

5/2023

DAVID M. ENGEL

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Professional History

SUNY Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus (2019 – present)

SUNY Distinguished Service Professor (2004 – 2019)

Professor of Law (1985 – present), Associate Professor of Law (1981 – 1985), State University of New York at Buffalo Law School.

Sturm Distinguished Visiting Professor (2005-2006), Sturm College of Law, University of Denver.

Director of International Programs, UB Law School (2002 – 2008); Vice Dean for Interdisciplinary Studies (1998 – 2001); Director, Christopher Baldy Center for Law and Social Policy (1992 – 2001).

Visiting Professor (Summer 1984) University of Michigan Law School.

Research Fellow (1976 – 1981) American Bar Foundation.

Fellow (1974 – 1976) Foreign Area Fellowship Program, Social Science Research Council.

Peace Corps Volunteer (1968 – 1971) Songkhla, Thailand: Educational Supervisor.

Education

LL.D. (hon)	Chiang Mai University (Thailand), 2010
J.D.	University of Michigan Law School, 1974
M.A.	University of Michigan Center for South and Southeast Asian Studies, 1974
A.B.	Harvard College (American History and Literature), 1967

Honors and Awards

2019 Legacy Award, Law & Society Association (for “Significant Contributions and Sustained Commitment”)

2017 Harry J. Kalven Award, Law & Society Association (for “Outstanding Scholarship in Law and Society”).

2017 International Award, Council on International Studies and Programs (CISP), University at Buffalo, State University of New York (for “Outstanding Contributions to International Education at UB”).

2011 Honorary Doctor of Laws, Chiang Mai University Faculty of Law, conferred by Her Royal Highness the Crown Princess of Thailand Maha Chakri Sirindhorn.

2011 Honorable Mention, Jacobs Book Prize, Law & Society Association (for *Tort, Custom, and Karma: Globalization and Legal Consciousness in Thailand* co-authored with Jaruwan S. Engel)

2010 Distinguished Service Award, Buffalo Law Review.

2004 Honorable Mention, Jacobs Book Prize, Law & Society Association (for *Rights of Inclusion: Law and Identity in the Life Stories of Americans with Disabilities* co-authored with Frank Munger).

2003 Myers Outstanding Book Award (for *Rights of Inclusion: Law and Identity in the Life Stories of Americans with Disabilities* co-authored with Frank Munger).

2002 University at Buffalo Exceptional Scholar Award.

President, Law & Society Association, 1997-98.

1996-1997 Article Prize, Law & Society Association (for “Rights, Remembrance, and the Reconciliation of Difference” co-authored with Frank Munger).

1995-1996 Jacobs Book Prize, Law & Society Association (for *Law and Community in Three American Towns* co-authored with Carol Greenhouse and Barbara Yngvesson).

1995 Faculty Award, Students of Color Recognition Dinner, University at Buffalo School of Law.

Books

The Asian Law and Society Reader. Cambridge University Press (2023) (with Lynette Chua and Sida Liu).

Research Handbook on the Civil Justice System. Edward Elgar Publishing (in progress) (ed. With Anne Bloom and Richard Jolly).

Injury and Injustice: The Cultural Politics of Harm and Redress. Cambridge University Press (2018) (ed. with Anne Bloom and Michael McCann).

The Myth of the Litigious Society: Why We Don't Sue. University of Chicago Press (2016).

Tort, Custom, and Karma: Globalization and Legal Consciousness in Thailand. Stanford University Press (2010) (with Jaruwan Engel).

Fault Lines: Tort Law as Cultural Practice. Stanford University Press (2009) (ed. with Michael McCann).

Rights of Inclusion: Life Stories of Identity, Disability, and Law. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2003 (with Frank W. Munger).

Crossing Boundaries: Traditions and Transformations in Law and Society Research. Edited and with an Introduction co-authored with Austin Sarat, Marianne Constable, Valerie Hans, and Susan Lawrence. Evanston: Northwestern University Press, 1998.

Everyday Practices and Trouble Cases. Edited and with an Introduction co-authored with Austin Sarat, Marianne Constable, Valerie Hans, and Susan Lawrence. Evanston: Northwestern University Press, 1998.

