

## **Biography**

### **Panel I:**

**Michael Gerrard** is a professor at Columbia Law School, founding director of its Sabin Center for Climate Change Law, and former chair of the faculty of Columbia's Earth Institute. Before joining the Columbia faculty in 2009 he practiced environmental law in New York City for 30 years, most recently as partner in charge of the New York office of Arnold & Porter. He is author or editor of 13 books on environmental law, including most recently *Legal Pathways to Deep Decarbonization in the United States* (with John Dernbach).

**Ge Feng** is an adjunct Professor at Vermont Law School and is now the legal advisor to Friends of Nature, one of the first and the leading NGOs in China that practice EPIL. In her capacity being the director of legal program of Friends of Nature, the organization filed numerous influential environmental public-interest cases. She has also actively engaged in legislation process of amending the existing laws (i.e, Environmental Protection Law, 2014) and establishing new legislations such as Soil Pollution Prevention Law in 2018. She was also the co-editor of the book "Review of Public-interest Litigation in Environment Protection (2015, 2016).

**Zhao Huiyu** is an associate professor at Shanghai Jiao Tong University School of Law, Ph.D. in environmental law,. Engaged in the research of Environmental, Natural Resource, and Energy law after graduation. Including Chinese/ comparative/ international environmental law. She has rich practical experience Working in Shanghai procuratorate and environmental protection agencies in China; each has more than two years with Leadership positions. She published dozens of articles in Chinese, English, and Japanese. Lectures in many countries, including summer program at the Vermont Law School in the United States and the New York University Shanghai project.

### **Panel II:**

**Zachary Clopton** is a Professor of Law at Northwestern Pritzker School of Law. His research focuses on issues of civil litigation, judicial administration, and public policy. Professor Clopton previously served as a law professor at Cornell Law School, an Assistant United States Attorney, and a judicial clerk to the Honorable Diane P. Wood of the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit. He is a member of the American Law Institute and the Academic Advisory Board to the Supreme Court Fellows Program.

**Lei Xie** is Professor in Governance at Shandong University. She received her PhD from Wageningen University. Before joining Shandong University, she lectured in Politics and International Relations at University of Exeter as Assistant Professor. Her research interests focus on global environmental governance and transnational environmental movement and specifics on China studies.

**Dr Lu Xu** is a senior lecturer at Lancaster University Law School, having previously taught at University of East Anglia and Strathclyde University, where he also completed his PhD. His current research interests are focusing on the emergence of a case law system in China and the use of cases in studying Chinese law, including in specific areas such as land registration and environmental litigation.

**Alex Wang** is a Professor of Law at UCLA School of Law. Prior to 2011, Wang was a senior attorney for the Natural Resources Defence Council (NRDC) based in Beijing and the founding director of NRDC's China Environmental Law & Governance Project. In this capacity, he worked with China's government agencies, legal community, and environmental groups to improve environmental rule of law and strengthen the role of the public in environmental protection. He helped to establish NRDC's Beijing office in 2006.

**Panel III:**

**Michael P. Vandenberg** is the David Daniels Allen Distinguished Chair of Law at Vanderbilt University Law School, Director of the Climate Change Research Network, and Co-Director of the Energy, Environment and Land Use Program. An award-winning teacher, Professor Vandenberg has published numerous articles and book chapters on private environmental governance and household energy use in peer-reviewed publications such as the Proceedings of the National Academies of Science, Nature Climate Change, and Energy Policy, and in legal publications such as the Columbia, NYU, and Cornell law reviews. Beyond Gridlock, his article on private climate governance with physicist Jonathan Gilligan, won the Morrison Prize as the top sustainability article in North America in 2015. His book with Professor Gilligan, Beyond Politics: The Private Governance Response to Climate Change, was published by Cambridge University Press in 2017, won the 2018 Chancellor's Award for Research, and was identified in the Environmental Forum as one of the top environmental law and policy books of the last 50 years. Prior to joining the Vanderbilt faculty Vandenberg was a partner at Latham & Watkins in Washington, D.C., and he served as Chief of Staff of the Environmental Protection Agency from 1993-95. He has been a visiting professor at Harvard, the University of Chicago, and the Wharton School. His research has been discussed in major media outlets such as National Public Radio's All Things Considered, National Geographic, USA Today, and the Washington Post. He is a member of the Board on Environmental Change and Society of the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine, and of the American College of Environmental Lawyers.

**Madison Condon** is an associate professor at Boston University School of Law where her current scholarship focuses on climate change's relationship to corporate governance, market risk, and regulation. Her experience includes litigating against regulatory rollbacks at New York University's Institute for Policy Integrity, clerking on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, and working on a Columbia University research project assessing the impact of climate-related water risk on a large sovereign wealth fund. She holds a JD from Harvard Law School, an MALD from Tufts University's Fletcher School, and a BS in Earth and Environmental Engineering from Columbia University.

**Xiangyi (Tami) Ren** is currently a Ph.D. student at University of Chicago, department of sociology. My intellectual interests focus on questions about knowledge making and social change, especially legal change under authoritarian China. Empirically, my work mainly focuses on the development of environmental public interest litigation (EPIL) regime in China. The paper I presented today is my first work on this topic, collaborated with Dr. Lili Liu who now works at Beijing Normal University, department of political science. The paper addressed the 'support structure' of environmental legal mobilization under authoritarian China where relevant legal organizational resources and legal opportunity structure are both limited. My current research continues to explore the development of public interest litigation regimes in China, in which I examine the different developmental trajectories between the lawmaking of EPIL and consumer public interest litigation (CPIL) regime.

**Yanmei LIN** is an Associate Professor of Law at Vermont Law School (VLS) and Associate Director of the U.S.-Asia Partnerships for Environmental Law at VLS. Her research and programmatic work focus on the rule of law development in China's environmental governance. She has led the development and the implementation of Partnership for Environmental Justice Project which supported the establishment a new Environment and Biodiversity Law Clinic in Yunnan Province to provide legal aid services to NGOs and vulnerable communities. Before she joined Vermont Law School, Yanmei was a program officer for American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative's China program. She holds a B.A. and Master of Laws from Fudan University and a LL.M. from New York University School of Law. She has a Ph.D. in Environmental and Resources Law from China University of Political Science and Law