

## ICUAS'19 CLE LEGAL TRACK SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

**ELEONORA BASSI** is a researcher and consultant with legal and philosophical background. She graduated in Law and holds a Ph.D. in Legal Theory (University of Torino). She worked at the Law School of the University of Torino (2008-2012) and at the Computer Science Department of the University of Trento (2012-2015). Currently she is Senior Research Fellow at the Nexa Center for Internet and Society of the Politecnico of Torino. Her research fields are privacy law, data governance, European IT policy, and legal theory.



**LAURIE R. BLANK** is a Clinical Professor of Law and the Director of the Center for International and Comparative Law and the International Humanitarian Law Clinic at Emory University School of Law, where she teaches the law of armed conflict and works directly with students to provide assistance to international tribunals, non-governmental organizations and militaries around the world on cutting edge issues in humanitarian law and human rights. Professor Blank is the co-author of *International Law and Armed Conflict: Fundamental Principles and Contemporary Challenges in the Law of War*, a casebook on the law of war. She is also the co-director of a multi-year project on military training programs in the law of war and the co-author of *Law of War Training: Resources for Military and Civilian Leaders*. Professor Blank is a core expert on the Woomera Manual on International Law Applicable to Conflict in Outer Space and the Oslo Manual on Selected Problems in the Law of Armed Conflict, and the Chair of the American Society of International Law Lieber Prize Committee. Before coming to Emory, Professor Blank was a Program Officer in the Rule of Law Program at the United States Institute of Peace, where she directed the Experts' Working Group on International Humanitarian Law. Her education includes: JD, New York University School of Law (Henry L. Boudin Fellow for Human Rights, 1996–1998) (cum laude); MA, International Relations, The Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University (with distinction); AB, Political Science, Princeton University (cum laude).



**MARK BLANKS** is the director of the Virginia Tech Mid-Atlantic Aviation Partnership (MAAP) where he leads both the FAA-designated UAS Test Site and a UAS Integration Pilot Program (IPP). He has built successful UAS research programs at multiple universities, leveraging his extensive background in aircraft maintenance, flight test, and certification. Mr. Blanks joined Virginia Tech in August 2015, and has guided MAAP through remarkable growth while overseeing and expanding a substantial portfolio of operations and research. He plays an active role in policy and advocacy, serving on multiple unmanned systems-related boards—including recently completing a term on the AUVSI board—and chairing an ASTM subcommittee on UAS Flight Operations. Mr. Blanks is an instrument-rated pilot and aircraft mechanic.



**CHRISTOPHER (“CHRIS”) J. CHAN** is a Partner at Eversheds-Sutherland (US) LLC, in their Atlanta, GA office. Prior to entering the legal profession, Chris worked as a power industry engineer analyzing and resolving mechanical issues relating to power plant equipment and systems. He is skilled in identifying weaknesses in third-party patents and prepares non-infringement and invalidity opinions. He counsels clients on alternative options, including reexamination, design-around, and pre-litigation activities. Chris focuses on one of the fastest growing global IP issues: protecting and leveraging trademarks and IP on the Internet, including in social media, keywords and sponsored links and domain names. Chris also devises and implements proactive strategies to defend against aggressive patent holding companies. Whether advising in-house counsel at a Fortune 100 corporation, or counseling principals at a technology start-up, Chris Chan helps clients identify key intellectual property and implement state of the art legal strategies to protect it. His practice encompasses all facets of patent law including international and domestic portfolio management and strategy, patent procurement, opinions and clearance studies, due diligence, licensing and related litigation. Chris offers clients a unique combination of intellectual property legal knowledge, advanced technical training and an intimate understanding of the international marketplace. He obtains and enforces key patent, trademark, copyright and trade secret rights for a variety of technologies, from computers, software, and financial transaction systems, to power generation equipment and controls, electro-mechanical devices and medical devices.



**LIEUTENANT COLONEL SIMONE V. DAVIS** currently serves as Chief, Air and Space Law Division, Operations and International Law Directorate, Headquarters Air Force, Office of The Judge Advocate General, where she is responsible for providing advice to the Air Staff on status of forces and other international agreements, foreign criminal jurisdiction, foreign civil litigation, law of armed conflict, information operations, air and space law, operations and exercise plans and agreements, and similar matters involving international and operations law. In 1999, Lt Col Davis earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY; in 2002, a Juris Doctor from The Catholic University of America, Columbus School of Law, Washington, DC; and in 2015, a Master of Laws (LL.M.) in Air and Space Law from McGill University. Lieutenant Colonel Davis received a direct commission in 2006 and has served in a wide variety of military assignments, in the continental U.S. and overseas, including a deployment to Afghanistan and as Chief, Air and Space Operations Law at the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) and United States Northern Command (USNORTHCOM). She is admitted to practice law in Maryland and the District of Columbia.

