INTLAWGRRRLS! 10TH BIRTHDAY CONFERENCE

The Dean Rusk International Law Center at the University of Georgia School of Law hosted, on March 2 and 3, 2017, one of the most significant international law gatherings of the academic year. “IntLawGrrrls! 10th Birthday Conference” brought together about a hundred scholars and practitioners, who came to Athens from all over North America and Europe, and from as far away as Australia, Hong Kong, Japan, and Kosovo.¹ The event began with an evening screening of “500 Years,” a just-released documentary about post-conflict justice in Guatemala by filmmaker Pamela Yates. Throughout the next day, participants presented papers, on topics as varied as human rights, feminist jurisprudence, international and transnational criminal justice, international economic law and dispute settlement, prosecution of sexual violence crimes, women’s leadership in international institutions, culture and transitional justice, postwar/Cold War legacies, international environmental and space law, and the laws of war.

Cosponsoring the conference, which formed part of the law school’s Georgia Women in Law Lead initiative, were IntLawGrrrls blog, the students’ International Law Society and Women Law Students Association, the Willson Center for Humanities & the Arts and the Institute of Native American Studies at the University of Georgia, the American Society of International Law and its Women in International Law Interest Group, and the Planethood Foundation.

Since its founding in 2007 by Diane Marie Amann, a Georgia Law faculty member who holds the Emily & Ernest Woodruff Chair in International Law and serves as Faculty Co-Director of the Dean Rusk International Law Center, IntLawGrrrls blog has welcomed contributions from nearly 500 women, plus a few men. Contributors with ties to Georgia Law include Kathleen A. Doty, the Center’s Director and an IntLawGrrrls Editor Emerita, as well as alumnae Kaitlin M. Ball, Hannah Coleman, Dorinda Dallmeyer, Tess Davis, Sarah M. Stephens, and Kelly Wegel. Ball and Doty presented papers at the conference, along with Georgia Law students Victoria A. Barker (Editor-in-Chief of the Georgia Journal of International & Comparative Law), Chanel Chauvet, Urvashi Jain, and Hannah Williams. Also presenting were Maryann E. Gallagher and Leah

¹ For the full program, see Diane Marie Amann, 100 from around world to take part in IntLawGrrrls! 10th Birthday Conference on March 2 and 3 at Georgia Law, EXCHANGE OF NOTES, http://wp.me/p7gwbg-oO. IntLawGrrrls blog now publishes at https://ilg2.org/; posts published before March 2013 may be found at http://www.intlawgrrrls.com/.
Carmichael, lecturers at the university’s School of Public & International Affairs, plus Jenica Marie Moore, a Ph.D. candidate at that school, and Catherine Moore, an alumnus of the university’s Franklin College of Arts & Sciences. Numerous University of Georgia faculty served as moderators.

A highlight of the two-day conference was the plenary luncheon. It began with a welcome by Dean Peter B. “Bo” Rutledge. Karen E. Bravo, Associate Dean at the Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law, gave a tribute to departed IntLawGrrls; most notably, Northeastern University Law Professor Hope Lewis, a pathbreaking scholar, advocate, and mentor. Next, Amann reflected on the blog and other means for what she called “writing truth to power.” Addressing the plenary topic, “Strategies to Promote Women’s Participation in Shaping International Law and Policy amid the Global Emergence of Anti-Globalism,” were five high-level panelists: Mary L. Dudziak, Asa Griggs Candler Professor of Law at Emory University School of Law and President of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations; Lucinda A. Low, Partner at Steptoe & Johnson LLP and President of the American Society of International Law; Catherine Powell, Associate Professor of Law at Fordham University School of Law and a former U.S. Department of State and White House official; Jaya Ramji-Nogales, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and I. Herman Stern Research Professor at Temple University Beasley School of Law; Beth Van Schaack, Visiting Scholar at the Center for International Security & Cooperation at Stanford University and a former U.S. Department of State official; and Judge Patricia M. Wald, formerly Chief Judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit and also a Judge on the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia.

In commemoration of this event, the Georgia Journal of International and Comparative Law is honored to publish below the plenary contributions by Judge Wald, Associate Dean Bravo, and Professor Amann, as well as an article that one of the participants, Karen Hoffman, presented at the conference.2