

JOSHUA ASH

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EDUCATION

- University of Pittsburgh – Graduate School for Public & International Affairs** anticipated 2024
PhD Candidate: Public & International Affairs
Dissertation topics: (1) *operationalizing renewable energy projects as a means of economic development in Appalachia*, (2) *executive and legislative implementation of environmental constitutional rights*, and (3) *implementing intergenerational equity in state constitutions*
- West Virginia University College of Law – Morgantown, WV** Dec. 2015
J.D. emphasis: Env. & Energy Law, PA Attorney ID: 325044
- WVU Davis College of Ag., Resources, and Design – Morgantown, WV** Dec. 2015
M.S. Agriculture & Resource Economics
- West Virginia University – Morgantown, WV** May 2012
B.A. Env. Geoscience/ B.A. French/ B.A. Intl’ Studies, Magna Cum Laude

TEACHING & MENTORING EXPERIENCE

- Georgetown University Law Center – Washington, DC** Aug. 2023- April 2024
Project Supervisor, Climate Practicum Course
- Supervise third year law students with a semester long partnership with a state and local agency or NGO involved in climate mitigation or adaptation policy
- Point Park University – Pittsburgh, PA** 2021-2022
Adjunct Professor
- Taught graduate courses in Environmental Law and Environmental Policy, with a focus on applied skills in how to implement environmental programs, analyze new and existing environmental regulations, utilize scientific studies in evidence-based policy making, create logic models, review permits, communicate environmental regulatory requirements, work with community stakeholders, and engage in the regulatory process
 - Established and oversaw student community projects, including work with the Mountain Watershed Association, PennFuture, Center for Coalfield Justice, and Allegheny Land Trust
- University of Pittsburgh – Pittsburgh, PA** 2019-2020
Policy Drafting Working Group – Graduate Advisor
- Taught fundamentals of causal analysis, stakeholder engagement, and policy drafting in a experiential policy drafting project (2019-2020 project, drafting a proposed policy on mitigating donor influence in university funding)
- ABA SEER Bridge Program** 2020-present
Mentor
- Mentors law students from various law schools around the country about career planning in environmental and connecting them to other environmental law practitioners

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Georgetown University Law Center – Washington, DC

June 2023 – present

Senior Associate – Georgetown Climate Center

- Provides legal and policy analysis, coordination, and other resources to states and other stakeholders engaged in reducing GHG emissions across all sectors (including the center’s work with climate mitigation programs under the IIJA and IRA, state climate action plans, industrial decarbonization policy, Buy Clean programs, and transportation planning)
- Assists in the supervision of research assistants, fellows, and law students enrolled in policy practicum courses engaged in the center’s work

U.S. Department of Transportation Volpe Center – Cambridge, MA

Apr. 2022 – March 2023

Env. Protection Specialist – Strategic Planning and Policy Analysis Division

- Provided fee-for-service expertise across all aspects of transportation policymaking and program/project delivery, including legal advice and statutory interpretation, implementation, and program evaluation, including for the following projects and agency sponsors:
 - Supported USDOT’s Executive Policy Board by researching and interpreting statutory requirements under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (e.g. rulemaking, reports to Congress, studies, guidance, discretionary grants, etc.)
 - Supported various offices within FHWA in implementation of discretionary grant programs created under BIL such as Reconnecting Communities; Protecting Resilient Operations for Transformative, Efficient, and Cost-Saving Transportation (PROTECT); Thriving Communities, and the Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program (ATIIP)
 - Supported the Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council in facilitating and expediting FAST-41 infrastructure sectors (e.g. renewable energy production, electricity transmission, surface transportation) including developing Recommended Performance Schedules, assisting with monthly facilitations with project sponsors, preparation of permit review guidance
 - Co-led support to FHWA PROTECT program for drafting of performance metrics to assess resilience improvement projects, drafting of resilience improvement plan guidance, and performance monitoring procedures
 - Assisted FHWA’s development of evaluative criteria to be used by state DOTs and MPOs for the Infrastructure Voluntary Evaluation Sustainability Tool (INVEST), including criteria relating to asset management and planning and vehicle emissions
 - Developed FHWA’s Environmental Justice Analysis in NEPA pilot course, including course material preparation, development of hypotheticals/ exercises, and travel around the country to state departments of transportation to refine course for audience needs

