MEMORANDUM

TO: Executive Council, American Society of International Law
FROM: Jean Galbraith, Chair
2019-2020 ASIL Book Awards Committee
DATE: December 16, 2019
RE: Report of the 2019-2020 ASIL Book Awards Committee

The ASIL Book Awards Committee unanimously recommends the following authors and books for the three ASIL book awards.

1. CERTIFICATE OF MERIT FOR A PREEMINENT CONTRIBUTION TO CREATIVE SCHOLARSHIP


This book invites the reader to reimagine international law from feminist perspectives. Contributors collaborate to rewrite landmark judgments in international law, from the *Lotus* case through to the present, with an emphasis on human rights and international criminal law. Each chapter focuses on a single judgment, containing an introduction to the case, the re-written judgment, and final reflections on its creation. For each re-written judgment, the authors make use only of sources available at the time of the actual judgment. The end result is a provocative portrait of what international law might have looked like with different decision-makers and underlying power dynamics. Part of a broader project on feminist judgments, the book highlights ways in which law fails to protect the vulnerable. The book stands out for its creativity, cohesiveness as an edited volume, and far-reaching vision.

2. CERTIFICATE OF MERIT FOR HIGH TECHNICAL CRAFTSMANSHIP AND UTILITY TO LAWYERS AND SCHOLARS


John Tobin has compiled an experienced set of writers to produce the most complete commentary to date on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Despite its many authors, this Commentary fits together well and reflects detailed analysis of the Convention that will be an unparalleled benefit to those who practice in this important area of international law. The book is organized to be easily accessible for both practitioners and scholars and contains not only thorough reference to state practice, judicial cases and UN
committee decisions in applicable areas, but also incisive analysis that will assist the reader in understanding the application of the Convention. Although almost twenty years in the making, it is current and comprehensive. It is extremely well done, and will serve as the foundational commentary on the Convention.

3. CERTIFICATE OF MERIT IN A SPECIALIZED AREA OF INTERNATIONAL LAW

The Committee selected Fernando Lusa Bordin, *The Analogy between States and International Organizations* (Cambridge University Press, 2019).

This book is an original and rigorous contribution to the literature on the subjects and sources of international law. It considers the role that the analogy between States and international organizations has played in the development of international law applicable to organizations. It does so with particular reference to the work of the UN International Law Commission on the law of treaties and on international responsibility, but goes well beyond those areas, offering fresh insights into the usefulness - and limitations - of analogy as a method of argument in international law. The book is of high theoretical and practical interest, has the merit of being clearly written, and has the potential to be influential over the long-term.

In conclusion, we thoroughly enjoyed reading and discussing the books nominated this year and were impressed by the high level of scholarship across a wide array of areas in international law.

Respectfully submitted,

2019-2020 ASIL Book Awards Committee

Jean Galbraith, *Chair*
James Gathii
Eric Jensen
Elizabeth Trujillo
Sir Michael Wood

cc: Sean D. Murphy, President
    Mark D. Agrast, Executive Director