

# Department of Environmental Science and Policy

## Seminar Series

### The Politics, Policy, and Science of Ocean Governance

Steve Roady

Duke University

**DATE:** Friday, 3/8/2024 **TIME:** 10:30 am **ROOM:** Ungar 230-E

**Zoom:** <https://miami.zoom.us/j/92964807674>



**Abstract:** Humans have wrestled with ocean governance for hundreds of years. The Pope made an early effort in the 16th century to divide ocean management between Spain and Portugal. After nearly 30 years of negotiation, the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) came into force. UNCLOS was groundbreaking, but it has not firmly resolved important ocean issues – either in national or international waters. More recently, the UN Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction agreement has been negotiated. This BBNJ Agreement will presumably come into force in 2025 (60 countries must first ratify). Key details in this BBNJ Agreement will need to be worked out in the implementation process. Prominent among these details is the question of how best to meaningfully protect ocean resources/biodiversity. This talk will provide a few thoughts for consideration as we move into the new era of ocean governance.

**Bio:** Steve Roady is a Senior Lecturing Fellow at Duke University’s School of Law and holds a secondary appointment as a Professor of the Practice for Marine Science and Conservation at the Duke Nicholas School of the Environment.

Before joining the Duke faculty in 2016, Steve devoted more than three decades to litigation and advocacy dedicated to enforcing various conservation and environmental protections contained in U.S. laws. His work in the courts and other forums helped protect ocean and coastal resources, streams and mountains, and air and water quality.

Steve has focused principally on ocean policy law and litigation since 1998, when he launched the Ocean Law Project. During 2001-2002, he was the first president of Oceana, an international ocean conservation organization. From 2002 to 2016, he managed the oceans program at the public interest law firm Earthjustice. His work at Earthjustice included international efforts to protect fishery and seafloor resources.

Steve has taught ocean and coastal law and policy at Duke since 2003. He has taught at American University, the University of Hawaii School of Law, and the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies. He has been named a Professor of the Year by the Duke School of the Environment, and a Public Interest Fellow by Harvard Law School. In addition to amicus briefs in the U.S. Supreme Court, his most recent writings focus on the need for environmental protections in connection with deep seabed mining.

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