

# IOWA

Center for  
Human Rights

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## ANNUAL REPORT 2024-2025



# MISSION

As part of The University of Iowa College of Law, the UICHR's mission is to promote and protect human rights at home and abroad through distinguished multidisciplinary leadership in human rights education, scholarship, and public service to the University of Iowa, its surrounding communities, the State of Iowa, and beyond.

The UICHR is guided by The University of Iowa's commitment to the basic tenets of a free society. In fulfilling its mission, the Center continuously revisits even the most fundamental aspects of human rights, treating human rights not as a corpus of fixed thought and action, but as a set of assumptions and choices that are open to constant rethinking because of ever-evolving ideas, conditions, and needs.

Following this approach, the UICHR:

- Engages in a diverse array of teaching, research, and other activities designed to highlight and consider, constructively and critically, the problems and prospects of human rights worldwide.
- Nurtures trans-disciplinary and inter-institutional collaboration that seeks to integrate artistic and literary viewpoints with legal, political, and socioeconomic human rights discourse.
- Encourages the active participation of faculty, students, and others both within and beyond the UI campus in the conception and execution of its diverse activities.
- Shares information with human rights specialists and the general public about its activities and about human rights issues and developments generally.





# DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

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UICHR marked an important milestone in the 2024-25 academic year. We celebrated the 25th anniversary of UICHR's founding with special programming, a retrospective exhibit, a community wide gathering at Walker Homestead, as well as an expansion of our curricular offerings and educational mission. This report highlights our history and our anniversary year activities.

As part of our 25th anniversary celebration, the Center is undertaking a fundraising campaign to support enhanced student experiential opportunities. Our goal is to raise \$25,000, which would support the following for a three-year period: provide a stipend to Rex Honey interns; increase Cmiel funding for summer human rights internships; and offer needs-based grants for student academic travel. Please consider making a donation to the campaign [here](#).

Since our founding in 1999, UICHR has educated, connected, and empowered thousands of people across Iowa and around the world. As you read our 2024-2025 Annual Report, we hope that you gain a deeper understanding of our work, and the importance of the involvement of friends like you. We deeply appreciate your vitality and financial support, particularly in these critical times.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Adrien K. Wing". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Adrien" and last name "Wing" clearly legible.

**ADRIEN K. WING**

Director, UICHR

Bessie Dutton Murray Professor of Law

Associate Dean for International and Comparative Law Programs



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## ADVISORY BOARD: A NOTE FROM THE CO-CHAIRS

This past academic year we celebrated 25 remarkable years of The University of Iowa Center for Human Rights. The work the center does continues to inspire, such as student engagement in the Human Rights Certificate, the Human Rights Conference that brings together students and faculty from across the state, the student essays and internships, and the multiple educational activities. One of these activities was the Martin Luther King, Jr Lecture with Iowa alum and 138th President of the Iowa State Bar Association, Melvin Shaw who presented “The Lawyer’s Role in Combating Injustice: A Call to Action for Future Attorneys.”

We want to express our deepest care and condolences to the families of recently deceased board members, James Leach and Joe Coulter. We have so appreciated the opportunity to connect with them through our shared work with the UICHR. Jim and Joe were remarkable leaders and stood up for human rights issues throughout their lives. We are blessed to have had them in our community.



Mary Cohen and Pete Damiano  
UICHR Advisory Board Co-Chairs

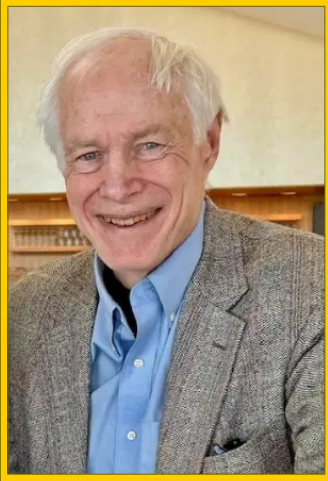
We appreciate the contributions of the UICHR board members: Newman Abuissa, Rima Afifi, Kingsley Botchway, Matsalyn Brown, Diana Cates, Cynthia Chou, Robin Clark-Bennett, Alyssa Clayden, Gina Crosheck, Signe Dobbs, Dimy Doresca, Heather Erwin, Gregory Hamot, Dave Leshtz, Britta Loftus, Roger Lusala, Mazahir Salih, Maureen McCue, Joan Nashelsky, Aaron Page, Justin Rempe, Rita Bettis Austen, Shannon Roesler, César Rosado Marzán, Madison Rush, Lisa Schlesinger, Harold Walehwa, Sherry Watt. And we have deep gratitude to our UICHR staff members: Jo Butterfield, Brian Farrell, Hope Metcalf, Mary Sleichter, Amy Weismann, and Adrien Wing.

We are especially grateful for our advisory board’s contributions to our April 27 anniversary celebration at Walker Homestead. The event was both a celebration of the first 25 years of the UICHR and a fundraiser for student programs supported by the Center. About 125 people attended. Adrien Wing presented background on the UICHR to those in attendance. Food and drink were provided by the Walker Homestead, music was provided by HomeBrewed. A good time was had by all!



# In Memorium

## Jim Leach



The Honorable James Leach passed away in December 2024. Jim's political career spanned three decades, during which he served as a Republican member of the U.S. House of Representatives, representing Iowa's 2nd congressional district. He chaired the House Committee on Banking and Financial Services and was a leading voice on foreign policy and economic issues.

After leaving Congress, Jim continued to serve the nation in various capacities. He held academic positions at Princeton University, Harvard University, and the University of Iowa. He also chaired the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Jim's legacy is one of intellectual rigor, political courage, and a deep love of country. He will be remembered for his tireless work to improve the lives of Americans and his unwavering commitment to public service. As a UICHR Advisory Board Member and Senior Scholar, Jim contributed his astute expertise to UICHR programs, frequently serving on panels and moderating scholarly discussions. Jim's family generously directed memorial funds towards UICHR's work to sustain his legacy of support for human rights education.

## Joe Coulter

Joe Coulter, professor emeritus of community and behavioral health at the University of Iowa College of Public Health and UICHR Advisory Board member, passed away in September 2024. Joe's distinguished career reflected his strong commitment to public health, environmental justice, addressing health disparities, and promoting the health and well-being of Native communities.

He came to the University of Iowa in 1985, when he accepted the role of head of the Department of Anatomy in the College of Medicine. He subsequently served as the chair of the Neuroscience Graduate Program and as a faculty member for the American Indian and Native Studies Program. He came to the College of Public Health in 2004.

His many accomplishments include serving as chair for the Iowa Advisory Committee of the United States Commission on Civil Rights, as well as serving on the Iowa Commission on Native American Affairs in the Iowa Department of Human Rights, and the American Indian/Alaska Native Caucus of the National Partnership for Action to End Health Disparities with the Office of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Minority Health. Joe committed his time and talents to the promotion and protection of human rights as a UICHR Board member, in particular investing time to encourage experiential learning opportunities for students through UICHR.

[Read more](#) about Joe's career and his work advocating for Native communities.





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## STAFF

The Center's core staff consists of Director & Dean Adrien Wing; Associate Director & Professor Brian Farrell; Assistant Director & Professor Amy Weismann; Education and Student Support Specialist & Professor Jo Butterfield; Clinical Associate Professor Hope Metcalf; and Program Assistant Mary Sleichter.

We said a fond, while sad, farewell this Spring to our wonderful Program Manager Erika Christiansen, who left UICHR to contribute her many talents to the UI College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. We thank her for her many indelible contributions to UICHR and look forward to future collaborations in her new role.

In addition to regular duties and responsibilities, the Center supports the participation of its staff in training, networking, and scholarly professional development and service work.

