

SEATTLEU

SCHOOL OF LAW

SITIE2020 Introduction

Opening remarks by Dean Annette Clark

Good morning, my name is Annette Clark and I am the very proud dean of Seattle University School of Law. Welcome to SITIE—our Summer Institute for Technology, Innovation & Entrepreneurship; and more specifically, this is our SITIE 2020 Innovating the Built Environment Symposium on the law’s response to disruptive change. It is so great to have you all here with us. We are broadcasting from rainy Seattle this morning and I know we have folks from all over the country.

Our SITIE Institute is in its second summer of operation, with five course offerings and two conferences and symposia. I want to start us off this morning by extending particular thanks to Adjunct Professor Peter Smirniotopoulos, who also teaches at the University of Michigan. It was his vision to expand his SITIE class--Innovating the Built Environment-- into a community event, and this year into a national, virtual event. Over the course of today, we will have at least 16 speakers and thought leaders, both locally and nationally, including at least three Seattle University Law graduates (of whom we are very proud), several of our adjunct professors, and a variety of industry professionals and government leaders locally and across the country. I am also pleased to let you know that our new Seattle Journal of Technology, Environmental and Innovation Law has student representatives attending today, and they’re hoping to publish some of the speakers and the proceedings, and we will have the chance to introduce them later this morning. A special thanks to CREW-Northwest (Commercial Real Estate Women Northwest), the organization that is once again participating and planning the opening panel on the intersection of land use and affordable housing.

It’s now my great pleasure to introduce my colleague, Professor Steven Bender. He is not just a professor and faculty member; he is our Associate Dean for Planning and Strategic Initiatives. And really, I want to give kudos to Dean Bender because SITIE, our Summer Institute for Technology, Innovation & Entrepreneurship, was absolutely his brainchild. He came to us from the University of Oregon in 2011, where he was a long-time professor, a leader in entrepreneurship, and ran their Portland program. He’s been such a wonderful person to have on our faculty, and I rely on him particularly for his expertise in entrepreneurship. Professor Bender is the author of a real estate transactions casebook and he’s also something of a renaissance man. In addition to his expertise in real estate, he is also one of the country’s experts on immigration and race and the law. So, it’s my great pleasure to introduce you to Dean and Professor Steve Bender.