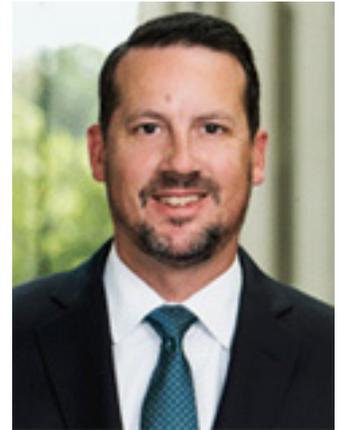


**CHARLES (“CHARLIE”) J. DUNLAP** joined the Duke Law faculty in July 2010 where he is a professor of the practice of law and Executive Director of the Center on Law, Ethics and National Security. He holds degrees from St. Joseph’s University (PA), Villanova University School of Law, and is a Distinguished Graduate of the National War College. Dunlap retired from the Air Force in June 2010, having attained the rank of major general during a 34-year career in the Judge Advocate General Corps. His teaching and scholarly writings focus on a wide range of national and international security issues, and his writings relating to drones include “Drones: are we seeing the dawn of a new and threatening era? (Yes!),” Lawfire, Aug 7, 2018; “Civilian Casualties, Drones, Airstrikes and the Perils of Policy”, War on the Rocks, May 11, 2015; and “Drones versus their Critics: A Victory for President Obama’s War Powers Legacy?” Small Wars Journal, Oct 15, 2015. His blog is LAWFIRE®



<https://sites.duke.edu/lawfire/>.

**DEAN E. GRIFFITH** is Counsel at Jones Day, Washington, D.C., where he counsels clients on aviation regulatory matters, drawing on his nearly 10-year career at the FAA. Dean's experience ranges from traditional aircraft regulation to UAS law and policy. He advises domestic and international clients on FAA safety and certification requirements, aircraft registration standards, use of corporate aircraft, airspace obstruction evaluation requirements, as well as international aviation regulations. He also assists clients with UAS regulatory compliance and operational approvals, corporate UAS policies, and review of proposed legislation and regulations. As the Chief Counsel's UAS regulatory policy team lead, he counseled agency decision makers on rulemaking, exemptions, and policy development related to unmanned aircraft. Dean graduated obtained his law degree from The Catholic University of America (J.D. 2006; Production Editor, Catholic University Law Review); and his undergraduate degree from Syracuse University (B.A. 1995). Dean has extensive government experience, is widely published, and has a deep knowledge of UAS law, policy and regulation. Dean is also the Co-Chair of the American Bar Association's Drone Law Committee.



**RICHARD ("RICH") GROSS** is a retired U.S. Army brigadier general who served over 30 years as an infantry officer and judge advocate, to include multiple tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. In the latter part of his career, he was the principal legal advisor for the Joint Special Operations Command; U.S. Forces-Afghanistan/NATO International Security Assistance Force; and U.S. Central Command. During his final four years on active duty, Rich was the Legal Counsel to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Following his retirement from the military, he worked as both in-house counsel and outside counsel. He currently serves as an Associate at the Lieber Institute at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and as a Distinguished Fellow at UVA Law School's Center for National Security Law. He also sits on the board of directors for three nonprofits serving the veteran community. Rich is a graduate of the U.S. Military Academy (B.S. in Computer Science); the University of Virginia School of Law (J.D.); the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Legal Center & School (LL.M); and the U.S. Army War College (Masters in Strategic Studies). He currently works as a consultant and public speaker.



**PIOTR KASPRZYK** has a Ph.D. in Law, is an Attorney at Law, and a Research Fellow at the Institute of Air and Space Law at Lazarski University in Warsaw, Poland. Dr. Kasprzyk is also the Chief of the Legal Department of a new Central Polish Airport, the former vice-president for aviation standards of the Civil Aviation Authority in Poland, and a former plenipotentiary for air navigation standards at the Polish Air Navigation Service Agency. He is an active member of the European Air Law Association, providing legal support for airlines, aircraft operators and owners, airport operators, air navigation service providers, aero clubs, air traffic controllers and pilot's unions. Dr. Kasprzyk has 12 years of experience in Aviation Law and 20 years of experience in aviation as a private pilot.



