

The New Police Science: Police Powers in Comparative Perspective

Saturday and Sunday • June 12 - 13, 2004 • 545 O'Brian Hall



On June 12-13, 2004 the Baldy Center for Law & Social Policy hosted a workshop on "**The New Police Science: Police Powers in Comparative Perspective**" organized by **Markus Dubber**, Director of the Buffalo Criminal Law Center and Professor of Law, SUNY Buffalo Law School together with **Mariana Valverde**, Centre of Criminology, University of Toronto. The event was co-hosted by the Buffalo Criminal Law Center.

The workshop brought together an interdisciplinary international group of scholars to explore various aspects of the police power as a modern technology of governance. The police power -- understood as the power to maintain "peace, order, and good government" -- pervades all aspects and levels of modern government. It is so essential to the very idea of government that it (1) underlies such diverse technologies of government as liquor licensing and the criminal law, (2) is claimed by city governments as well as county, state, and national governments, and (3) appears, in various forms--and under various names--in the practices and theories of governance of various modern legal systems, including not only the United States and Canada, but the United Kingdom and continental Europe (the home of the original "police science") as well. Despite its widely acknowledged persistence as a phenomenon, the police power today has all but disappeared as a subject. The study of some of its components instead has been dispersed among a wide range of disciplines, including social and political theory, legal theory and history, criminology, and feminist studies. "The New Police Science: Police Powers in Comparative Perspective" aimed to reclaim the police power as an important subject for scholarly inquiry.

Participants:

Mitchell Dean,
Department of Sociology,
Macquarie University,
Australia

Alan Hunt, Department of
Law & Department of
Sociology/Anthropology,
University of Carleton, Ottawa

Mark Neocleous, School of
International Studies, Brunel
University, London

Markus Dubber
Law School, SUNY Buffalo

Ron Levi, Centre of
Criminology, University of
Toronto

Christopher Tomlins,
American Bar Foundation,
Chicago

Lindsay Farmer, School
of Law, University of
Glasgow

Mariana Valverde, Centre of
Criminology, University of
Toronto

For further information:

Contact Joseph Schneider, Asst. Director, Buffalo Criminal Law Center at <http://wings.buffalo.edu/law/bclc>; e-mail: jes2@buffalo.edu or tel.: (716) 645-3407 with questions regarding the substance of the workshop.

Baldy Center for Law & Social Policy
511 O'Brian Hall
University at Buffalo Law School
The State University of New York, Buffalo, NY 14260
tel: (716) 645-2102; fax: (716) 645-2900;
baldyctr@buffalo.edu; www.law.buffalo.edu/baldycenter