

# LIAM MCHUGH-RUSSELL

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## CURRENT POSITION

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since 2020 Assistant Professor, Schulich School of Law, Dalhousie University

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## PAST POSITIONS

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2020 Visiting Researcher, Cr peau Centre for Private and Comparative Law, McGill University Faculty of Law

2019 Postdoctoral Researcher, Labour Law and Development Research Lab, McGill University Faculty of Law

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## EDUCATION & QUALIFICATIONS

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2019 PhD in Law—European University Institute  
Dissertation: “The Limits of Legal Evolution: Knowledge and Normativity in Theories of Legal Change”  
Examining Board: Stefan Grundmann (supervisor, EUI), Claire Kilpatrick (EUI), Simon Deakin (Cambridge), Peer Zumbansen (KCL / Osgoode Hall)

2013 LL.M.—Institute of Comparative Law, McGill University  
Thesis: “Beyond Protection: An Informal Economy Perspective on Labour Law” (Supervisor: Adelle Blackett; External Reader: Gregor Murray)

since 2009 Barrister and Solicitor (in good standing)—Law Society of Ontario

2008 Juris Doctor—University of Toronto  
Studied human rights and European law for one term at Central European University (Budapest)

2005 Honours Bachelor of Mathematics (Co-operative Program)—University of Waterloo  
Graduated *With Distinction*; Double Major in Pure Mathematics and Applied Mathematics; Minor in Political Science

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## HONOURS AND AWARDS

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### Research Funding

2020 Dalhousie Special Initiatives Fund, “Integrating Racial Justice in the Transition to Online Learning” (w/ Kelsey Jones and others) (\$13 000 CAD)

2014 Doctoral Award, Canadian Social Science and Humanities Research Council (\$80 000 CAD over 4 years)

2013 Hans Kelsen Award, European University Institute ( 58 000 over 4 years)  
Law department’s sole annual award for non-European candidates

2010 Inter-University Research Centre on Globalization and Work, Masters Scholarship (\$10 000 CAD)

2010 Faculty of Law Graduate Study Award (\$5 000 CAD)

2009 Sauv  Scholarship (valued at \$30 000 CAD)  
Residential, leadership-focused action-research fellowship at McGill University: [sauvescholars.org](http://sauvescholars.org)

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PUBLICATIONS

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**Refereed Publications**

- “The Borders of Responsibility, the Democratic Intellect, and other Elephants in the Room” (forthcoming)  
Dalhousie Law Journal
- “After ‘Subsistence Work:’ Labour Commodification and Social Justice in the Household Workplace” in  
Brian Langille and Anne Trebilcock, eds, *Possible Futures of Global Social Justice* (Hart, forthcoming)
- “*Doing Business* Guidance, Legal Origins Theory, and the Politics of Governance by Knowledge” (2022)  
43:1 *Canadian Journal of Development Studies* 137
- “International Labor Law and Its Others: Governance by Norm Versus Governance by Knowledge” (2019)  
113 *AJIL Unbound* 402–6.
- “Labour Law, Development Discourse, and the Uses of Informality,” in Diamond Ashiagbor, ed, *Re-imagining Labour Law for Development: Informal Work in the Global North and South* (Hart, 2019)

**Additional Publications**

- (w/ [Endicott Society](#)) *Prendre le Pouvoir* (Seuil, forthcoming)
- (w/ Anthony Piscitelli) “Death of a mutual, and the drift away from ‘neighbours helping neighbours’”  
(August 5 2021) [Policy Options](#)
- “Getting the Constitutive Power of Law Wrong,” *Legal Form* <[legalform.blog](#)> March 31, 2018 (blog post)
- “Fifteen Thoughts on Brexit for the Cosmopolitan Intellectual Elite,” *DELIBLOG* (Durham European Law  
Institute) <[deliblog.wordpress.com](#)> August 15, 2016 (blog post)
- “Reasons,” (2016) 27:2 [European Journal of International Law](#) 552 (poetry)
- “Whispers of Transnational Corporate Responsibility: Chevron,” *Critical Legal Thinking*  
<[criticallegalthinking.com](#)> 9 September 2015 (blog post)
- “Who’s Afraid of the Queen’s Head Honcho,” *New Matilda* <[newmatilda.com](#)> March 2, 2010 (op ed)
- “We’re Tired: Canada’s Government Calls in Sick,” *New Matilda* <[newmatilda.com](#)> February 2, 2010 (op  
ed)
- “The Limits of Judicial Review: Democracy vs. Reasonableness in *Blood Tribe* and *Shell*,” *The Court*  
<[thecourt.ca](#)> January 29, 2009 (blog post)
- “Surplus Must be Paid Out on Partial Plan Terminations Under PBSA,” 25(4) *Canadian Benefits &  
Compensation Digest* 8 (Wisconsin: International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans, August 2007)

