



THURGOOD THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW TODAY

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS



Professor Katherine Vukadin accepted an offer from the *University of Richmond Law Review* to publish her article, *On Opioids and ERISA: The Urgent Case for a Federal Ban on Discretionary Clauses*. The article explores the high rate of benefit denials for mental health and substance abuse claims in employer-sponsored plans. Professor Vukadin concludes that the discretionary clause found in most plans is at least in part to blame; she advocates for a federal ban on such clauses, akin to the ban found in many states. The article also received offers from the *South Carolina Law Review*, the *Brooklyn Law Review*, and others.

Professor Vukadin and Adjunct Professor D'Andrea Shu accepted an invitation to present their topic, *Catching On: How Post-Critique Assessments Deepen Understanding & Improve Legal Writing*, at the Legal Writing Institute's Rocky Mountain Regional Legal Writing Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada this spring. They plan to present and further develop techniques for helping students digest and implement professors' suggestions for improving their legal writing.



Professor SpearIt recently published "Pushing Pro Bono for the Incarcerated and Those Reentering Society" in the book, *The State of Criminal Justice 2018* (American Bar Association 2018). In addition, federal district courts recently cited Professor SpearIt's scholarship including the cases, *U.S.A v. Muhtorov* (8/30/18) and *U.S.A. v. Jumaev* (7/18/18) in the U.S. District Court, District of Colorado, and *U.S.A. v. John Doe* (8/6/18) in the U.S. District Court, Eastern District of New York. In each of the

cases, the judge relied on findings from Professor SpearIt's work to justify downward departures from the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines. His work was also cited in the books, *Prisons, Punishment, and the Family: Towards a New Sociology of Punishment* (Oxford University Press 2018), *Gangs and Organized Crime* (Routledge 2018), *Decriminalizing Domestic Violence: A Balanced Policy Approach to Intimate Partner Violence* (University of California Press 2018), and other scholarly works including Resolution 100A, Report to the House of Delegates (American Bar Association Criminal Justice Section 2018) and *George Jackson's 1964 Letter to His Father: Agency from within the Prison Walls*, 11 J. Study Radicalism 161 (2017).

SpearIt has accepted an invitation to present his work-in-progress at the 2018 ABA-AALS Criminal Justice Section Academic Roundtable on 11/2/18, where he will present: *Repackaging Death: Targeting Christians, Conservatives*. SpearIt was recently cited in various publications, including *Prisons, Punishment and the Family: Towards a New Sociology of Punishment* (Oxford University Press 2018) and *Wise Up: Knowledge Ends Extremism* (Wise 2018), https://pointdebasculecanada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/8.1.2017_WISE-Up-Book.pdf, "Mental Health" in 1 Rights of Prisoners § 4:20 (5thed.), and "United States Incarceration Rate," <http://www.matajiwa.com/2018/09/united-states-incarceration-rate.html>. SpearIt recently moderated the panel, "Bias in the Criminal Justice System" at the 2018 Pursuit of Justice Conference at Gonzaga University School of Law on 9/28/18, and spoke at the 2018 SALT Law Teaching Conference, where he presented "All-Electronic Document Drafting" on 10/6/18.



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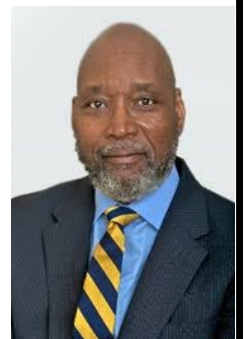
FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS *Cont'd.*



Associate Dean Cassandra Hill's article in the Howard Law Journal, *The Elephant in the Law School Assessment Room: The Role of Student Responsibility and Motivating Our Students to Learn*, 56 Howard L.J. 447 (2013), was cited in three different articles published this summer 2018, as part of the Journal on Legal Education's special issue on law school assessment. Judith Welch Wegner, the Burton Craige Professor Emerita and Dean Emerita of the University of North Carolina School of Law and co-author of *Educating Lawyers*, highlighted Associate Dean Hill's discussion on the need for students to take responsibility for their learning in partnership with faculty instructors in *Law School Assessment in the Context of Accreditation: Critical Questions, What We Know and Don't Know, and What We Should Do Next*, 67 J. Legal Educ. 412, 422 n.38 (2018). Associate Dean Hill's article, *The Elephant in the Law School Assessment Room*, was also cited by Susan Hanley Duncan, Dean and Professor of Law at the University of Mississippi School of Law, in her article, *They're Back! The New Accreditation Standards Coming to a Law School near You—A 2018 Update, Guide to Compliance, and Dean's Role in Implementing*. 67 J. Legal Educ. 463, 479 n.76 (2018). In *They're Back*, Dean Duncan references Associate Dean Hill's recommendation to use surveys to solicit information about students' responsibility for their learning and their level of preparation. Lastly, Associate Dean Hill's *The Elephant in the Law School Assessment Room* article was cited Sophie Sparrow, Professor of Law at the University of New Hampshire School of Law, in her article, *Teaching and Assessing Soft Skills*, 67 J. Legal Educ. 553, 560 n.33 (2018), for its discussion of students' part in the assessment process.