Law and Community in Three American Towns. Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1994 (with Carol Greenhouse and Barbara Yngvesson).

Code and Custom in a Thai Provincial Court: The Interaction of Formal and Informal Systems of Justice. Tucson: University of Arizona Press, Association for Asian Studies Monograph Series, 1978.

Law and Kingship in Thailand During the Reign of King Chulalongkorn. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Center for South and Southeast Asian Studies, 1975.

Articles, Book Chapters, and Reviews

“Judging and Judgment in Contemporary Asia: Editor’s Introduction to Special Issue,” 8 *Asian Journal of Law and Society* 199-205 (2021).

“Legal Consciousness,” in Marianna Valverde, Kamari M. Clarke, Eve Darian Smith, and Prabha Kotiswaran, eds., *Routledge Handbook of Law and Society*, 187-191. Routledge Press (2021) (with Lynette Chua).

“States of Uncertainty: The Origins of *Law and Community in Three American Towns*,” in Festschrift for Carol Greenhouse, *PoLAR: Political and Legal Anthropology Review*, July 2020: <https://polarjournal.org/2020/07/05/states-of-uncertainty-the-origins-of-law-and-community-in-three-american-towns/>.

“Legal Consciousness Reconsidered,” 15 *Annual Review of Law and Social Science* 335-353 (2019) (with Lynette Chua).

“Looking Backward, Looking Forward: Past and Future Lives of ‘The Oven Bird’s Song,’” in Mary Nell Trautner, ed., *Insiders, Outsiders, Injuries, and Law in the 21st Century: Revisiting “The Oven Bird’s Song.”* Cambridge University Press (2018). [Collection of essays commemorating David M. Engel’s article, “The Oven Bird’s Song: Insiders, Outsiders, and Personal Injuries in an American Community” (1984)]

“Chairs, Stairs, and Automobiles: The Cultural Construction of Injuries and the Failed Promise of Law,” in *Injury and Injustice: The Cultural Politics of Harm and Redress.* Cambridge University Press (2018) (ed. with Anne Bloom and Michael McCann).

“Blood Curse and Belonging in Thailand: Law, Buddhism, and Legal Consciousness,” 3 *Asian Journal of Law and Society* 71-83 (2016). Revised and published in Andrew Harding

- and Munin Pongsapan, eds., *Thai Legal History: From Traditional to Modern Law*, 89-99. Cambridge University Press (2021).
- “State and Personhood in Southeast Asia: The Promise and Potential for Law and Society Research,” 2 *Asian Journal of Law and Society* 211-28 (2015) (with Lynette Chua).
- “Keynote Address: Reimagining Law and Society Research in Southeast Asia,” *Chiang Mai University Law Review* (2015).
- “Rights as Wrongs: Legality and Sacrality in Thailand,” 39 *Asian Studies Review* 38-52 (2015).
- “Religion, Modernity, and Injury in Thailand,” in Franz von Benda-Beckmann et al., eds., *Religion in Disputes: Pervasiveness of Religious Normativity in Disputing Processes*, 215-230. Palgrave (2013).
- “Perception and Decision at the Threshold of Tort Law: Explaining the Infrequency of Claims,” Eighteenth Annual Clifford Symposium on Tort Law and Social Policy, 62 *DePaul Law Review* 293 (2013). Translated into Japanese and published in *Law As Everyday Practice: Sociology of Law on Clinical Knowledge (In Honor of Prof. Dr. Yoshitaka Wada)*, Hidekazu Nishida and Kenji Yamamoto, eds. (2016).
- “Vertical and Horizontal Perspectives on Rights Consciousness,” 20 *Indiana Journal of Global Legal Studies* 423 (2012) (featured article in symposium with responses by Carol Greenhouse, Michael McCann, Duncan McCargo, and Arzo Osanloo).
- “The Uses of Legal Culture in Contemporary Socio-Legal Studies: A Response to Sally Engle Merry,” in David Nelken, ed., *Using Legal Culture*, 77-85. Wildy, Simmonds & Hill (2012).
- “‘The Spirits Were Always Watching’: Buddhism, Secular Law, and Social Change in Thailand,” in Winnifred Fallers Sullivan, Robert A. Yelle, and Mateo Taussig-Rubbo, eds., *After Secular Law*, 242-260. Stanford University Press (2011).
- “Uprooted Justice: Transformations of Law and Everyday Life in Northern Thailand,” 29 *Wisconsin International Law Journal* 343 (2011).
- “Kanbanyaiphiset ruang lokaphiwat lae nitisamnük [Commencement Lecture on Globalization and Legal Consciousness],” *Raphiphattanasak* 2554, 115-127. Chiangmai, Thailand: Prince Ratburi Direkrit Foundation (2011) (in Thai).
- “Review: *Truth on Trial in Thailand: Defamation, treason, and lèse-majesté*, by David Streckfuss,” 19 *Southeast Asia Research* 648-54 (2011).
- “Lumping as Default in Tort Cases: The Cultural Interpretation of Injury and Causation,” 44 *Loyola of Los Angeles Law Review* 33 (2010).
- “The Uses of Legal Culture in Contemporary Socio-Legal Studies: A Response to Sally Engle Merry,” 5 *Journal of Comparative Law* 59 (2010).

