

Alumni Newsletter • August 2025

Editor-in-Chief's Note



Serving as the editor-in-chief for Asian Law Review's 20th volume has been an absolute honor. I am enormously grateful to our incredible editors (the largest

board in the journal's history) who balanced classes, exams, pro bono, legal clinics, and the occasional Thursday evening Bar Review outing with their journal duties. The world has undergone seismic cultural, political, and technological shifts over the past two decades, and the legal world continues to adapt to new norms. Fittingly, the traditional gift for 20th anniversaries is fine china, which has been prized for centuries for its simple elegance and remarkable durability. This happy coincidence also provides an opportunity to reflect on how our journal's thematic focus has expanded over the years, from just China to the entire Asian Pacific and to Asian communities worldwide. This year, we published articles covering China, Japan, Saudi Arabia, and other regions, addressing topics such as environmentalism, hostile takeovers, and judicial reform. I am confident that I am leaving the Asian Law Review in capable hands as it enters its third decade. Preston McIntyre Sundin L'25

Greetings From Incoming Editorin-Chief



My name is Madison, and I am the incoming Editor-in-Chief for Volume 21. Thank you for your contributions to the journal. Being part of the ALR community

has been a highlight of my time at Penn Carey Law—it allowed me to connect with friends across class years and explore novel legal issues throughout the Asian continent. I am excited to continue the journal's publication of compelling scholarship in the year ahead. Please don't hesitate to reach out with any feedback or if you have topical writing you'd like to publish. Wishing you all the best in the coming year. **Madison Kang L'26**

Reflections From Faculty Advisor



The University of
Pennsylvania Asian
Law Review this year
celebrates twenty
years of publication.
This journal—which
has now been alive
almost as long as
members of its current
staff—has had a

remarkable history, and I am delighted to have

been a fan and marginal participant in its success.

ALR began life as the China Law and Policy Review, transitioned a couple of years later to the East Asia Law review, and a decade ago became the Asian Law Review. Its origin story is exceptional. Most law reviews in the United States are, of course, student-run. But the journal that is now ALR was truly student created. A cohort of Penn Law students with an interest in Asian law, led by Matthew Erie (now a law professor at American University and a leading authority on Chinese law) took the initiative—and undertook extraordinary efforts—to establish what has become a premier publication in a much-expanded field. ALR is also distinctive in that it provides a rare opportunity for J.D. and LLM students to work together on a scholarly journal. The journal is also notable for its publication of a large body of work by scholars from the region.

As the changing names reflect, the subject matter scope of the journal has expanded. Over the years, it has published some of the most important articles of the period on law in Asian systems and Asian systems' engagement with international law. The range of topics is vast and encompasses issues of academic and policy significance: law and

society in Asia, administrative law and procedure in China and Japan, legal responses to COVID in the region, international arbitration, a host of corporate governance, securities, and other business law and economic law topics, constitutional law, criminal law, human rights, intellectual property, and much more. The regional reach has become extensive as well, reaching many parts of the world's largest, most populous, and legally diverse continent. The journal has been especially strong on China, with impressive articles on Japan, Korea, Taiwan and Hong Kong as well, along with notable pieces on Southeast Asia, India, and other parts of the region too.

The scholarship that has appeared in ALR's (and EALR's) pages includes work by the most eminent and established figures in the field and by earlier-stage emerging scholars. Some of the latter have gone on to become the former, and the latter group includes students whose work has been published in ALR/EALR.

The journal's accomplishments to date have been outstanding, thanks to the work of the students who have served on its staff and in leadership positions. I'm confident that current and future occupants of those roles will sustain ALR's traditions and trajectory. Jacques deLisle, Stephen A. Cozen Professor of Law

Congrats to the Class of 2025



Caroline Carothers is headed to Freshfields in Silicon Valley.



Victoria Chandra is headed to Paul, Weiss in New York.



Olivia Heffernan is headed to Faegre Drinker in Philadelphia.



Haofei Liu is headed to Willkie Farr in Washington DC.



Yuan Pan is headed to Fried Frank in New York.



Preston McIntyre Sundin is headed to Morrison Foerster in New York.



Constance Jinghan Xu is headed to Sullivan & Cromwell in New York.

Alumni Updates

Matthew Erie L'08 Editor-in-Chief After ten years teaching at the University of Oxford, I'm excited to return to the States where I'll be an Associate Professor of Law at American University Washington College of Law. The challenges facing higher education, law schools, and lawyers are daunting. I feel there is nothing more professionally valuable that I could be doing than supporting the instruction of law in the US in this moment. I'm particularly excited to be teaching international and comparative law and to be working with students from the US and around the world. At AUWCL, I'll be teaching International Business Transactions, Property, and Chinese Law. Following up the six-year-long "China, Law and Development" project (https://cld.web.ox.ac.uk/home) I headed at Oxford, I'll be starting a new project at AUWCL called "The Future of International Development" which will feature a number of workshops in DC, Oxford, and Beijing on the future of international aid and development. I look forward to seeing any ALR editorial staff members (past or present) in DC.

Katie Roney L'09 *Editor-in-Chief* I'm still working as an attorney but also running a large Pilates studio in SF.

Benjamin Simler L'10 *Internet and Technology Editor; Managing Editor; Alumni Editor* After spending my final semester of law school doing an exchange program at Tel Aviv University, I began my career as an IP litigator at Irell & Manella in Los Angeles. I later moved to Denver and continued my practice at Holland & Hart, and have been back in Philly since 2021 where I now work at Ballard Spahr.

Yuni Yan Sobel L'10 Articles Editor Since graduation, I've been working as a transactional antitrust lawyer in New York City. I am a partner at Paul Weiss and married fellow ALR editor David Sobel and we have two boys still living in NYC.

Nirav N. Mehta L'11 *Editor-in-Chief* I have been practicing in Tokyo since 2013, most recently at Sullivan & Cromwell (since 2018). I specialize in capital markets and securities, and also do some M&A and other corporate work. I would love to hear from current or former (E)ALR members in town!

Jason Xu L'15 *Symposium Editor* I am currently living in Shenzhen, China and working as the International Partner at King & Wood Mallesons.

Daniel Stepanicich L'16 *Production Editor* I'm currently a Deputy Division Chief at the Federal Communications Commission overseeing all robocalling enforcement efforts for the agency.

Wooseok Ki L'21 Senior Editor I'm now working in music/entertainment transactions representing recording artists and producers across music, M&A, brand endorsement, etc. deals.

Caitlin Kim L'23 Managing Editor I'm a finance associate at Debevoise & Plimpton LLP.

Alexander Holmgren L'23 Executive Editor; Production Editor I'm clerking on the Third Circuit and then the Southern District of New York!

Andrew Masaru Orita L'23 *Editor-in-Chief; Executive Editor* I'm grinding each day away at Davis Polk & Wardwell in Tokyo.

Adam Zhang L'24 *Managing Editor* After almost a year of working in big law, I have slowly become more adept with the pace and work style. Found my niche in capital market's equity-linked derivatives practice! Living happily with my fiancée and cat.

Stay Connected

Check out ALR's <u>website</u> (https://www.upennasianlawreview.com/) and Instagram (@pennalr) for updates. Or drop us a line at upennalr@law.upenn.edu. Please write **Alumni Update** in the subject line.

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^{*} Asian Law Review Board as of May 2025. Does not contain new associate editors who will join in the Fall. Look for the finalized masthead later this year.