**Policy Analysis & Advice to Government**

- Submissions to the “National Roundtable on Corporate Social Responsibility in Canadian Extractive  
Industries” (with Umuchinshi Initiative, International Human Rights Program, University of Toronto  
Faculty of Law) December 2006
- [Police Services: Safe Access for All. Legal Arguments for a Complete “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” Policy.](#) February 2008.  
(with Immigration Legal Committee) Presented to the Toronto Police Services Board, May 2008

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 ADDITIONAL RESEARCH
 

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- 2017 Research Assistant, Claire Kilpatrick (European University Institute, Department of Law)  
Synthesized and compared international and transnational labour law perspectives on the European debt crisis
- 2016 Research Assistant, Stefan Grundmann (European University Institute, Department of Law)  
Provided editorial assistance, translation review and critical feedback for book project, *Grand Theories of Private Law*
- 2009–14 Various Contracts: Intern, External Contractor, Consultant (International Labour Organization, Geneva)  
Collaborated with former ILO legal advisor Francis Maupain in preparation of legal scholarship on the ILO’s future; provided background research and critical commentary; redrafted, edited and translated texts (French to English)
- 2008–10 Burma Project—Summer Coordinator, University of Toronto Faculty of Law  
Supervised and conducted research and oversaw project editing of a 250-page academic manuscript, originally co-written with 10 other students for course credit

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 TEACHING
 

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**Current Teaching**

- Since 2020 Business Associations  
Labour Law I  
Labour Law Problems  
National Labour Arbitration Moot

**Courses Taught**

- 2017 [Perspectives on Law and Society](#) (Law Department, European University Institute)  
In collaboration with Emma Nyhan, designed and delivered a ten-hour, six session survey course on socio-legal research approaches for EUI doctoral researchers and visitors

**Additional Teaching Experience**

- 2021 Guest Instructor, “Ethics, Economics & Business” (Baruch College, City University of New York)  
“Smith, Marx and the Socio-legal Lives of Capital”
- 2020 Guest Instructor, International Labour Law (Faculty of Law, McGill University)  
Taught session on Development, Labour Law and the Informal Economy
- 2019 Guest Instructor, Theoretical Approaches to Law (Faculty of Law, McGill University)  
Taught session on international law and governance in compulsory theory course for graduate students
- 2019 Guest Instructor, Business Associations (Faculty of Law, McGill University)  
Taught three sessions of core undergraduate law course, on interpretation of corporate contract, director duty of care, and obligations to non-shareholder stakeholders
- 2017 Guest Instructor, Socio Legal Methodologies in Legal Scholarship (Law Department, Bocconi University)

- Addressed questions of methodology in socio-legal research; provided commentary and feedback on doctoral student research proposals
- 2017 Guest Lecturer, Qualitative Methodologies for Socio-Legal Research (Law Department, European University Institute)
- 2016 Course Assistant, Qualitative Methodologies for Socio-Legal Research (European University Institute)  
Authored an [annotated bibliography](#) on choice of methodology, research design, ethics, and standards of evidence in law and social science
- 2014 Course Assistant, Global Governance of Development (Law Department, European University Institute)
- 2010, 2011 Guest Lecturer, *Introduction to Development* (McGill University Institute for Development Studies)
- 2009 Course Assistant, Introduction to International Development (McGill Institute for Development Studies)  
Led weekly tutorials for two groups of 15 students each, marked exams, provided individual feedback and assistance
- 2000–1 Full Time Course Tutor, Computer Science Department, University of Waterloo  
Over three four-month co-op terms, developed and taught tutorials in programming fundamentals; provided hands-on support in weekly lab sessions; coordinated assignment design and marking

