

## ERIK G. JENSEN

Stanford Law School  
Center on Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law (CDDRL), Freeman Spogli Institute (FSI)  
650-725-4287  
[egjensen@stanford.edu](mailto:egjensen@stanford.edu)

**Erik Jensen** holds joint appointments at Stanford Law School and Stanford's Center on Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law. He is Professor of the Practice, Director of the Rule of Law Program at Stanford Law School, an Affiliated Core Faculty at Stanford's Center on Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law, and Senior Advisor for Governance and Law at The Asia Foundation. Jensen began his international career as a Fulbright Scholar. He has taught and practiced in the field of law and development for 35 years and has carried out fieldwork in approximately 40 developing countries. He lived in Asia for 14 years. He has led or advised research teams on governance and the rule of law at the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and the African Development Bank. Among his numerous publications, Jensen co-edited with Thomas Heller *Beyond Common Knowledge: Empirical Approaches to the Rule of Law* (Stanford University Press: 2003). At Stanford, he teaches courses related to state building, development, global poverty and the rule of law. Jensen's scholarship and fieldwork focuses on bridging theory and practice, and examines connections between law, economy, politics and society. Much of his teaching focuses on experiential learning. In recent years, he has committed considerable effort as faculty director to three student driven projects: the Afghanistan Legal Education Project (ALEP) which started and has developed a law degree-granting programs at the American University of Afghanistan (AUAF), an institution where he also sits on the Board of Trustees; the Iraq Legal Education Initiative at the American University of Iraq in Sulaimani (AUIS); and the Rwanda Law and Development Project at the University of Rwanda. He has also directed projects in Bhutan, Cambodia and Timor Leste. With Paul Brest, he is co-leading the Rule of Non-Law Project, a research project launched in 2015 and funded by the Global Development and Poverty Fund at the Stanford King Center on Global Development. The project examines the use of various work-arounds to the formal legal system by economic actors in developing countries. Eight law faculty members as well as scholars at the Freeman Spogli Institute are participating in the Rule of Non-Law Project.

### Employment

#### Stanford University

April 2012 – Present, Professor of the Practice of Law and Director, Rule of Law Program  
Stanford Law School (full-time)  
1999-Present, Senior Research Director, then Co-Director, then Director, Rule of Law Program,  
Stanford Law School (part-time 1999-2012, full-time 2012-present)  
2007-Present, Faculty Director, the Afghanistan Legal Education Project, the Iraq Legal  
Education Initiative, Cambodia Law Reform Initiative, the Rwanda Law and  
Development Project, the Timor Leste Legal Education Project, the Bhutan Law  
and Policy Project,  
2008-Present, Senior Research Scholar, Center on Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law  
2004-Present, Core Affiliated Faculty Member, Rule of Law Program, Center on Democracy, Development  
and Rule of Law  
2005-Present, a Founding Faculty Member, Draper Hills Summer Fellows Program on Democracy and  
Development (CDDRL)

#### The Asia Foundation

2009 – Present, Senior Advisor for Governance and Law (part-time 2009-12, pro bono 2012-  
present)  
1999-2009 Senior Law Advisor (part-time)  
1994-1999, Representative, Pakistan and Afghanistan  
1989-1993, Assistant Representative, Philippines  
1986-1989, Law Consultant, Sri Lanka

### Other Positions

2015-present, Member, Board of Trustees, American University of Afghanistan (pro bono)  
1997-2012, Advisor and Consultant to the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and the African Development Bank  
1993-1996, Member, Fulbright Committee, Pakistan  
1990-1993, Adjunct Professor of Law, Ateneo de Manila University College of Law, Philippines  
1985-1989, Senior Fulbright Lecturer in Law, University of Colombo and the Open University, Sri Lanka  
1984-1985, Assistant General Counsel, Gelco Corporation (now a division of General Electric)  
1983-1984, Associate Attorney, Drake & Rogesheske, Minneapolis, Minnesota

### **Education**

LL.M., London School of Economics and Political Science, 1983.  
J.D., *cum laude*, William Mitchell College of Law, 1981.  
B.A., *cum laude*, Augustana College, 1977.

### **Publications, Illustrative Substantial Reports and Case Studies**

#### Books

Erik G. Jensen and Thomas C. Heller, eds., *Beyond Common Knowledge: Empirical Approaches to the Rule of Law* (Stanford University Press: 2003).

Erik G. Jensen, *Introduction to International Law in Sri Lanka*, (The Open University Press: 1989).

#### Papers and Chapters

Dinsha Mistree and Erik G. Jensen, “Does Growth Require Market-Enhancing Legal Institutions?” (forthcoming 2021)

Erik G. Jensen and Dinsha Mistree, “Legal Education in Developing Countries: Daring to Play the Long Game” (forthcoming 2021).