Highlights include:

Adrien Wing serves as a member of American Bar Association Council for the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar. She is on the Board of Editors of the American Journal of International Law. She is also a Board member of the Blacks of the American Society of International Law Task Force. Adrien is a Mentor for the ASIL Women's Interest Group. She was honored at the 20th anniversary of the National Black Pre-law conference in New York. She is faculty advisor for a new law student organization the Women of Color Coalition.

Brian Farrell was honored with the College of Law's 2024 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Award and the American Association of Law Schools Pro Bono Honor Roll. He continues to serve as a regional representative for Human Rights Education USA and on its Youth Action Award selection committee. He serves as a member of the steering committee of the Iowa Network of Human Rights Academics and on the boards of the Linn County Bar Association and Justice101. Brian was recently invited to join the peer review panel for the new Nebraska Journal on Advancing Justice.

Amy Weismann became the faculty advisor for a new student organization, the Pre-Law Association of Women (PAW). She joined the Division of Sponsored Programs (DSP) Faculty Advisory Committee. She is the Campus Representative for Scholars at Risk (SAR). Amy continued her service as the contract manager for the collaborative legal services support project, ALL Iowa, serving Afghans and Ukrainians throughout the state. Amy accompanied University of Iowa students to Washington D.C. to attend Student Advocacy Days and served as a faculty discussant for the 2025 Iowa Network of Human Rights Academics student conference in April.

Jo serves as the faculty advisor for the Iowa Model UN student organization and works frequently with the Students for Human Rights at Iowa (SHRAI). Jo served as a faculty discussant for the 2025 Iowa Network of Human Rights Academics student conference. She taught Human Rights and War: Iowa and the World in Fall 2024. She worked in collaboration with UI Rex Honey intern on the Center's historical files to create an exhibit about the UICHR's history and development for the 25th Anniversary as well as leading an ongoing effort to transfer material to the university archives.

Erika taught Human Rights & Literature in conjunction with One Community, One Book in Fall 2024. In addition to serving as the program manager at UICHR, she was a staff instructor with President's Leadership Class, taught in the First Gen Hawks program, and instructed an honors' seminar.



*Back: Mary Sleichter,  
Adrien Wing, Jo Butterfield  
Front: Erika Christiansen,  
Brian Farrell, Amy  
Weismann*





## Spotlight: Hope Metcalf

Working in human rights over the last two decades has taught me that real and durable change happens when people come together across all kinds of differences to find common values and common ground. That can happen in unlikely places.

I grew up in a small town in rural Vermont where people rely on each other in concrete and vital ways. When my parents' house was struck by lightning, an all-volunteer crew of firefighters showed up to battle the fire. Neighbors – loggers, masons, teachers – climbed on ladders and formed a human chain in the pouring rain to salvage what they could as our attic burned. The few childhood photos I have today still carry smoke stains.

To me, the best human rights advocates are like those volunteer firefighters, linking us through what Martin Luther King, Jr. called “an inescapable network of mutuality.” Too often, human rights law is taught as something that is lofty, technical and distant. Understandably, most American law students question the relevance of opinions issued from Geneva or The Hague. But the real power of human rights stems from the simple but revolutionary premise that all people – in all places, at all times – deserve to be treated with respect and dignity, and that no one is either above or below the law.

Before coming to Iowa, I taught in the clinics at Yale Law School for nearly twenty years, and I co-directed the Lowenstein International Human Rights Clinic for more than a decade. The ethic in Yale's clinics is very similar to Iowa – students are held to high professional standards, and they are taught to do everything the best lawyers can do. I was lucky to have had the opportunity to teach in a variety of clinics, and I supervised students on matters large and small, ranging from individual immigration cases to federal voting rights litigation. I came to realize, however, that I am drawn to the issues where domestic law has failed, and to the people whom society would like to forget. I also came to appreciate human rights norms and institutions – which are notoriously vague and process-heavy – as a way for people to find common ground and to work through conflict. In an increasingly polarized world, this commitment to mutual respect and non-violence is important.



After nearly twenty years in New Haven, my husband and I decided we wanted to experience a different part of the country and life outside the Ivy League. We were drawn to the University of Iowa's dedication to education and public service. My colleagues at the law school are among the most dedicated teachers I've known, and I've already learned so much from them and my students. And coming from hilly New England, I marvel at the ever-changing skies, wide expanses and especially the sunsets.

This year I am launching Human Rights Initiative, which will give students the opportunity to work directly with lawyers around the world who are using human rights to protect communities at the local level. I am also starting to develop relationships with local groups, such as Rotary International, in hopes of finding ways to engage with communities here. Ultimately, I hope my students will aspire to be like those volunteer firefighters, standing up for our shared values and humanity when it matters most.

**“We are delighted to have a colleague of Professor Metcalf's national and international stature join us at UICHR and the College of Law.”**

**Adrien K. Wing**

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# TEACHING

The Center for Human Rights provides innovative and meaningful academic and co-curricular opportunities for students. Central to the Center's educational programming is the 18-semester hour Human Rights Certificate program awarded by the College of Law.

During the 2024-25 academic year, the Center graduated thirty certificate students - a program record. Enrollment trends suggest that the 18 semester-hour Human Rights Certificate program has not only recovered from the Covid-19 pandemic decline, but has continued to steadily expand. Staff and student ambassadors consistently work to grow and strengthen the Certificate program through expanded outreach.



ABOVE: Celebration for spring 2025 Human Rights Certificate Graduates



ABOVE: 2025 Advocacy in Action: From the Classroom to Congress students on Capitol Hill

Certificate program faculty consist of Center staff and others appointed through the College of Law to teach these undergraduate courses, including: Stefanie Bowers; Jo Butterfield; Erika Christiansen; Brian Farrell; Aaron Page; John McKerley; Stephanie Patridge; and Amy Weismann. In addition, Jovana Davidovic and Jo Butterfield hold appointments through Philosophy and History, respectively, and teach courses offered by those departments which contribute to the Human Rights Certificate. Faculty profiles are available [here](#).

Faculty create an atmosphere of inclusiveness through one-on-one mentorship and faculty-student interactions.

The Center deepened its partnership with Scholars At Risk to provide Certificate students with experiential learning opportunities in advocacy through the course, *Advocacy in Action: From the Classroom to Congress* taught by Amy Weismann. Amy also served on the national Planning Committee for the Scholars at Risk Student Advocacy Days in Washington D.C. and led a student delegation to the in person convening in late March. The Center's engagement with Scholars at Risk represents one of the Center founders' original key objectives, that of working to mitigate human rights violations experienced by scholars around the globe.



The Center for Human Rights and its Certificate program promoted my academic and professional development by providing opportunities to turn human rights theory into practice. I worked with advocates in the community while serving on the advisory board, advocated in Washington D.C. for the release of wrongfully imprisoned scholars, and presented and workshopped my academic research. The Center's knowledgeable faculty helped me strengthen my skills and hone my interest in human rights as I prepare to enter law school. Through the Center, I created connections that will support me throughout my career.

Signe Dobbs, UICHR Board Undergraduate Student Representative  
2025 Human Rights Certificate Graduate  
Fall 2025 Iowa Law Student

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# INTERNSHIPS



## **Kenneth J. Cmiel and Burns H. Weston Human Rights Internship Funding Program**

Thanks to the generosity of the UI-Stanley Foundation Support Organization and the Burns H. Weston fund, the Center awarded nine students Kenneth J. Cmiel Human Rights Internship funding, and one law student Burns H. Weston Internship funding, totaling \$12,500, to support students' summer internships with organizations pursuing human rights promotion and/or protection.

Pricilla Back, a rising second year law student, received Cmiel funding. She interned with the Federal Public Defender for the District of Connecticut (New Haven, Connecticut).

Maeve Dunne, a rising second year law student, received Cmiel funding and interned with Masambeni (Cape Town, South Africa).

Kathryn Linehan, a rising second year law student, received Cmiel funding. She interned at Michigan Attorney General's Office: Health, Education and Family Services Division (Lansing, Michigan).