- “Discourses of Causation in Injury Cases: Exploring Thai and American Legal Cultures,” in *Fault Lines: Tort Law as Cultural Practice*. Engel & McCann, eds. Stanford: Stanford University Press (2009)
- “Landscapes of the Law: Injury, Remedy, and Social Change in Thailand,” 43 *Law & Society Review* 61-94 (2009). Selected for inclusion in *The Law & Society Reader II*, Larson and Schmidt, eds. New York: New York University Press (2014), pp. 293-300.
- “David Engel and ‘The Oven Bird’s Song,’” interview in Simon Halliday and Patrick Schmidt, eds. *Conducting Law and Society Research: Reflections on Methods and Practice*. Cambridge University Press (2009).
- “Religiosity and the Invocation of Law in the Conversation with the Dalai Lama,” 55 *Buffalo Law Review* 669 (2007).
- “Globalization and Law in Everyday Life” in *Encyclopedia of Law and Society: American and Global Perspectives*, David S. Clark, ed. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications (2007).
- “Narrative, Disability, and Identity,” 15 *Narrative* 85-94 (2007) (with Frank W. Munger).
- “Review: Oscar G. Chase, *Law, Culture, and Ritual: Disputing Systems in Cross-Cultural Context*,” 41 *Law & Society Review* 981 (2007).
- “Globalization and the Decline of Legal Consciousness: Torts, Ghosts, and Karma in Thailand” 30 *Law & Social Inquiry* 469 (2005).
- Reprinted in: Eve Darian-Smith, ed., *Ethnography and Law* (Ashgate, 2007); *Thailand Law Forum*: <http://www.thailawforum.com:80/articles/legal-consciousness.html>; Lawrence M. Friedman et al., eds., *Law in Many Societies: A Reader*, (Stanford University Press 2011)
- “The Americans with Disabilities Act and the Shaping of Careers: Insights from Life Story Narratives,” 62 *Ohio State Law Journal* 285 (2001) (with Frank Munger).
- “Injury and Identity: The Damaged Self in Three Cultures,” in *Between Law and Culture*, David Theo Goldberg, Michael Musheno, and Lisa Bower, eds. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press (2001).
- Translated into Japanese and reprinted in 26 *Tokai Law Review* 237 (2001).
- “Presidential Address – Making Connections: Law and Society Researchers and Their Subjects,” 33 *Law & Society Review* 3 (1999).
- “How Does Law Matter in the Constitution of Legal Consciousness?” in *How Does Law Matter?* Bryant G. Garth and Austin Sarat, eds. Evanston: Northwestern University Press, 1998.
- “Civil Rights and Self-Concept: Life Stories of Law, Disability, and Employment,” 35 *Droit et Cultures* 43 (1998) (with Frank W. Munger).
- “Rights, Remembrance, and the Reconciliation of Difference,” 30 *Law & Society Review* 7 (1996) (with Frank W. Munger).

