



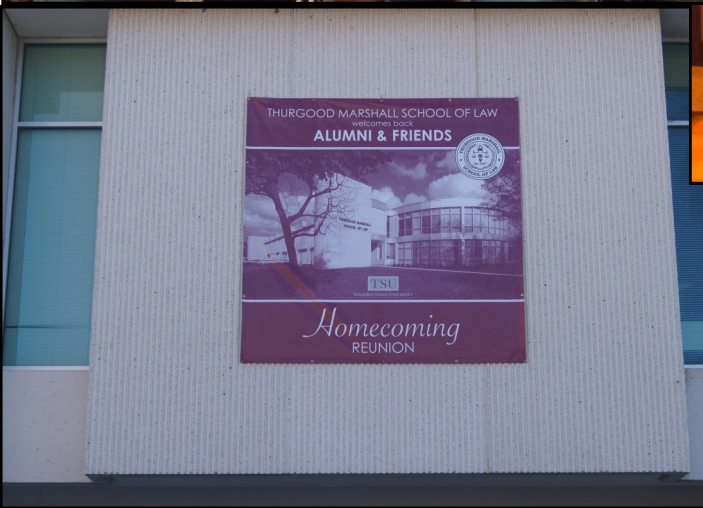
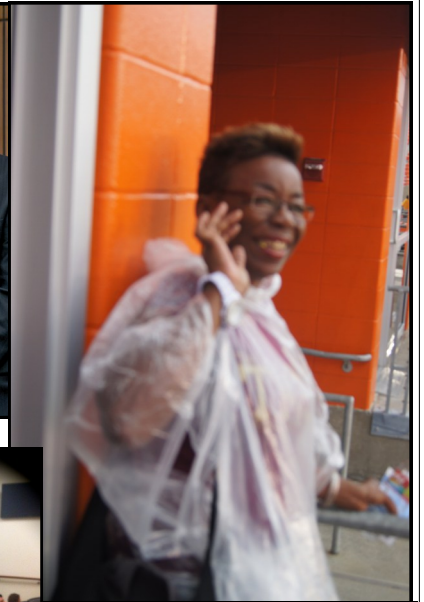
# Thurgood TODAY



YOUR MONTHLY THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW ELECTRONIC NEWS & INFORMATION SOURCE  
FROM THE OFFICE OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS – (713) 313-1197  
December 2012 1 of 10



## HOLIDAY GREETINGS FROM THE OFFICE OF THE DEAN







## EARL CARL INSTITUTE HIGHLIGHTS

### TMSL STREET LAW: LAW STUDENTS GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

Thurgood Marshall School of Law has many programs that reach out and give back to the community. One such program is the Thurgood Marshall School of Law STREET LAW Program hosted each Spring under the oversight of the *Earl Carl Institute for Legal & Social Policy, Inc.* The TMSL STREET LAW Program is a pro bono educational, legal outreach program that trains current law students to teach law at high schools throughout Houston-Harris County. The mission of the Program is to empower youth through interactive education about law, democracy, and human rights while furthering the professional development of law students.

Law students who participate in TMSL STREET LAW enjoy the emotional fulfillment of providing pro bono service to the community while experiencing a unique professional development opportunity. Through teaching about the law and interacting with the community, law students are given a chance to analyze state and local laws and procedures. Specifically, TMSL law students who participate in this program are provided with a curriculum on various aspects of the law and participate in “train the trainer” classes with the ECI Associate Director. The law students then train high school students, on a weekly basis, through the use of interactive teaching strategies including mock trials, moot courts and simulated negotiations that allow students to hone their communication and analytical skills while gaining exposure to other professionals and the community. STREET LAW injects a human element into law school education, providing students with insight into public policy issues and concerns that impact their community.

TMSL STREET LAW provides high school students in urban and minority communities throughout Houston-Harris County with essential legal information and helps them navigate through our law-saturated society. Last Spring the program trained approximately 125 HISD high school students about basic legal rights. The Program serves to put lawyers in a positive light while at the same time creating positive role models for the students who participate in the classes. An ancillary long-term goal of the program is to increase diversity in the legal profession.



To volunteer to be a part of the Spring 2013 program contact Associate Director Lucinda Daniels at the Earl Carl Institute by calling 713.313.1156 or via email at [lrDaniels@tmslaw.tsu.edu](mailto:lrDaniels@tmslaw.tsu.edu).



## LEGAL CLINIC HIGHLIGHTS

### The Clinical Legal Studies Program

The Thurgood Marshall School of Law has made clinical legal education a part of its curriculum for over sixty years. The Clinical Legal Studies Program prepares third year law students for effective participation in the legal profession through experiential learning, while also offering high quality legal services to a community that has been historically underrepresented. Despite the school's long history of advancing legal education, the clinic must regularly allocate time for an honest self-study of itself.