Karlyn Simcox is a rising third year law student. This summer she interned with the Texas Defender Service (Austin, Texas).

Jordan Bull-Welch, an undergraduate, received Cmiel funding. She interned with Iowa City-based Immigrant Welcome Network of Johnson County.

Serenity Delgado, an undergraduate received Cmiel funding and interned with the Iowa City-based Immigrant Welcome Network of Johnson County.

Adrianna Gallen, an undergraduate, received Cmiel funding. She interned with Lutheran Services (Raleigh, North Carolina).

Megan Heil, an undergraduate, received Cmiel funding. She interned with Charitable Roots (Steene, France).

Megan Heldt, an undergraduate, received Cmiel funding and interned with Respond Rapid Translation (virtual).

Maya Jalukar, a rising third year law student, received Weston funding and interned with Tapestry Farms (Davenport, Iowa).



Pricilla Back



Maeve Dunne



Kathryn Linehan



Karlyn Simcox



Jordan Bull-Welch



Serenity Delgado



Adrianna Gallen



Megan Heil



Megan Heldt



Maya Jalukar

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# SCHOLARSHIP

## Select and Recent Books, Chapters, and Articles

- Adrien K. Wing, *Reparations under International Law for Enslavement of African Persons in the Americas and the Caribbean*, Proceedings of the Second Reparations Symposium, American Society of International Law 34 (2024).
- Adrien K. Wing & S. James Anaya, *Introduction to Symposium*, 118 American Journal of International Law Unbound 103 (2024).
- Adrien K. Wing et al, *Roundtable on Family Law and Gender in the Middle East and North Africa*, 34 Transnational Law & Contemporary Problems Journal (2024).
- Adrien K. Wing, *America 2050: Lessons from Apartheid*, in Global Systemic Racism (Kirsten Barnes et al eds., NYU, forthcoming 2025).
- Adrien K. Wing, *Human Rights, COVID, Global Critical Race Feminism*, in Race, Racism, and International Law 173 (Justin Desautels-Stein et al eds., Stanford, 2025).
- Adrien K. Wing, *The Woman in International Law: Global Critical Race Feminism*, in Oxford Handbook on Women and International Law (Nienke Grossman et al eds., Oxford, forthcoming 2025).
- Adrien K. Wing, *Proposed Updates to ABA Standards on Distance/Remote Education*, 78 Arkansas Law Review 299 (2025).
- Adrien K. Wing, *Global Race Women*, 7 Temple Journal International and Comparative Law (forthcoming 2025).
- Adrien K. Wing, *Prologue*, in Emancipating International Law: Confronting the Violence of Racialised Boundaries (Mohsen al Attar et al eds., Oxford University Press, forthcoming 2025).
- Brian R. Farrell, Daria Fisher Page, & Ryan Sakoda, *Theorizing Legal Vulnerability to Enhance Rural Access to Justice*, 69 South Dakota Law Review 458 (2024).
- Brian R. Farrell & Daria Fisher Page, *Observations on Indigent Defense Systems and the Rural Practice Ecosystem*, Drake Law Review (forthcoming 2025).
- Story, W.T., Afifi, R.A., Clayden, A., Hatungimana, D., Ikoba, B., Mahanna, A., Ottman, K., Sharer, M., Stoner-Harris, T., Weismann, A., & Kohrt, B.A. *Feasibility of Problem Management Plus to Improve Refugee Psychological Support in the U.S. Midwest*, Health Education and Behavior (forthcoming).



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## Spotlight: Burns Weston Internship Funding

### Awardee: Maya Jalukar



As a kid, my “dream job” changed over the years, but one goal was consistent. I wanted to help people. That goal shifted from medicine, to research, and while I was an undergraduate at Iowa, I settled on advocacy. How I would advocate for others was a question I was still unsure about until I began taking courses through the Center for Human Rights. “Human Rights Lawyer” became not just a dream job, but my career aspiration. One course specific to refugee rights particularly piqued my interest, as I have always felt strongly about immigrant rights and forced migration. As I have navigated law school, that interest and passion has narrowed into a career practicing immigration law.

This summer I was lucky to intern with Tapestry Farms, a refugee support organization based in Davenport, Iowa. Tapestry Farms provides social and legal services to refugee families living in the Quad Cities area, aiding with food, housing, medical care, transportation, and navigating the complex legal system for green cards, work permits, and citizenship.

During my summer, I had the opportunity to work directly with refugee families, gaining valuable experience with direct client relationships. My time conducting client interviews honed my communication skills, especially with a language barrier and limited access to interpretation services. I also worked on green card applications, work authorization documents, and naturalization applications. I navigated how to talk through often difficult subjects in an individual’s history in a safe and respectful manner. I also learned how to navigate client relationships that were sometimes uncomfortable or difficult, while still maintaining respect for both the client and myself.

The most rewarding and impactful part of my internship was getting to interact with the family who was directly affected by my work. The joy in a green card or citizenship signing meeting is unmatched.

My client-facing skills have improved immensely thanks to my time at Tapestry Farms. I look forward to using those skills to engage in advocacy for refugees and asylum seekers this time next year, upon passage of the bar exam. I am eternally grateful to the University of Center for Human Rights, for their guidance, support, and incredible work to promote human rights education. I am equally grateful to the Weston Summer Internship Funding Program, as its support allowed me to prioritize my passion for advocacy and work at a non-profit over the summer.

# 25 YEARS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IMPACT

## THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA CENTER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS CELEBRATES A QUARTER CENTURY OF MAKING A VITAL DIFFERENCE

**I**n a world facing ongoing conflicts and critical human rights concerns, the University of Iowa Center for Human Rights (UICHR) is key in educating and advocating for human rights at local, state, and global levels.

For the past 25 years, the UICHR has played a vital role in educating students and the broader public, as well as fostering scholarship around these pressing issues. The center was originally conceived by a dedicated group led by Professor Burns Weston and began with "Global Focus: Human Rights '98." This initiative commemorated the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and featured lectures from Nobel Laureates such as South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

The UICHR's interdisciplinary focus connects faculty and educates students across the University of Iowa. Since 2013, it has been a unit of the College of Law, enhancing its role as a hub for human rights education statewide. Under the leadership of Associate Dean Adrien Wing, six staff members contribute to the center's work, including two Iowa Law alumni—Professors Brian Farrell (98JD) and Amy Weismann (00JD).

Education is central to the center's mission. It offers undergraduate courses in human rights and administers the UI Human Rights Certificate, the only undergraduate

credential awarded by the College of Law. The certificate program recently reached an all-time high of 77 declared students from various majors. Many certificate students aspire to legal careers and often apply to law schools nationwide, including Iowa Law.

