciprocity, Precarity, and Social Obligation in Medellín.” American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting. Seattle, WA. November 2022.

“*Levantamientos*: Raising Plots and Marking Relations for Post-Conflict Colombia.” Wenner-Gren Workshop: Demarcation: The Making of Property’s Subjects and Objects. Reed College, Portland, OR. October 2022.

“This Land is My Land: Property, Paramilitarism, and the American Dream.” Land Technologies: Interrogating Tools of Governance workshop. Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. August 2022.

“That Was No Landslide: Soil Forensics, Property, and the Buried Truth in Medellin.” Global Meeting on Law and Society. Lisbon, Portugal (virtual). July 2022.

“Paramilitary Property.” Progressive Property Workshop. Loyola University New Orleans College of Law, New Orleans, LA (virtual). June 2022.

“Property and the Social Life of Things.” University of Pittsburgh School of Law, Pittsburgh, PA (virtual). February 2022.

“That Was No Landslide: Soil Forensics, Territorial Order, and the Buried Truth in Medellín.” Department of Anthropology, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH (virtual). October 2021.

“Property’s Relations: Tracing Anthropology in Property Theory.” Legal Anthropology Workshop. University of Alabama Law School, Tuscaloosa, AL (virtual). 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 8th 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.