Latin American Workshop in Law and Economics

The Henry G. Manne Program in Law & Economics Studies
Law & Economics Center
George Mason University Antonin Scalia Law School
Wednesday, November 18 – Friday, November 20, 2026
Hazel Hall, 3301 Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA 22201

Agenda

(Updated 9/10/2026 by GJW)

Wednesday, November 18

6:30 – 8:30 pm **Reception and Dinner**, *Circa*

Thursday, November 19
All sessions will be held in Hazel Hall 215

7:00 – 7:50 am **Breakfast**, *on own at hotel*

7:50 – 8:20 am **Walk from hotel to Antonin Scalia Law School**

8:20 – 8:30 am **Welcome Remarks**

Daniel B. Kelly, Allison and Dorothy Rouse Dean and George Mason University Professor of Law, George Mason University Antonin Scalia Law School

Donald Kochan, Professor of Law and Executive Director of the Law & Economics Center (LEC), George Mason University Antonin Scalia Law School

Nuno Garoupa, Professor of Law and Faculty Director of Graduate Studies, George Mason University Antonin Scalia Law School

8:30 – 10:15 am **Session 1: Law and Policy**

Frances Xu Lee, *Waiver of the Proffer Statement Right*.

Yijia Lu, *Legal Uncertainty and Factual Uncertainty* (with Gunnar Nordén).

Joyce Sadka, TBA

10:15 – 10:45 am **Break**

10:45 – 12:30 pm **Session 2: Law and Behavioral Incentives**

Andrei Gomberg, *When Should the Jurors Talk: Timing of Communication and Rational Ignorance* (with Diego Aycinena and Lucas Rentschler).

Mauricio Bugarin, *Vote Splitting in a Federation* (with Rodrigo Schneider).

Jorge Streb, *Adam Smith and an Impartial Judicial System: Incentive and Selection Problems.*

12:30 – 1:30 pm **Boxed Lunch**

1:30 – 3:15 pm **Session 3: Law and Economics Theory**

Cesar Martinelli, *Is Cheaper Democracy Better?* (with Hans Gersbach and Egor Kravchenko).

Scott Baker, *Evidence Thresholds* (with Giri Parameswaran)**.**

Abraham Wickelgren, *The Alarmist's Dilemma* (with Frances Lee and Shmuel Leshem).

3:15 – 3:30 pm **Break**

3:30 – 5:15 pm **Session 4: Regulation and Innovation**

Daniel Ferrés, *Elite Venture Capitalists* (with Luiz Bissoto).

Álvaro Bustos, *The 'CorE' Dynamics of Corporate Soft-Regulation Compliance: Theory and Evidence from an Emerging Market.*

Bernardo Mueller, *Smartphones, Social Media and the Mental Health of Nations.*

5:15 – 6:30 pm **Afternoon Break**

6:30 – 8:00 pm **Dinner**, *Lyon Hall*

Friday, November 20

All sessions will be held in Hazel Hall 215

7:00 – 8:00 am **Breakfast**, *on own at hotel*

8:00 – 8:30 am **Walk from hotel to Antonin Scalia Law School**

8:30 – 10:00 am **Session 5: Keynote Address**

Todd Zywicki, *The Efficiency of the Common Law*.

10:00 – 10:30 am **Break**

10:30 – 11:40 am **Session 6: Judicial Politics**

Julio Ríos-Figueroa, *Electing Judges: Evidence from Mexico.*

Amanda Driscoll, *Judicial Independence Beyond the Bench: How Court Capture Reshapes the Legal Profession.*

11:40 - 11:50 am **Break**

11:50 am - 1:00 pm **Session 7: Rule of Law**

Diana Kapiszewski, *Democratic Backsliding: Conceptual Foundations* (with Simon Ballesteros).

Vanessa Casado, *Judicial Councils under Polarization: Paralysis as a Failure Mode of Judicial Self-Government in Spain* (with Nuno Garoupa).

1:00 – 2:00 pm **Boxed Lunch**

2:00 pm **LAWLE 2027 Announcements, Program Adjourns**

PARTICIPANTS

Scott Baker, William F. and Jessica L. Kirsch Professor of Law, Washington University in St. Louis School of Law, USA

Maurício Soares Bugarin, Professor, Departamento de Economia, Universidade de Brasília, Brazil

Álvaro E. Bustos, Director, Escuela de Administración and Profesor Asociado, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Chile

Vanessa Casado Pérez, Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Development, Professor of Law and Research Associate Professor of Agricultural Economics, Texas A&M School of Law, USA

James C. Cooper, Professor of Law and Director, Program on Economics & Privacy, George Mason University Antonin Scalia Law School, USA

Amanda Driscoll, Dr. J. Elizabeth Garraway Professor of Political Science, Florida State University, USA

Daniel J. Ferrés, Director, Maestría en Finanzas y Postgrado en Data Science, Universidad de Montevideo, Uruguay

Nuno Garoupa, Professor of Law and Faculty Director of Graduate Studies, George Mason University Antonin Scalia Law School, USA

Andrei Gomberg, Professor of Economics, Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM), Mexico

Diana Kapiszewski, Provost's Distinguished Associate Professor and Director, Center for Latin American Studies, Georgetown University, USA

Daniel B. Kelly, Allison and Dorothy Rouse Dean and George Mason University Professor of Law, George Mason University Antonin Scalia Law School, USA

Donald Kochan, Professor of Law and Executive Director of the Law & Economics Center (LEC), George Mason University Antonin Scalia Law School, USA

Frances Z. Xu Lee, Associate Professor of Economics and Department Chair of Economics, Loyola University Chicago, Quinlan School of Business, USA

Yijia Lu, Associate Professor of Law, George Mason University Antonin Scalia Law School, USA

Cesar A. Martinelli, Professor of Economics, George Mason University, USA

Bernardo Mueller, Professor, Departamento de Economia, Universidade de Brasília, Brazil

Gunnar Nordén, Professor, Department of Business, Marketing and Law, University of South-Eastern Norway, USN School of Business, Norway

Julio Antonio Ríos-Figueroa, Profesor de Tiempo Completo, Departamento Académico de Derecho, Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM), Mexico

Joyce Sadka, Professor and Chair, Department of Law, Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM), Mexico

Jorge Miguel Streb, Professor and Director of Research, Universidad del CEMA, Argentina

Abraham L. Wickelgren, Fred and Emily Marshall Wulff Centennial Chair in Law, University of Texas at Austin School of Law, USA

Todd J. Zywicki, George Mason University Foundation Professor of Law, George Mason University Antonin Scalia Law School, USA