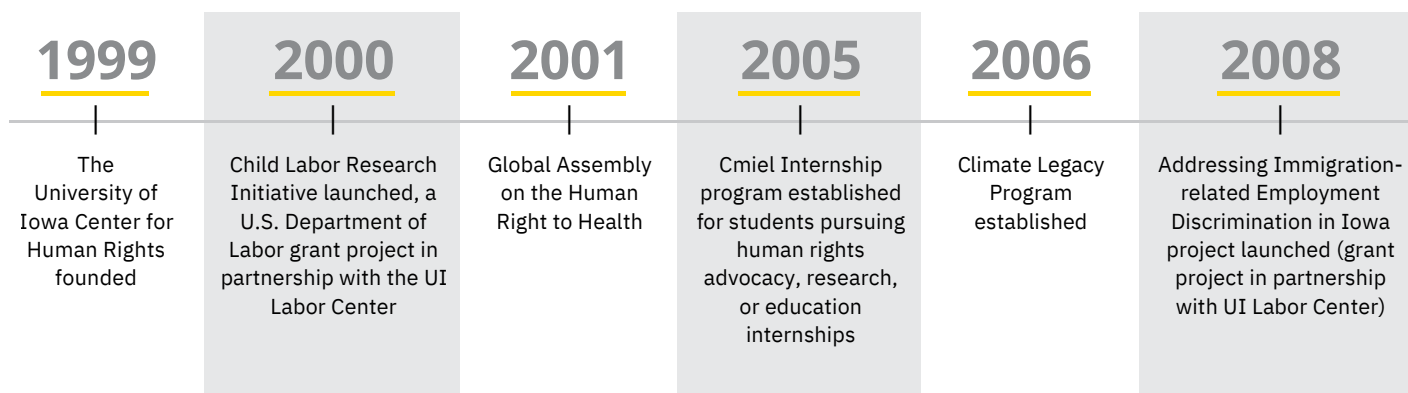
The UICHR is also a catalyst for research and scholarship. Its early projects, such as a federally funded major child labor initiative, set a high standard for impactful work. More recently, research assistants have conducted research on international human rights, international humanitarian law, and international criminal law, including the conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh. The center routinely hosts scholarly conferences and is a co-organizer of the annual Iowa Human Rights Research Conference, which features presentations from students across Iowa. The 2024 conference, hosted at the Boyd Law Building, attracted over 125 registered attendees.

Additionally, the center furthers the College of Law's mission of public service. Its public programs reach thousands annually. In 2022, the UICHR began administering a federal grant to establish the Afghan Legal League of Iowa, which provides legal services to Afghan nationals in Iowa.

As the UICHR celebrates its 25th anniversary, it remains dedicated to its mission while looking to the future.

**To learn more, visit [uichr.uiowa.edu](http://uichr.uiowa.edu).**

## MILESTONES IN UICHR HISTORY





Above: UICHR founder Burns Weston (third from left), with the organization's early board members. Left: Nobel Laureate Archbishop Desmond Tutu, UICHR director Adrien Wing, and former University of Iowa President Mary Sue Coleman, during the archbishop's 1999 campus visit.

The UICHR's interdisciplinary focus connects faculty and educates students across the University of Iowa. Since 2013, it has been a unit of the College of Law, enhancing its role as a hub for human rights education statewide.

**2009**

Courage of Conviction Award initiated

**2011**

UI Certificate in Human Rights established for undergraduate students

**2013**

UICHR became a unit of the College of Law

**2014**

Iowa Network of Human Rights Academics established

**2017**

Addressing Mental Health Care Challenges of Immigrants and Refugees project launched, a grant project in partnership with UI College of Public Health

**2022**

ALL Iowa project established, a \$1.5M grant project from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Iowa Bureau of Refugee Services, and several partners around the state, including Drake Law School Refugee Clinic, Iowa Migrant Movement for Justice, Catholic Charities, and Iowa Law Legal Clinic





To commemorate Global Focus' role in UICHR's founding, Academic Advisor, Jo Butterfield, drew on her training as a historian to locate and organize a wide range of sources and UICHR archival materials. Stitching together interviews, meeting minutes, event advertisements, internet archive resources, voluminous correspondence, videos, press reports, and photos, Jo and Rex Honey intern Tanae Thiravong curated a museum exhibit displayed in the Old Capitol Building's rotunda during the Human Rights Day celebration. The exhibit emphasized the role of Global Focus in institutionalizing a dedication to human rights education on the UI campus. It featured materials highlighting

the synergistic collaboration of community leaders, the centrality of literature and the arts in understanding the experience of human rights violations as well as the necessity of those working to mitigate suffering, the importance of committed, visionary university leadership in fostering ambitious inter-disciplinary work and transformative education. Former Iowa Law Dean William Hines and long-serving UICHR advisory board members, Maureen McCue, Greg Hamot, Joan Nashelsky, and Gina Crosheck shared memories and materials. UI law librarian Amy Koopman offered key assistance in locating sources and UI Pentacrest Museums Director, Liz Crooks, offered space and her valuable critical expertise in making the exhibit a success.

## Global Focus closes Nobel year with noble plan

Members of the Global Focus series will pursue the creation of a Human Rights Center for the UI.

By Quinn O'Keefe  
The Daily Iowan

Organizers of the Global Focus Lecture Series say that although the series has officially ended, they intend to continue pursuing human-rights advocacy at the UI.

A Human Rights Center embodying the same ideals as the Global Focus series is being set up by lecture series organizer Burns Weston, a UI professor of law, and members of the Global Focus Committee.

If approved by the UI, the center would serve as a human-rights information clearinghouse on campus. Among other things, it would bring human-rights speakers to Iowa City, house human-rights scholars, and organize events that would raise the awareness of human rights.

The purpose of the project is that the awareness of human rights at the UI will not end with the Global Focus series, Weston said.

"I listened to continue to have an impact in the center and human rights," he said. "Even though I am

retiring from the classroom, I am going to be based here in Iowa City and will be very involved in making certain things like Global Focus happen.

Members of the Global Focus Committee will pitch the idea for the center to the UI in two weeks, said Rex Honey, co-chairman of the Global Studies Program and an associate professor of geography.

"It is difficult to plan and put a price tag on something like this center, because we are not sure on funding and how much longer Weston will be able to work with us on the project," said Honey, who added that the location of the planned center is undetermined. Weston, who is retiring from teaching next semester, organized the Global Focus series as a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which Weston labels the most important document of this half of the century.

The series, which brought to the UI four Nobel Peace Prize winners and more than 20 prominent human rights activists, ended on a somewhat low note this spring, when the three final lecturers—Nobel Peace Prize winner John Hume, author Susan Sontag and international lawyer Chidi Odinkalu—

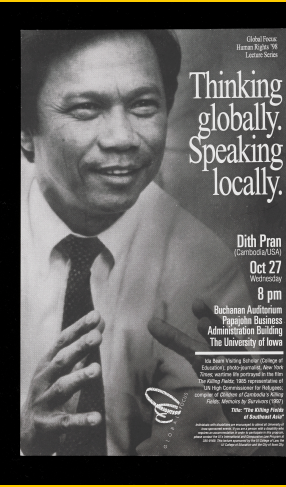
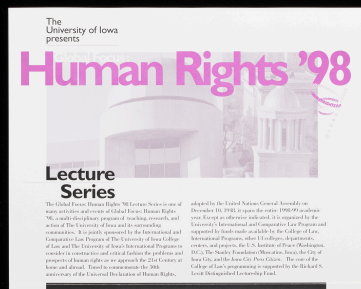
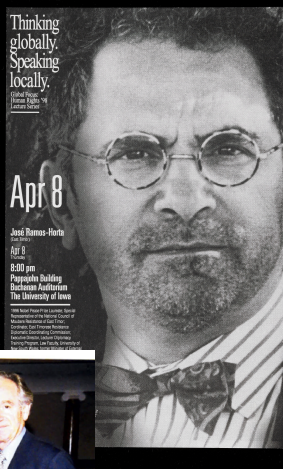
**Elie Wiesel**  
Holocaust survivor and Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel spoke to a crowd of about 3,000 on Oct. 14 at Hancher Auditorium. He discussed the crises in Kosovo from a human rights perspective and the power of individuals to make a difference.



**Rigoberta Menchú Tum**  
Guatemalan author, Nobel laureate and indigenous rights activist Rigoberta Menchú Tum spoke to a crowd of about 1,000 on Nov. 12 at Macbride Auditorium. She discussed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and urged people to help victims of Hurricane Mitch.



**Desmond Tutu**  
South African Archbishop, human rights advocate and Nobel laureate Desmond Tutu spoke to a crowd of about 4,000 on Feb. 8 at Carver Hawkeye Arena. He lectured on conditions in South Africa before the end of apartheid and the country's current path toward reconciliation.