**ANNA KONERT** is currently the Dean, Faculty of Law and Administration as well as an Air Law Professor, Director of Institute of Air & Space Law, Lazarski University, Warsaw, Poland. Dr. Konert is a graduate of the Faculty of Law and Administration of the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń (2005). She obtained her PhD at the Faculty of Law and Administration of the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń (2009), and was awarded the post-doctoral degree at the Faculty of Law and Administration of the Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń (2015). Dr. Konert has been a Lecturer at Lazarski University Faculty of Law and Administration since 2009. Her research areas include: aviation law, space law, civil law (liabilities), European law, and international law. Honorary member of the European Aviation Club (since 2014). Her professional and social memberships include: Director of the Institute of Air and Space Law (since 2014); Vice President of the Polish Aviation Club (2013-2016); and Member of the Board of the European Air Law Association (since 2013). Dr. Konert is widely published and an expert on RPAS.



**COLONEL LINELL A. LETENDRE** is the Permanent Professor and Head of the Department of Law at the United States Air Force Academy. She leads a team of twenty faculty and staff in the design and teaching of nineteen core and elective law courses, in scholarship across a variety of disciplines, in the legal support to the administration of the Cadet Honor System, and in the development of officers of character for the U.S. Air Force. Prior to this assignment, Colonel Letendre served as a Staff Judge Advocate at Scott Air Force and also represented the Air Force in appellate review of all courts-martial as the Deputy Chief Trial and Appellate Counsel. She previously served as the Legal Advisor for the DoD Comprehensive Review Working Group (CRWG) where she advised on legal and policy issues surrounding repeal of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell.” She also defended the Air Force in a range of federal civil litigation involving military personnel, served as Chief of Strategic Communication for The Judge Advocate General, and defended Airmen as an area defense counsel. Her recent research and publications have focused on the overlap of technology and the law, specifically in the autonomy and AI arenas. Colonel Letendre graduated from the Air Force Academy in 1996 as a Distinguished Graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in Astronautical Engineering. She received her juris doctorate (with High Honors) from the University of Washington in 2001 and earned her M.S. (as a Distinguished Graduate) in national security strategy with a focus on robotics and autonomy from the Eisenhower School at National Defense University in 2015.



**JESSICA (“ZHANNA”) MALEKOS SMITH** Jessica ‘Zhanna’ Malekos Smith, is the Reuben Everett Cyber Scholar at Duke University Law School. Previously, she served as a Captain in the U.S. Air Force Judge Advocate General’s Corps. Prior to military service, Malekos Smith was a post-doctoral fellow at the Belfer Center’s Cyber Security Project at the Harvard Kennedy School. She holds a J.D. from the University of California, Davis; a B.A. from Wellesley College, where she was a Fellow of the Madeleine Korbelt Albright Institute for Global Affairs; and is finishing her M.A. with the Department of War Studies at King’s College London. Malekos Smith has presented her research at DEF CON, RSA, and ShmooCon, among others, and has been published in the Harvard Kennedy School Review, Defense One, and The Cipher Brief.



**JUSTIN MARTIN** is an Associate General Counsel at the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI). Justin is an innovative in-house corporate counsel supporting general and special business operations for a mix of executive, law department and business matters at the strategic, technical and membership levels of the Institute's work in the electric power sector. His subject-matter responsibilities include antitrust, privacy, government contracts, drones, intellectual property, technology licensing, tax, real estate, and bankruptcy. Mr. Martin is a two-time graduate of the University of Tennessee, where he obtained his B.A. in Philosophy and American Studies in 1995 and his J.D. from their George C. Taylor Law Center, with an emphasis in Business Transactions, Admiralty and Trial Practice in 2000. Last year he gave the Energy Bar Association its inaugural TED Talk on the holistic impacts of new technologies in the power industry. Justin is the Immediate Past President of the Tennessee Chapter of the Association of Corporate Counsel (ACC), 2019 ACC Annual Meeting Program Chair for Law Department Management, and is co-chair and co-organizer for the ICUAS '19 CLE Legal Track.



**SARAH J. NILSSON** has both an aviation and a legal background. She began her career as a pilot in 1994. She holds an ATP in multi and single engine fixed-wing airplanes, a gold seal CFI, CFII, MEI, and a small UAS pilot certificate. In 2014, Sarah began her legal career, becoming founder and managing attorney of Nilsson Law, PLLC. Since 2015, she has been full-time faculty at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (ERAU) in Prescott, Arizona, teaching Aviation Law, Global UAS Regulations, Global UAS Risk Management, UAS Ground School, How to start a small UAS Business, Business Law, and Business Ethics. Sarah volunteers as a FAA Safety Team Representative with the Scottsdale Flight Standards District Office (FSDO). Sarah is co-author of the 6th edition of Practical Aviation and Aerospace Law, with Scott Hamilton. In 2017, she published her own book on U.S. Drone Law for the American Bar Association entitled Drones Across America. She makes multiple media appearances as an expert in UAS regulation, law, and policy and has published many articles and research documents for the FAA and NASA.