### Professional Development

- 2011 Team Member, [“Law Teaching Network” Project](#), McGill University Faculty of Law  
Member of three-year collaborative project with Teaching and Learning Services to improve teaching at the Faculty of Law
- 2010 Participant, [Learning to Teach Day](#)  
Attended one-day workshop on course design, lesson planning and teaching skills
- 2010 Legal Education Seminar, McGill Faculty of Law  
Course addressed learning theories, teaching styles, goals of legal education; culminated in the design of a full course

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### CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

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#### Research Presentations

- Contested Concepts as Technologies of Governance: Meaning and Significance as Strategic Outcomes in Official Definitions of Economic Informality (Law and Society Association Annual Conference, Lisbon, July 2022)
- In practice but not in theory: How Flawed Technicalities Helped *Doing Business* Succeed (Sociological Perspectives on International Economic Law and Human Rights, Law European University Institute, Florence, May 2022)
- The Uses of Corporate Governance in Canadian Legislation and Regulation (Schulich School of Law Research Hour, March 2022)
- The Borders of Responsibility, the Democratic Intellect, and other Elephants in the Room (Dalhousie Law Journal “Big Ideas” Symposium, October 2021)

- Should Countries Follow *Doing Business* Guidance on Business Regulation? (Purdy Crawford Annual Workshop, Dalhousie University, September 25-26, 2020)
- Show and Tell: On Schlag, Le Guin and the Anxieties of Genre (“A Day with Pierre Schlag” Workshop, Crépeau Centre for Private and Comparative Law, McGill University, September 2019)
- International Labor Law and its Others: Governance by Norm versus Governance by Knowledge (Canadian Council on International Law Annual Conference, October 2019)
- ‘It works in practice but not in theory’: Flawed Technicalities and the Success of Law and Finance at the World Bank (Law and Society Association Annual Conference, June 2019 & Canadian Law and Society Association Annual Conference, June 2019)
- Elephants in the Room: The Democratic Intellect at the End of Globalization (“Brexit and the Democratic Intellect,” Durham University English Department, January 2017) (invited)
- No Elephant: On Strategies for Thinking Informality at Work (“Re-imagining Labour Law for Development: Informal Work in the Global North and South,” Society of Legal Scholars Annual Seminar, Institute for Advanced Legal Studies, September 2016) (invited)
- On the Border between Legal and Non-Legal Ideas: The Case of ‘Law and Finance’ (European University Institute–Bocconi University–Humboldt University Legal Studies Doctoral Workshop, Florence, March 2016)
- ‘It works in practice but not in theory’: *Law & Finance* as Project and Perspective (Harvard Institute for Global Law and Policy Conference, Harvard University, June 2015)
- Rereading Informality: Labour Law, Techniques of Governance and Development Common Sense (Law and Society Association Annual Conference, Seattle, May 2015)
- The Robot Problem and the Potentials of Labour Law (or, ‘I for one welcome our new robot overlords’) (“Institutional Change and Experimentation: Shaping the Future of Work and Employment?” Annual Conference, Interuniversity Research Centre on Globalization and Work, Montreal, June 2015)
- Cause and Effect in *Law & Finance* (European University Institute Private Law Doctoral Forum, February 2015)
- Thomas Piketty, Law and the Many Faces of Capital (Harvard Institute for Global Law and Policy Writing Workshop, Doha, Qatar, January 2015)
- The One and Many Faces of Capital (“Creative Constraints: Post-graduate and Early Career Conference,” University College London, November 2014) [Awarded prize for *Most Creative Contribution*]
- Beyond the Capital Turn (Critical Legal Conference, University of Sussex, September 2014)
- Beyond Protection: An Informal Economy Perspective on Labour Law (“New Frontiers for Citizenship at Work”, Centre de recherche interuniversitaire sur la mondialisation et le travail, Université de Montréal, May 2014)
- Regulating Human Rights: Cultural Tensions? (McGill Graduate Law Students Association Annual Conference, June 2011)
- Legal Education: The Role of Ignorance (McGill Graduate Law Students Association “Tertulia” Workshop, March 2011)

Draft paper with Larry Steinberg and Michael Lynk, *Age-Old Problems: Older Workers, Age Discrimination and the Leaky Umbrella of Workplace Law*, presented by Steinberg (“Charter and Human Rights at Work: 25 Years Later” Conference, University of Western Ontario, October 2007)