## HUMAN '98 RIGHTS

On the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Adoption of The Universal Declaration of Human Rights

*He sees the leaves fly free.  
She sees the wild horse and the prairie.  
Free to labor, to converse with their kind, to choose or be chosen.  
He sees them fold and feeding, mindful of the season.  
She hears the continents shifting, he smells the air of change.  
He tastes the wind-borne soot of rebirth.  
She feels the human cry in her bones.*

*What can they do to gain our attention?  
Shall he dance, shall he spin in the air, shall he sing with his voice, with his dance,  
with the shells of his burning ear?  
Shall he tell the world to hear the world's cry?  
Shall the number the bodies, the prisons, the graves, shall he mark the graves,  
display the bloody shackles?  
How many pairs of disembodied heads will he tell?  
How many detached hands and feet?  
How many hollow cheeks, empty stomachs, vacant eyes?  
How many skulls without memory?  
He has been there, he has seen it, they have lived and died a long time.  
He has something to say about who did what.  
She has something to say about the living.  
Let history know the murmurs of conscience that are heard above ground.  
Let praise flow to those who unleashed a fist.  
Who granted men and women the freedom of the sparrow.  
Who taught us to think twice.  
Who taught us that justice is not a fist.  
That scale is the last step.  
That the rights of the few must be written down by the many.*

*She sees the leaves fly free.  
He sees the wild horse and the prairie.  
Free to labor, to converse with their kind, to choose or be chosen.  
She sees them fold and feeding, mindful of the season.  
He hears the continents shifting, he smells the air of change.  
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He feels the human cry in his bones.*

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Marjorie Bell, the University of Iowa Professor of English in the English Department, presented the poem in honor of the 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights at the Human Rights '98 Lecture Series on Oct. 14 at Hancher Auditorium.



## UI sets up human rights center

Organizers plan to welcome foreign scholars

By Erick Wiegman  
The Press-Scimitar

A new center recently was established at the University of Iowa, The University of Iowa Center for Human Rights is an outgrowth of last year's lecture series on human rights that brought a number of leading human rights advocates and scholars, such as Bishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa, to speak in Iowa City.

Last year's lecture series was organized by Professor Burns Weston, who has since retired from the UI College of Law. Burns has been a key player in the establishment of the center, together with UI journalism Professor Ken Stauck.

Others in the steering committee for the human rights project include Paul Renda, director of the Office of International Education, and geography Professor Rex Honey.

"We have a large number of scholars on campus who are doing research on human rights. The center will be a catalyst for those of us who are interested in this kind of work," Honey said.

"Iowa is a good place to do this kind of thing because of its history. The freed and runaway slaves were offered sanctuary here. There are also a number of refugees in Iowa."

Renda said that the center would eventually teach a human rights course at UI. He said the center would continue to bring scholars and human

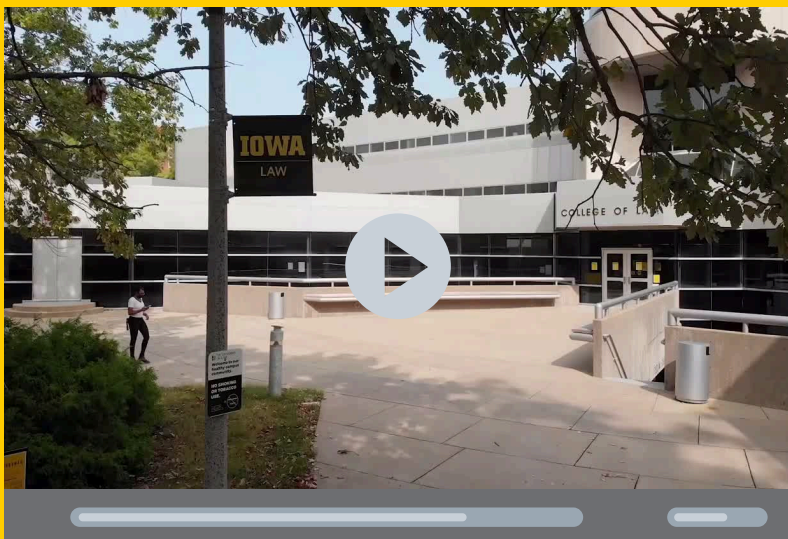
rights advocates to speak on campus. Renda said that the Steering Committee is inviting people to be on an advisory committee.





# UICHR@25

The Center marked its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary with two signature events. On December 10, 2024, Director Adrien Wing delivered the Center's annual Human Rights Day lecture in the Old Capitol Museum's Senate Chamber. University of Iowa President Barb Wilson and College of Law Dean Kevin Washburn offered remarks. On April 27, 2025, the Center hosted an anniversary celebration and fundraiser at Walker Homestead outside of Iowa City featuring music by local band HomeBrewed.





## ACADEMIC CONFERENCES, TRAININGS, AND SPECIAL EVENTS

### 2025 Iowa Human Rights Research Conference

The Iowa Network of Human Rights Academics and UICHR organized the annual Iowa Human Rights Research Conference on April 12, 2025, at the University of Northern Iowa in Cedar Falls. Twenty-five undergraduate, graduate, and professional students from institutions across the region presented projects on a variety of human rights topics. Over 75 people attended the conference, including students and faculty members representing nearly 20 different colleges and universities.

*Participants at the 2025 Iowa Human Rights Research Conference*



*ABOVE: Harper Dunne  
BELOW: Aisha Suleiman*



### Burns H. Weston Human Rights Essay Prizes

Students from across the state were invited to submit papers for consideration by a faculty and advisory board selection committee recognizing outstanding undergraduate and graduate student essays in promotion of human rights.

This year the committee awarded the undergraduate prize to **Harper Dunne** of the University of Iowa for her essay, "An Ethnographic Program Evaluation of a Health and Wellbeing Intervention for Latina Immigrants in Iowa City." The selection committee was impressed by the original, meaningful research and impeccable presentation.

The graduate prize was awarded to UI SJD student **Aisha M. Suleiman, Esq.** for her essay, "Women and Girls' Education in Northern Nigeria: The Comparative Constitutionality of Regulating Religious Preaching in Nigeria and the United States." Upon receiving the notification, Suleiman noted: "This award will significantly support the completion of my dissertation and commitment to advancing a just society."

The Center is fortunate to have had both Human Rights Certificate faculty Stefanie Bowers, John McKerley, and Aaron Page and UICHR advisory board members Dave Leshtz, Joan Nashelsky, and Mazahir Salih give generously of their time to read, review, discuss, and select students to receive awards for both the summer internship funding programs and the essay prize.

## ACADEMIC CONFERENCES, TRAININGS, AND SPECIAL EVENTS


### 2025 Courage of Conviction Award and Scholars At Risk Visit

In February, UICHR recognized the critical contributions of Scholars at Risk (SAR), a network of over 650 higher education institutions which collectively engage in the promotion and protection of academic freedom, by conferring the Courage of Conviction Award. The Courage of Conviction Award is presented occasionally by the Center for Human Rights to honor an individual or organization possessing extraordinary commitment to the protection of human dignity and the advancement of human rights. For over 25 years, SAR has worked to protect scholars suffering grave threats by arranging temporary research and teaching positions at institutions in its global network. The University of Iowa has been a network member since SAR's founding. UICHR has participated in SAR's the Student Advocacy Seminar Program for over ten years.


**"SAR has established innovative initiatives to identify, document, and take action in response to attacks on academic freedom. SAR not only advocates on behalf of scholars imprisoned for their expression and scholarship, but has led a global movement to realize academic freedom as a human right by utilizing international legal processes and engaging students around the world in research and advocacy. SAR now serves as a vital hub for documentation, monitoring, and reporting on state threats to academic freedom around the world, enabling civil society to address these threats and for international solidarity in the service of knowledge and truth to grow."** -Adrien Wing

### A Conversation with Scholars At Risk


Recipient of the Courage of Conviction Award



**Professor Christopher Merrill**  
Moderator  
The University of Iowa



**Clare Farne Robinson**  
Director of Advocacy Programs  
Scholars at Risk




**Adam Braver**  
Student Advocacy Seminar Coordinator  
Scholars at Risk


**Wednesday, March 5, 2025; 4:00 to 5:00 pm CST**  
**Old Capitol Museum Senate Chamber at the University of Iowa**

Join faculty, students and staff from across campus to recognize the work of  
Scholars at Risk to protect and promote academic freedom worldwide.

