



FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS

Dean Holley appointed by Texas Supreme Court to serve on bar exam task force



Danye Holley, dean and professor in the Thurgood Marshall School of Law, was appointed by the Supreme Court of Texas on June 24, 2016, to serve on a task force overseeing the Texas Bar Exam. The task force was formed in 2016 to monitor the content and administration of the Texas Bar Exam. The committee is responsible for studying the exam and submitting recommendations to the Court.

Dean Holley’s appointment comes after his response to the Houston Chronicle November 19, 2015 editorial entitled “**Legal let-downs**” which discussed the Texas 2015 July Bar results. Thurgood Marshall School of Law’s Dean Danye Holley replied in the *Houston Chronicle* with an article titled “**A quality legal education.**” To view the full article:

<http://www.pressreader.com/usa/houston-chronicle/20151202/282132110368743/TextView> Please join the TMSL family in congratulating Dean Holley on his appointment by the Supreme Court of Texas.

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FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS



Professor James M. Douglas was interviewed by the *Houston Chronicle* for his take on the historical account of two neighboring institutions of higher education, Texas Southern University and the University of Houston. Professor Douglas provided a sound, chronological reflection in time of two once racially separate institutions. A review of his accounts can be found in a special feature on Houston History located in the *Houston Chronicle*.

William M. Howard, *Construction and Application of State Statutes and Local Ordinances Regulating Licenses or Permits to Carry Concealed Weapons*, 12 A.L.R. 7th Art. 4 (2016). She also was recently cited by Bruce A. Arrigo & Austin Acheson, *Concealed Carry Bans and the American College Campus: A Law, Social Sciences, and Policy Perspective*, 19 CONTEMPORARY JUSTICE REV. 120 n. 6 (2016).

Professor Lupe Salinas was interviewed by the *Houston Chronicle* for his expert opinion



on whether it is ethical for a judge to pre-determine if a person accused of a crime against a police officer would not be eligible for a plea bargain. The question stems from the recent events surrounding Galveston County District Judge Kerry L. Neves's posting on Facebook that prohibits anyone accused

of threatening or endangering a law enforcement officer from entering into a plea agreement. To access the *Houston Chronicle* article, please click on: <http://www.houstonchronicle.com/neighborhood/bayarea/news/article/Experts-Galveston-judge-s-no-plea-vow-for-8403947.php?cmpid=gsa-chron-result>

Professor Stephanie Ledesma participated on a panel



sponsored by the Family Defense Center, a non-profit legal advocacy organization whose mission is to advocate for families in the child welfare system. The panel discussed the impact that racial disproportionality in the child welfare system has on African American families. Professor Ledesma also presented her work

-in-progress *Dismantling Racial Disproportionality in the Child Welfare System Through Mandatory Cultural Awareness Training of Attorneys Who Represent Parents* as part of the 2016 SEALS New Scholars Workshop.

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*, 56 How. L.J. 447 (2013), was recently cited in Professor Jennifer M. Cooper's article on law student learning, *Smarter Law Learning: Using Cognitive Science to Maximize Law Learning*, 44 Cap. U. L. Rev. 551, 558 (2016). In this article, Professor Cooper reaffirms Associate Dean Hill's position that continued research into student responsibility and study habits is warranted. As Professor Cooper stated, few scholars "have specifically analyzed law student study skills and their relationship to academic success." *Id.* at 588 n.158.



Also, Dean Hill has developed and will lead the new HBCU Law Scholars Connect. The Connect provides a forum for faculty of member law schools to share their research and work in a supportive environment that recognizes the range and diversity of scholarly topics. For further information email cahill@tmslaw.tsu.edu.



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Professor Shaundra Lewis's article, *Bullets and Books by Legislative Fiat: Why Academic Freedom and Public Policy Permit Higher Education Institutions to Say No to Guns*, 48 IDAHO L. REV. 1 (2011), has recently been cited in the American Law Reports by



FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS *Cont'd.*

Professor Fernando Colon

spoke about the process of developing a law school specialization as part of the Southeastern Association of Law Schools (SEALS) 2016 Annual Conference. The panel was titled *Law School Specialization and Certification Programs*.



