



THE TEXAS WESLEYAN LAW REVIEW PRESENTS

**The Role of Lawyers of Color:  
Past, Present & Future  
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2009**



**The Role of Lawyers of Color: Past, Present & Future**  
**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2009**

SYMPOSIUM SPONSOR

JUDGE MARYELLEN WHITLOCK HICKS  
The Resolution Center: Mediation and Arbitration  
Houston, Texas

“Congratulations to the Texas Wesleyan Law Review. I am so proud of you and your accomplishments.”

*Judge Hicks*



# The Role of Lawyers of Color: Past, Present & Future

## FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2009

### SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE

- 8:00 a.m. BREAKFAST
- 8:25 a.m. WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS  
Dean Frederic White, Texas Wesleyan School of Law
- 8:30 a.m. **HISTORICAL PANEL** [1.5 hours]  
Moderator: Jason Gillmer
- Carla Pratt  
Presenting *Empathic Judging: How Judges of Color Relate Their Identity To Their Responsibilities*
- Susan Carle  
Presenting *A Social Movements History of Disparate Impact Analysis Under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964*
- Kamille Wolff  
Presenting *The HBCU and You: The Undeniable Impact of the Historically Black Law School*
- Kevin Brown  
Presenting *The Changing Racial and Ethnic Ancestry of Blacks on Affirmative Action*
- 10:00 a.m. MORNING COFFEE BREAK
- 10:15 a.m. **ETHNICITY & EDUCATION PANEL** [1.5 hours]  
Moderator: Huyen Pham
- Angela Mae Kupenda  
Presenting *A Lawyer, and one of Color, in the Classroom*
- Patricia Wilson  
Presenting *Rethinking the Traditional Law School Model with a Goal of Increasing Minority Representation in the Bar*
- Johanna Dennis  
Presenting *Ensuring a Multicultural Educational Experience in Legal Education: Start with the Legal Writing Classroom*
- 12:00 p.m. LUNCH



## The Role of Lawyers of Color: Past, Present & Future

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2009

#### SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE

- 12:30 p.m. LUNCH PRESENTATION [.75 hours]  
Adjoa Aiyetoro  
Adrienne Davis  
Jointly presenting on the National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America
- 1:15 p.m. BREAK
- 1:30 p.m. **ETHNICITY & SOCIAL ISSUES PANEL** [1.5 hours]  
Moderator: Dean Frederic White
- Deleso Alford Washington  
Presenting *Historically Black Law Schools & Meritocracy: The Rhyme & Reason for a New "Yardstick"*
- Dana Thompson Dorsey  
Presenting *Accessing the Legal Playing Field: Examining the Race-Conscious Affirmative Action Legal Debate Through the Eyes of CLEO*
- Wendy Ross  
Presenting *The Negro National Anthem Controversy*
- 3:00 p.m. AFTERNOON COFFEE BREAK
- 3:15 p.m. **ETHNICITY & THE LEGAL PROFESSION PANEL** [1.5 hours]  
Moderator: Neal Newman
- Angelique Davis  
Presenting *Diversity Matters: The Connection Between Lawyers of Color & Politics*
- William Turner  
Presenting *African Americans as Retail Attorneys in Georgia*
- Linda Wayner  
Presenting *The Affirmatively Hispanic Judge: Modern Opportunities for Increased Representation on the Federal Bench*
- 5:00 p.m. ADJOURN



## **The Role of Lawyers of Color: Past, Present & Future**

### **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2009**

#### SPEAKER BIOS

##### **ADJOA A. AIYETORO**

Adjoa A. Aiyetoro is an Associate Professor of Law at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock William H. Bowen School of Law. Professor Aiyetoro has extensive experience working domestically and internationally to obtain remedies for historical and present day wrongs to people of color, women and other oppressed groups. She is a lifetime member of the National Conference of Black Lawyers and has served on its Board of Directors, as co-Chairperson of its Board and as its national director.

As a part of her work with the National Conference of Black Lawyers she represented activist attorney Chokwe Lumumba on a number of occasions to stop attempts of the Mississippi Bar to prevent him from practicing in Mississippi; Judge LaJune Lange when ethical charges were brought against her for decrying racism in the Minnesota judiciary; and, Geronimo jijaga before the California Parole Board.