This event will be closed captioned. Individuals with disabilities are encouraged to attend all University of Iowa-sponsored events. If you are a person with a disability who requires a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in this program, please contact UICHR in advance at [uicr@uiowa.edu](mailto:uicr@uiowa.edu).



**IOWA** Center for Human Rights  
Obermann Center for Advanced Studies





### A Conversation with Scholars At Risk

On March 5, Christopher Merrill, Director of the International Writing Program led a public conversation about the work of **Scholars at Risk** to protect and promote academic freedom worldwide. SAR staff representatives Clare Farne Robinson (Director of Advocacy Programs) and Adam Braver (Student Advocacy Seminar Coordinator and Author) provided remarks on the current state of academic freedom globally, the evolving definition and implementation framework for academic freedom within international law and policy, and the growing international movement to recognize academic freedom as a human right, as well as and the important role of students in university communities worldwide in realizing academic freedom and raising awareness on behalf of scholars who are targeted by state actors.

# ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

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# GRANT PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

## Providing Legal Services for Afghans in Iowa (ALL Iowa)

UICHR is coordinating a state-wide collaboration with the Iowa Bureau of Refugee Services, the University of Iowa Legal Clinic, the Drake Law School Legal Clinic, Iowa Migrant Movement for Justice, and Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Dubuque-Cedar Rapids office (a partner organization as of fall 2023), to facilitate and provide immigration legal services to Afghans admitted into the United States as humanitarian parolees since August of 2021. The partnership seeks to identify and promote best practices in this area, recruit and train pro and low bono legal service providers, and to engage students in providing legal services to refugees.

With support from the federal Office of Refugee Resettlement and the state Bureau of Refugee Services, the partnership has served more than 1,000 Afghans in Iowa so far. Activities have included: clinics in Des Moines and Cedar Rapids to help Afghans apply for Temporary Protected Status and family reunification; trainings for attorneys to represent Afghans on a pro bono basis; hiring of Afghan interpretation staff; supporting certification of Afghan staff to become DOJ Accredited Representatives; implementation of a Virtual Help Desk to support Afghans representing themselves pro se; as well as direct representation of Afghans applying for asylum. The project received an additional allocation of \$1.5 million this year to sustain the work through September 2026 and to add legal services for Ukrainians.

Additional information can be found at the initiative's website: [www.alliowa.org](http://www.alliowa.org).



## Promoting Culturally Appropriate Care for New Iowans

A team of researchers, including UICHR Assistant Director Amy Weismann, successfully completed a multi-year intervention study, undertaking a needs assessment in refugee communities followed by a training series to pilot use of Problem Management Plus (PM+). PM+, developed by the World Health Organization, is an innovative intervention to promote mental health in low resource settings.

As a result of this successful effort, the Iowa Bureau of Refugee Services supported an additional implementation phase of the project to "scale up" the work and engage communities throughout Iowa in PM+ trainings.

Project staff with faculty from the New School of Social Research and George Washington University completed outreach to resettlement agencies and healthcare providers and organized a train-the-trainers event for recruited staff members from these agencies and a helpers training for members of refugee communities. UICHR has developed a human right to mental healthcare short course that will be offered to supervisors and helpers as a continuing education offering.

In Summer 2025, Amy and project staff member Rania Suleiman will implement a workshop for peer helpers working in the PM+ program across Iowa based on this short course. Project staff and collaborators have also recently submitted a paper for publication documenting this intervention, data from participants, and lessons learned.

**Supporting our Afghan Neighbors: Education and Legal Services through ALL Iowa**




Panel Presentation featuring UI Clinical Professor Bram Elias and students in the UI Clinical Law Program

**Wednesday, April 23, 2025 at 6:30 pm**  
**in Film Scene (Chauncey)**

Followed by a screening of "The Kite Runner" with a Student Networking Reception to follow the film

Clinical Professor  
Bram Elias

Individuals with disabilities are encouraged to attend all University of Iowa sponsored events. If you are a person with a disability who requires a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in this program, please contact UICHR in advance at [uic@uiowa.edu](mailto:uic@uiowa.edu).

## PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT: PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

The 2024-25 academic year marked the fifth year that UICHR has provided webinar programming, which was initiated in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. Since the summer of 2025, UICHR videos and events have enjoyed a viewership of over 30,000. This year, the Center organized and hosted a spring and fall webinar series as well as several other events both virtually and in-person that drew on expertise locally and from across the globe. See the Activities List at the end of this report for a full listing of events.

**The spring series “From Conflict to Lasting Peace: The Role of Human Rights”** featured three webinars that examined the current status of international law, pressing crises, and advocacy strategies directed at advancing the promotion and protection of human rights in the aftermath of mass violence.

- **Mitigating Conflict & Ending Hostilities**
- **Transitional Justice & Accountability**
- **Law, Policy, and Practice of Sustaining Peace**

UICHR Spring 2025 Webinar Series “From Conflict to Lasting Peace: The Role of Human Rights”  
**Transitional Justice and Accountability**  
Wednesday, March 26, 2025; 12:00 to 1:00 pm CST  
Zoom ID: 966 0630 6121



**Michael Reed-Hurtado**  
Georgetown University

**Adrien K. Wing**  
The University of Iowa

**Ambassador Stephen Rapp**  
Former US Ambassador at large for global criminal justice

**Michelle Jarvis**  
Deputy Head, IHL Syria, UN

This webinar will examine the opportunities and challenges of various transitional justice models.

This event will be closed captioned. Individuals with disabilities are encouraged to attend all University of Iowa-sponsored events. If you are a person with a disability who requires a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in this program, please contact UICHR in advance at [uicr@uiowa.edu](mailto:uicr@uiowa.edu).



**IOWA**  
Center for Human Rights

## How Healers Became Killers: Physicians & Medical Crimes in Nazi Germany

On October 17, Dr. Patricia Heberer Rice from the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum discussed the role of physicians in the perpetration of crimes during the Holocaust. The event was organized by the UI Center for Human Rights and US Holocaust Memorial Museum with support from Pentacrest Museums, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and International Programs & the Stanley-UI Foundation Support Organization.

UICHR Fall 2024 Webinar Series “Industrial Agriculture: Impacts, Advocacy, and Community”  
**Legal Advocacy and Environmental Litigation: From North Carolina to Iowa**  
Wednesday, October 16, 2024; 12:00 to 1:00 pm CST  
Zoom ID: 977 5557 6923



Moderated by  
**Shannon Roessler**  
The University of Iowa

**Mona Lisa Wallace**  
Wallace & Graham, P.A.  
Salisbury, NC

**Michael Schmidt**  
Iowa Environmental Council

**John Lande**  
Dickinson Bradshaw Law Firm  
Des Moines, IA

This event will be closed captioned. Individuals with disabilities are encouraged to attend all University of Iowa-sponsored events. If you are a person with a disability who requires a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in this program, please contact UICHR in advance at [uicr@uiowa.edu](mailto:uicr@uiowa.edu).



**IOWA** Center for Human Rights  
Hubbell Environmental Law Initiative

**The fall webinar series, “Industrial Agriculture: Impacts, Advocacy, and Community”** was co-sponsored by the Hubbell Environmental Law Initiative (HELI). It featured three webinars that explored an array of issues related to industrial agriculture and its impact on health, the environment, work place safety, and our communities.

