Arthur C. Helton Fellowship 2018 Program Fellows

Lisa Gluckstein is a current 3L at Harvard Law School, Class of 2018. She plans to use her J.D. to promote inclusive and sustainable urban development. She has worked at the intersection of urban development, local government, and human rights through a variety of organizations, including the Tenant Advocacy Project, the California Office of the Attorney General, and the San Francisco City Attorney’s Office. While at Harvard, Lisa founded the HLS Urbanists and served on the board of the New England chapter of the Congress for the New Urbanism. She also studied human rights at the Universidad Iberoamericana in Mexico City in the fall of 2017. As a Helton Fellow, Lisa will work with the World Resources Institute (WRI) to use Mexico City’s new municipal Constitution, in conjunction with domestic and international human rights law, to advocate for the more equitable allocation of government services and infrastructure across Mexico City’s sixteen delegations. This research will analyze spatial inequities in the distribution of municipal resources and leverage legal and planning policy tools to advance urban inclusion and opportunity.

Alexa Magee is a current Master of Studies candidate in International Human Rights Law at the University of Oxford. She spent 2017 as Program Associate at the American Red Cross Myanmar Country Office, working on disaster management projects in different Myanmar States/Regions. She additionally supported the American Red Cross National Headquarters in administering the International Humanitarian Law (IHL) Action Campaign to engage US youth with the laws of war. Magee has also worked on outreach and media as a former staff member of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) in The Hague and has conducted research for organizations such as the UN Subcommittee on the Prevention of Torture and US Mission to the UN. The Helton Fellowship will allow her to continue work in Myanmar with the organization Justice Base, located in Yangon. She will contribute to Justice Base projects focusing on rule of law capacity building and access to information, including trainings, legal awareness materials development, and data collection.
Wilson Melbostad has a JD from American University Washington College of Law as well as a Master’s Degree from American University’s School of International Service and currently works as a human rights attorney. Wilson has previously served as an attorney at the International Human Rights Law Clinic, a staff writer for the publication ‘The Human Rights Brief,’ and a legal fellow at the Center for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law in Washington D.C. In addition to his aspirations within human rights, Wilson has a regional focus in Asia and has been fortunate enough to work for various public interest organizations in South Korea and Cambodia. Wilson’s fellowship project will be conducted at the Organization for Migrant Legal Aid (OMLA), a project of the Gwangju International Center, a public interest legal center serving refugees, asylum seekers, stateless peoples, foreign laborers, and other migrants located in the city of Gwangju, South Korea, as well as surrounding provinces. OMLA is the first, and to date the only, center of its kind providing public interest focused legal services to the growing number of migrants in the Gwangju and greater Jeolla areas.

Christine Ryan is a third year SJD student at Duke Law School. Her dissertation proposes a feminist human rights-based approach to abortion law and politics. Christine is a Fulbright scholar at Duke, a Graduate Fellow at the Duke Kenan Institute for Ethics, and a Doctoral Fellow at the Duke Center for Global Reproductive Health. Prior to Duke, Christine worked as a human rights officer with the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade. Christine completed an LLM with distinction at University College London and an LLB (first class honors) at University College Cork, Ireland. Her Helton project will focus on how the “Abortion Rights Campaign” in Ireland has prolifically used the language of rights and has drawn directly upon the framework of international human rights law; taking complaints to the UN Human Rights Committee and the European Court of Human Rights, engaging in shadow reporting and in-person advocacy before UN Treaty Monitoring Bodies and UN Special Procedures, and emphasizing human rights standards when campaigning at home. She will explores this mobilization and the role, if any, of international human rights law in driving reform in Irish abortion law and politics.