As of 2012, the Clinical Legal Studies Program utilizes the law firm model of a single legal services organization comprised of clinical professors and student attorneys to deliver legal services in the following areas: 1) Criminal misdemeanors; 2) immigration law; 3) mediation; and 4) wills, trusts and guardianship. The Clinical Legal Services Program historically and today is closely affiliated with the law school program for offering opportunities for externships and is associated with the Earl Carl Institute, which offers an innocence project clinic.

This program offers students a unique opportunity to gain real life lawyering skills, which encourages the student to enhance participation in the administration of justice, professional responsibility, and public service. Students' experiences and a reflective collaboration of these experiences with the faculty and supervisory attorney provide the raw material for a structured educational program. The observation and critique of on-the-job student performance provide valuable training for law students before they enter the practice of law. In the process of working on actual cases, students move from observers to participants in the legal system and learn to integrate analytical and doctrinal knowledge of substantive law: they also integrate procedure and ethics with the professional skills needed for all aspects of professional life.

The professional skills which the Thurgood Marshall School of Law's Clinical Legal Studies Program student attorneys are exposed include but are not limited to trial and appellate advocacy, alternative methods of dispute resolutions, counseling, interviewing, negotiating, problem solving, factual investigation, organization and management of legal work, legal drafting, and motion practice.

Students seeking to qualify for a student attorney position in the legal clinic must have completed two thirds of their course work to graduate in addition to having taken several pre-requisite courses, including but not limited to professional responsibility, trial simulation, criminal law, appellate litigation, evidence, and lawyering process. Students must also apply and complete a job interview process with the supervisory clinic professor for the position sought. The student attorney must also qualify and be eligible to receive a temporary trial card from the State Bar of Texas.

Each clinic is one semester and accepts between 5-7 students each semester. Students enrolled in clinic receive four (4) credit hours and must also enroll in the two (2) credit hour classroom component skills course for a total of six (6) elective credit hours toward graduation. Accordingly, students are expected to be physically present in the clinic minimally for six (6) hours of work a week and are also expected to minimally engage in outside clinic work (research, attend court, reflection, etc.) in their field of concentration for an additional six(6) hours a week for a total of 12 hours a week or 168 hours in a 14 week semester or 180 hours in a 15 week semester. Student-attorneys are also expected to complete all of the ministerial tasks of running a law office such as, answering telephones, addressing the needs of walk-in prospective clients, opening files, data input, etc.

The Thurgood Marshall Legal Clinical Studies program is staffed by four (4) attorneys authorized to practice law in their fields by their respective jurisdictions; Martina Cartwright, Wills, Trusts, and guardianship clinics; Thelma Harmon, Mediation Clinic; Clinic Director Maurice Hew, Jr., administrative immigration clinic; and Lydia Johnson, criminal clinic. All of the clinicians are tenure-track law professors and have been licensed to practice law in excess of fifteen years. For academic year 2012-2013, Maurice Hew, Jr., the immigration clinic professor at the associate professor rank earned tenure and was promoted to serve as the overall director of the clinic.

**(Photos of the clinicians on the next page)**



## Legal Clinic Clinicians



Martina Cartwright

Wills, Trusts, and Guardianship  
Clinics



Thelma Harmon

Mediation Clinic



Maurice Hew, Jr.

Clinic Director

Administrative Immigration Clinic



Lydia Johnson

Criminal Clinic





## FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

### Introducing the Thurgood Marshall School of Law New Scholars Writing Workshop

The Thurgood Marshall School of Law New Scholars Writing Workshop is led by the associate dean for research and faculty development and aims to support new faculty (three or fewer years on the tenure-track) with their scholarly research and writing projects through several initiatives. The Workshop's initiatives include regularly scheduled seminars, opportunities for practice and feedback, and an assigned writing coach. Each is described in more detail below:

**Seminars-** The Workshop provides seminars on the research and writing process. Topics this semester have included: (1) *Organizing Your Time: Writing in the Big Picture*, (2) *Organizing Your Time: Writing from Day-to-Day and Week-to-Week*, (3) *Choosing and Using a RA* and (4) *Tips from the Rank and Tenure Chair*. Guest speakers this semester included **Professors Emeka Duruigbo and Katherine Vukadin**. Seminars take place three times per semester at 2:00 p.m. on the days of faculty meetings.

**Practice and Feedback-** The Workshop provides members the opportunity to “moot” their works-in-progress or papers and to obtain practice and feedback prior to presentations before the faculty in the Quodlibet series, the Friday Faculty Exchange, or at another venue.

