

**ALS International Human Rights Section  
Survey for Section Website**

**Name of your Institution:**

**Buffalo Law School, The State University of New York**

**Contact Person for Further Information (name, phone and email):**

**Professor Makau Mutua (716) 645-2311, mutua@buffalo.edu.**

**Questions about your Human Rights Centers, Institutions or Programs (CIP):**

1. How many Human Rights Centers, Institutions or Programs do you have and what are they called?

**We have one center called the Buffalo Human Rights Center**

For each separate one, please answer the following questions:

2. What is the makeup of the Center/Institute/Program staff? (full-time staff, part-time staff, law professors, law students, other professors or students, and advisory board)

**Professors Makau Mutua and Claude E. Welch are the Center's Directors. It has a large advisory board drawn from academia and international civil society. It has two law student fellows who help coordinate its programs.**

3. How are law students involved with the CIP? (i.e. are there journals, newsletters, briefs, or other publications, human rights programs abroad, other international human rights campaigns, etc.)

**The Center annually publishes the Buffalo Human Rights Law Review. It has about 40 active student participants. Each year, it send out at least 6 students for human rights internships in the US and abroad with NGOs, IGOs, private firms, and government agencies.**

4. If it's not obvious from the name of the program, does the CIP focus on any specific international human rights law issues (i.e. refugees, women's rights, etc.)?

**The Center is general scope human rights program, although it focuses on underdeveloped themes and regions of the world.**

5. What classes, seminars, symposiums, or other presentations have been offered in conjunction with the CIP?

**We teach a broad range of human rights courses including the basic human rights course, immigration, culture and rights, and economic, social, and cultural rights.**

6. Does the CIP assist students in acquiring internship/externship opportunities with human rights organizations (NGOs, IGOs, etc.)? Which organizations?

**Yes – see number 3 above.**

7. In general, how is the CIP funded?

**It is funded by the law school.**

8. Does the CIP have any affiliations with Human Rights groups outside the law school or university? Which ones? What is the nature of the affiliation?

**No.**

9. Does the CIP allow student involvement in actual International Human Rights cases? What is the degree of that involvement?

**Only during internships over the summer.**

10. What, in your opinion, attracts students to participate in the CIP?

**The reputation of our faculty, our areas of focus, and the currency of human rights.**

11. What are some specific projects or cases that the CIP has undertaken in recent years?  
**We organized in Nairobi, Kenya, a major NGO conference on emerging challenges for human rights NGOs in East Africa.**

12. Are there cultural and language barriers that impede your work? If so, how have you overcome these barriers?

**None.**

13. Are there any other suggestions you may have concerning the organization of a CIP?  
**No.**

**Questions about your human rights clinical work: [we do not have clinical programs in human rights].**

14. How many clinics do you have that are handling international human rights litigation or projects (by using international law in domestic fora and/or by taking matters to IGOs)?

For each such clinic, please answer the following questions:

15. What is the makeup of the clinic staff? (full-time staff, part-time staff, permanent/non-tenure track/temporary law professors, law students, other professors or students)

16. In what fora do you practice?

17. Who are your case referral agencies?

18. Please list any partner NGOs that assist you in casework or in teaching the clinic.

19. If you were planning to start up a human rights clinic, what are the most important substantive books to have on your shelf, the top websites you would bookmark and the most important listservs to join (you do not have to catalogue your library for us, we would just like to let our colleagues know your “top ten list” of items you most strongly recommend for people who are starting out)?

20. Do you have syllabi, simulations or any other material that you are able to make available to others, either upon request or by putting it up for colleagues on a shared link between the AALS human rights section website and your clinic’s website (the AALS link could be password protected if this would be helpful)?

21. What percentage of the students in this clinic typically travel abroad for their clinic work?

22. Do students have the opportunity to meet their clients in person?

23. What mix of domestic work (if any) and international cases does this clinic handle?

**Individual Faculty Efforts:**

24. Do you have any faculty that are performing or supervising significant international human rights litigation or projects outside the formal structure of centers and clinics? If so, what type of project and how many students are involved?

**Externships:**

25. Do you have students receiving credit for human rights service performed outside your law school? Roughly how many students are doing this each year? What percentage of externships involve placement outside the U.S.?

**We have annually an average of 6 students who receive credit for human rights externships.**

**A final draft of your responses will be circulated to you before it is uploaded to the Section website. Please let us know if you would prefer that any of your answers *not* be placed on the website.**