



FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS



Professor Shaundra Kellam Lewis and her research assistant, Daniel De Luna, have a co-authored article that will be published this summer in the 40th Edition of the Thurgood Marshall Law Review titled, *“Texas Gun Law And The Future”*: *The Fatal Flaws in Texas’s Campus Carry*

Law. This article stems from a presentation that Professor Lewis and Mr. De Luna made at the Texas Gun Law Symposium sponsored by the Thurgood Marshall Law Review on April 1, 2016. The article closely examines the Texas Campus Carry Law that will take effect this August, and highlights the constitutional and statutory interpretation issues raised by the statute.

Professor Thomas Kleven is the Green Party candidate for Congress from the 18th Congressional District. His platform is to strengthen our democracy so that it serves all the people and not just the privileged few through four specific proposals: (1) to enact laws creating independent commissions to draw the lines for congressional and state legislative districts in a nonpartisan manner; (2) to enact laws requiring all eligible voters to vote as one of their civic duties; (3) to have the federal government take over the financing of elementary and secondary public education, while leaving the administration of public schools to state and local authorities; and (4) to guarantee all who are ready, willing and able to work a job at a living wage, with the government being responsible for providing jobs for those who cannot find work in the private market.



Professor Emeka Duruigbo was invited to participate in the New Petroleum Producers Discussion Group in Kenya on March 2-4, 2016. The forum was organized by the Royal Institute of International Affairs, Chatham House, UK and the Commonwealth Secretariat, among others, in collaboration with the

Kenya National Oil Company. According to the organizers, “[t]he aim of this collaborative project is to enhance the capacity of emerging oil and gas producers to establish context-appropriate rules and institutions for good governance of their petroleum sectors and to engage credibly with international partners.” Participants came from old, new and emerging oil and gas producing countries. Professor Duruigbo delivered a presentation on **“Managing Oil Revenues through Community Trust Funds.”** Additional information on the discussion group can be found at <https://www.chathamhouse.org/about/structure/ee-department/new-petroleum-producers-discussion-group-project>



Professor Ahunanya Anga accepted an invitation to attend a two-day expert workshop to discuss the impact of technology on due process protections. The panel is sponsored by the US Department of Justice (DOJ), National Institute of Justice (NIJ) and is to be held in the Washington DC area on May 31st and

June 1st, 2016. In its efforts to promote innovation in the U.S. criminal justice enterprise, NIJ has commissioned the RAND Corporation and RTI International, both non-profit research organizations, to convene approximately 20 legal professors and practitioners for two days. The workshop will include legal scholars and expert practitioners and explore the due process considerations of existing and emerging technology. The workshop discussion will focus on the potential impact of technological advances – both inside and outside the courthouse – on the due process rights of court litigants. That discussion will contribute to developing a research agenda around issues of due process and technological advancements, as well as offer a prospective outlook regarding near-term and future trends in the impact of technology on due process, to further guide practitioners. RTI International and RAND will summarize results of the workshop in a public report to be published in early 2017.



FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS *Cont'd.*



Professor Sally Green recently accepted an offer to publish her article, *The Law Demands Process for Rehomed Children*, with the Arkansas Law Review in its December 2016 issue. Professor Green addresses the issue of rehoming, a recently developed self-help remedy, where adoptive parents advertise unruly children on Internet

chat rooms or message boards for the purpose of relinquishing their physical and legal custody to another. She argues that rehoming children dismantles the sacred architecture of the family structure in the absence of a process like that afforded children in parental termination and emancipation cases where the law ensures a child's wellbeing. As a result, the rehomed child is dispossessed of legal protections that the state as *parens patriae* historically provides. Professor Green posits that, first, the states must specifically prohibit the practice of rehoming. Additionally, the adoption statutes should be expanded to afford potentially rehomed children opportunity for proper diagnosis and disposition. Through statutorily required administrative or judicial process, they can receive post adoption treatment that specifically addresses the underlying behavioral dysfunction that precedes the need to rehome.

On April 7, 2016, **Professor Peter Marchetti** was a panelists (along with attorneys from major firms both in the U.S. and Canada) at the Lender Liability and Workouts Joint Subcommittee Meeting held at the spring meeting of the American Bar Association Business Law Section in Montreal, QC, Canada. Professor Marchetti's panel addressed recent issues in lender liability.



Professor SpearIt has accepted an invitation by the ABA Section of Legal Education to participate in a webinar on experiential education scheduled for May 4, 2016. He was recently recognized for his leadership in the ABA Section of Criminal Justice, [http://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/](http://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/administrative/)

[administrative/](http://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/administrative/)

[criminal_justice/2015_leadership_authcheckdam.pdf](http://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/administrative/criminal_justice/2015_leadership_authcheckdam.pdf). He also presented at: TSU's Research Week 2016 on March 30th, TMSL's Research Week on March 31st, and "Religion and Law," which was co-sponsored by TMSL and Rice University's Religion and Public Life program on April 7. Professor SpearIt also published the *Foreword* for 6 Thurgood Marshall S. L. J. Gender, Race, Just. 1 (2016). Finally, his work was cited in Exhurt.com's entry for "Racial Inequality in the American Criminal Justice System," http://www.exhurt.com/learns=Racial_inequality_in_the_American_criminal_justice_system, and Revolvly.com's entry for Hispanic and Latino American Muslims, <http://broom02.revolvly.com/main/index.php?s=Hispanic%20and%20Latino%20American%20Muslims>.



Professor L. Darnell Weeden's 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" was published by University of Utah S.J. Quinney College of Law in the 2016 Utah L. Rev. OnLaw 101. In his article, Profes-

sor Weeden agrees that Professor Derrick Bell is necessarily and properly acknowledged because of his leading community service as a civil rights lawyer, a scholarly intellectual, law professor, and political activist. Although one commentator has described the late Professor Derrick Bell as the "founder" of the Critical Race Theory movement, Professor Weeden nevertheless believes Professor Bell's interest convergence theory in the context of diversity in higher education merits reconsideration. According to Professor Weeden, the interest convergence theory, promoted by Professor Bell should be reconsidered because it fails to give any deference to context by unrealistically contending that the interest of African Americans in seeking racial equality is supported only if policy makers determine that the interest of African Americans converges with a greater political and economic interest of whites in America.