**Writing Coach-** The Workshop pairs each new faculty with a personal writing coach who serves as a sounding board and front-line resource as the new scholar hones a research agenda and works to transform an idea into a quality publication. The writing coach, together with the associate dean for research and faculty development, are available to give feedback, to review drafts, to vet ideas, and to assist generally in the writing process.

For more information, please log on to [http://www.tsulaw.edu/faculty/lecture\\_series/writing\\_workshop.html](http://www.tsulaw.edu/faculty/lecture_series/writing_workshop.html).



**Professor Emeka Duruigbo**



**Professor Katherine Vukadin**

Please email faculty news to [ppendenque@tmslaw.tsu.edu](mailto:ppendenque@tmslaw.tsu.edu) no later than the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month. The Office of the Dean will collate and edit faculty highlights.



## The Honorable Craig A. Washington Honored as Texas Legal Legend

On November 13, 2012 the State Bar of Texas held its induction ceremony at Thurgood Marshall School of Law for TMSL Alumnus Craig Washington. Washington's induction celebrates his long standing contribution to the legal practice and his commitment to justice for all people.

SBA President Philip Larmond served as the master of ceremony for this event and Docia Rudley welcomed a standing room only crowd of over 200 people. The crowds continuous applause throughout the ceremony was a testament to just how much Washington is highly regarded and respected. Expressions of admiration and appreciation were given by: Texas Legends Project Co-Chair, James Wes Christian, Governor Mark White and Professor Ana Otero.

Some of the special guest included former Governor Mark White, representatives from both Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson and Congressman Al Greens offices, distinguished judges, family, close friends, attorneys, TSU administrators, TMSL faculty, staff and students.

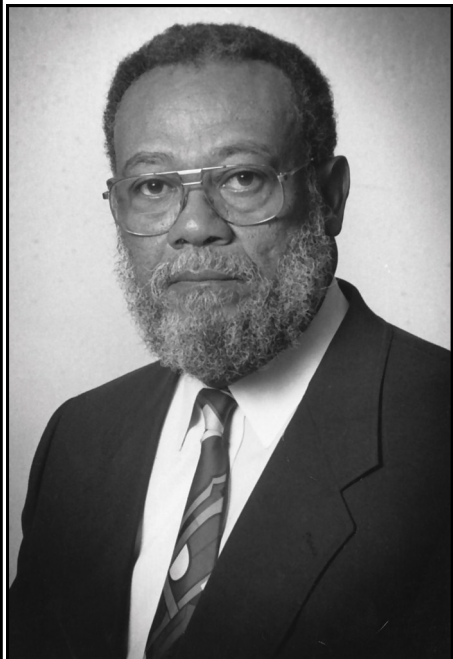
Much of the success of this program is due to the outstanding contributions and hard work of Professor Marcia Johnson.







**IN LOVING MEMORY OF  
THE HONORABLE OTIS KING**



*WHEREAS,* The Honorable Otis King established an early legacy with an exceptional debate performance against Harvard University; by breaking barriers in organizing Houston's first sit-in during the struggle for civil rights; and becoming the City of Houston's first Black City Attorney; and

*WHEREAS,* The Honorable Otis King for almost 40 years exhibited exemplary commitment to excellence in legal education as a Professor of Law in Property and Alternative Dispute Resolution; as an author of multiple horn-books on property law; and as a kind and engaging colleague who displayed his love for teaching until the very end, even teaching this fall semester of 2012; and

*WHEREAS,* The Honorable Otis King, as Dean of Thurgood Marshall School of Law, provided leadership during one of the most crucial periods in the law school's history, including securing funding to avert the law school's

closure and leading the team responsible for the construction of our current law school building while convincing Thurgood Marshall to lend his name to that building; and

*WHEREAS,* The Honorable Otis King served Texas Southern University in multiple capacities, including leadership in the Faculty Senate and in an executive capacity under Interim President Robert J. Terry; and

*WHEREAS,* We extend to The Honorable Otis King's family our profound pride in being afforded this opportunity to convey our gratitude for a man who left a profound impact on our community and country, and who immensely enriched our law school; and

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,* I take great pride in remembering The Honorable Otis King for his outstanding achievements and dedicated service during his lifetime. On behalf of the Law School, the University, and City of Houston, I extend our heartfelt condolences to the King family, and friends during this time of remembrance.