"Transformations of Law and Place: Introduction to the Articles by Buchanan, Darian-Smith, Maurer, and Aman," 2 *Indiana Journal of Global Legal Studies* 363 (1995).

"Origin Myths: Narratives of Authority, Resistance, Disability, and Law," 27 *Law & Society Review* 785 (1993).

"Law in the Domains of Everyday Life: The Construction of Community and Difference," in Sarat and Kearns (eds.), *Law in Everyday Life* (Univ. of Michigan Press, 1993).

Translated into Japanese and reprinted in 24 *Tokai University Law Journal* 221 (2000) [Part I] and 25 *Tokai University Law Journal* 221 (2001) [Part II].

Law and Society in Southeast Asia. Special Symposium Issue, Edited and with an Introduction and Interstitial Commentary co-authored with Jane Collier and Barbara Yngvesson. 28 *Law & Society Review* 409-720 (1994).

"Review: *Getting Justice and Getting Even: Legal Consciousness among Working-Class Americans*, by Sally Engle Merry," *Journal of Legal Pluralism* 155 (1992).

"Review: *Law As Metaphor: From Islamic Courts to the Palace of Justice*, by June Starr," *Law and Politics Book Review* (1992).

"Law, Culture, and Children with Disabilities: Educational Rights and the Construction of Difference," 1991 *Duke Law Journal* 1:166-205.

"Law Students with Disabilities: Removing Barriers in the Law School Community," 38 *Buffalo Law Review* 551 (1990) [with Alfred S. Konefsky].

Reprinted in *Making the Competent Lawyer: Models for Law School Action*, ABA Standing Committee on Lawyer Competence (1990).

"Litigation Across Space and Time: Courts, Conflict, and Social Change," 24 *Law & Society Review* 333 (1990).

"Law, Time and Community," 21 *Law & Society Review* 605 (1987).

"The Oven Bird's Song: Insiders, Outsiders, and Personal Injuries in an American Community," 18 *Law Society Review* 551 (1984).

Reprinted in Baumgartner, ed., *The Social Organization of Law*, 2d ed. (Academic Press, 1998); Abel, ed., *The Law & Society Reader* (NYU Press, 1995); Goldman and Sarat, eds., *American Court Systems: Readings in Judicial Process and Behavior*, 2nd. ed. (1989).

"Review: *Empirical Theories About Courts*, edited by Keith O. Boyum and Lynn Mather," 9 *ALSA Forum* 101 (1985).

"Mapping Difficult Terrain: 'Legal Culture,' 'Legal Consciousness,' and other Hazards for the Intrepid Explorer," 6 *Law & Policy* 299 (1984) (with Barbara Yngvesson).

"Cases, Conflict, and Accommodation: Patterns of Legal Interaction in an American Community," 1983 *Law and Social Inquiry [American Bar Foundation Research Journal]* 803.

"Review: *An Introduction to Javanese Law*, by M.C. Hoadley and M.B. Hooker," *Journal of Asian Studies*.

"Legal Pluralism in An American Community: Perspectives on a Civil Trial Court," 1980 *Law and Social Inquiry [American Bar Foundation Research Journal]* 425.

"Review: *Adat Law in Modern Indonesia* by M.B. Hooker," 28 *American Journal of Comparative Law* 352 (1980).

"Review: *A Concise Legal History of South-East Asia*, by M.B. Hooker," 24 *American Journal of Legal History* 76 (1980).

"Civil Cases and Society: Process and Order in the Civil Justice System," 1979 *Law and Social Inquiry [ABF Research Journal]* 295 (with Eric H. Steele).

Featured Addresses (2011-present)

"The Plight of the Relational Self: Injury, Law, and Modernity in Thailand and the United States." Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives, University of Victoria, April 11, 2019.

"Legal Consciousness in Law and Society Research." Chiang Mai University Law School, December 24, 2018.

"All Injuries Are Relational: Individual Legal Consciousness Reconsidered." Annual Lecture, Oxford Centre for Socio-Legal Studies, June 4, 2018.