- **Industrial Animal Agriculture: Impacts on the Environment, Communities, and Health**
- **Legal Advocacy and Environmental Litigation: From North Carolina to Iowa**
- **Agricultural Workers and Extreme Heat: OSHA’s Proposed Heat Safety Rule**


**LAWYERS & LEADERS**

**HOW HEALERS BECAME KILLERS: PHYSICIANS & MEDICAL CRIMES IN NAZI GERMANY**


**DR. PATRICIA HEBERER RICE**  
U.S. HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2024**  
3:30PM TO 4:30PM  
OLD CAPITOL MUSEUM, SENATE CHAMBER

Sponsored by: Center for Human Rights, Pentacrest Museums, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, and International Programs



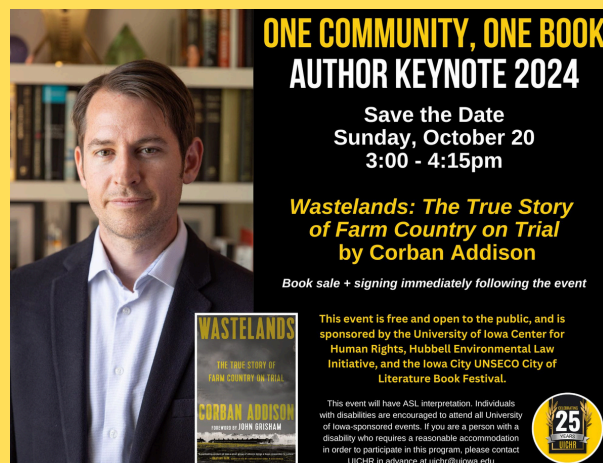
This event will have ASL. Individuals with disabilities are encouraged to attend all University of Iowa-sponsored events. If you are a person with a disability who requires a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in this program, please contact UICHR in advance at [uicr@uiowa.edu](mailto:uicr@uiowa.edu).



**IOWA** UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM

## PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT: ONE COMMUNITY, ONE BOOK

The 2024 One Community, One Book selection was *Wastelands: The True Story of Farm Country on Trial* by Corban Addison. UICHR and the Hubbell Environmental Law Initiative (HELI), with support from the Iowa City UNESCO City of Literature, and many generous campus and community partners, brought Mr. Addison to campus for a series of engaging live events. Numerous book discussions were held throughout the community, and Mr. Addison participated in a reading and fireside chat on Sunday, October 20. This event was free and open to the public and was sponsored by the Center, HELI, and the Iowa City Book Festival. The audience was invited to ask questions, and a book sale was provided by Prairie Lights with an author book signing.



### 2025 One Community, One Book Selection

*They Don't Want Her There: Fighting Sexual and Racial Harassment in the American University* by Carolyn Chalmers. The book is a retelling and an examination of Jean Jew's landmark sexual and racial harassment lawsuit against the University of Iowa.

This year's selection builds on an April 10<sup>th</sup> event when UICHR, along with the Organization of Women Law Students & Staff, Women of Color Collective, and the University of Iowa Retirees Association hosted a discussion of the book. Director Adrien Wing facilitated an in-person conversation with Carolyn Chalmers and Jean Jew with a standing room only crowd.

An event with the author will take place on November 10<sup>th</sup>. Visit the UICHR website for more details.



THEY DON'T  
WANT HER  
THERE **FIGHTING  
SEXUAL AND  
RACIAL  
HARASSMENT** IN THE  
AMERICAN  
UNIVERSITY  
CAROLYN CHALMERS



# FULL LIST OF CENTER ACTIVITIES 2024-25

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- 1.) May 10, 2024: "Actual Innocence and Human Rights Law," presenter Brian Farrell; ASIL-Midwest Works-in-Progress Workshop; via Zoom (UICHR staff-engaged event).
- 2.) June 8, 2024: "A Legal Vulnerability Index to Guide Access to Justice Interventions," presenters Daria Fisher Page, UI College of Law; Ryan Sakoda, UI College of Law; and Brian Farrell, UI College of Law; Law & Society Association Annual Meeting; Denver, CO (UICHR staff-engaged event).
- 3.) July 10, 2024: "Ten Years Too Long: Making the Flint Water Crisis Public Archive," panelists Louise Seamster; Claire McClinton; Audrey McFarlane; via Zoom; 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. (UICHR organized event).
- 4.) August 25, 2024: "Global Critical Race Feminism in a Tumultuous World," speaker Adrien K. Wing; Karamah; via Zoom (UICHR staff-engaged event).
- 5.) September 18, 2024: "Industrial Animal Agriculture: Impacts on the Environment, Communities, and Health," Bill Hines, UI College of Law; Silvia Secchi, Department of Geographical and Sustainability Science; Sherri White-Williamson, retired, US EPA; via Zoom; 1:30 – 2:30 p.m. (UICHR organized event).
- 6.) September 19 – 20, 2024: "The Economic Impacts of Climate Change: Iowa Law Review 2024 Symposium," UI College of Law (a UICHR cosponsored event with the Hubbell Environmental Law Initiative, the Classical Liberal Institute at NYU Law School, and the Iowa Law Review).
- 7.) September 20, 2024: "Proposed Updates to ABA Standards on Distance/Remote Education," speaker Adrien K. Wing; Arkansas Law Review; Fayetteville, AR (UICHR staff-engaged event).
- 8.) October 10, 2024: "Gender Justice: The Way Forward," speaker Adrien K. Wing; Open Society Justice Initiative; New York, NY (UICHR staff-engaged event).
- 9.) October 15, 2024: One Community One Book Student Book Club; UI College of Law; 12:45 – 1:45 p.m. (UICHR organized event).
- 10.) October 16, 2024: "Industrial Agriculture: Legal Advocacy and Environmental Litigation: From North Carolina to Iowa," moderated by Shannon Roesler, UI College of Law; panelists Mona Lisa Wallace, Wallace & Graham, P.A.; Michael Schmidt, Iowa Environmental Council; John Lande, Dickinson Bradshaw Law Firm; via Zoom; 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. (UICHR organized event).
- 11.) October 17, 2024: "Eugenics & the Medical Profession in Nazi Germany," speaker Dr. Patricia Heberer Rice; Carver Biomedical Research Building, 1289 – Kelch Conference Room; 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. (UICHR co-organized event with Carver College of Medicine, and US Holocaust Memorial Museum with support from the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, and International Programs & the Stanley-UI Foundation Support Organization).
- 12.) October 17, 2024: "Bringing Human Rights Home: How a Law School Clinic Worked to Close a Supermax Prison," speaker Hope Metcalf; Boyd Law Building, room 125; 12:40 – 1:40 p.m. (UICHR organized event).
- 13.) October 17, 2024: "How Healers Became Killers: Physicians & Medical Crimes in Nazi Germany," speaker Dr. Patricia Heberer Rice, US Holocaust Memorial Museum; Old Capitol Museum's Senate Chamber; 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. (UICHR co-organized event with US Holocaust Memorial and support from Pentacrest Museums, the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, and International Programs & the Stanley-UI Foundation Support Organization).
- 14.) October 18, 2024: "Ethical Issues in Rural Deserts," panelist Brian Farrell; Baum Symposium on Ethics in the Legal Profession; Drake University Law School; Des Moines, IA (UICHR staff-engaged event).
- 15.) October 20, 2024: "Wastelands: The True Story of Farm Country on Trial," moderated by Shannon Roesler; speaker Corban Addison; One Community, One Book; Old Brick, Iowa City, IA; 3:00 – 4:15 p.m. (UICHR co-organized event with Hubbell Environmental Law Initiative and the Iowa City Book Festival).