Erik G. Jensen, Dinsha Mistree and Kevan Christensen, “Rule of Law Recession,” targeted for publication in the *Journal of Democracy* (forthcoming 2021).

Mehdi Hakimi and Erik G. Jensen, “Rethinking Legal Education in Afghanistan: The Law Program at American University of Afghanistan,” *55 Stanford Journal of International Law* 83 (2019).

Erica Gaston and Erik G. Jensen, “Rule of Law and State Building in Afghanistan: Testing Theory with Practice,” in *State Strengthening in Afghanistan: Lessons Learned from 2001 to 2014* edited by Scott Smith and Colin Cookman (United States Institute of Peace: 2016) at p. 69-79.

Erik G. Jensen, “Postscript: An Immodest Reflection,” in David Marshall, ed., *The International Rule of Law Movement: A Crisis of Legitimacy and the Way Forward* (Harvard University Press: 2014) at p. 297-305.

Debra Ladner, Erik G. Jensen and Samuel E. Saunders, “A Critical Assessment of Legal Identity: What It Promises and What It Delivers,” *Hague Journal on the Rule of Law* 2013: 1-27.

Erik G. Jensen and William Cole, “Democracy, Governance and the Rule of Law in Asia,” in *Order and Institutional Architecture in Asia*, edited by Bates Gill and Michael Green (Columbia University Press: 2009).

Erik G. Jensen, “Justice and the Rule of Law,” in Charles Call with Vanessa Wyeth, eds., *Building States to Build Peace* (Lynne Rienner: 2008).

Erik G. Jensen, "Confronting Misconceptions and Acknowledging Imperfections: A Response To Khaled Abou El Fadl's 'Islam And Democracy'" 27 *Fordham International Law Review* 81 (2003).

Erik G. Jensen, "Context for Judicial Independence Programs: Improving Diagnostics, Developing Enabling Environments and Building Economic Constituencies" in *Rule of Law and Judicial Independence Handbook* (USAID: 2000).

Erik G. Jensen, "Financial Crisis and the Judiciary's Capacity to Protect Human Rights -- Some Reflections from Pakistan," (The Hague: May 1999).

Erik G. Jensen, "Doing Business in Pakistan," *The Asia Business Law Review*, (1998).

G.L Peiris & Erik G. Jensen, "Fundamental Rights and Academic Discipline: Current American and South Asian Trends Compared," 38 *The International and Comparative Law Quarterly* 788 (1989).

#### Substantial Reports

Erik G. Jensen, Asha Gosh and Debra Ladner, *The Rights of Urban Poor in Rapidly Urbanizing Asia* (Asian Development Bank: 2009).

Debra Ladner and Erik G. Jensen, *Legal Identity* (Asian Development Bank: 2007).

Erik G. Jensen and David O'Brien, *Judicial Independence in Asia* (Asian Development Bank: 2004).

Erik G. Jensen, "Meaningful Participation or Deliberative Deception: Realities and Dilemmas in Legitimizing Legal and Judicial Reform Projects Through Consultative Processes" (World Bank's Lawyers' Forum: 1999).

Erik G. Jensen et al., *Legal and Judicial Reform in Pakistan* (Asian Development Bank: 1999).

Erik G. Jensen & Tariq Banuri, "Pakistan 2010: An Agenda for Effective Governance," (Standard and Poor's: 1997).

Erik G. Jensen & Tariq Banuri, "Pakistan 2010: A Vision," (Government of Pakistan: 1998).

#### Case Studies

Erik Jensen and Dinsha Mistree, "Unfinished Business: The Judicial Reform Agenda in the Republic of Georgia" (forthcoming 2021).

Arjuna Dibley, Erik Jensen and Dinsha Mistree, "Go or No-Go? Voting on the World Bank's Proposed Legal and Judicial reform Project in Bangladesh" (2017) at [https://www-cdn.law.stanford.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Bangladesh-Case-Study\\_Final-5-Oct-17.pdf](https://www-cdn.law.stanford.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Bangladesh-Case-Study_Final-5-Oct-17.pdf)

#### **Courses**

State-building and the Rule of Law

Global Poverty and Law

Poverty and Corruption in India

International Development and the Rule of Law

Law and Development in India

Islam and the Rule of Law

Rule of Law in Mexico

Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law (summer program and undergraduate)

## **Awards**

Awarded two successive Fulbright grants to teach international and comparative law, and international economic law at the University of Colombo and the Open University, Colombo, Sri Lanka  
Alumni Achievement Award, Augustana College  
Presidential Award, The Asia Foundation  
Honorary Doctorates from the Free University of Tbilisi and Ilia State University (Republic of Georgia)

## **Personal**

Jensen lives in Palo Alto with his wife of 36 years, Elizabeth Kilgore Jensen. They have two children: Britt (28) and Stefan (23).

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