"Rights of the Relational Self: Law, Culture, and Injury in the Global North and South." Annual Lecture, Leiden University, Van Vollenhoven Institute for Law, Governance & Society, May 17, 2018.

"Concluding Remarks: Conference on Thirtieth Anniversary of David Engel's *The Oven Bird's Song*." SUNY at Buffalo Law School, October 23, 2015.

"Normalizing Religion in Sociolegal Scholarship." Plenary panel, Law & Society Association Annual Meeting, Seattle, May 28, 2015.

"Socio-Legal Research in Mainland Southeast Asia." Keynote address, Conference on Searching for the Real Law in Society, Chiang Mai University, Thailand, January 11, 2015.

"Blood Curse and Rule of Law in Thailand: Legal Consciousness and the Paradox of Empowerment." Invited Lecture, National University of Singapore, Faculty of Law, Singapore, June 6, 2014.

"The Anxiety of Influence in Law & Society Research." Keynote address, Graduate Student and Early Career Workshops, Law & Society Association Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, May 27, 2014.

“The Places Where Law Doesn’t Go.” Keynote address, East Asian Law & Society Conference, Koguan Law School, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai, China. March 22, 2013.

“The Quest for Justice and the Conundrum of Rights.” Keynote address, Conference on Localizing Global Justice: Rethinking Law and Human Rights in Southeast Asia. Columbia University, Weatherhead East Asian Institute. November 4, 2011.

“Globalization and Legal Consciousness in Thailand.” Featured address to graduating class, Chiang Mai University Faculty of Law. January 25, 2011.

Professional Activities and Associations

Co-Director, Training Initiative for Asian Law and Society Scholars (TRIALS), workshop series funded by a grant from the Luce Foundation and based at National University of Singapore (2019-present) (with Lynette Chua).

Co-Organizer Young Scholar Workshops, Asian Law and Society Association, Singapore (2016) and Taiwan (2017).

Co-Editor-in-Chief, *Asian Journal of Law and Society* (2013 – present)

Trustee, Asian Law and Society Association (2015 – 2019)

Law and Society Association:

President, 1997-98

Co-Chair, Planning Committee for International Meeting in Hawaii, 2012

Coordinator, Collaborative Research Networks, 2004-2008

International Activities Committee, 2008-2010

Nominations Committee, 2003-4

Disability Access Committee, 2002-3

Chair, International Prize Committee, 2000-2001

Kalven Prize Committee, 1998-99.

Program Committees for Annual Meetings in 1985 (chair), 1995, 1996, 2002, 2007.

Summer Institute Planning Committee, 1993-95.

Associate Editor, *Law & Society Review*, 1993-95.

Committee on International Participation, 1990-92.

Trustee, 1985-88.

Editorial Advisory Board, *Law & Society Review* 1982-86, 1989-93.

Law School Admissions Council, Grants Sub-Committee, 2001-2007.

Editorial Advisory Group, *Journal of Legal Pluralism*, 2007 – 2019.

Editorial Board, *Law & Social Inquiry*, 2004 – 2012.

Advisory Panel, National Science Foundation Program on Law and Social Science, 1995-97.

Committee on Asian Law (Vice-chair, 1981-84, and Representative for Southeast Asia, 1977-80, 1981-86).

Law School and University Service

Advisor, Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA)
Chair, Council on International Studies and Programs (advisory body to UB Provost), 2007-2016
Executive Committee and Past Chair, Asian Studies Advisory Council
Past Chair, International and Graduate Programs Committee, UB Law School
Law School Dean Search Committee
Provost's Task Group on International Strategy
UB Delegation to draft and sign Exchange Agreement with Chiang Mai University (Thailand)
University Task Group on Institutes and Centers
Provost's Special Advisory Committee on Interdisciplinary Structures
Law School Planning Committee
Advisor, Thai Graduate Students Association
Chair, Committee on Law Students with Special Needs
Chair, Law School Appointments Committee
Human Subjects Review Board
Service on Dissertation Committees for Students in Anthropology, Linguistics, Education, and Sociology