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# GCSC Seminar Series

Tuesday, January 14, 2020  
4:00-5:00 PM

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210 ASB  
(Aline Skaggs  
Building)

ALL ARE WELCOME

Refreshments &  
meet the speaker at  
3:45

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**Elizabeth Kronk Warner**

**Dean, S.J. Quinney College of Law**

**"Tribal Environmental Law"**



*This presentation will examine where federal law applies in the environmental field, and how tribes are utilizing tribal sovereignty to innovate beyond federal environmental law.*

## **Abstract**

Tribes existing as the third sovereigns within the United States, in addition to states and the federal government. As sovereign governments, they possess the capacity to enact laws unless specifically precluded by the federal government (state laws have limited impact on tribal lands). This presentation will therefore examine where federal law applies in the environmental field, and how tribes are utilizing their tribal sovereignty to innovate beyond federal environmental law. In doing so, the presentation will explore opportunities for other fields, beyond the law, to engage in the development of tribal environmental law.

## **Bio**

Elizabeth Kronk Warner attended Cornell University in New York, drawn to the institution's strong program in American Indian history and culture. She received her Juris Doctor from the University of Michigan Law School, another institution with solid American Indian programs.

She practiced environmental, Indian and energy law as an associate in the Washington, D.C., offices of Latham & Watkins, LLP and Troutman Sanders LLP. In 2010, she was selected to serve as an Environmental Justice Young Fellow through the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars and U.S.-China Partnership for Environmental Law at Vermont Law School. She has also served as a visiting professor at Xiamen University in Xiamen, China, and Bahcesehir University in Istanbul, Turkey and on the law faculties at Texas Tech University and the University of Montana. She chaired the Federal Bar Association Indian Law Section and was elected to the association's national board of directors in 2011.

She moved to the University of Kansas School of Law in 2012, and accepted the deanship of the S.J. Quinney College of Law in 2019. Her scholarship, which focuses primarily on the intersection of Indian law and environmental law, has been published in several prominent journals, including the Arizona Law Review, Colorado Law Review and Columbia Journal of Environmental Law. She is also co-author of the casebook "Native American Natural Resources," and she co-edited "Climate Change and Indigenous People: The Search for Legal Remedies." She is an citizen of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians and has served as an appellate judge for her hometown Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians Court of Appeals in Michigan and as a district judge for the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation in Kansas.