Homecoming / Reunion 2016: Remember the TIME...
FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

TMSL Hosts 2016 Wiley A. Branton Symposium
October 21, 2016

As part of the 2016 Wiley Branton Symposium, co-sponsored by the National Bar Association, Thurgood Marshall School of Law, and Howard University School of Law, several TMSL faculty participated in the sessions. The overall theme for the 2016 Symposium was “The Obama Administration: Legal and Judicial Legacy”. Part I of the Symposium, hosted by Howard University School of Law, addressed President Obama’s legacy in the courts and his judicial appointments. Part II of the Symposium, hosted by TMSL, discussed President Obama’s executive actions and the constitutionality of them.

In addition, Professor Maurice Hew presented on “DACA: More of a Nightmare than a Dream”. In this apolitical presentation, Professor Hew discussed the lawyer’s duty of informed consent in real client initial interview situations relating to Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA).

Professor Craig Jackson and Professor Fernando Colon moderated the panels on executive actions.

We would like to extend a special thanks to our co-sponsors, and Interim Dean James M. Douglas, Former Dean Dannye Holley, Olympia Oliver, Countess Dudley, Pearly Pendenque, Wynell Wall, Charlene James, Novella Brooks, Norma Peet, Jo Alridge, Trina Leach and Brittani Halliburton for your tremendous contributions to making this symposium a success!!
As part of the TMSL Quodlibet Research Series, Professor Lydia John- son presented her work-in-progress, “Why the Evolution of Consent in Sexual Assault Cases Complicates the Burden of Proof in Title IX Violations and Can It Be Fixed?” In this presentation, Professor Johnson compared the standard of review and right to counsel in criminal law cases against the procedures available in Title IX hearings and argued the profound differences render Title IX an ineffective and inequity means to address and remedy cases of sexual violence.

Professor Fernando Colon and his mentoring work with TMSL students was spotlighted in this month’s issue of 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 Thelma Harmon presented her research on the best interests of the child standard in family cases as part of the TMSL Quodlibet Research Series. Her presentation, “Alert! Pile-Up at the Intersection of Parental Autism and Best Interest of the Child,” discussed how someone with autism, a lifelong disability and neurodevelopmental disorder, can become a barrier to that person’s parental rights regarding the care and custody of their children. For people with disabilities— including neurodevelopmental disorders such as autism—the innate desire to become a parent has been hampered by societal bias and compromised by family law legislation.


Professor L. Darnell Weeden’s article entitled, How to Establish Flying the Confederate Flag with the State as Sponsor Violates the Equal Protection Clause, 34 Akron L. Rev. 521, 531 (2001) was cited and quoted in footnote 50 by Federal District Court Judge Carlton Reeves in the Moore v. Bryant opinion on September 8, 2016, 2016 WL 4703825 at *6 (S.D. Miss). In Moore v. Bryant, an African-American citizen brought action against the Governor of Mississippi challenging the constitutionality of Mississippi’s state flag, which contains a Confederate battle symbol in the top left corner as a violation of the 13th & 14th Amendments. Judge Reeves cited to Professor Weeden’s law review article to support his conclusion that some states during the 1950’s & 1960’s raised the Confederate battle logo in symbolic defiance of laws that threatened Jim Crow.
Interim Dean James Douglas, other deans of the law schools at historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs), and Professor Dannye Holley wrote an op-ed article that was published in the National Law Journal on October 19, 2016, titled "HBCU Law Deans Say ABA Bar-Passage Rule Changes will Hurt Profession’s Diversity." In this article, the HBCU law deans and former dean contend that the American Bar Association’s (ABA) bar-passage rule changes will have serious negative impacts on HBCU law schools and diversity in the profession. The rule change mandates a 75 percent bar pass rate two years after graduation, whereas the current rule mandates that passage rate over five years and provides a provision that allows schools to satisfy the standard if its first-time bar pass rate is within 15 percent of the statewide average. Notably, the deans and former dean emphasize that “any proposal that might have an adverse impact on the mission of HBCU law schools in continuing their leadership role in diversifying the profession, should first conduct a detailed analysis of how such a new proposal will impact such institutions.” The authors maintain that such a disparate-impact study has not been conducted by the ABA. And, recently on October 21, 2016, the ABA’s Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar passed the tightened standard despite the concerns raised in the op-ed article and the evidence submitted at the ABA’s hearing on this matter. The ABA’s House of Delegates still must approve the measure, with the rule change possibly going into effect for the 2017 graduates who sit for the July 2017 bar exam. The entire op-ed article on the detrimental effects of the bar-passage rule changes may be accessed at the following link: http://www.nationallawjournal.com/home/id=1202770271784/HBCU-Law-Deans-Say-ABA-Bar-Passage-Rule-Changes-Will-Hurt-Professions-Diversity?mcode=1202616608548&curindex=3&back=TX&slreturn=20160926124155.
TMSL Staff Participates in Educating Tomorrow’s Lawyers Conference

