

**From Human Rights to Cultural Empowerment:
Implications of the Awas Tingni Case for Indigenous and
Black Community Land Rights in the Americas**
April 18–20 2002

Program of Activities

Thursday, April 18

4:00 p.m.
Bass Lecture Hall
Welcome—Charlie Hale, LLILAS and Anthropology
Introduction—Gerald Torres, UT Law School

**Keynote Lecture by S. James Anaya
Samuel M. Fegly Professor of Law, U. Arizona Law School**

“International Human Rights Law and the Struggle for Indigenous Land Rights: Lessons from the Awas Tingni Ruling”

Friday, April 19

**Section 1.
Human Rights, Cultural Empowerment and Land Rights:
International Legal Context**

All three morning sessions in the Jeffers Courtroom

8:30–9:00
Coffee and Pastries

9:00–10:00
“Awas Tingni Confronta el Futuro”
Lottie Cunningham, Director, Law Group Bilwi
Charlie McClean, Awas Tingni Community Leader
Chair: Sarah Cleveland, UT Law School

10:15–11:15
“The Promise and Limitations of International Legal Strategies”
Myrna Cunningham, Provost, URACCAN
Chair: Juliet Hooker, UT Government Department

11:30–12:30
“Can the Inter-American Human Rights Commission Protect Collective Cultural Rights?”
Osvaldo Kreimer, Staff Attorney, Inter-American Commission on Human Rights
Chair: Steven Ratner, UT Law School

Friday, April 19 (cont.)

12:45–2:45

Section 2.

Two Simultaneous Research-Action Clinics (with box lunch)

1) Solidarity in Difference: Indigenous and Black Community Land Claims in Honduras ~
Sheffield Room, UT Law School

Facilitator: Edmund T. Gordon, Anthropology and CAAS
Experts: Gregoria Flores, OFRANEH; Wincis Websta, MASTA

2) Trans-isthmus Canal Projects and Community Land Rights: Mexico and Nicaragua ~
3.127, UT Law School

Facilitator: Chandler Stolp, LBJ School
Experts: Pearl Watson Presida, President, Monkey Point Communal Board,
Nicaragua; and Teodosio Angel Molina, UCIZONE, Oaxaca, Mexico

Section 3.

Race, Rights, and Resources: Political Dimensions

~ Jeffers Courtroom, UT Law School

Introduction: Edmund T. Gordon, UT Anthropology and CAAS

3:00–4:00

“Cultural Rights Struggles under Neo-Liberal Regimes”

Speaker: Emma Cervone, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale

Chair: Bryan Roberts, UT Sociology

4:15–5:15

“The Politics of Afro-Descendant Community Land Rights Struggles”

Speaker: Eva Thorne, Brandeis University

Chair: João Vargas, UT Anthropology

5:30–7:30

Research-Action Roundtable: “GPS Mapping of Land Use Areas in Awas Tingni: Technical,
Political, and Legal Considerations” 3.127, UT Law School

Lottie Cunningham, Staff Attorney, Law Group, Bilwi

Charlie McClean, Awas Tingni Community leader

Peter Dana, UT Geography

Jennifer Goett, UT Anthropology

(Section 3 continues Saturday morning.)

Saturday, April 20

9:00–10:00

Section 3 continued

“Territorialidad indígena: Estrategias políticas” ~ Jeffers Courtroom, UT Law School

Speaker: Morita Carrasco, Universidad de Buenos Aires

Chair: Seth Garfield, UT History

10:15–12:30

Section 4.

Two Simultaneous Research-Action Clinics

1) The Toledo Maya and Garífuna of Belize: Political and Legal Prospects ~ Sheffield Room, UT Law School

Facilitator: Emma Caddy, Belize Program Manager, Flora and Fauna International

Experts: Valentino Shal, Chair of the Toledo Maya Council, Belize; and Roy Cayetano, Deputy Minister of Rural Development and President of the National Garífuna Council

2) Costeño Land Rights Struggles in Nicaragua Face the Future ~ 3.127, UT Law School

Facilitator: Armstrong Wiggins

Experts: Myrna Cunningham, URACCAN, Bilwi, Nicaragua; and Faran Dometz, BICU, Bluefields, Nicaragua

12:30–1:30

Lunch

2:00–4:00

Concluding Plenary Session

Featured Speaker: Dean Claudio Grossman, American University

“The Inter-American System and the Legal and Political Framework for the Rights of Indigenous Populations” ~ Jeffers Courtroom, UT Law School

Chair: Gerald Torres, UT Law School