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Recent Books by UB Law Faculty Members: the UB Law Bookshelf

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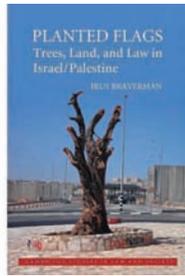
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Recent books by UB Law faculty members

The UB Law bookshelf

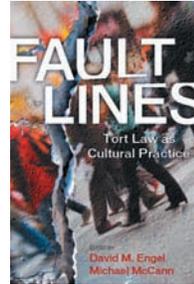


**Planted Flags:
Trees, Land, and Law in
Israel/Palestine**
By Associate Professor
Irus Braverman
(Cambridge University Press)

The significance of trees – the pine forests of the Promised Land of Israel, and the olive trees that Palestinians identify as a symbol of their connection to the land – is at the heart of this exploration of law, landscape and ethnic conflict. What is it, Braverman asks, that makes the acts of planting, cultivating and uprooting trees into acts of war? How does the polarization of the “natural” landscape reflect and reinforce hostility between Israelis and Palestinians? And what role does law play in this story?



The author, who holds master of arts and bachelor of laws degrees from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, uses the techniques of ethnography in *Planted Flags*. She tells the story of trees through the narratives of military and government officials, architects, lawyers, Palestinian and Israeli farmers, and Jewish settlers.



**Fault Lines:
Tort Law and Cultural Practice**
Edited by
Professor David Engel
(with Michael McCann)
(Stanford University Press)

Tort law, a fundamental building block of every legal system, features prominently in mass culture and political debates. As this pioneering anthology reveals, tort law is not simply a collection of legal rules and procedures, but a set of cultural responses to the broader problems of risk, injury, assignment of responsibility, compensation, valuation and obligation.

Examining tort law as a cultural phenomenon and a form of cultural practice, *Fault Lines* compares tort law across space and time, looking at the United States, Europe and Asia in the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries. It draws on theories and methods from law, sociology, political science and anthropology to offer an interdisciplinary look at a heretofore underexamined area of tort law. Ultimately, the book demonstrates, tort law nests within a larger web of relationships and shared conventions that organize social life.



**Insanity:
Murder, Madness,
and the Law**
By Professor
Charles Patrick Ewing
(Oxford University Press)

One of the nation’s leading experts on the insanity defense, Ewing here conveys the psychological and legal drama of 10 landmark insanity cases. His case studies include “Son of Sam” killer David Berkowitz; John Gacy, who killed at least 30 boys and young men in Chicago; Jack Ruby, killer of Lee Harvey Oswald, President Kennedy’s assassin; and Andrea Yates, who drowned her five children in the family’s bathtub.

The book also debunks myths of popular opinion regarding the insanity defense. “In those rare instances in which a defendant is actually found insane, the public is usually outraged,” Ewing says. “In homicide cases especially, they believe that the defendant ‘got away with murder.’” In reality, he says, “the defense is rarely raised, rarely applicable and even more rarely successful. And when it does succeed, the defendant usually loses his or her liberty for many years, sometimes for life.”





**What Are Campaigns For?
The Role of Persuasion in Electoral
Law and Politics**

By Professor James Gardner,
vice dean for academic affairs
(University of Chicago Press)

For citizens of a democracy, an election is a time to take stock – to re-examine our beliefs; to review our understanding of our own interests; to ponder the place of those interests in the larger social order; and to contemplate our understanding of how our commitments are best translated into governmental policy – or so we profess to believe. But theory and reality diverge, and the typical modern American election campaign seems crass, shallow and unengaging.



What Are Campaigns For? is a multidisciplinary work of legal scholarship that looks at how legal institutions help to create this disjunction between political ideal and reality. Gardner's book explores the contemporary American ideal of democratic citizenship in election campaigns by tracing it to its historical sources, documenting its thorough infiltration of legal norms, evaluating its feasibility in light of the findings of the social sciences, and testing it against the requirements of democratic theory.



**Private Lawyers and the Public
Interest: The Evolving Role of Pro
Bono in the Legal Profession**

Edited by Professor Lynn Mather
(with Robert Granfield)
(Oxford University Press)

This collection of essays by leading and emerging scholars in the field examines the history, conditions, organization and strategies of pro bono lawyering.

Private Lawyers and the Public Interest traces the rise and impact of the American Bar Association's campaign to hold lawyers accountable for a commitment to public service and to encourage public service within law schools. Combining empirical legal research with reflections by practitioners and theorists about the meaning and practice of pro bono legal work, these essays examine the public service ideals of the legal profession and place these ideals within a broader social, economic and ideological context.

These essays investigate the evolving role of pro bono in the legal profession and in law schools, the relationship between pro bono ideals and pro bono in practice, the way that pro bono is shaped by external forces beyond the individual practitioner, and the multifaceted nature of legal professionalism as expressed through pro bono practice.



Moving up

Terrence E. McCormack, head of the M. Robert Koren Center for Clinical Legal Education, has accepted an additional role and promotion as Interim Manager of Law School Technology Services. He will integrate and combine Law Instructional Technology and Instructional Support operations to bring enhanced services and “one-stop shopping” in the IT/AV arena to all Law School personnel.

On the move

UB Law celebrates the accomplishments of these faculty and staff members whose professional lives are taking them elsewhere.

Elizabeth Buckley '80 is retiring after two decades of teaching the Uniform Commercial Code at UB Law.



Clinical Instructor **Sara Faherty '90** taught research and writing and subsequently worked and taught in both the Affordable Housing Clinic and the Community Economic Development Clinic. She has accepted a position as an adjunct faculty member at the University of Toronto Law School.



Laura Mangan, deputy director of the Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy, has accepted a new position as the University at Buffalo's coordinator of the Civic Engagement in Public Policy Strategic Strength.