

Nicholas J. Schroeck

Phone: (313) 596-0288 Email: Schroenj@udmercy.edu

Current Academic Appointments

University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, Detroit, Michigan

Dean and Professor of Law, January 2025 to Present

Interim Dean and Associate Professor of Law, June 2024-January 2025

Associate Dean of Experiential Education and Associate Professor of Law, July 2019 to January 2025

Director of Clinical Programs and Associate Professor of Law, July 2018 to July 2019

Tenure status: Tenured (2021)

Previous Academic Appointments

Wayne State University Law School, Detroit, Michigan

Assistant Professor (Clinical) of Law, December 2013 to July 2018

Adjunct Professor of Law, May 2009 to December 2013

Teaching: Transnational Environmental Law Clinic, Advanced Transnational Environmental Law Clinic, Environmental Law, Energy Law Current Topics Seminar

- Developed Transnational Environmental Law Clinic with University of Windsor Law School in 2011

Wayne State University, Detroit, Michigan

Adjunct Professor, Winter 2009

Teaching: Trans-border Environmental Law and Politics: Canada & the United States

Publications

Leave it to *Castor*: The Importance of Beavers in the Great Lakes Ecosystem.
Forthcoming.

Leach, C., Schulz, A. J., Schroeck, N., Lawrence, S., Sand, S., Williams, G., ... Fuchs-Young, R. (2023). "Multi-directional communication between decision makers and environmental health researchers: a qualitative inquiry," *Environmental Hazards*, 23(3), 225–240.

Available at: <https://doi.org/10.1080/17477891.2023.2256727>

Schroeck, Nicholas and Leach, Carrie (2023) "The Exacerbating Role of Technological and Connectivity Challenges on Older Detroiters' Health in a Pandemic," *Seattle Journal of Technology, Environmental & Innovation Law*: Vol. 13: Iss. 2, Article 1.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.law.seattleu.edu/sjteil/vol13/iss2/1>

Leach, C., Schroeck, N., Blessman, J., Rorai, V., Cooper-Sargent, M., Lichtenberg, P. & Trentacosta, C. "Engaged communication of environmental health science: Processes and outcomes of urban academic-community partnerships," *Applied Environmental Education & Communication*, 2021

The Flint Water Crisis, Drinking Water Regulations and Gaps in Lead, Copper, and Legionella Protections.
University of Detroit Mercy Law Review, Vol. 98, 2021

The Flint Water Crisis and Legionella: Harm to Public Health from Failure to Warn.
The Journal of Law in Society, 18 J. L. Society 155, 2018

Lichtenberg, P., Leach, C., Smith, B., Schroeck, N., & Blessman, J. "Co-constructing Environmental Stewardship: A Detroit-driven participatory approach," *Public Policy & Aging Report*, 2017

A Changing Environment in China: The Ripe Opportunity for Environmental Law Clinics to Increase Public Participation and to Shape Law and Policy.

Vermont Journal of Environmental Law, Vol. 18, Winter 2016

Microplastic Pollution in the Great Lakes: State, Federal, and Common Law Solutions.

University of Detroit Mercy Law Review, Vol 93, Issue Two, 2016

What is a Pond? Michigan Court of Appeals interprets “Waters of the State” Under Michigan Law. (With Justin Sterk)

Michigan Environmental Law Journal, 2015

Hydraulic Fracturing and Protection of Freshwater Resources in the Great Lakes State. (With Ryan Schutte and Elizabeth Arnkoff)

Indiana International & Comparative Law Review, Vol 24, Issue 113, 2014

Hydraulic Fracturing and Water Management in the Great Lakes. (With Stephanie Karisny)

Case Western Reserve Law Review, Vol 63, Issue 4, 2013

Asian Carp, Chicago Canal Litigation, and the Great Lakes and Mississippi River Inter-Basin Study. (With Katherine Storch)

Michigan Environmental Law Journal, 2011

Offshore Wind Energy Development in Michigan’s Great Lakes: Current Law and Proposed Legislation. (With Kate Brady-Medley)

Michigan Environmental Law Journal, 2011

Education

Wayne State University Law School, Detroit, Michigan

J.D., May 2007

Elmhurst College, Elmhurst, Illinois

B.A. Urban Studies and Political Science, *cum laude*, May 2002

University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, Scotland

Junior Year Abroad

Politics Honors College, September 2000 to May 2001

Other Experience

Wayne State University, Detroit Michigan

Center for Urban Responses to Environmental Stressors

Co-Director, Community Engagement, May 2016 to Present

- Direct Community Engagement at environmental health sciences center funded by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (Grant Number P30 ES036084)