Docia Rudley, Executive Director of Assessment and Charlene James, Instructor for Legal Pedagogy participated in the Educating Tomorrow’s Lawyers Conference in Denver, Colorado. Instructor James gave an Ignite Speech on The Faculty Resource Site and Executive Director Rudley participated in a panel discussion on “Evaluating Tomorrow’s Lawyers: Leading the Way to Learning Outcomes”.

FROM THE OFFICE OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS – (713) 313-1197
October 2016
Congratulations to Our New TMSL Attorneys in Tennessee and New Mexico!

Congratulations to Kimbrely Dandridge, TMSL class of 2016, who passed the Tennessee bar exam! Kimbrely is an associate at Butler Snow LLP in Memphis, TN where she works in the business and corporate finance section. Prior to attending law school at Texas Southern University, Kimberly graduated from the University of Mississippi, with a degree in broadcast journalism. In 2012, Kimbrely was elected to serve as the first African-American female student body president at the University of Mississippi.

Congratulations to Eunice Herrera, TMSL class of 2016, who passed the bar exam and is now practicing immigration law in Sante Fe New Mexico with the firm Noble & Vrapi PC.

Congratulations to Ebonie Rocio, TMSL class of 2015, who passed the July 2016 Florida bar exam. Ebonie was sworn in to the Florida Bar on September 22, 2016, by the Honorable Judge Kenneth Gillespie, a 1995 TMSL alumnus. Ebonie plans to pursue a career in civil litigation. Prior to attending law school at Texas Southern University, Ebonie graduated from Prairie View A&M University, with a degree in Biology, minoring in Chemistry.

Congratulations to June Caudill, TMSL class of 2016, who recently passed the New York bar exam!

TMSL Newly Admitted Attorneys & Elected Officials Reception

We look forward to celebrating other successful alumni bar passers on or about November 4th when the Texas Board of Law Examiners publishes the July 2016 pass list. Please come out and celebrate all of our TMSL newly admitted Attorneys and Elected Officials on Saturday, November 5th at the home of Dean James M. Douglas! Please see the invitation to the right. Again congratulations to our newest attorneys!
The Pro Bono Initiative of the Office of Student Affairs has begun the Academic Year with an explosion! Thanks to community organizations providing services to the poor and underserved, TMSL students have participated in varied pro bono activities. On September 24 students volunteered at the NAACP Houston Office for an Employment Law Clinic. On October 1 the students volunteered with the Houston Lawyers Association for a Wills Clinic held at the law school.

During the week of October 20, TMSL has committed to assisting with law activities for students at Baylor College of Medicine Academy at Ryan, formerly known as Ryan Middle School, located only a few blocks away from TMSL. During the week of October 23 – 29, TMSL will celebrate the American Bar Association National Pro Bono Celebration Week with various activities.

Special thanks to Attorney Taft Foley TMSL 2001, Attorney Rena Felton TMSL 2006, and Professor Danny Norris TMSL 2007, for their efforts in making the clinic opportunities available to our TMSL students. Special thanks to Professor Stephanie Ledesma, Law Library Professors Spearman, Norris, and Long for assistance with the Ryan Project, and Clinical Professors Thelma Harmon and Martina Cartwright for their assistance with the ABA National Pro Bono Celebration Week. Our next article will highlight students and their pro bono experiences!

Alumni and Professors may contact us to offer pro bono opportunities for TMSL students. TMSL students may contact us to volunteer their services and gain pro bono volunteer hours. For more information, contact Dean V. Mouton at 713 313 7909, or Email at vmouton@tmslaw.tsu.edu; or Fax at 713 313 2664.

Virgie Mouton
Assistant Dean for Student Development and Academic Support
Clinic Students Participate in Poverty Law Simulation

The Criminal Law Clinic students participated in a Poverty Law Simulation exercise at Houston College of Law on October 12, 2016. The event was sponsored by Access to Justice.

Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law, Houston College of Law and University of Houston students were assigned "tasks" that together reflected the hardships that many families experience on a daily basis. The students advised this exercise made them more sensitive to things we take for granted.

Houston College of Law Clinic Director, Catherine Burnett advised that the group of 100 students who attended was the largest group to take part in the program. It was an opportunity for all of the law schools to work together and we are looking forward to next year.
CONGRATULATIONS TO ALYA VASQUEZ (3L), TIMOTHY ADAMS (3L), MARCUS ESTHER (2L), AND MAURICE RICE, II (2L) FOR PLACING SECOND IN FLORIDA’S NATIONAL MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION. THIS IS ONLY THE THIRD TIME THURGOOD MARSHALL HAS HAD A TEAM PLACE IN A NATIONAL COMPETITION.

Twelve teams from across the United States competed in Florida’s National Mock Trial Competition, held September 30-October 2, 2016. The competition problem was criminal, regarding corruption in politics. Each team member played a role as an advocate, either representing the United States Government or defense attorney representing the Defendant and acted as a witness.

Before advancing to the final round, the team competed against Florida Coastal, W. Michigan, Denver and UCLA. The team went against Fordham University (out of New York City, New York) in the final round. The team had an outstanding performance, losing to Fordham by only one ballot.

Amber Chambers (3L), Charles Bush (3L), Chris Marshall (3L), and Davis Somoye (3L) also competed in the Florida competition. This team advanced to the quarterfinal round; they competed against Akron, Fordham, and Coastal. Alums Valerie G. Jewett (1998) and Dyan Owens (2013) coached the teams. Letitia Quinones (1998) also assisted the students in handling a criminal problem.

“We are extremely proud of these future lawyers! Every team they faced complimented each student on how well they performed and the overall professionalism of the team. These students put in countless hours preparing for this competition and their hard work paid off!”

Valerie G. Jewett
TMSL SBA is proud to announce

100+ Thurgood Marshallists (AND Professor Colon!)

REGISTERED TO VOTE during VOTER REGISTRATION AWARENESS WEEK!

Special thanks to Volunteers!
STUDENT NEWS  Cont’d.

TMSL Supports the Susan G. Komen Race

On October 1st, TMSL participated in the Susan G. Komen breast cancer walk; a race for the cure. Students, faculty and friends showed their support. Students Tom Huynh and Hector Picazo completed the competitive run. Hector placed 267/461 and Tom placed 167/461.

We SUPPORT the fighter,
ADMIRE the survivor,
HONOR the taken
and we never give up HOPE.
Monday, November 14, 2016
Chicago Area Alumni & Friends Fundraising Reception

Palmer House Hilton
17 East Monroe Street
Chicago, IL 60603
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

Texas Southern University
Thurgood Marshall School of Law
Alumni and Friends
3100 Cleburne Street · Houston, TX. 77004
Please R.S.V.P. to prsmith@tmsslaw.tsu.edu
UPCOMING EVENTS  Cont’d.

THURGOOD MARSHALL
SCHOOL OF LAW

BARBARA C. JORDAN CHAPTER OF BLSA PRESENTS

ANNUAL BLSA
WINE and CHEESE

NOVEMBER 5, 2016
6PM-9PM

HOME OF DEAN JAMES MATTHEW DOUGLAS
5318 CALHOUN, HOUSTON, TEXAS 77021

DRESS CODE: COCKTAIL / AFTER 5 ATTIRE

HONORING TMSL’S NEWLY ADMITTED TEXAS ATTORNEYS AND ELECTED OFFICIALS
UPCOMING EVENTS Cont’d.

Saturday, November 5, 2016
Newly Admitted Attorneys and Elected Officials
HOME OF Dr. James M. Douglas
5318 Calhoun
Houston, Texas 77021
6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

CO-HOSTED BY:
HOUSTON LAWYERS ASSOCIATION
TENSA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY
THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW
ALUMNI AND FRIENDS
3100 Cleburne Street · Houston, TX, 77004
Please R.S.V.P. to prsmith@tmlaw.tsu.edu

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You are cordially invited to join us for the
UNVEILING
of the portrait of
DANNY R. HOLLEY
Former Dean and Professor of Law

Thurgood Marshall School of Law Lobby
Friday, November 18, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.

Burford E. Evans, Master Artist - Houston, Texas
A reception with Former Dean Holley will follow the unveiling

Please R.S.V.P. by November 11, 2016
713.313.4273 or subynam@tmlaw.tsu.edu
CAREER SERVICES OFFICE

Alumni and Friends:

How Can You Help?

