

**AALS INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS SECTION
SURVEY OF HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVITIES IN U.S. LAW SCHOOLS**

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**Program in International Human Rights Law
Indiana University School of Law at Indianapolis**

This form was completed by George E. Edwards, who is also the contact person for further information (name, phone and email):

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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?
 - **Program in International Human Rights Law, Indiana University School of Law at Indianapolis**
2. Who founded the Program, and when?
 - **The Program in International Human Rights Law was founded in the 1997 Spring by Professor George E. Edwards.**
3. 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)
 - **Director: Professor George E. Edwards**
Associate Professor of Law
 - **Faculty Assistant: Ms. Chalanta Shockley (317-274-1917;**
chshockl@iupui.edu)
 - **We have 2 – 3 research assistants at any given time. These assistants are usually law students or pre-law students.**

4. 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.)
- **Our student research assistants, overseas interns, and other students are involved in most aspects of our Program's work.**
 - **Each summer since 1997, law students have worked overseas as international human rights law interns, in over 35 countries, around the globe. The students work overseas full-time for 10-12 weeks, and are funded through law school scholarships used to pay for air fare, housing, food, etc, for the internship period. Generally, the internship scholarships are adequate to cover all the interns' expenses. However some students have supplemented their scholarships with student loans or personal resources. Law students receive 4 academic credits for their overseas internship work.**
 - **In addition to the overseas internships, students in our Program, while physically present in Indianapolis, work on "pro bono" projects for overseas human rights groups. The Program is consulted by, and works with, governmental and non-governmental lawyers, and others, on local, national and international community projects related to domestic and international human rights law. These "pro bono" projects typically involve law students (and former students) researching legal issues and otherwise assisting outside lawyers in areas such as migrant workers, United Nations treaties (e.g., on consular notification), racial discrimination, teaching human rights teachers how to teach human rights, schemes for providing legal services to indigents, refugee and asylum law, etc. The program has fielded assistance requests from domestic and overseas government officials (including the diplomatic/consular corps), from legal practitioners, and from victims of human rights abuses. Rather than travel to the city or country from which particular requests are made, our students generally conduct this sort of research while based at the law school, using law school resources and facilities.**
 - **Students use resources found in our Center, including our international human rights law library and our career information materials.**
 - **Students participate in the school's *International Human Rights Law Society* and in the *Amnesty International Student Chapter*. Former Overseas Human Rights Interns founded both of those student groups following their internships. The Program Director serves as Faculty Advisor to these student groups.**
 - **Law Students founded our *Human Rights and Social Justice Film Series*, which screens full length and shorter human rights films at the law school. Students also edit our *Indiana International Human Rights Law Bulletin*.**
 - **Students host overseas human rights speakers who visit the law school.**

- **Students contribute "Human Rights Briefs" to the law school newspaper.**
 - **Former students of the Program have formed an international human rights law alumni group.**
5. 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.)?
- **No.**
6. What classes, seminars, symposiums, or other presentations have been offered in conjunction with the CIP?
- **International Human Rights Law Overseas Internship. Students receive 4 academic credits in conjunction with their 10 – 12 week overseas internships.**
 - **International Human Rights Law (3 credits)**
 - **The Program in International Human Rights Law sponsors multiple formal and informal presentations by domestic and overseas invited guests, by our faculty, and by our students. Speakers have included judges, practitioners, human rights workers, and victims of human rights abuses. Speakers have hailed from dozens of countries.**
 - **The Program has co-sponsored international conferences and seminars on a wide range of topics. Students assist in planning and running these meetings.**
7. Can students earn credit for their work? If so, how many credits/semester and what percentage of students take advantage of this option.
- **All students who work as overseas or domestic human rights law interns receive four (4) academic credits. As mentioned elsewhere herein, interns work full time for 10-12 weeks during the summer.**
 - **Students may, under the direction of the Program Director, receive academic credit for completing Advanced Research Papers in the area of international human rights law. Such students receive 1 or 2 credits for Advanced Research Papers.**
8. Does the CIP assist students in acquiring internship/externship opportunities with human rights organizations (NGOs, IGOs, etc.)? Which organizations?
- **Since our Program was established in 1997, we have had over 50 student internship placements at IGOs, NGOs, and GOs in over 35 countries. A complete list of internships can be found on our Web Page.**

- **Our Program actively works with the students and prospective host organizations to facilitate overseas placements, which are supervised by the Program Director.**
9. In general, how is the CIP funded?
- **The Program is funded through law school and private contributions (including grants).**
10. 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?
- **The Program has no “affiliations” with outside groups.**
11. Does the CIP allow student involvement in actual International Human Rights cases? What is the degree of that involvement?
- **Our Program would allow student involvement in actual International Human Rights cases.**
12. What, in your opinion, attracts students to participate in the CIP?
- **Students participate in the Program in International Human Rights Law for various reasons. Comments by some of our students about their involvement in our Program can be found in issues of our *Indiana International Human Rights Law Bulletin*. Copies of the *Law Bulletin* can be found on our Web Page: indylaw.indiana.edu/humanrights.**
13. What are some specific projects or cases that the CIP has undertaken in recent years?
- **More information about our projects can be found on our Web Page: indylaw.indiana.edu/humanrights**

Externships:

14. 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 an overseas International Human Rights Law Internship Program, which sends J.D. students overseas each summer to work for 10 – 12 weeks at governmental, non-governmental, or inter-governmental organizations. Also, we place our foreign LLM students in internships in the United States. We have had over 50 student intern placements in over 35 countries on six continents since our Program was established in 1997. Our first foreign LLM student interns have summer 2003 domestic United States placements.**

- **The students work for 10 - 12 weeks and receive 4 academic credits for their work. The students are required to participate in a pre-departure briefing at school in May and a de-briefing in the fall, submit time logs to the Program each week during their internships, and complete Program assignments (in addition to work assignments received from their Host Organizations).**
- **Overseas and domestic human rights internships are principally funded through the law school. All interns receive scholarship funding for their internships. Typically, the scholarships are adequate to cover the air fare, housing, food, and incidentals of interns wherever in the world they work for 10-12 weeks. Because students receive academic credit for their internships, if a particular student's scholarship is not sufficient to meet that student's financial needs (or wants), she can take out supplemental student loans.**
- **The overseas host organizations have no financial responsibility for the student interns.**
- **More information about our Internship Program can be found on our WebPage: indylaw.indiana.edu/humanrights**