Walsh Construction – Pittsburgh, PA | Los Angeles, CA

Apr. 2016 – Oct. 2020

Regulatory, Environmental, and Land Use Attorney

- Advised project teams on compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act, Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, Endangered Species Act, and hazardous waste regulations for two nearly billion-dollar public infrastructure projects: Crenshaw/LAX Transit Project (~\$1 billion 8.5 mile metro line) and the PA Rapid Bridge Replacement Project (\$899 million public private partnership replacing 558 bridges across PA)
- Engaged with community stakeholders to minimize project impacts, attended public hearings, settled community members disputes
- Drafted and negotiated agreements with local officials, organizations, landowners, and businesses pertaining to minimizing the impacts of projects
- Managed document review teams for complex NEPA, design error, and contract dispute litigation
- Assisted outside counsel in argument formulation, deposition preparation, and case management

- Negotiated compensation during monthly agency meetings for contractually compensable added costs and delays associated with the NEPA process but not otherwise required under existing environmental regulations, changes in law, and hazardous waste
- Managed Notice to Proceed applications and oversight
- Designed/ implemented trainings in environmental compliance, litigation preparation, and document review

WVU Land Use & Sustainable Development Clinic – Morgantown, WV Aug. 2015 – Jan. 2016
Clinician

- Worked with local community officials across West Virginia to explore and implement opportunities for economic development, conservation, and environmental protection
- Drafted conservation easements, ordinances, comprehensive plans, waste water treatment plans, and community engagement

WV Water Research Institute - Morgantown, WV

Outreach Coordinator Jan. 2013 – May 2015

- Served as the primary point of contact and coordinator for a multi-million dollar regional citizen science initiative across the Ohio River basin called 3RiversQUEST, which included the development and promotion of water quality monitoring, reporting, data sharing, remediation projects, conferences, and trainings
- Drafted/ managed data sharing contracts, grant funding allocation, and remediation projects

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Washington, D.C. summer 2015 & 2014

Law Clerk – Office of Criminal Enforcement, Forensics, and Training

- Researched state sunshine laws and information sharing policies with the Department of Justice
- Assisted in the investigation of several major alleged Clean Water Act violations

Law Clerk – Federal Facilities Enforcement Office

- Assisted with FIFRA enforcement
- Drafted guidance documents on CERCLA Preliminary Assessments and CERCLA compliance MOUs with the Department of Defense

Mulanje Mountain Conservation Trust – Mulanje, Malawi summer 2011

Intern

- Mapped invasive species and developed a sustainability project in which the Mulanje community could sustainably extract firewood from the Mulanje Mountain reserve while protecting the endangered Mulanje Mountain Cedar

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of Pittsburgh – Pittsburgh, PA Aug. 2018 - April 2023

- Designed/conducted field research on a study studying barriers and opportunities in renewable energy in Appalachia (including semi-formal and formal interviews with landowners, zoning boards, public utility commission officials, solar developers, county commissioners, community leaders, tax assessors, economic development officials, and nonprofits)
- Conducting background research (e.g. environmental and energy law and policy developments related to energy transition) and assisted in drafting/ editing/indexing/promoting *America's Energy Gamble: People, Economy, and Planet* by Shanti Gamper Rabindran

RAND Corporation – Pittsburgh, PA

June 2022-August 2022

- Conducted occupational analyses and supporting qualitative research on the Pittsburgh region’s “green” sectors and workforce opportunities to recommend supporting investments and policy recommendations
- Conducted program evaluation of FEMA’s incorporation of equity principles in its implementation of the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) program

Government Accountability Office – Washington, DC

Oct. 2021 – Feb. 2022

- Used GAO’s auditing protocols, including both qualitative and quantitative research methods, to assess DOJ and DHS performance addressing homeland security threats
- Communicated research results and analysis and drafted and indexed major portions of the final report in response to a high profile Congressional inquiries