Ms. Aiyetoro represented the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) (2000-2001) at the World Conference Against Racism, including attending all the preparatory meetings and serving as a leader of the African and African Descendants Caucus. She also represented WILPF at the Hague Appeal for Peace in 1997. In 1995 she coordinated the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law's delegation to the United Nations' Conference on Women in Beijing and also represented the organization at the 2000 Beijing Plus 5.

Prof. Aiyetoro is a founding member of the National Coalition of Blacks for Reparations in America (N'COBRA). She served as co-chair of N'COBRA at its founding and as chair of its Legal Strategies Commission from 1992 – 2004. She is currently a member of the board of the N'COBRA Legal Defense, Research and Education Fund and affiliated with the Reparations Coordinating Committee that represents the survivors and direct descendants of victims of the 1921 destruction of "Black Wall Street" in Tulsa, OK – *Alexander v. State of Oklahoma*.

##### **KEVIN BROWN**

Professor Brown joined the faculty of the Indiana University-Bloomington Law School in 1987. From August 2004 to August 2008 he was the Director of the Hudson & Holland Scholars Program (which is a scholarship program that recruits the high achieving underrepresented minorities to the Bloomington undergraduate campus). Professor Brown teaches Law and Education, Race, American Society, and the Law, Torts and Criminal Law. Brown has been a visiting professor at the University of Texas School of Law, University of Alabama School of Law and University of San Diego School of Law. He has been affiliated with universities on four different continents including the National Law School of India University in Bangalore, India; the Indian Law Institute in New Delhi, India; the Law Faculty of the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa; the Law Faculty of the University of Capetown in Capetown, South Africa; Adilet Law School in Almaty, Kazakhstan and the University of Central America in Managua, Nicaragua.



## The Role of Lawyers of Color: Past, Present & Future

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2009

#### SPEAKER BIOS

His research interest is primarily in the area of race, law and education. Brown has published over four dozen articles or comments on issues such as school desegregation, African-American Immersion Schools, and increasing school choice. In 2005 his book, *Race, Law and Education in the Post Desegregation Era* was published by Carolina Academic Press. Brown has one of the original participants and founders of both Critical Race Theory Workshop and the People of Color Conference. Brown has also spoken on issues of race, law and education on over 100 occasions including at the annual Convention of the NAACP, the Congressional Black Caucus Braintrust Meetings, the National Bar Association, the American Bar Association and the Justices of the Indiana Supreme Court and at several leading law schools including Harvard, NYU, Virginia, Duke, Cornell, Northwestern, UCLA and Texas.

Brown is the founder of the Hudson & Holland Summer in Ghana Program. This program has sent almost 100 Indiana University-Bloomington students on a four week journey through the Republic of Ghana. Brown is also Co-Chair (with Philip Seabrook) of the DuBois Institute Founding Committee, a group that is dedicated to creating an international boarding school in Accra, Ghana for Indiana public school students.

#### SUSAN CARLE

Susan Carle's teaching and research interests lie primarily in the areas of the history and sociology of the legal profession, employment discrimination, labor and employment law, and civil rights law. Her most recent publications include *Debunking the Myth of Civil Rights Liberalism: Visions of Racial Justice in the Thought of T. Thomas Fortune, 1880-1890*, 77 *Fordham L. Rev.* 1479 (2009); *Structure & Integrity*, 93 *Cornell L. Rev.* 1311 (2008); and *Progressive Lawyering in Politically Depressing Times: Can New Models for Institutional Self-Reform Achieve More Effective Structural Change?*, 30 *Harv. J. L. & Gender* 323 (2007).

#### ADRIENNE D. DAVIS

Adrienne D. Davis is the William M. Van Cleve Professor of Law at Washington University Law School, where she teaches contracts, trusts & estates, and a variety of upper-level legal theory courses, including sex equality, law and literature, and slavery. Her scholarship emphasizes the gendered and private law dimensions of American slavery. She also does work on feminist legal theory and conceptions of justice and reparations. She is recipient of two grants from the Ford Foundation, the first to explore black women and labor, and the most recent administered through Brandeis University's Feminist Sexual Ethics Project to research women, slavery, sexuality, and religion. In 2001 Davis was a resident fellow at the Rockefeller Foundation's Bellagio Study and Conference Center. Davis is currently serving her second term as a Distinguished Lecturer with the Organization of American Historians. She is past chair of the Law and Humanities Section of the Association of American Law Schools and has been on the editorial boards of *Law and History Review* and *Journal of Legal Education*. She is the co-author of the book, *Privilege Revealed: How Invisible Preference Undermines America* (NYU Press), as