Great Lakes Environmental Law Center, Detroit, Michigan

Executive Director, March 2010 to July 2017

- Directed administrative functions including grant proposals, fundraising, reporting
- Represented clients in energy, water, air, environmental justice, and transportation matters
- Supervising attorney for Transnational Environmental Law Clinic attorneys and students
- Created highly successful Blue Water Bash fundraiser

Genesee County Prosecutor's Office, Flint, Michigan
Special Assistant Prosecutor, January 2016 to December 2016

- Investigated Flint water crisis on behalf of County Prosecutor

National Wildlife Federation, Ann Arbor, Michigan

Regional Representative (IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI), April 2008 to March 2010

- Ensured the long-term effectiveness of NWF and its affiliates by building strong affiliate organizations, developing and supporting effective board leadership, and creating networks of influential people to achieve national and regional conservation victories

Great Lakes Commission, Ann Arbor, Michigan

Sea Grant Fellow, June 2007 to April 2008

- Assisted Executive Director on variety of legal matters pertaining to GLC operations and advocacy
- Created policy and advocacy materials, drafted alternate language and amendments for proposed federal ballast water legislation

Selected Invited Presentations

Minnesota Environmental Institute, Minnesota State Bar Continuing Legal Education – Great Lakes Compact (Minneapolis, MN, April 23, 2009)

Great Lakes Water Conference – Great Lakes Wetlands (University of Toledo Law School, Toledo, OH, November 13, 2009)

American Bar Association 2010 Eastern Water Law Conference – Great Lakes Compact (Orlando, Florida, May 21, 2010)

Great Lakes Water Conference – Pharmaceuticals in surface waters (University of Toledo Law School, Toledo, OH, November 5, 2010)

Ohio Senate Committee on Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources – Ohio Great Lakes Compact legislation (Ohio Senate, Columbus, OH, June 21, 2011)

Michigan State Bar Environmental Law Section annual meeting – State of Water Law (Dearborn, MI, September 15, 2011)

University of Michigan Law School Environmental Law and Policy Program – Oil Pipelines in the Great Lakes Region (Ann Arbor, MI, April 3, 2012)

Indiana University Mckinney School of Law, Environmental Law Symposium – Great Lakes Natural Resource Governance (Indianapolis, IN, March 1, 2013)

American Bar Association's 42nd Spring Conference – Green Infrastructure and Detroit Stormwater Management (Salt Lake City, UT, March 22, 2013)

Michigan Energy Forum, Ann Arbor SPARK – Great Lakes Energy and Water Nexus (Ann Arbor, MI June 5, 2014)

National Caucus of Environmental Legislators – Great Lakes Water Quality and Proposed Withdrawals (Minneapolis, MN, August 16, 2014)

Public Interest Environmental Law Conference – Using Michigan’s FOIA to Challenge Animal Factories
(Eugene, OR, March 7, 2015)

University of Detroit Mercy School of Law Faculty Presentation – Great Lakes Law and Policy: Current Trends
(Detroit, MI, April 6, 2015)

Vermont Law School Colloquium on Environmental Law Scholarship – Environmental Law Clinics in China
(South Royalton, VT, October 2, 2015)

University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, Law Review Symposium – Microplastics in the Great Lakes
(Detroit, MI, October 16, 2015)

International Union for the Conservation of Nature Colloquium of the Academy of Environmental Law –
"Multijurisdictional response to Lake Erie Algae: International, Federal, State and Provincial legal strategies for
combating nutrient pollution in the Great Lakes."
(Oslo, Norway, June 23, 2016)

Michigan Environmental Justice Summit – Moderator
(Detroit, MI, September 24, 2016)

Center for Urban Responses to Environmental Stressors – Getting the Lead Out: Detroit Perspectives
(Detroit, MI, October 20, 2016)

Complying with Water Quality Laws and Regulations - HalfMoon Education Inc.
(Livonia, MI, September 19, 2017)

Environmental Health Tour – Moderator for Environmental Health Funders Network
(Detroit, MI, November 15, 2017)