Associate Dean Hill's article in the Nevada Law Journal, *Peer Editing: A Comprehensive Pedagogical Approach to Maximize Assessment Opportunities, Integrate Collaborative Learning, and Achieve Desired Outcomes*, 11 Nev. L.J. 667 (2011), was also cited by Susan Hanley Duncan, Dean and Professor of Law at the University of Mississippi School of Law, in her article, *They're Back! The New Accreditation Standards Coming to a Law School near You—A 2018 Update, Guide to Compliance, and Dean's Role in Implementing*. 67 J. Legal Educ. 463, 479 n.76 (2018). Dean Duncan explained that formative assessments range in complexity and effort and listed some common examples of assessment methods, notably peer assessment, which is detailed in Associate Dean's *Peer Editing* article.

Professor L. Darnell Weeden accepted an offer to publish his article entitled "Equal Voting Rights Require Removing Race and Partisan Discrimination from Elections and Legislative Gerrymandering" from the Louisiana Law Review which is published by Louisiana State University.





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FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS *Cont'd.*

TMSL

2018-19 FACULTY SERIES SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

All Events are on Wednesdays
12pm-1pm in the Dean's Conference Room at TMSL unless otherwise noted.

FALL 2018



10/3/18

Faculty Research Series

Emeka Duruigbo, Professor of Law,
Thurgood Marshall School of Law
"Contracting Out of Partner Fiduciary Duties: The
Case for Reform"

10/10/18

Faculty Research Series

Thomas Kleven, Professor of Law
Thurgood Marshall School of Law
"Will Democracy Survive"

10/24/18

Faculty Lecture Series

James Douglas, Distinguished Professor of Law
Thurgood Marshall School of Law
"Why The Socratic Method Works"

10/31/18

Faculty Research Series

Katherine T. Vukadin, Professor of Law
Thurgood Marshall School of Law
"Aging Today's Law Review Submission Process
and Landing a Publication"

11/7/18

Faculty Research Series

Lupe S. Salinas, Professor of Law
Thurgood Marshall School of Law
"It Is Time to Kill the Death Penalty in the United
States"

11/14/18

Faculty Research Series

Rebecca K. Stewart, Associate Professor of Law
Thurgood Marshall School of Law
"Using Rubrics to Grade Essays & Writing
Assessments and Engage Students"

11/28/18

Faculty Research Series

Tiffany King, Esq., Academic Account Manager
Thomas Reuters
"Westlaw Presentation"





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Adjunct Instructor Positions—Hiring Now

Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law invites applications for Adjunct Instructor for the upcoming Spring 2019 semester, which officially begins on January 14, 2019. While consideration will be given to all applications as curricular needs arise, the Law School has an immediate need for applicants who are interested in teaching the courses listed below. In your cover letter, please indicate which class or classes you are interested in teaching and provide a summary of your related background or experience.

Spring 2019

Texas Property Law (3 credits)

Appellate Litigation (2 credits)

Trial Simulation* (2 credits)

Adjunct instructors are hired in a part-time capacity on a semester-by-semester basis, contingent upon the needs of the Law School. The successful candidate will possess the following required qualifications:

- **J.D. degree from an ABA-accredited law school;**
- **Be a member in good standing in your state of bar licensure;**
- **Strong academic and professional qualifications;**
- **Practice experience that is sufficiently extensive and relevant to the requested teaching assignment;**
- **Demonstrated ability to achieve excellence in teaching and in guiding and mentoring students; and**
- **Commitment to the goals of the University and the Law School.**

*In addition, for Trial Simulation, the ideal candidate will have extensive litigation and trial work experience and significant experience in teaching effective communication and advocacy skills necessary for success in law practice. Adjunct Instructors who teach Trial Simulation will be a part of the Law School's experiential learning program. There may be other teaching opportunities available in the experiential learning program in the near future (including, but not limited to, Evidence for Litigators, Deposition and Other Discovery Techniques and Mediation).

Applicants will be considered until the positions are filled. **If you are interested in teaching as an Adjunct Instructor, please email your cover letter and resume to Cassandra Hill, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, at cassandra.hill@tmslaw.tsu.edu.** Also, please complete the online application at <https://jobs.tsu.edu/postings/2957> (which requires submission of a resume, cover letter, and unofficial transcript).

It is the policy of Texas Southern University to provide a work environment that is free from discrimination for all persons regardless of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, or protected veteran status in its programs, activities, admissions or employment policies. This policy of equal opportunity is strictly observed in all University employment-related activities such as advertising, recruiting, interviewing, testing, employment training, compensation, promotion, termination, and employment benefits. This policy expressly prohibits harassment and discrimination in employment based on race, color, religion, gender, gender identity, genetic history, national origin, disability, age, citizenship status, or protected veteran status. This policy shall be adhered to in accordance with the provisions of all applicable federal, state and local laws, including, but not limited to, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act.

Official TSU Position Title: Adjunct Instructor

Posting Number: TSU202017

Posting on Texas Southern University's website: <https://jobs.tsu.edu/postings/2957> (which requires submission of a resume, cover letter, and unofficial transcript)