[abstract_id=2814364](#); *The Wrath of Khan: Immigrants Shatter the Trump Narrative*, THE ISLAMIC MONTHLY, <http://theislamicmonthly.com/the-wrath-of-khan/>. Additionally, Professor SpearIt's work was cited in the book, *Refining Child Pornography Law: Crime Language, and Social Consequence* (2016); a Ph.D. thesis entitled "Islam in the United States after 9/11: A Foucauldian Reading of the Lives of the Muslims in the United States in Dearborn Michigan" (2016); and the article, "Replacing God with the State," [http://](http://anthronow.com/online-articles/when-state-replaces-god)

Professor Deana Pollard Sacks

finished filming four episodes of her internet talk show, *Meet the Professors: A Sociopolitical Educational Talk Show*. These new episodes address a variety of topics and include: (1) a discussion about Erwin Chemerinsky's (author and founding dean of UCI School of Law) 2014 book, *The Case against the Supreme Court*; (2) a session on California Proposition 13 (taxpayer revolt of 1978); and (3) two series on sex torts. Professor Pollard Sack's talk show is intended to bring academic research to the real world, to regular Americans, in an easily understandable and accessible format. You may access her talk show here: <http://meettheprofessors.org/>.



https://issuu.com/muslimlink/docs/07_22_2016_tml_web. Professor SpearIt was also recognized by the American Bar Association Section of Legal Education and Admission to the Bar for his participation in the webinar "Integrating Experiential Learning in the Classroom," http://www.americanbar.org/publications/syllabus_home/volume-47-2015-2016/syllabus-summer-2016--47-4-/from-the-section-director.html. Finally, he has accepted an invitation to speak at the 2016 Villanova Law Review Norman J. Shachoy Symposium on Friday, October 28, which will focus on police accountability.



Professor SpearIt's work was cited in an amicus brief to the U.S. Supreme Court in the pending case, *Knight v. Thompson*, http://sct.narf.org/documents/knight_v_thompson15-999/cert_amicus_corrections.pdf. He recently published: "Restoring the Pell Grant for Prisoners: Growing

Momentum for Reform," in THE STATE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE 2016 (AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION CRIMINAL JUSTICE SECTION 2016), http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2814358; *The Return of Pell Grants for Prisoners?*, 31 AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION CRIMINAL JUSTICE MAGAZINE 10 (2016), <http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?>

Professor L. Darnell Weeden

made a presentation as a member of a policing and community panel at the Southeastern Associations of Law Schools 2016 Annual Conference (SEALS) on Friday August 5, 2016, in Amelia, Island, Florida. Professor Weeden addressed the constitutionality of racial profiling by law police officers. During the presentation, Professor Weeden said laws and procedures permitting racial profiling should be considered unconstitutional as well as poor public. According to Professor Weeden, recent research has concluded that both racially biased stop-and-frisks and racial profiling are unacceptable practices because they generate mistrust of police officers in impacted minority communities.





FACULTY HIGHLIGHTS *Cont'd.*

Professors Anthony Haughton, Lydia D. Johnson and Stephanie Ledesma appeared as guests on KJOZRADIO.COM, Internet Radio Show, “Inside the Law” on August 19, 2016.

Professors Haughton, Johnson and Ledesma discussed “Practice Ready”. Professor Ledesma further advised that she has increased externship opportunities to meet this mandate.

Professor Haughton is the Associate Director of the Earl Carl Institute’s Innocence Project. He discussed how false confessions result in convictions.

Professor Johnson is in charge of the Criminal Law Clinic and described the diverse Live Client Clinic opportunities available for students. This includes Immigration, Family and Wills Clinics.