**FRANCIS ("FRANK") X. NOLAN IV** currently serves as Counsel, at Eversheds-Sutherland (US) LLC, in their New York office. Frank represents private and publicly traded companies across all industries in federal and state litigation and arbitration around the country, with a focus on commercial and consumer litigation, including class actions. He also litigates and arbitrates business-to-business disputes, counsels clients on pre-litigation and compliance matters, advises on contractual issues, as well as defends and counsels companies facing claims or compliance issues arising from insurance and financial regulations, biometric protection and other privacy laws, and a wide variety of consumer protection statutes, including the Telephone Consumer Protection Act. Frank presents and publishes regularly on these and other topics, including drone privacy and biometrics. Before joining the firm, Frank was an associate at an international law firm in New York. Prior to entering the legal field, Frank worked as a policy analyst for the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisitions, where he focused on Congressional relations. In a similar capacity, he assisted the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisitions. Frank is also on the Board of several non-profits.



**CLAUDETTE W. PATTON** is a consummate networker and encourager now that she's retired from the full-time practice of law. Founding ChildAdvocateLaw.com in 2017, she now draws upon her legal and education experience to help children gain access to justice, education and benefits. She is a three-time graduate of the University of Louisville earning a Bachelor of Science, Master's in Education, and Juris Doctor degree. She was a Member of law review, The Journal of Family law, and Editor of the Journal of Law and Education. As a former Assistant Attorney General for the Commonwealth of Kentucky, Law Clerk for the US District Court Western Division, university professor and successful litigator, she was moved in 2017 by the American Bar Association's call to action to find solutions for colleagues seeking to recover from stress, burnout and substance abuse. Claudette's passion for mentoring and positioning others for success is evident by her recent completion of doctoral coursework in leadership and organizational effectiveness. Her focus is on the many aspects of workplace culture that improve engagement, foster well-being and avoid burnout, such as meaningful work, positive leadership, resiliency training and more. Her frequent speaking engagements reach coast to coast and thousands of lawyers have benefitted from her expertise, insights and encouragement. Claudette is an author, national legal education speaker, motivational trainer and board member for several nonprofits, including the Girl Scouts of Kentuckiana, Miss Kentucky Scholarship Organization Foundation and the Olive Branch Foundation. She is a youth advisor for the US Congressional Award Foundation, serves as a mentor for at-risk youth, and helps support cadets at the National Guard Challenge Academy. In 2018, the White House recognized her for lifetime achievement with the President's Volunteer Service Award for youth mentorship and community service. Claudette and her husband have one daughter and reside in Kentucky and Idaho with their three rescue dogs and bird.



**JAMES ("JIM") W. PATTON** is both a legal and business executive in the senior living and long-term care communities. He has over 20 years of experience managing executive relationships and is recognized as an ethical team player delivering streamlined and cost-efficient legal solutions that foster organizational effectiveness, brand engagement, and revenue growth. His colleagues see him as a strategic legal and entrepreneurial thinker with proven ability to set a clear vision, build high performance teams, communicate with stakeholders, and transact business in cross-cultural settings. He currently serves as Chief Legal Officer and Vice President of Advancement for The Broadhurst Group in Louisville, KY overseeing senior care communities across Kentucky. Jim graduated with his LLM in international law from the University of Miami. He holds a J.D. from the Brandeis School of Law at the University of Louisville, and a M.Div. from the Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary. He is an author, legal education speaker and provides leadership to several nonprofits including Appleseed Network, Association of Corporate Counsel (ACC), Minority Corporate Counsel Association and others. He is the founder of National Community Service Day for ACC helping build corporate social responsibility programs. Jim also serves as an Ambassador for ACC's global wellness initiative. He is a youth mentor and advisor for the US Congressional Award Foundation and the President's Volunteer Service Award.