- 16.) October 30, 2024: "What Wrongful Convictions Reveal About the Criminal Legal System," speaker Brian Farrell; University of Northern Iowa; Cedar Falls, IA (UICHR staff-engaged event).
- 17.) November 13, 2024: "Industrial Agriculture: Agricultural Workers and Extreme Heat: OSHA's Proposed Heat Safety Rule," panelists Paul Iverson, UI Labor Center; Debbie Berkowitz, Kalmanovitz Initiative for Labor and the Working Poor, Georgetown University; Amanda Villa, UFW Foundation; via Zoom; 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. (UICHR organized event).
- 18.) November 15, 2024: "A Legal Vulnerability Index to Guide Access to Justice Interventions," presenters Brian Farrell, UI College of Law; Daria Fisher Page, UI College of Law; and Ryan Sakoda, UI College of Law; Law & Rurality Workshop; University of Iowa; Iowa City (UICHR staff-engaged event).
- 19.) November 15, 2024: Law & Rurality Workshop; University of Iowa, Iowa City (UICHR event co-hosted with Rural Reconciliation Center, UI College of Law, and Hubbell Environmental Law Initiative).
- 20.) November 15, 2024: "International Criminal Law Mechanisms," speaker Adrien K. Wing; American Society of International Law; University of Chicago; Chicago, IL (UICHR staff-engaged event).
- 21.) November 16, 2024: "Closing Remarks," speaker Adrien K. Wing; National Black Pre-Law conference; New York, NY (UICHR staff-engaged event).
- 22.) November 19, 2024: "Wrongful Convictions and Human Rights Law," speaker Brian Farrell; Students for Human Rights at Iowa; University of Iowa; Iowa City (UICHR staff-engaged event).
- 23.) December 10, 2024: Human Rights Day Lecture; introductory remarks UI President Barbara Wilson; speaker Adrien K. Wing; Old Capitol Museum's Senate Chambers, Iowa City, IA; 5:00 p.m. (UICHR organized event).
- 24.) January 24, 2025: "The Lawyer's Role in Combating Injustice: A Call to Action for Future Attorneys," speaker Melvin Shaw, President, Iowa State Bar Association; Martin Luther King Jr. Lecture; 235 Boyd Law Building; 12:45 – 1:45 pm (UICHR co-organized event with College of Law and BLSA).
- 25.) January 31, 2025: "Balancing Principle and Practicality," facilitator Brian Farrell; Plains Regional Programming Meeting; U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum; via Zoom (UICHR staff-engaged event).
- 26.) January 31, 2025: "Global Race Women," speaker Adrien K. Wing; Temple International & Comparative Law Journal; Philadelphia, PA (UICHR staff-engaged event).
- 27.) February 3, 2025: "Antiracism in Law School and the Legal Profession: A Praxis Approach," speaker Dean Danielle Conway, Pennsylvania State Dickinson Law School; Black History Month Speaker; 235 BLB; 12:45 – 1:45 p.m. (UICHR co-organized event with College of Law).
- 28.) February 6, 2025: "Human Oneness," speaker Adrien K. Wing; New York University; New York, NY (staff engaged event).
- 29.) February 12, 2025: "Critical Race Theory, Intersectionality: To Exist or Not," speaker Adrien K. Wing; McGill University Law School; Montreal, Canada (UICHR staff-engaged event).
- 30.) February 13, 2025: "How World War II Changed International Law," speaker Brian Farrell; Accountability, War Crimes and Justice; University of Iowa; Iowa City, IA (UICHR staff-engaged event).
31. February 19, 2025: "From Conflict to Lasting Peace: The Role of Human Rights: Mitigating Conflict & Ending Hostilities," moderated by Brian Farrell, UICHR Associate Director; panelists Ambassador Ronald K. McMullen, University of Iowa; Professor Sara McLaughlin Mitchell, University of Iowa; via Zoom; 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. (UICHR organized event).
- 32.) March 5, 2025: A Conversation with Scholars At Risk: Recipient of the Courage of Conviction Award; SAR staff representatives Clare Farne Robinson, Director of Advocacy Programs; Adam Braver, Student Advocacy Seminar Coordinator and Author; Christopher Merrill, University of Iowa, International Writing Program; Old Capitol Museum's Senate Chamber; 4:00 p.m. (UICHR cosponsored with the Obermann Center).



- 33.) March 21, 2025: "Black Lawyers," speaker Adrien K. Wing; National Bar Association; Des Moines, IA (UICHR staff-engaged event).
- 34.) March 24, 2025: "Assisting the Founding Mothers and Fathers in Constitution Making: South Africa & Rwanda," speaker Adrien K. Wing; University of Richmond Law School; via Zoom; (UICHR staff-engaged event).
- 35.) March 26, 2025: "From Conflict to Lasting Peace: The Role of Human Rights: Transitional Justice and Accountability," moderated by Jo Butterfield, UICHR; panelists Michael Reed-Hurtado, Georgetown University; Adrien K. Wing, University of Iowa; Stephen Rapp, Former US Ambassador for Global Criminal Justice; Michelle Jarvis, ILM-Syria, United Nations; via Zoom; Noon – 1:00 p.m. (UICHR organized event).
- 36.) March 28, 2025: "Assisting the Founding Mothers and Fathers in Constitution Making: South Africa, Rwanda, and Palestine," speaker Adrien K. Wing; McGill Law School; Montreal, Quebec; via Zoom; (UICHR staff-engaged event).
- 37.) April 3 – 4, 2025: "Artificial Intelligence & International Humanitarian Law," Transnational Law & Contemporary Problems 2025 Symposium; University of Iowa College of Law (UICHR cosponsored event with Transnational Law & Contemporary Problems & Philosophy Department).
- 38.) April 4, 2025: "Closing Remarks: Artificial Intelligence & International Humanitarian Law," speaker Adrien K. Wing; Transnational Law & Contemporary Problems 2025 Symposium; University of Iowa College of Law (UICHR cosponsored event with Transnational Law & Contemporary Problems & Philosophy Department).
- 39.) April 5, 2025: "Black Alumni conference remarks," speaker Adrien K. Wing; University of Iowa (UICHR staff-engaged event).
- 40.) April 10, 2025: "They Don't Want Her There: Fighting Racial & Sexual Harassment in the American University," speakers Dr. Jean Jew and Attorney Carolyn Chalmers; 235 BLB; 12:45 – 1:45 p.m. (UICHR co-organized event with OWLSS, WOCC).
- 41.) April 12, 2025: Iowa Human Rights Research Conference; University of Northern Iowa; Cedar Falls, IA; 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (UICHR co-organized event with Iowa Network of Human Rights Academics).
- 42.) April 23, 2025: "Supporting our Afghan Neighbors: Education and Legal Services through ALL Iowa," panel presentation by Professor Bram Elias and UI Clinical Law Students following a screening of *The Kite Runner*; FilmScene; Iowa City, IA; 6:30 p.m. (UICHR co-organized event with Students for Human Rights at Iowa and FilmScene).
- 43.) April 27, 2025: "UI Center for Human Rights: 25th Anniversary Celebration;" Walker Homestead Winery; Iowa City, IA; 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. (UICHR organized event).
- 44.) April 30, 2025: "From Conflict to Lasting Peace: The Role of Human Rights: Law, Policy and Practice of Sustaining Peace," moderated by Amy Weissman, UICHR; panelists Mohammad Musa Mahmodi, Yale Law School; Tommy Raymond Kirabira, University of East London; Louise Mallinger, Queens University, Belfast; via Zoom; 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. (UICHR organized event).
- 45.) April 30, 2025: "All Static & Noise – about the Uyghur Genocide," film screening; University of Iowa, Shambaugh Auditorium, Main Library; 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. (UICHR cosponsored event with Scholars at Risk).
- 46.) May 24, 2025: "The Legal Vulnerability Index," presenters Brian Farrell and Ryan Sakoda, UI College of Law; Law & Society Association Annual Meeting; Chicago, Illinois (UICHR staff-engaged event).
- 47.) July 21, 2025: "Human Rights and Social Justice in America: Past, Present & Future," speaker Adrien K. Wing; UI Tippie School of Business (UICHR staff-engaged event).