## The Role of Lawyers of Color: Past, Present & Future

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2009

#### SPEAKER BIOS

well as numerous articles and book chapters. Prior to joining the faculty in January 2008, Davis served as the Reef C. Ivey II Professor of Law at the University of North Carolina and was a professor and co-director of the Gender, Work & Family Project at Washington College of Law, American University. Davis graduated from Yale College and Yale Law School and clerked for Judge A. Leon Higginbotham, Jr., of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

#### ANGELIQUE M. DAVIS

Professor Davis is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Seattle University, where she teaches Constitutional Law; Citizenship; Law, Politics & Society; and Race and the Law. Her scholarship focuses on the political and legal implications of racial categorization, interest groups, and social movements. Her most recent publication, *Multiracialism and Reparations: The Intersection of the Multiracial Category and Reparations Movements*, explores the complex relationship between the Reparations Movement for slavery and Jim Crow and the Multiracial Category Movement that seeks to reclassify mixed race individuals as multiracial. Another article under review, *Racial Spectacles: Promoting a Colorblind Agenda Through Direct Democracy*, examines the use racial spectacles to inculcate the public into the racial ideology of colorblindness through the use of the initiative process. She wrote an encyclopedia entry on the topic of "Administrative Law," for the International Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. and has presented her research at numerous national and international conference and invited lectures.

After receiving her Bachelor of Arts from Western Washington University's Law and Diversity Program, Professor Davis earned her law degree in 1999 from the University of Washington Law School. During her third year of law school, she attended Howard University School of Law as a visiting student and was a member of their law review. While in Washington D.C. she externed for the Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Civil Rights.

Prior to joining Seattle University's faculty, Professor Davis worked as a senior associate for the law firm of Williams, Kastner & Gibbs, PLLC, clerked for the Western District of Washington United States Magistrate Judge Monica J. Benton, and served as an Assistant City Attorney for the Employment Section of the Seattle City Attorney's office. Her practice areas included labor and employment advising and litigation, as well as products liability and complex commercial litigation.



## **The Role of Lawyers of Color: Past, Present & Future**

### **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2009**

#### SPEAKER BIOS

##### **JOHANNA DENNIS**

Professor Dennis, Associate Professor of Law at Vermont Law School, is a member of the Pennsylvania bar and a Registered Patent Attorney with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. She has taught courses in legal writing and advocacy at Vermont Law School, Touro Law Center and Florida A&M University College of Law. Dennis also taught law and medicine at Touro. In addition, Dennis has clerked in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Appellate Division, and worked on civil service employment appeals with the State of New Jersey, Department of Personnel, Division of Merit System Practices and Labor Relations. Her recent works explore issues in legal education, biotechnology patent reform issues, and the impact of recent changes and decisions in patent law. She presently serves on the editorial board for the ABA's International Law News. Dennis received her B.A. from Rutgers University and her M.S. in Biotechnology from Johns Hopkins University, and she is a graduate of Temple University School of Law.

##### **DANA THOMPSON DORSEY**

Dana Thompson Dorsey is an assistant professor in educational leadership at the University of Illinois at Springfield. She received her Juris Doctor and a Doctor of Philosophy in Administrative and Policy Studies in Education from the University of Pittsburgh in 1999 and 2007, respectively. Prior to earning a Ph.D., Dr. Thompson Dorsey practiced civil defense litigation for two different law firms in Pittsburgh, with a concentration in employment, corporate, and products liability litigation. During her doctoral studies and directly after, Dr. Thompson Dorsey worked as a Senior Research Analyst for a research and policy firm in the Washington, DC area. In 2008, she began working for a diversity program at the University of Virginia's National Center for Women and Information Technology (NCWIT) Extension Services for Undergraduate Programs as the Director of Research and Consulting. She currently serves as an assistant professor of education law at the University of Illinois at Springfield.

