



FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS



Visiting Andrew Jefferson Endowed Chair in Trial Advocacy Professor Andrew Farley gave a talk to the faculty on *Scholarly Impact and How to Get It* on February 25, 2015, as part of the Faculty Series.

also served as Chair of a panel entitled *Justice and Democratic Theory*.

Professor Peter Marchetti gave a talk to the faculty of South Texas College of Law on February 20, 2015, entitled *Clarify the Ambiguity of Section 546 of the Bankruptcy Code* as part of TMSL's local faculty exchange.

Professor and Director of Legal Writing Cassandra L. Hill has accepted an offer to serve on a panel entitled *Building an Assessment Plan from the Ground Up* to be held on November 14, 2015 at Whittier Law School in Costa Mesa, California.



Professor SpearIt's chapter, entitled *Religion in Prisons*, has been published in Religion and American Cultures. In addition, The Islamic Monthly posted **Professor SpearIt's** piece, *When Arkansas Muslim Prisoner Wins a Case, It Adds to Legal Legacy*, on January 26, 2015. The article is available at <http://www.theislamicmonthly.com/when-arkansas-muslim-prisoner-wins-a-case-it-adds-to-legal-legacy/>



Professor Michael James gave a talk to the faculty on February 18, 2015, entitled *All Hands on Deck – An Analysis of the Legal Issues Surrounding the Joint Deployment of Intelligence Community Personnel with Military Special Operations Forces* as part of the TMSL Quodlibet.



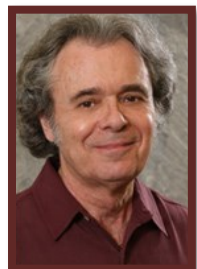
Professor Lydia D. Johnson has been appointed the Works-in-Progress Chair for the 2015 Southeast/Southwest People of Color Legal Scholarship Conference to be held at North Carolina Central University School of Law.



Professor Katherine Vukadin accepted an offer to publish her article, *Obamacare Interrupted: Obstructive Federalism and the Consumer Information Blockade*, in the Buffalo Law Review. **Professor Vukadin** also was recently interviewed by the U.S. Department of Labor in connection with an initiative designed to improve enforcement of the health care claims processing regulations. The initiative will culminate in a report to Congress later this year.



Professor Thomas Kleven presented his book Equitable Sharing at a panel with the same title at the Southern Political Science Association's annual conference in New Orleans, Louisiana, on January 15-17, 2015. At the same conference, **Professor Kleven**



Professor L. Darnell Weeden's symposium piece, *The Supreme Court's Rejection of the Rational Basis Standard in Shelby County v. Holder Invites Voter Suppression*, was published in the *Mississippi College Law Review*, 33 MISS. C. L. REV. 219 (2014).





FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS (Cont'd.)



Distinguished Professor Deanna Pollard has been honing in on her creative, business and legal sides. Professor Pollard produces a show called “Meet the Professor” (add more info) go to www.meettheprofessors.com. During her travels to California,

Professor Pollard invested in prime real estate in Malibu and further developed property she purchased in 2013-she also produced and starred in American Psychologist with Brad Bushmen. Although she is happy to be back, Professor Pollard misses her son that recently turned 18 and is in military school in Virginia.

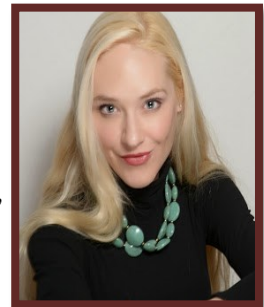
Professor Stephanie Smith Ledesma’s second article, *The Vanishing of the African-American Family: “Reasonable Efforts” and Its Connection To the Disproportionality of the Child Welfare System*, was published this past fall in the Charleston Law Review, Volume 9, Number 1. The article suggests that until indigent children in the child welfare system are protected from the “master narratives” of the child welfare system that plays out in hundreds of courtrooms across this nation on a daily basis through the inconsistent application of “reasonable efforts,” the number of minority families dismantled by the child welfare system will increase as will the “browning” of the child welfare system, as evidenced by the disproportionate number of African American children who are removed from their families and that subsequently age out of the child welfare system.



Professor Stephanie Smith Ledesma has accepted an invitation to serve as a panelist at the Texas Women Lawyers Annual CLE entitled “*Define Your Own Success: Charting Your Path in a Changing Legal World*”: Dallas, February 26-28, 2015. The panel includes Professor Ledesma; Dean Leah Jackson,

Baylor Law School; Attorney Angela Burnett, Texas Commission on Environment Quality; and Debra Coleman, Founder of Coleman & Coleman Law Firm. The panel’s focus is on “Success in Confronting Challenges Across the Industry”. Professor Ledesma accepted an invitation to serve as the plenary speaker at *Trauma Informed Advocacy in the World of Child Welfare 3.0*, co-hosted by the State of Colorado’s Office of the Child’s Representative and the State’s Office of the State Court Administrator, March 3-6, 2015 in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Professor Ledesma’s presentation is entitled *Disproportionality in the Child Welfare System: Working Toward Substantive and Procedural Due Process for Parents and Children*.

Tamara S. Tabo, Center for Legal Pedagogy Instructor, appeared on MSNBC to discuss her blog posting on *Above the Law* entitled *Fifty Shades of Liability – Legal Risks of Kinky Sex*. -- <http://abovethelaw.com/2015/02/fifty-shades-of-legal-liability-legal-risks-of-kinky-sex/>



A video clip from my appearance is available here: <http://www.msnbc.com/msnbc/watch/fifty-shades-of-legal-risk-400451651961>

