



THURGOOD THURGOOD MARSHALL SCHOOL OF LAW TODAY

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS



Professor SpearIt has accepted an invitation to join the AALS Minority Section Executive Committee, a position that runs for three years. He has also been invited to present at the Black Islam in the Americas conference at the University of Michigan, and has accepted an invitation to present at UCLA School of Law in Prof. Devon Carbado's seminar, Critical Race Theory, which is studying SpearIt's work-in-progress, *Firepower to the People!: Gun Rights and the Law of Self-Defense to Curb Police Misconduct*, on March 14, 2018. SpearIt presented at the 2018 AALS Annual Meeting on an Anthropology and Law panel entitled, "Critical Interventions for Critical Times." His work was recently cited in the book, *Finding Freedom in Confinement: The Role of Religion in Prison Life* (ABC-CLIO 2018), as well as *Black Men, Religiosity and Desistance: Exploring Islam, Desistance and Identity*, 17 *Safer Communities* 47 (2018); *Freedom of Religion or Belief in Prison: A Critical Analysis of the European Court of Human Rights' Jurisprudence*, 6 *Oxford J. L. and Rel.* 48 (2017); *Carving Nature at Its Joints: The Entity Concept in an Entangled Society*, 44 *Accounting Historians J.* 125 (2017). Finally, SpearIt republished an abridged version of his work, *Legal Punishment as Civil Ritual: Making Cultural Sense of Harsh Punishment*, 5 *ECI Interdisciplinary J. for Legal & Soc. Pol'y.* 1 (2017), <https://ecipublications.org/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1031&context=ijlsp>, and his work was cited in the online article *Muslims in American Politics*, <https://muslimsamerica.wordpress.com/tag/muslims/>.



Professor L. Darnell Weeden's article entitled, *In Response to the Call for Social Justice, Historically Black Law Schools Represent the New Mission of Education Diversity in the Legal Profession*, 14 *J. Gender Race & Just.* 747, 747 (2011), was recently cited by Professor Martina E. Cartwright and Professor Thelma L. Harmon in their article entitled *#Blacklawyersmatter: The Importance Of Pro Bono Initiatives And Experiential Opportunities At Historically Black College And University Law Schools In Preparing A New Generation Of Social Engineers*, 18 *Fla. Coastal L. Rev.* 315, 330 (2017). According to Cartwright and Harmon, Weeden contends, before "the 1950s, legal education for minorities was severely limited. HBCUs met the challenge of producing African-American attorneys and advocates of social change. Before the 1960s, twenty-four HBLs educated the bulk of African-American lawyers."



Professor Deana Pollard-Sacks received SSRN's "Top 10%" distinction this month. Professor Pollard-Sacks is in the top 10% of all authors on SSRN by new downloads within the last 12 months. SSRN's eLibrary provides 727,610 research papers from 335,938 researchers across 30 disciplines including, but not limited to, business, law, political science, and humanities. With respect to SSRN's author rankings for "total new downloads," this includes total SSRN downloads of all of an author's publicly available scholarly full-text papers during the last 12 months. This provides a measure of the current interest in all of an author's work, including older papers, which you can access at the following link: <https://www.ssrn.com/en/index.cfm/top-authors/>.