Environmental Justice in Practice – Hosted conference at Wayne Law in partnership with University of Chicago
School of Law, American Bar Association, Environmental Law Institute and Great Lakes Environmental Law
Center
(Detroit, MI, January 26, 2018)

Public Interest Environmental Law Conference - Great Lakes Water Law
(Eugene, OR (by Skype) March 2, 2018)

Real Property Law Section, State Bar of Michigan Summer Conference – Water Law Roundtable
(Chrystal Mountain, MI, July 20-21, 2018)

Healing Our Waters Great Lakes Restoration Conference -- Creation of a Great Lakes Bi-National Climate
Adaptation Strategy (Detroit, MI, May 9, 2019)

InVivo Planetary Health conference at the Detroit Yacht Club -- Keynote: Environmental Law - litigation and
legal channels in change making for social and ecological justice. (Detroit, MI, May 17, 2019)

Vermont Law School Colloquium on Environmental Scholarship -- "The Quebec Act of 1774 and the Great
Lakes." (South Royalton, VT, September 21, 2019)

Great Lakes Water Conference – PFAS and Water Quality (Moderator)
(University of Toledo Law School, Toledo, OH, November 8, 2019)

State of the Straits Conference – Climate Change Law and Policy
University of Windsor (Windsor, Ontario, November 19, 2019)

Citizens for Peace – Environmental Justice and Public Engagement
(Royal Oak, MI, June 9, 2020)

Equal Justice Works – 2020 Conference and Career Fair, Pathways to a Career in Environmental Law
(Moderator, Washington, D.C., video appearance, October 23, 2020)

American University Washington College of Law – 2021 Symposium, "Water Infrastructure, Equity, and Environmental Justice."
(Washington, D.C., video appearance, February 11, 2021)

SciPol- Detroit – Air Pollution Panel
(Detroit, MI, video appearance, April 8th, 2021)

Michigan Public Health Association – Public Health Nursing Section Conference "Social Justice: Equal Societies are Healthier."
(Grand Rapids, MI, video appearance, April 14, 2021)

American Association of Law Schools Clinical Conference – Water Justice Panel.
(Virtual conference, video appearance, April 29, 2021)

International Association for Great Lakes Research, 64th Annual Conference on Great Lakes Research – “Carp, Climate Change and Canadian Pipelines: A decade of news and law in Great Lakes media.” With Sandra Svoboda. (Video appearance, May 18, 2021)

Equal Justice Works -- 2021 Conference and Career Fair, Environmental Law Panel.
(Moderator, Washington, D.C., video appearance, October 22, 2021)

Detroit Mercy Law Current Events in the Law Series: President Biden's Climate Change Agenda and the UN Climate Change Conference.
(Moderator, Detroit, video appearance, November 1, 2021)

Clinicians for a Healthy Climate – Advocating for Environmental Health in Michigan.
(CURES Center, Detroit, video appearance, December 10, 2021)

Indiana University, Robert H. McKinney School of Law Symposium on Land Use and Environmental Law,
(Panelist, Indianapolis, IN September 23, 2022)

Great Lakes Commission Annual Meeting
(Panelist, Erie, PA October 12, 2022)

International Union for the Conservation of Nature Colloquium of the Academy of Environmental Law – A Freshwater Bill of Rights.
(Panelist, Joensuu, Finland August 2, 2023)

National Institutes of Health, Environmental Health Sciences Core Centers Meeting – Scientists Working with Law Clinics on Environmental Health Advocacy.
(Panelist, Baltimore, MD September 24, 2024)

Selected Media Appearances

Science Friday, National Public Radio, "*Asian Carp and the Supreme Court.*" March 26, 2010

New York Times, "*Supreme Court to Consider Revisiting 1922 Great Lakes Water Diversion Case.*" April 22, 2010

Michigan Public Radio, "*Environmental Law Group: Enforce Fines Against Enbridge.*" August 3, 2010

Time Magazine, "*Invasive Species: Catchin' Some Asian Carp.*" August 10, 2010

New York Times, "*Mich. Democrat Downplays Oil Spill-Response Role in Cutthroat Re-election Push.*" October 15, 2010

Greenwire, "*There's lots of lawyering to be done as pollution, energy disputes cross borders.*" April 30, 2012

Fox 2 Detroit, "*Let it Rip: Petroleum Coke Piles on the Detroit River.*" August 15, 2013