Professor Thompson Dorsey's research interests focus on education law and policy issues. Her research agenda focuses on the impact that federal legal cases and legislation may have on shaping K-12 and higher education policies, especially policies related to equity and underrepresented groups. Additionally, she conducts research on school reform efforts and is most interested in those involving community programs and school/community partnerships that will affect student engagement, attendance, and achievement levels, particularly for underrepresented minority groups and disadvantaged students. Her research has been published in various professional journals, and she has co-authored several technical reports for the National Science Foundation (NSF), the U.S. Department of Education, and the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). Dr. Thompson Dorsey also has made numerous presentations at national academic conferences.



## **The Role of Lawyers of Color: Past, Present & Future**

### **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2009**

#### SPEAKER BIOS

##### **ANGELA MAE KUPENDA**

Angela Mae Kupenda is a professor of law at Mississippi College School of Law. She teaches Constitutional Law, First Amendment, Civil Rights-Section 1983, Race and the Law, and a Constitutional Law Seminar on the Obama Presidency. Kupenda publishes, lectures and presents, extensively nationally and some internationally, on her research in the area of race, gender, class, and the law.

As a child, Kupenda was educated in racially segregated schools, then in 1974 became the first black valedictorian of her then predominantly white high school in Jackson. She graduated summa cum laude with her B.S. in Finance from Jackson State University; and received her M.A. from the University of Pennsylvania, The Wharton School of Business on a S.S. Huebner Foundation Fellowship. She worked in industry and was on the faculty of Jackson State University and the University of Mississippi in their Schools of Business, prior to attending law school.

Kupenda received her J.D., graduating first in her class, from Mississippi College School of Law. Kupenda interned with the Constitutional Torts Division of the Justice Department in Washington, D.C., and with former Mississippi Supreme Court Justice Fred L. Banks, Jr. After graduation, Kupenda served as judicial law clerk for the former chief judges of the United States Court of Appeals for both the Fifth Circuit and the Eleventh Circuit. She practiced law in Washington, D.C. and in Jackson, Mississippi.

Professor Kupenda joined the faculty of Mississippi College in 1995. She has also served as visiting associate professor at Boston College Law School, the visiting Scholar-in-Residence at Pine Manor Women's College in Massachusetts, the Distinguished Visiting Professor of Teaching Excellence, at Franklin Pierce Law Center in New Hampshire, visiting professor at Notre Dame Law School, and the visiting Scholar-in-Residence at the Fannie Lou Hamer National Institute on Citizenship and Democracy at Jackson State University.

##### **CARLA D. PRATT**

Carla D. Pratt is a Professor of Law at Penn State University, Dickinson School of Law where she has taught courses in Constitutional Law, Race and American Law, Professional Responsibility and Federal Indian Law. Professor Pratt's scholarly interests examine the legal construction of racial identity with one particular interest being the role that race plays in the legal profession. Professor Pratt has lectured at academic venues both nationally and internationally and has published articles in various law reviews including, the Wisconsin Law Review, the Fordham Law Review, and the Washington and Lee Race and Ethnic Ancestry Law Review.



## **The Role of Lawyers of Color: Past, Present & Future**

### **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2009**

#### SPEAKER BIOS

Professor Pratt spent the 2008-09 academic year as a Professor of Law at Texas Wesleyan University School of Law, and prior to joining the faculty at Penn State, she engaged in the private practice of law with the Philadelphia law firm of Drinker Biddle & Reath, LLP where she practiced commercial litigation and she served as a Deputy Attorney General for the State of New Jersey. Professor Pratt graduated from Howard Law School with honors and served as an Editor for the Howard Law Journal.

#### **WENDY TOLSON ROSS**

Wendy Tolson Ross is an Associate Professor of Law at Texas Tech University. She teaches Civil Practice Clinic, Negotiations Workshop, and Race and Racism. She also assists with the bar preparation in the Academic Support Program. Before joining the faculty at Texas Tech University, Professor Ross was an Instructor of Clinical Law at St. Mary's University for six years, and Acting Associate Director for Academic Excellence for two years.

#### **WILLIAM TURNER**

William B. Turner holds a Ph.D. degree from Vanderbilt University and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Wisconsin. He has published extensively on LGBT civil rights topics and, more recently on racial integration and affirmative action at Emory University, particularly at the Law School. For the current academic year, he is a fellow at the James Weldon Johnson Institute at Emory University.

