

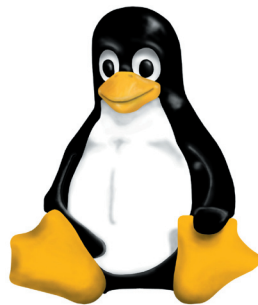
The Law of the Commons

Friday, March 13, 2009 on the Campus of Seattle University

(WSBA CLE Credit Pending)

In 2008, nations worldwide plundered their common wealth in an effort to bail out the prevailing economic order. It is a stark reminder that there could be other ways of doing things. It is an opportune time to reexamine the concept of the commons, perhaps as a parallel, if not an alternative to private property oriented social, political and legal systems.

The modern notion of the commons is fractured. It ranges from movements concerned with the private ownership of life, water, access to land and sea, to organic farming versus industrial agriculture, to economic and political localism to the legal enclosures of intellectual creativity. The various commons movements seem superficially to have little in common, but beneath the surface there are multiple and recurring points of intersection.



commons. The seminar beckons to lawyers, professors and judges whose legal training is framed by property rights and human rights, computer geeks and "techie," humanists, political activists, food activists, and creative communities of various stripes.

The seminar is being organized by the National Lawyers Guild Seattle Chapter. The NLG seeks to "unite the lawyers, law students, legal workers, and jailhouse lawyers of America in an organization which shall function as an effective political and social force in the service of the people, **to the end that human rights shall be regarded as more sacred than property interests.**" It is in this spirit that we hope to come together at the Law of the Commons.



This seminar stitches together many different threads of the commons: the historical



perspective in a contemporary context, creative and artistic commons, software and "intellectual property" including patenting of life forms, personal and political commons, natural resources, media and telecommunications

Early Registration (Last Day 2/13/09): \$150
Regular Registration: \$225

Discounted Rates:

SU Alum & National Lawyers Guild: \$125.00

Non - Attorneys: \$100.00

(Food & Drinks - except cash bar at closing event - Included in Registration Fee)

For additional information and registration please visit:

<http://www.regonline.com/Checkin.asp?EventId=684481>

Faculty to Present:

Beth Burroughs, The Edmonds Institute

Eben Moglen, Columbia University School of Law & Chairman, Software Freedom Law Center

Louis Wolcher, University of Washington School of Law

Mary Wong, Franklin Pierce School of Law

Brian Rowe, Founder
Freedom For IP

Nives Dolsak, University of Washington, Bothell

Mark Leier, Simon Fraser University,
Vancouver BC

Laura Nader, University of California, Berkeley

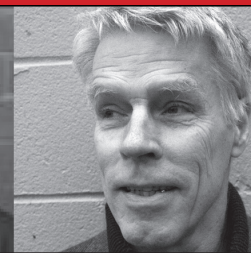
Cindy Cohn, Electronic Frontier Foundation

Maggie Chon, Seattle University School of Law

Peter Linebaugh, University of Toledo

William Rodgers, University of Washington
School of Law

Robert Siegel, IJustice.law, Seattle



Schedule

7:30 am REGISTRATION OPENS

8:20 am Welcoming Comments & Ritual Slaughter of the Cell Phones (Steve Reisler)

8:30 am The Meaning of the Commons (Louis Wolcher)

9:00 am Research, Technology Transfer and the Theft from the Commons (Beth Burrows)

9:45 am The IT Standards Battle and Why We Are the Spoils of War (Mary Wong)

10:15 am - MORNING BREAK

10:30 am "Look What They've Done to My Song, Ma !" Who Owns the Words, the Music and the Images? (Maggie Chon)

11:00 am Plunder: Lawyers Against the Commons (Laura Nader)

12:00 pm LUNCH*

1:15 pm Free and Open Software: Paradigm for a New Intellectual Commons (Eben Moglen)

2:15 pm This Land is My Land or Is This Land Their Land? The Profitization of Common Natural Resources (William Rodgers)

3:00 pm AFTERNOON BREAK

3:15 pm Accident or Design? Historical Snapshots North of the Border and the Bigger Picture of the Commons (Mark Leier)

4:00 pm Weathering the Storm: The Global Climate Commons (Nives Dolsak)

4:30 pm Magna Carta and the Commons: The Ultimate Stare Decisis (Peter Linebaugh)

5:15 pm 21st Century Civil Rights: the Digital Commons (Robert Siegel/Cindy Cohn/Brian Rowe)

6:00 – 8:00 pm Concluding Reception and Commons Conversation, Buffet & Cash Bar* – 2nd Floor of Law School

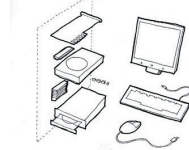
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National Lawyers Guild
Seattle Chapter
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www.nlgseattle.org

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LAW OF THE COMMONS

**A FULL DAY SEMINAR PRESENTED BY THE SEATTLE
CHAPTER OF THE NATIONAL LAWYERS GUILD**