Dannye Holley  
Dean & Professor of Law



## STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

### TMSL STUDENTS RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIPS FROM LEGAL ORGANIZATIONS

#### AMERICAN CORPORATE COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

- Donale Evans
- Jonathan Jackson
- Stewanna Miskell
- Donell Samuels
- Genevieve Brunswick-Estrada



#### JL TURNER RECIPIENTS

- Donale Evans
- Syvondia Bailey
- Matthew McDougal
- Chris Lopez

### TMSL MOCK TRIAL TEAM MAKES IT TO THE FINAL ROUND

Texas Southern University, Thurgood Marshall School of Law Mock trial teams continue to display spectacular results. During the ABA Labor and Employment mock trial competition both of TMSL teams advanced to the semifinals, beating Baylor, LSU, SMU and other regional teams. Both TMSL teams faced off against both South Texas College of Law teams with one team comprised of Myles Garza, Idris Ashimi, Rick Ramos, and Estrella Ramirez advancing to the finals.

Although they succumbed to STCL this was a great accomplishment to have both TMSL teams in the semifinals and finals of this very prestigious competition.



Thurgood Marshall School of Law Mock Trial Team who placed Third Place out of 18 teams in the 2012 William W. Daniel Invitational Mock Trial Competition in Atlanta, Georgia. TMSL succumbed to Loyola University Chicago Law School in the semifinals. Loyola defeated Georgia State in the final round.

(Pictured on the right - David Ortez, JP Cedillo, Coach Ed Sullivan, Coach Lisa Collins, Dyan Owens, Andrew Wilkerson, and Ahad Khan)







## OFFICE OF CAREER SERVICES

### Public Service Announcement: Jobs Do Not Fall Out of Trees!

The Career Services Office would like to wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays. This is the time of year to jumpstart or reenergize your job search. Despite the economic downturn, there are still many employers who are interested in hiring. Take the time now to conduct a self assessment of your personal interests and professional aspirations. Determine your practice area goals and geographical preferences. Without this determination, your job search will be extremely challenging.

Unfortunately, a group of law students nationwide are unsuccessful in their job search for one of the following reasons:

- Procrastination
- Failure to take ownership of their individual job searches
- Lack of focus on specific practice areas
- Seeking positions that require more years of experience
- No substantive legal experience
- Poor interviewing skills and/or appearance
- Fear

Do not fall into any of these categories. Make a commitment today to give your job search 100%!

Here are some tips to make your holiday break productive:

#### Tip #1: Friends, Family, and Connections Strategy

Although NALP and ABA rules preclude you from applying for jobs before December 1, you may have a cadre of friends and family who are eager to help you. You are allowed to talk to people who are already known to you. Some may be lawyers, others may not, but they all either like you or your parents and want to help. *Some will be deeply hurt if you don't ask for help.* Be prepared to provide a resume and an elevator speech with meaningful specifics about your interests and goals. **Do not say “I want a job, any job,”** because it is unhelpful to the person who would otherwise be delighted to assist you. Never make it hard for someone to help you.

#### Tip #2: Winter Break Networking Project

After a few months of law school, it's time to talk to lawyers in their natural habitats. Seek out alumni, friends, family, friends of friends, and make appointments. Some lawyers are crazy busy at the end of the year; others will have plenty of time to talk to you.

You will ask for a short meeting, saying that after a semester of law school you would like a debriefing, and you have some questions about what they do based on what you are beginning to learn.

Be prepared to **ask meaningful specific questions** about what these lawyers do every day, where their clients come from, what their challenges are, and what they wish they had learned in law school. Don't miss this opportunity to learn about what lawyers do every day.

#### Tip #3: Wear a suit.

You should always look your best when speaking with a potential employer.

Contact Mrs. Boise-Fontenot at [anboise@tmslaw.tsu.edu](mailto:anboise@tmslaw.tsu.edu) to discuss your individual career goals and develop a strategic plan for obtaining your dream job. We look forward to seeing you soon!





## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Monday, December 3rd - Friday, December 14th, 2012

Final Examinations

### Tuesday, December 4th, 2012

12:00 p.m. TMSL Faculty Meeting

### Friday, December 7th, 2012

Dr. John M. Rudley & Texas Southern University Holiday Party

TSU Museum

2:00pm-5:00pm

### Sunday, December 9th, 2012

SOS - Toy Drive (CLS)

### Wednesday, December 12th, 2012

Law School Christmas Luncheon

### Saturday, December 15th, 2012

University Commencement



### Monday, December 24th, 2012 - Tuesday, January 1st, 2013

Winter Holidays

### January 4-6, 2013

AALS Annual Meeting  
New Orleans, LA

- OD Office of the Dean
- FD Faculty Development
- SOS Student Organization Sponsored
- ECI Earl Carl Institute

## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



### 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!



### INSIDE THURGOOD NEWS REQUEST

Please submit your news, events and announcements in email text or word documents to Brittani Halliburton by the 25th of the PRIOR month, [bmhalliburton@tmslaw.tsu.edu](mailto:bmhalliburton@tmslaw.tsu.edu). Please be brief, but ensure that important details and information are included.