About
THE CENTER FOR LAW, ENVIRONMENT, ADAPTATION AND RESOURCES (CLEAR) addresses environmental law issues, serving as a leader on the laws related particularly to climate change adaptation. With respect to adaptation, CLEAR helps inform policymakers, leaders and practitioners about the circumstances brought on by environmental disruption and options for legal change, and it provides a forum for educating the North Carolina and national legal and business communities about opportunities related to these changes.

Student Opportunities
EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES
CLEAR serves as a center for environmental legal research, providing both paid and unpaid projects for law students and law graduates on cutting edge issues. UNC’s environmental law program also offers unique classes, such as the Practice of Environmental Markets, Interagency Environmental Cooperation and semester-long externships in Washington, D.C.

Students may also join the Environmental Law Project. This organization provides opportunities for students to work on environmental public service projects, such as weatherization and recycling, and works with the environmental law faculty to publish pieces in the materials accompanying North Carolina’s largest environmental law CLE program.

“All climate-sensitive systems of society and the natural environment ... will need to adapt to a changing climate or possibly face diminished productivity, functioning and health.”
—ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

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PROFESSIONAL CONNECTIONS
CLEAR hosts nationwide workshops on environmental legal issues, particularly with respect to climate change adaptation. Students are often invited to assist and participate in these workshops. CLEAR collaborates with other academic units at UNC and other schools, and also works with law firms with environmental law specialties, environmental public interest firms, state environmental agencies and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Affiliated Faculty
DONALD HORNSTEIN
Aubrey L. Brooks Professor of Law

JOSEPH JOHN KALO
Graham Kenan Professor of Law Emeritus

MARIA SAVASTA-KENNEDY
Clinical Professor of Law and Director of the Externship Program

RECENT WORKSHOPS AND PROJECTS
In 2012, CLEAR has hosted two major national workshops:

- The Impact of Law on Private Sector Adaptation
- Climate Change Adaptation, Law, and Sustainability

CLEAR is currently working with the Department of Homeland Security Center of Excellence on the legal standards related to recovery from climate change induced disaster. CLEAR also collaborates with the Research Triangle Institute, the Nicholas Institute at Duke University, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to examine policies concerning offsets in carbon cap and trade system.

CLEAR recognized individuals for their contributions to North Carolina’s success in protecting its citizens’ right to clean and healthful air at a reception on February 9, 2013. The award was given to Attorney General Roy Cooper, as well as others in the North Carolina Department of Justice, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, the Southern Environmental Law Center, and others. The work spanned over a decade. Pictured with Attorney General Cooper is Mark Bernstein.

In 2010, the center co-hosted Ambassador Klaus Scharioth, the ambassador to the United States from the Federal Republic of Germany. He presented “Transatlantic Relations for the Next Decade and the Transatlantic Climate Bridge,” discussing contemporary issues in international law and policy, including a joint commitment by Germany and the United States to invest in newer, cleaner sources of energy that can create new jobs and world-class industries, clean the environment and protect the climate, improve standards of living and enhance global security.