### **Additional Conferences and Workshops**

Respondent on Monica Gymah, “The *Malta Declaration* and the Applicability of the Principle of *Non-Refoulement*: The EU-Libya Policy of Cooperation on External Border Governance and Irregular Migrant Control” (Dalhousie Law Graduate Society, “Research Transition Conference,” May 2022)

Faculty respondent for ~11 paper presentations (Dalhousie Law Graduate Society “Research Transition Conference”, Dalhousie University, May 2021)

Roundtable on The ILO Supervisory Bodies at a Crossroads, part of the Transnational Futures of International Labour Law lecture series (Labour Law and Development Research Lab, McGill University, January 2019)

Respondent for Felipe Figueroa Zimmermann, “The province of jurisprudence (and economics)” ([9<sup>th</sup> Annual MetaLawEcon workshop](#), European University Institute, December 2018)

Chair and Convenor, Workshop on Genevieve Painter, “Choosing Context, Speaking Law: History and Jurisdiction at the League of Nations” (International Law Working Group, European University Institute, June 2018)

Chair and Convenor, Workshop on Heidi Matthews, “A Political Theory of Sex Post-#MeToo” (European University Institute Gender Project, June 2018)

Respondent for “The Opportunities, Practicalities and Constraints of Socio-Legal Scholarship” (Early Career Workshop on Socio-Legal Methodologies, European University Institute, September 2016)

Respondent for Chapter 8 of Y. Vanderborght and P. Van Parijs, *The Instrument of Freedom*, at [“Future of Basic Income Research” Conference](#) (European University Institute, June 2015)

Respondent for Edward Nik-Khah, “George Stigler and the Marketplace of Ideas,” at “200 Years of Dialogue Between Knowledge and Power Historicizing the Challenges of Higher Education in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century” Conference (European University Institute, December 2014)

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### SERVICE

#### **Schulich**

2020-21 Admissions Committee

#### **Peer Review**

International Labour Review; Melbourne Journal of International Law; Ottawa Law Review; Dalhousie Journal of Legal Studies Journal of Law and Political Economy; European Journal of Legal Studies; McGill International Journal of Sustainable Development Law & Policy; Journal of International Law and International Relations

#### **Scientific Coordination**

2015–16 Co-Convenor (with Ola Innset & Julia Rone), [Neoliberalism Working Group](#)  
Selected readings, framed discussion and facilitated meetings examining various perspectives on

neoliberalism; Conception, fundraising and coordination for interdisciplinary workshop, [“Why Neoliberalism? On Critique and Method”](#) with keynote by Philip Mirowski, March 2016

- 2013–14 Co-chair (with Uros Zver), [Global and Transnational Perspectives Working Group](#)  
Organized interdisciplinary workshops on questions transcending the frame of Europe and the nation-state; Conception, fundraising, and coordination of logistics for one-day workshop, “The Transnational University and its Possible Futures” with keynotes by Joseph Weiler and Zygmunt Bauman, October 2014
- 2006–08 Co-Chair (with Emily Kettel), Student Public Interest Network Legal Action Workshop  
Coordinated guest speakers, panelists and logistics for two national student conferences: spinlaw.ca;  
Authored a successful \$10 000 grant application for funding from the Law Foundation of Ontario

**Research Tools**

- 2010–12 Principal Author, “McGill Guide, 7<sup>th</sup> ed.” Zotero citation style

**Governance**

- 2011–13 Board of Directors, Sauvé Scholars Foundation  
Provided hands-on support for legal and financial decisions; developed the alumni program; participated in the strategic planning process for a foundation hosting uniquely-placed fellowships at McGill University: [sauvescholars.org](#)
- 2011–13 Bargaining Team Representative, Association of McGill University Research Employees
- 2004–05 Member, University of Waterloo Board of Governors
- 2002–04 Board Member, University of Waterloo Federation of Students

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ADDITIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE

- 2008–09 Student-at-Law, Cavalluzzo Hayes Shilton McIntyre & Cornish
- 2007 Summer Student, Koskie Minsky LLP
- 2005–07 Student Case Worker (Volunteer), Downtown Legal Services, University of Toronto

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AFFILIATIONS

- [Canadian Law and Society Association](#)
- [Labour Law and Development Research Laboratory](#)
- Harvard Institute for Global Law and Policy
- [Law and Society Association \(US\)](#)
- Critical Legal Conference (UK)
- [Association for the Promotion of Political Economy and the Law](#)

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REFERENCES

Simon F. Deakin  
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