



**WAYNE STATE
UNIVERSITY**
Faculty Development
and Faculty Success

Successful Sabbaticals

Get to know our panel



[Kirsten Matoy Carlson](#)

Professor of Law, Adjunct Professor of Political Science
she/her

PROFILE

Kirsten Matoy Carlson is a leading authority on federal Indian law and legislation. Her research focuses on legal advocacy and law reform, with particular attention on the various strategies used by Indian nations and indigenous groups to reform federal law and policy effectively. Carlson integrates traditional legal analysis with social science methodologies for studying legal and political advocacy. Her recent article, *Lobbying Against the Odds*, was selected for presentation at the Yale/Stanford/Harvard Junior Faculty Forum at Harvard Law School. Her articles have appeared in the *Michigan Law Review*, *Minnesota Law Review*, *University of Colorado Law Review*, *Indiana Law Journal*, *Harvard Journal on Legislation*, *Law and Society Review*, *American Indian Law Review* and *Michigan State Law Review*.

For the 2019-20 academic year, she held a career development chair, which honors outstanding research faculty at Wayne State University. From May 2014 through July 2019, she served as the principle investigator on a National Science Foundation Law and Social Science Program grant. During 2017-18, she was one of two inaugural Levin Center Research Scholars. In 2016-17, she received the Outstanding Junior Faculty Award from the Wayne State Academy of Scholars. Prior to joining the Law School in 2011, Carlson received a National Science Foundation dissertation research grant to study the constitutional entrenchment of Aboriginal and treaty rights in Canada and a Fulbright scholarship to research attitudes toward the Waitangi Tribunal and the treaty claims settlement process in New Zealand. She has also served as a visiting research scholar at the University of Ottawa and a visiting associate professor at the University of Minnesota Law School.

Carlson teaches federal Indian law, legislation, legal change and civil procedure. She received the Donald H. Gordon Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2014 and was selected by students as the Professor of the Year, First Year, in 2017.

Carlson brings a range of professional and academic experience to her teaching and research. She serves on the State Bar of Michigan Standing Committee on American Indian Law and is a fellow of the American Bar Foundation. Prior to joining Wayne Law, she advocated nationally and internationally to protect the rights of Indian nations as a staff attorney at the Indian Law Resource Center. She led the center's advocacy efforts to restore criminal jurisdiction to Indian nations to end violence against women in Indian Country. She also clerked for the Hon. Diana E. Murphy of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit.

Carlson earned her law degree cum laude and a doctorate in political science from the University of Michigan, a master of arts degree with distinction in Maaori studies from the University of Wellington, New Zealand, and a bachelor's in international studies from The Johns Hopkins University.

Tamara Hew-Butler DPM, PhD, FACSM

EDUCATIONAL HISTORY

I graduated from UCLA, with a BS in Kinesiology. Then, I earned my DPM degree at Temple University. I completed a 3-year residency at Harris Co Podiatric Surgical Residency (TX). I received my PhD at the University of Cape Town, in South Africa (where I really fell in love with science).

CAREER HISTORY AT WAYNE STATE AND CURRENT ROLE

I am an Exercise Physiologist and have been at Wayne State since Fall 2018. We have an active laboratory (the Warrior Performance Lab) in the basement of the Education Building, with research projects ranging from testing sedentary populations through evaluating elite-level athletes.

WHAT DO YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT YOUR CURRENT WORK?

I love learning and discovering novel insights alongside my small army of enthusiastic student researchers. I also love helping athletes and non-athletes alike improve their performance (and gain confidence) through scientific knowledge and self-discovery.

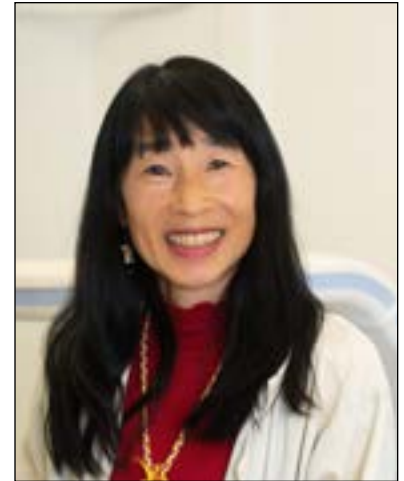
WHO HAS MADE A POSITIVE IMPACT ON YOUR PROFESSIONAL TRAJECTORY?

My University of Cape Town scientific mentor, Timothy Noakes MD, DSc changed the trajectory of my life from private practice (treating athletes) into science. His singular influence on my career path made me realize that ONE person can make a powerful difference in the lives of others.

IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE ABOUT YOURSELF?

Our lab motto is serious science with serious fun. Whatever we do should be fun - or why bother. Life is too short to take ourselves too seriously.

Twitter: [@hyponaqueen](https://twitter.com/hyponaqueen)



Arash Javanbakht

**Associate Professor, Director of Stress, Trauma, and Anxiety Research Clinic (STARC)
Department of Psychiatry, School of Medicine**

EDUCATIONAL HISTORY

I went to medical school in Iran, and finished a research track residency and fellowship in psychiatry, focused on neurobiology and treatment of anxiety disorders and PTSD at University of Michigan Department of Psychiatry.

CAREER HISTORY AT WAYNE STATE AND CURRENT ROLE

I joined WSU department of psychiatry 6 years ago and founded the Stress, Trauma, and Anxiety Research Clinic (STARC). I research neurobiology of anxiety and trauma, and advancing treatment methods. I treat diverse traumatized populations from refugees and victims of torture to first responders.

WHAT DO YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT YOUR CURRENT WORK?

Diverse areas of clinical work and research, teaching and watching the new generation flourish, and public education via media. I find very joyful helping survivors of trauma return back to their normal lives and functioning.

WHO HAS MADE A POSITIVE IMPACT ON YOUR PROFESSIONAL TRAJECTORY?

Several many thoughtful and wise mentors, most of all Dr Alireza Amirsadri at my department, who over more than a decade has been a great advisor and cheerleader for my growth.



Naomi Schalit

Senior Editor, Politics and Society

PROFILE

A graduate of Princeton University with a degree in religion and Near Eastern studies, Schalit began her career at the San Jose Mercury News. She has worked as a reporter and producer at Maine Public Radio, edited the opinion pages for two Maine newspapers and, with her husband, John Christie, founded the Maine Center for Public Interest Reporting, a non-profit news outlet that produces investigative and accountability reporting about Maine government and public affairs.

CAREER HISTORY AND CURRENT ROLE

I've been a public radio reporter, an editorial writer whose work won national awards and I co-founded and ran a non-profit investigative news service, where my accountability reporting exposed malfeasance, misfeasance and just plain bad behavior by government officials of both parties.

WHAT DO YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT YOUR CURRENT WORK?

Helping scholars learn to write for the public.

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