- Sponsor a CSO Program
- Speak on a CSO Panel
- Donate to the Career Wardrobe
- Mentor a TMSL Student
- Hire a TMSL Student

Suggestions?

Let us know how the CSO can help you! We are open to feedback and suggestions on how to better serve our TMSL students and alumni. We invite you to share your thoughts with us!

Contact Us:
Room 213
M, T, TH, F: 8a-5p
W: 8a-6p (713) 313-1014
careerservices@tmslaw.tsu.edu
CALL FOR PAPERS

Reflections on the 2016 Presidential Election: Issues Facing Communities of Color that Impacted the Outcome

The 2016 presidential election will mark the end of leadership for the nation’s first African American president, Barack Obama. On Thursday, March 30, 2017, the Earl Carl Institute for Legal & Social Policy will host its annual journal symposium entitled: Reflections on the 2016 Presidential Election: Issues Facing Communities of Color that Impacted the Outcome. The Earl Carl Institute’s academic journal The Bridge: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Legal & Social Policy invites you to participate in the annual journal special issue symposium and publication focusing on analyzing the results of the 2016 presidential election and issues relevant to communities of color that affected them.

To complement the symposium, the 2017 Special Issue of the journal will be devoted to high-quality interdisciplinary scholarship focusing on a wide range of topics related to the post 2016 presidential election results and how issue particularly relevant to communities of color impacted the outcome. We invite contributions in the form of scholarly articles or essays addressing any aspect of this issue. Suggested topics may include, but are not limited to:

- Healthcare
- Immigration
- Voting Rights
- Black Lives Matter
- Climate Control
- Transgender Rights
- Minimum Wage
- The Cost of Higher Education
- Criminal Justice
- Racism

Draft abstracts may be submitted online to the journal by visiting www.ecipublications.org, no later than January 31, 2017. The final draft of a submission must be submitted no later than July 15, 2017. Visit http://ecipublications.org/ijlsp/policies.html for more information about length, format, and style. Address further inquiries concerning manuscripts and submissions or additional questions regarding the publication or symposium to journal staff at lrdaniels@tmslaw.tsu.edu.
We Are ECI

Creating a new vision for legal & social justice
Because truth matters: Freeing the Innocent
Helping Children Today to Have a Better Future Tomorrow
Taking it to the streets: TMSL Street Law Program
Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Legal
& Social Policy: The Bridge
Increasing wealth through homeownership
Advocacy through academic and grassroots efforts
Creating opportunities to promote policy changes
Student Development
Reducing disproportionality & disparity
Serving the community
Educational programming

LEGENDS AND LEADERS
WE ARE
The Earl Carl Institute for Legal & Social Policy, Inc.
www.earlcarlinsstitute.org

Become a part of the movement... Apply to volunteer or to work at the Institute today! For more information call 713.313.1139.
**EVENTS CALENDAR**

On-line Registration for ALL TMSL CLEs: Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law

### October 28th

**Law School Recruitment Fair -Atlanta**

**Location:** Americas Mart Atlanta  
240 Peachtree Street NW  
Atlanta, GA 30303

**Time:** 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

### October 28th

**Atlanta Area Alumni & Friends Reception**

**Location:** Westin Peachtree  
210 Peachtree St. NW  
Atlanta, GA 30303

**Time:** 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

### NOVEMBER 2016

#### November 2nd

**TMSL – Houston College of Law Exchange**

“The Executive Right to Lease Oil & Gas: Another Way to Get Swindled in the Oilpatch” – Christopher Ku-lander, Ph.D, Professor & Director; Harry L. Reed Oil & Gas Law Institute Of Counsel, Haynes and Boone, LLP

**Location:** Deans Conference Room

**Time:** 12:00 noon-1:30 pm

#### November 4th

**“A Day in the Life”: Corporate Attorneys & Large Firms**

**Time:** 12:00 p.m.

**Location:** Thurgood Marshall School of Law

**Contact:** For more information email Career Services at careerservices@tmslaw.tsu.edu

#### November 5th

**Law School Recruitment Fair –Los Angeles, CA**

**Location:** The Westin Bonaventure Hotel  
404 South Figueroa Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90071

**Time:** 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

#### November 5th

**Reception Honoring: Newly Admitted Texas Lawyers & Newly Elected Judges**

**Sponsored by:** Thurgood Marshall School of Law, TMSL Alumni Association, Texas Trial Lawyers Association & Houston Lawyer’s Association