**JAMES O. POSS**, Maj. Gen. U.S. Air Force, Retired, is the CEO of ISR Ideas, an intelligence and unmanned aerial systems consulting firm. He holds degrees in Political Science (BA), International Relations (MA), National Security and Strategic Studies (MA), and completed the Executive Seminar in International Relations and National Security Studies at Harvard University. He is the founder and former Executive Director of the Alliance for System Safety of UAS through Research Excellence (ASSURE), FAA Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) Center of Excellence Team. ASSURE is one of the top U.S., Canadian, Israeli and British UAS Research Universities with 100+ corporate members tasked to solve the FAA's UAS research issues. Poss' ASSURE UAS team won the competition for the FAA's Unmanned Research Center against teams that included MIT, Stanford and Michigan. He is a 30-year U.S. Air Force veteran with combat experience in four wars, and he was the Air Force's Senior Career Intelligence Officer at his transition from active service in November 2012. He is a leading expert on UAS, having helped designed the US Air Force's remote split operations system for UAS control and the Distributed Common Ground Station for UAS intelligence analysis. Gen Poss also has extensive experience in cyber operations from his assignments with the National Security Agency and as the Air Force lead for stand-up of US Cyber Command. He received his commission through the Reserve Officer Training Corps program at the University of Southern Mississippi. He flew RC-135 sensitive reconnaissance missions during the Cold War, served in DESERT STORM with the U.S. VII Corps RC-12 Guardrail Battalion in Saudi Arabia, commanded an RC-135 squadron during the Kosovo Air War and was Director of Intelligence for Coalition Air Forces in Southwest Asia at the beginning of Operation Enduring Freedom. The General commanded the 488th Intelligence Squadron, Royal Air Force Mildenhall, the 609th Air Intelligence Group at Shaw AFB, SC and 70th Intelligence Wing at Fort George G. Meade, MD. General Poss served as the Director of Intelligence at both Headquarter U.S. Air Forces in Europe and Air Combat Command. His final assignment was Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance, Headquarters U.S. Air Force. He is the 2012 winner of Aviation Week's Curtis Sword Award for his leadership in Anglo-American aerospace relations



**FULVIA QUAGLIOTTI** is Professor, Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Politecnico di Torino, Italy. Dr. Quagliotti is a renowned UAS expert, serving as a member of the Executive Advisory Board of Journal of Intelligent & Robotic Systems Springer, World Air Sport Federation (FAI) Education Expert Group Member and as an Associate Fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. Dr. Quagliotti has a lengthy affiliation with the International Conference on Unmanned Aircraft Systems and is currently a member of its 2019 Steering Committee.



**M. ANNE SWANSON** is a Partner at Wilkinson, Barker, Knauer, in Washington, D.C. Anne is a seasoned administrative law expert who helps navigation, aviation, communications, and unmanned vehicle companies solve their regulatory problems. During her 30-plus year career, she has worked on a wide variety of agency rulemakings, enforcement matters, mergers, and financial transactions involving GPS and other device manufacturers, media firms, aviation companies, and investors. Her practice focuses on complex spectrum issues and new technologies, such as unmanned aerial vehicles and "smart transportation" systems. While her work frequently focuses initially on agency-based challenges – usually before the FAA, FCC, or NTIA – she has utilized clever legislative and



judicial strategies, when necessary, to obtain the administrative results clients desire. Ms. Swanson has been recognized by leading publications like Chambers USA, Legal 500, and Super Lawyers as one of the nation's top administrative lawyers. Anne is president of the DC Capital Chapter of the Association of Unmanned Vehicles International ("AUVSI"), serves on the chapter's Executive Committee and is also vice chair of AUVSI's National President's Council. Anne is 1979 graduate of Yale Law School, where she received her Juris Doctorate. In the same year, she attained her M.P.A. from the Princeton University, Woodrow Wilson School. She also obtained an L.L.M. from Georgetown University Law Center in 1997.

**DAWN M.K. ZOLDI** serves as Associate General Counsel, Business Matters Attorney for the United States Air Force Academy, Secretary of the Air Force, Office of the General Counsel, with duties located at the Academy in Colorado, and the Pentagon. In this capacity, she advises the Secretary of the Air Force and Air Staff as well as the three-star Academy Superintendent and Academy senior leaders on Air Force and Department of Defense-level statutory, regulatory, and policy foundations to ensure legal compliance and bolster academics, research (including unmanned aircraft systems), athletics, base operating support, and cadet-related programs. Ms. Zoldi was admitted to the Bar of the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in 1992 and commissioned through direct appointment in the United States Air Force in July 1993. In her almost 25 years of active duty as a member of the Judge Advocate General's Corps, Ms. Zoldi ultimately attained the rank of Colonel and performed a myriad of duties at various command eschelons in the continental U.S. and deployed forward. Ms. Zoldi is an internationally recognized expert in UAS law, regulation and policy, frequently presents, and is widely published - most recently as co-author of three chapters, and editor of the Law and Policy Section, *Handbook of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles, 2nd Edition*, Springer Publishing (2018). Ms. Zoldi is co-chair and co-organizer for the ICUAS '19 CLE Legal Track.

