Professor April Walker was elected the new general counsel for the Texas Southern University Faculty Senate effective October 2016. As a member of the Thurgood Marshall School of Law faculty since 2004, and an experienced counselor at law she brings a wealth of knowledge and experience.

Professor Fernando Colon-Navarro co-authored an article in the book Novos Direitos Privados titled Direito Internacional, Imigracao, Vulnerabilidade e Reconhecimento. This article is a comparative study of immigration law in Brazil and the United States. For publication, this article was published in Portuguese.

In addition, Professor Colon and his mentoring work with TMSL students was spotlighted in the Houston Lawyer (Volume 54, Number 2, September/October 2016). This issue focused on the importance of mentorship and highlighted those lawyers who are making a difference in the legal profession. In the article, Judge Josefina M. Rendón shared Professor Colon’s background and his work with the summer program in Puerto Rico and discussed the special attention, mentoring and instruction Professor Colon provides to TMSL students. You may read the entire article (found on pages 30-31) at the following link: https://issuu.com/leosur/docs/thl_septoct16/1. Professor Colon also visited the Federal University of Ouro Preto in Brazil and met with professors and students in the university’s new Master’s Program. In this program, students research cultural diversity and new systems of justice. Professor Colon spoke to the group about Thurgood Marshall School of Law’s experience with the LL.M. program in Immigration and Naturalization Law, diversity issues, and immigration and human rights concerns. Lastly, during this same visit, Professor Colon taught a mini-course on American immigration law and another on the use of technology in the law school classroom.


Professor L. Darnell Weeden participated in the Thurgood Marshall Lecture Series, on Wednesday October 5, 2016, by discussing his recent article entitled “In Fisher v. University of Texas, Derrick Bell’s Interest Convergence Theory is on a Collision Course with the Viewpoint Diversity Rationale in Higher Education”, 2016 Utah L. Rev. OnLaw 101. According to Professor Weeden, his article's contention that Professor Bell’s view of interest convergence in the context of diversity and higher education did not give enough deference to the collaborative elements of interest convergence, generated some very productive intellectual dialogue with his colleagues.