Professor Ledesma is the Director of Experiential Learning and she explained how the movement in legal education is to get stu-



TMSL

2016-17 FACULTY SERIES SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

All events are held on Wednesdays 12pm-1pm in the Dean's Conference Room at TMSL unless otherwise noted, and lunch is provided. Please contact Ms. Norma Peet at ext. 4480 if you have any questions.

FALL 2016

8/24/16

Faculty Roundtable Series (Teaching)
“Kognito—Virtual Training Access—How to identify Mental Health Crises”
Dr. Andrea Shelton, Professor-COPHS
PI, Safety Training & Education to Prevent Suicide
Texas Southern University

8/31/16

Faculty Roundtable Series (Teaching)
“CLP Intranet for TMSL Faculty”
Charlene James, Instructor,
Center for Legal Pedagogy
Thurgood Marshall School of Law

9/7/16

(12:30 pm to 1:30 pm. Presentation will repeat at 1:00 pm)

Faculty Roundtable Series (Research)
“Faculty Research and the New & Improved Lexis for Microsoft Office (Including MS Word)” (Open to RA's)
Adriana Ramirez, Sr. Account Executive
Law Schools LexisNexis

9/14/16

Faculty Roundtable Series (Teaching)
“Teaching Forum for Bar Essay Professors”
Led by Marsha Griggs, Assistant Dean for Academic Support and Charlene James, Instructor, Center for Legal Pedagogy, TMSL

9/21/16-9/22/16

TMSL Scholar-in-Residence
César Cuauhtémoc García Hernández
Assistant Professor, University of Denver Sturm
College of Law

Professor Garcia Hernandez's Tentative Schedule:

- (1) Faculty/Student/Community Presentation on Wednesday, Sept. 21, at 12-12:50 pm: “Abolishing Immigration Prisons” (co-sponsored by the Thurgood Marshall Law Review, the Thurgood Marshall School of Law Journal on Gender, Race, & Justice and Institute for Immigration and International Law) (Rooms 105/108)
- (2) Dinner/Talk with faculty on Wednesday evening “Introduction to Crimmigration Law” (Dean's Conference Room 4-7 pm)
- (3) Lunch and Q&A with law review & law journal students over lunch (12-12:50 pm Dean's Conference Room)
- (4) Class Guest Lecture: LL.M. Advanced Immigration Law (Thursday, 5-8:30 pm, Room 202)

9/28/16

Faculty Roundtable Series (Teaching)
“Teaching Forum for Multistate Professors”
Led by Marsha Griggs, Assistant Dean for Academic Support, and Charlene James, Instructor, Center for Legal Pedagogy, TMSL

10/5/16

Thurgood Marshall Lecture Series
“In Fisher v. University of Texas Derrick Bell's Interest Convergence Theory Is on A Collision Course with the Viewpoint Diversity Rationale in Higher Education”
L. Darrell Weeden, Professor of Law, TMSL
(See 2016 Utah L. Rev. OnLaw 101).

10/12/16

TMSL Quodlibet Series
“Asset Forfeitures: Are They Really Predatory Police Tactics or True Efforts to Prevent Crimes?”
Lydia Johnson, Associate Professor, TMSL

10/19/16

HOMECOMING WEEK

10/21/16 (Friday)

Wiley A. Branton Symposium
Co-sponsored with the National Bar Association and Howard University School of Law
Symposium: 8 am-12:30 pm in rooms 105 and 108; Reception and Awards Program: 5-7:30 pm in the TSU University Museum

11/2/16

TMSL-Houston College of Law Exchange
“The Executive Right to Lease Oil & Gas: Another Way to Get Swindled in the Oilpatch”
Christopher Kulander, Ph.D. Professor & Director,
Harry L. Reed Oil & Gas Law Institute Of Counsel,
Haynes and Boone, LLP

11/9/16

Faculty Series
“Assessing the Viability of Race-Neutral Alternatives in Law School Admissions”
Ebony S. Nelson, Professor of Law
University of South Carolina School of Law

11/16/16

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