WKYC-TV Cleveland, "*Investigator: Drugs in drinking water higher than expected.*" February 1, 2014

WDET Radio Detroit, "*Flooding May Be More Common in The Future.*" August 13, 2014

WKAR Radio Lansing, "*U.S. Supreme Court considers challenge to rules on mercury emissions.*" December 9, 2014

Washington Post, "*Detroit water customers watching how Flint's bumpy transition to new system unfolds.*" March 4, 2015

WDET Radio Detroit, "*Governor Snyder's Energy Plan: More Renewables and Less Waste.*" March 16, 2015

Detroit News, "*Oil Spill Settlement Seems Largest in Michigan History.*" May 13, 2015

WDET Radio Detroit, "*State of Michigan Wins SCOTUS Case over EPA Mercury Rule, 'Inevitable Delayed' Says Expert.*" June 30, 2015

Detroit News, "*MDEQ Sets SW Detroit Emissions Plan.*" August 23, 2015

Bridge Magazine, "*Environmental groups see route to block Michigan highway expansion.*" September 3, 2015

Fox 2 Detroit, "*Coke Breeze Causes Concern on Detroit Waterfront.*" October 12, 2015

WDET Radio Detroit, "*The Detroit bankruptcy and the regional water authority.*" November 16, 2015

Detroit Free Press, "*I-75: Mixed feelings on the \$1B project.*" February 21, 2016

The Atlantic, "*Who gets to drink from the Great Lakes?*" May 10, 2016

Michigan Public Radio, "*Will 14-year I-75 project relieve congestion and improve safety?*" August, 15, 2016

The Guardian, "*Detroit incinerator is hotspot for health problems, environmentalists claim.*" October 23, 2016

Detroit News, "*Experts: State's water suit against Flint faces hurdles.*" July 31, 2017

Detroit Free Press, *“Speedy Detroit blight removal could be endangering residents.”* August 6, 2017

The Conversation and City Lab, *“Why Michigan needs to draw more revenue from its booming bottled water industry.”* May 22, 2018

WDET Radio Detroit, *“Michigan could be on the verge of another drinking water crisis.”* June 13, 2018

Great Lakes Now and Great Lakes Echo, *“Proposed Trump rollback of fuel standards triggers urban health concerns.”* August 13, 2018

Downtown Publications, *“The EPA slowdown on the dangers of formaldehyde.”* August 22, 2018

WDET Radio Detroit, *“What is the Lake Erie Bill of Rights?”* March 4, 2019

WDET Radio Detroit, *“AG Nessel Ready to shut down Line 5 if tunnel issues aren’t resolved.”* May 6, 2019

Detroit Free Press, *“Plastics pollution? Course urged golfers to hit balls into Lake Michigan.”* July 22, 2019

Michigan Radio, *“Clinics in northern Michigan will help people expunge criminal records.”* July 24, 2019

Fox 2 Detroit, *“Protestors cry injustice over Marathon Petroleum vapor release on Thursday.”* September 16, 2019

WWJ News Radio, *“WWJ In Depth: The Ooze Cruise, Contamination at Electro Plating Services in Madison Heights.”* January 23, 2020.

WDET Radio Detroit, *“University of Detroit Mercy Hosts Symposium on Race, Class and Environmental Justice.”* March 5, 2020

Michigan Radio Stateside, *“With national attention elsewhere, Great Lakes pollution rising.”* April 21, 2020

Great Lakes Now, *“Pollution, Permits: Enbridge, Michigan grapple with Line 5 tunnel project.”* May 27, 2020

Downtown Publications, *“Dams of Oakland: safety ratings on structures.”* July 14, 2020

Michigan Radio Stateside, *“Spectacular skies caused by Western wildfires are a reminder of collective stakes of climate change.”* September 17, 2020

Detroit Free Press, *“Detroit demolitions never stopped as promised.”* October 16, 2020

Great Lakes Now, *“Rollbacks, Climate, Justice: Environmental attorney on Biden’s commitments, opportunities and challenges.”* November 17, 2020

M-Live, *“A submerged “high water mark” upends Michigan’s control of the beach.”* December 2, 2020

Crain’s Detroit Business, *“Environmentalists and industrialists can coexist.”* December 13, 2020

WDET Radio Detroit, *“Biden Faces Multiple Crises. How Will Climate Change Rank Among Priorities?”* January 15, 2021