WVU Center for Sustainable Dev. and Energy – Morgantown, WV

Feb. 2013 – May 2013

- Researched renewable energy portfolio legislation, international shale gas developments, electric utility policies, distributive generation, and Clean Air Act policy developments for Jamie Van Nostrand

WVU Montane Forest Dynamics Laboratory – Morgantown, WV

summer 2010

- Researched the regeneration of Table Mountain Pine in Appalachia using dendrochronology and carbon dating to understand past fire events and the impact of human induced fire events

PUBLICATIONS

- Curtright, Aimee, Aaron Strong, Lena Easton, Joshua Ash. *Economic Opportunities in Sustainability in Southwestern Pennsylvania*. Santa Monica, CA: RAND Corporation, 2024.
- Ash, Joshua. *Rethinking Intergenerational Equity in Land Decision Making*. NR&E. Spring 2022. American Bar Association.
- Ash, Joshua and Shanti Gamper Rabindran. *Operationalizing Solar Projects as an Equitable Economic Development Strategy: views of local communities in North Central*. Energy Research and Social Science. Forthcoming.
- Ash, Joshua. *All Eyes on Ecuador: Broad Implications for Citizen Suits, Freedom of Speech, and Access to Justice in Latin America*. ABA SEER Newsletter. Summer 2015.
- Ash, Joshua. *Science at the Grassroots Level*. OnTap Magazine. 2014.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- *Cement/Concrete Decarbonization Opportunities for the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program*. State Deployment Initiative January 2024 Conference.
- *Getting to the democratic roots of intergenerational inequity: a case study of three environmental constitutional amendments and their impacts on intergenerational justice*. Paper presented at the International Society of Justice Research 2021 Conference in Lisbon, Portugal and International Public Policy Association 2023 Conference in Toronto, Canada
- *The Ethics of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Environmental Law*. American Bar Association Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources Fall 2023 conference in Washington, DC.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

- **ABA Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources Membership Diversity Enhancement Program:** 2022-2023, 2023-2024 co-chair
- **ABA Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources Pro-bono Initiative:** client intake coordinator
- **University of Pittsburgh Decarbonization Committee:** PhD representative
- **University of Pittsburgh Sustainable Investor Strategies and Human Rights Working Group:** participant/ collaborator on project advising language for sustainable endowment ESG investment

- **GSPIA Policy Drafting Working Group:** graduate advisor, oversaw group of students draft proposed university policy to mitigate donor influence in externally funded research
- **In-house Council Committee Vice Chair, ABA Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources:** former Vice chair for membership
- **Leadership Development Program, ABA Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources:** 2019-2020 participant – developed 50 years of env. law curriculum and educational video content
- **International Environmental and Resources Law Committee Vice Chair, ABA Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources:** former Vice chair for membership, published in IERLC Newsletter

HONORS & AWARDS

- **Leadership Development Program, ABA Section of Environment, Energy, and Resources 2019-2020 participant** – developed 50 years of environmental law curriculum and educational video content
- **Eberly Scholar** – 2009-2010, 2010-2011
- **Gilman Scholar** – 2010
- **Eagle Scout** – 2007

TECHNICAL SKILLS / AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Law and Policy

- legal research and writing; document review (software: Relativity)
- contract review and negotiation in complex public private partnerships and infrastructure projects
- regulatory compliance training
- policy drafting/ policy analysis
- program evaluation
- stakeholder research and engagement
- discretionary grant management
- cost benefit analysis

Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Social Science Research

- focus groups, formal and semi-formal interviews
- regression analysis/ econometric analysis
- Q methodology
- Process tracing
- archival research
- logic models

Research and teaching experience:

- climate change law and policy (including state policy, IJJA, IRA, and CHIPS)
- environmental and land use law and policy (including NEPA, CWA, CAA, local zoning regulations, renewable energy siting, developments in federal and state environmental and energy caselaw, administrative law, environmental justice, energy transition policy, public participation in environmental governance, climate torts, public trust doctrine, ESG reporting, environmental policy, environmental constitutional rights and environmental justice)
- transportation law and policy (including IJJA, public involvement in transportation projects, MPOs, transportation related discretionary grant programs)
- environmental economics, politics, and advocacy
- contract law
- administrative law

LANGUAGES

- English (native) & French (proficient)