



## FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

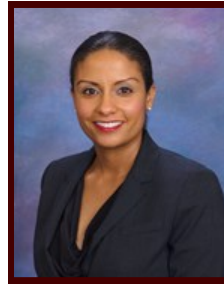


**Associate Dean Cassandra Hill's** article, *The Elephant in the Law School Assessment Room: The Role of Student Responsibility and Motivating Our Students to Learn*, was recently cited by Emily Grant (a professor at Washburn University School of Law) in her Arkansas Law Review article, *The Pink Tower Meets the Ivory Tower: Adapting Montessori Teaching Methods for Law School*, 68 Ark. L. Rev. 603, 651 (2015).

**Professor SpearIt** presented "Concealed Handgun Laws: (Fire) Power to the People" at TMSL on February 3 and at South Texas College of Law on February 3, 2016. His report, Facts and Fictions about Islam in Prison, has been listed as a selected scholarly article for the course, "Mind of a Terrorist," at American Public University,



<http://apus.libguides.com/c.php?g=241426&p=1604878>, and also appears in the book, Missouri's Young Adult Black Males (2015). A commentary of his article *Civil Ritual: Making Cultural Sense of Mass Imprisonment* was recently cited in *The Costs of Easy Victory*, 57 Wm. & Mary L. Rev. (2015), <http://scholarship.law.wm.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=3622&context=wmlr>. References to Professor SpearIt's work also appear in *Towards an Outcrit Pedagogy of Anti-Subordination in the Classroom*, 90 Chicago Kent L. Rev. (2015), <http://scholarship.kentlaw.iit.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=4075&context=cklawreview>, *Human Rights and Prison Rape*, 21st Century Social Justice 1 (2015), <http://fordham.bepress.com/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1004&context=swjournal>, *Richard Sherman, Rhetoric, and Racial Animus in the Rebirth of the Bogyman Myth*, 37 Hastings Comm. & Ent. L.J. 201 (2014-15), and *10 Ways to Socially Prepare Your Community for Ramadan*, <http://www.muslimamericansociety.org/blog/10-ways-to-socially-prepare-your-community-for-ramadan/>.



**Professor Asmara M. Tekle** presented her paper, *Rectifying These Mean Streets: Percent-for-Art, Street Furniture, and the New Streetscape*, to the faculty of South Texas College of Law on January 22, 2016, as part of the TMSL/STCL faculty exchange. Also, on January 8, 2016, at the annual meeting of the Association of American Law Schools (AALS), Professor Tekle served as a panelist entitled "Reforming Law and Scholarship by Disciplinary Design," and discussing interdisciplinary research in the legal academy.

**Professor April Walker** recently accepted an offer to publish her latest article, *A License to Kill: The Good, The Bad, and Ugly of Hospice Care*, with the North Dakota Law Review.



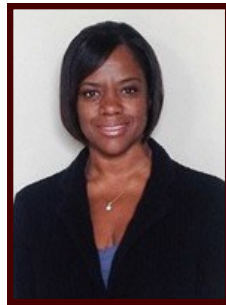
**Professor L. Darnell Weeden's** article, *Good Public Policy Occurs Under Plyler When in-State College Tuition Rates Are Awarded to Undocumented Bona Fide Resident Immigrants*, 25 GEO. MASON U. CIV. RTS. L.J. 191 (2015), was recently cited by Professor Nancy Levit, Curators' and Edward D. Ellison Professor of Law, University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law, in the Journal of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, 28 J. Am. Acad. Matrim. Law. 321, 352 (2015). Professor Levit's Children's Interests Annotated Bibliography listed Professor Weeden's article under the topic Immigrant Children.





## FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS *Cont'd.*

On January 28-30, 2016, **Professor Stephanie Ledesma** attended the Mid-Atlantic People of Color Scholarship Conference (“MAPOC”) hosted by American University, Washington D.C, and presented her current work-in-progress, "Importance of Competent Legal Counsel: Protecting Due Process Rights of Indigent Families and Dismantling Racial Disproportionality in the Child Welfare System.". This year, MAPOC’s theme focused on the rights of children as follows: “Our constitutional jurisprudence recognizes children as legal persons, but the rights children possess are ill defined. For example, children have no independent standing to assert rights against those who hurt, endanger, or undermine their emotional, physical, psychological, or spiritual well-being.”



**Professor Ana Otero** presented, “Death Penalty 101: Revisiting the Modern Era of the Death Penalty on the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of *Jurek v. Texas*”. During the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Texas Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty (TCADP)



Professor Otero, who also proudly serves on the board of directors for the Texas Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty, will also serve as moderator during the conference for the panel discussion featuring Dr. Stephen Klineberg, Professor of Sociology at Rice University and the founder of the Kinder Institute for Urban Research.



This year, **Professor Lydia Johnson** and **Professor Stephanie Ledesma** attended the 2016 Mid-Atlantic People of Color Scholarship Conference (“MAPOC”) hosted by American University, Washington D.C, and presented their work-in-progress. Joined with Professor Johnson and Ledesma in this

picture is Catherine Smith, Professor and Associate Dean of Institutional Diversity and Inclusiveness at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law. Professor Smith, a former TMSL faculty member, will serve as TMSL’s Spring 2016 Scholar-in-Residence this March.



**Professor Walter Champion’s** article *A Seasick Blackjack Dealer on a Moored Riverboat Casino is not a “Seaman” Under the Jones Act* was published in the Northern Kentucky Law Review.

**Professor Deana Pollard** has created and hosts a talk show, *Meet The Professors*. *Meet The Professors* is a 30-minute unscripted talk show featuring colleagues and friends who have teamed up to share their insights on cutting-edge research affecting people’s families and daily lives. Show topics vary and include unconscious racial bias, stereotyping, bullying, gender bias, and injustice in the court systems, just to name a few. Past and future episodes may be found at the following link: [www.MeetTheProfessors.org](http://www.MeetTheProfessors.org).



The Board of Regents of Texas Southern University recently selected one of our own, **Professor Ahunanya Anga** to serve on the Presidential Search Committee to represent the faculty.





## FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS *Cont'd.*

On Friday, February 26, 2016, **Professor Peter Marchetti** presented a paper titled “Amending Section 546 of the Bankruptcy Code” at the 11<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Contracts (KCON XI), a conference for contracts and commercial law scholars. This year, the KCON conference will take place at St. Mary’s University School of Law in San Antonio. In his presentation, Professor Marchetti will discuss several recent cases that demonstrate how the precise parameters of Section 546 of the Bankruptcy Code are unclear. Namely, Professor argues there is a lack of clarity as to exactly what type of claims Section 546 preempts.



On February 10, 2016, TMSL hosted special guest speaker, Wahab Egbewole, Professor and Former Dean of the University of Department of Jurisprudence and International Law, University of Ilorin (Nigeria). Professor Egbewole spoke on “The Role of the Judiciary in Developing Democracies in Nigeria and Other African Countries.” His visit was facilitated by **Professor Thomas Kleven** and co-sponsored by the Institute for International and Immigration Law.