Grist, *“Can a pipeline company defy a governor’s orders? Gretchen Whitmer is about to find out.”* April 7, 2021

Great Lakes Now, “Regional Thoughts: Some reactions from various Great Lakes leaders on President Biden’s infrastructure plan.” April 9, 2021

Michigan Radio, “Why Metro Detroit keeps flooding—and how to fix it.”
June 29, 2021

WDET Radio Detroit, “Southeast Michigan Grappling with New Climate Realities.”
July 27, 2021

Crain’s Detroit Business, “How developers do business amid endangered species.”
October 16, 2021

Local 4 News, “Could turning unused parking lots into greenspace help keep Detroit cooler in the summer?”
November 9, 2021

Detroit Free Press, “As violations grow against Stellantis, critics sounding environmental racism alarm.”
November 15, 2021

Detroit News, “Sticking point emerges in Michigan's pursuit of environmental justice.”
December 21, 2021

WDET Radio Detroit, “How Climate Change Shook Michiganders in 2021 — and What Things Could Look Like in the Years Ahead.”
December 22, 2021

Detroit Free Press, “Asphalt company loses appeal to build mixing facility in Detroit.”
May 17, 2022

WDET Radio Detroit, “Federal regulators prioritize cleaning sites contaminated by ‘forever chemicals.’”
September 6, 2022

Bridge Michigan, “Michigan Dems aim to erase business-friendly environmental laws.”
January 2, 2023

Detroit News, “Possible emissions tests for Detroit area drivers loom as EPA weighs ozone levels.”
February 10, 2023

M-Live, “Michigan law shields wetlands from Supreme Court decision impacts.”
June 13, 2023

WDET Radio Detroit, “How Michigan can improve it’s infrastructure to reduce storm damage.”
August 29, 2023

Planet Detroit, “This SCOTUS decision may make it harder to protect Michigan air and water.”
July, 1, 2024

Detroit Legal News, “Nicholas Schroeck named dean of University of Detroit Mercy School of Law.”
January 31, 2025

Professional Memberships

American Bar Association, Section of Environment, Energy and Resources
Clinical Legal Education Association
Detroit Bar Association
Michigan State Bar Foundation Fellow
Society of American Law Teachers
State Bar of Michigan, Environmental Law Section

Academic Service

University of Detroit Mercy School of Law:

Rank and Tenure Executive Committee (2022-2024)
Inn of Court Administrator (2022-Present)
Moot Court Committee (2023-2024)
Assessment Committee (2022-2023)
Budget Committee (2021-2022)
Dean Search Committee (2020-2021)
Teaching and Learning Task Force (2020-2021)
Curriculum Committee (2018-2024)
Faculty Recruitment and Hiring Committee: (2018-2019, 2019-2020)

Wayne State University Law School:

Member, Clinical Programs Subcommittee (2017-2020)
Chair, Student Affairs Committee (2015-2017)
Member, Experiential Education Committee (2016-2018)
Member, Building and Technology Committee (2016-2017)
Member, Career Services Committee (2017-2018)

Community Service

Co-Chair, Great Lakes and Inland Waters Committee, State Bar of Michigan Environmental Law Section (Current)
Advisory Board, National Sea Grant Law Center (Current)
Steering Committee, Community Action to Promote Healthy Environments (Current)
Board Member, Great Lakes Environmental Law Center (Current)
Member, National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and Michigan Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (Current)
Board Member, Detroiters Working for Environmental Justice (Current)
National Advisory Committee, Equal Justice Works (2019-2021)
Council Member, State Bar of Michigan Environmental Law Section (2019-2023)
Board Member, Transportation Riders United (2018-2022)

Bar Admissions

Michigan, 2007

Awards

Wayne State University Alumni Association, Recent Alumni Award, May 2012

- Recognized for demonstrating outstanding professional achievement and community contributions.

Sierra Club, Michigan Chapter, White Pine Award, August 2014

- Accepted on behalf of Great Lakes Environmental Law Center for extraordinary dedication to the protection of the environment.

State Bar of Michigan 2020 Kimberly M. Cahill Bar Leadership Award, September 2020

- In recognition of the Access to Justice Mid-Northern Michigan Expungement Project

University of Detroit Mercy School of Law 2020 James T. Barnes, Sr. Memorial Faculty Scholar Award, October 2020

- Selected as the 2020 recipient based on scholarship, teaching excellence, and public service