**Location:** Home of Dean James M. Douglas  
5318 Calhoun , Houston, TX 77021

**Time:** 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

#### November 9th

**Faculty Series**

“Assessing the Viability of Race-Neutral Alternatives in Law School Admissions” – Eboni Nelson, Professor of Law, University of South Carolina School of Law

**Location:** Deans Conference Room

**Time:** 12:00 noon-1:00 pm

#### November 10th

**Houston Bar Association (HBA) 1L Minorities in the Legal Profession (MOILP): Information Session**

**Time:** 12:00 p.m.

**Location:** Thurgood Marshall School of Law

**Contact:** For more information email Career Services at careerservices@tmslaw.tsu.edu

#### November 11th

**Law School Recruitment Fair –Boston, MA**

**Location:** Boston Marriott Copley Place  
110 Huntington Avenue  
Boston, MA 02216

**Time:** 11:00 am – 6:00 pm

#### November 11th

**Veteran’s Day (NO CLASSES)**

#### November 14th

**Chicago Area Alumni & Friends Fundraising Reception**

**Location:** Palmer House Hilton  
17 East Monroe Street  
Chicago, IL 60603

**Time:** 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

#### November 15th

**Law School Recruitment Fair Chicago, IL**

**Location:** Palmer House Hilton  
17 East Monroe Street  
Chicago, IL 60603

**Time:** 2:00 pm – 7:00 pm

#### November 15th, 16th – 17th

**Appellate Litigation Oral Arguments**

**Experiential Learning Program**

**Location:** Thurgood Marshall School of Law – Room 105

**Time:** 4:00 pm - 9:00 pm (each day)

#### November 16th – 17th

**ABA First Annual Foreign Corrupt Practices Mock Trial Institute**

**Experiential Learning Program**

**Location:** TSU School of Public Affairs  
Auditorium – First Floor

**Time:** 9:00 am - 5:00 pm (each day)
EVENTS CALENDAR

On-line Registration for ALL TMSL CLEs: Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law

November 16th
ABA Reception
Location: TMSL Lobby
Time: 6:00PM

November 16th
Interdisciplinary Bridges Series
“Legal Issues and the Black Female Athlete’s Collegiate Experience at HBCU’s” – Courtney Flowers, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Sports Management, TSU Department of Health & Kinesiology
Location: Deans Conference Room
Time: 12:00 noon-1:00 pm

November 18th
Unveiling Ceremony and Reception
Honoring Dannye Holley, Former Dean and Professor of Law
Location: Thurgood Marshall School of Law Lobby
Time: 5:00 pm
Please RSVP by November 11, 2016 (713) 313-4273 or subynam@tmslaw.tsu.edu

November 21st
New Attorney Swearing—in Ceremony
Location: Austin, TX
Time: 10:00am

November 22nd
Last Day of Classes

November 22nd
Last Day to Drop a Class

November 23rd – 27th
Reading Period (NO CLASSES)

November 24th – 25th
Thanksgiving Holiday

November 28th
CSO Snack Break: Good Luck on Exams
Time: 8:00 a.m.
Location: TMSL 2nd Floor Lobby Area (in front of the External Affairs Suite)
Contact: For more information email Career Services at careerservices@tmslaw.tsu.edu

December 1st
1L Applications Due to Large Law Firms
Contact: For more information email Career Services at careerservices@tmslaw.tsu.edu

December 9th
Training the Trial Simulation Adjunct Professors
Experiential Learning Program
Location: TBD
Time: 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

December 10th
Commencement

December 10th, 11th & 12th
Bridge to Practice Trial Skills Academy-CLE
Center for Experiential Learning
Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law
Location: Thurgood Marshall School of Law – Rooms 105, 106, 107
Time: 8:00 am – 6:00 pm (each day)
Cost: TBD
MCLE: TBD
Ethics: TBD
Register and pay online:

December 15th
Thurgood Thursday – Sleigh Bells & Egg Nog
Location: Axelrad Beer Garden
1517 Alabama St
Time: 12:00 noon-1:30 pm

December 22nd – January 1
Winter Holiday
October Birthdays

- Fernando Colon 8th
- Trudy Green 10th
- Marguerite Butler 19th
- Pearly Pendenque 19th

Recycle reminder

Go Green! Let’s remember to recycle our used bottles! The recycle bins are located in two areas of the law school and emptied every morning!

Let’s do our part!