#### **DELESO ALFORD WASHINGTON**

Professor Washington is an Associate Professor of Law at Florida A & M University teaching Torts I and II, Bioethics and the Law Seminar and Race and the Law Seminar.

She earned a B.S., magna cum laude at Southern University A & M College, a J.D. at Southern University Law Center, and an LL.M. at Georgetown University Law Center, Washington, DC. Professor Washington is a past Fulbright Scholar- Senegal/Cote d'Ivoire and Delegate to the World Conference Against Racism in Durban, South Africa (2001).

Her legal scholarship focuses on intersectional issues of race, gender, law and legal history. She has been published in the Georgetown Journal of Gender and The Law and American University Journal of Gender, Social Policy and the Law, Nova Law Review as well as the Hamline Journal of Public Law & Policy. Her most recent scholarship entitled, Critical Race Feminist Bioethics: Telling Stories in Law School and Medical School in Pursuit of "Cultural Competency" is forthcoming in the Albany Law Review Journal (Spring 2009) edition.



## The Role of Lawyers of Color: Past, Present & Future

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2009

#### SPEAKER BIOS

##### LINDA MARIA WAYNER

Linda Maria Wayner is General Counsel at the Commission for the United Nations, Consular Corps and Protocol, a division of the Office of the Mayor of New York City. Ms. Wayner is the chief legal officer for the Commission, responsible for all affairs involving New York City's role as host to the United Nations Headquarters, 192 national mission offices, and consulates from 111 countries. Ms. Wayner also serves as counsel to the Mayor's Office Division for International Business, which provides a wide range of services to foreign trade commissions and companies looking to establish a presence in New York City.

Prior to joining the Office of the Mayor, Ms. Wayner was a commercial litigation attorney at the global law firm Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom LLP. In addition to working on a wide variety of commercial litigation and arbitration matters, Ms. Wayner served as counsel to the organized Latino, African-American, Native American, and Asian-American students at the University of Michigan Law School during the ground-breaking *Grutter v. Bollinger* affirmative action lawsuit. Ms. Wayner has also volunteered as pro bono counsel on behalf of political asylum applicants from Cameroon, Colombia, Liberia, Tibet, and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Ms. Wayner is also an adjunct professor at Pace Law School, where she has taught courses on international transactions, arbitration, and municipal law, in addition to coaching Pace's award-winning moot arbitration team. She received her law degree from the University of Michigan in 2001, where she was an associate editor of the *Michigan Law Review* and a member of the Henry M. Campbell Moot Court Board. Ms. Wayner obtained both a bachelor's and master's degree in International Politics from Baylor University.

Ms. Wayner is admitted to practice in New York State. She is a Deputy President of the Hispanic National Bar Association for the New York region. *Hispanic Business Magazine* recently named her as one of its "Elite 20 Women" for 2008.

##### PATRICIA A. WILSON

Professor Patricia A. Wilson has been a member of the Baylor Law School faculty since 1993. Her teaching responsibilities include Family Law, Employment Discrimination, Employment Relations, and Labor Law. She taught the first year Property course for 12 years before assuming responsibility for her current course package. In the past, she has also taught courses in Antitrust, Intellectual Property, Consumer Protection and Legal Writing. Professor Wilson also serves as the Minority Law Student Advisor.



## **The Role of Lawyers of Color: Past, Present & Future**

### **FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2009**

#### SPEAKER BIOS

Before joining the Baylor Law Faculty in 1993, Wilson practiced law for seven years, including four years with American Airlines, Inc. where she was responsible for managing litigation matters worth millions of dollars and for negotiating and drafting contracts in a number of areas, including software licensing and health care plan administration. She also handled matters involving airline regulation and employment discrimination. Her professional activities include regularly speaking at continuing legal education seminars in New York, San Francisco, and Chicago. She is a former member of the State Bar of Texas Consumer and Commercial Law Council, and served as the Council secretary from August 2006 to July 2008. Wilson is a trained mediator and she is actively involved in the Waco community serving on the boards of a number of local nonprofit organizations.

Professor Wilson received her law degree from Northwestern University School of Law (J.D., 1985), where she was named a Wigmore Scholar and was a member of the Board of Editors of the Journal of International Law and Business. Wilson earned her undergraduate degree from Purdue University (B.A., 1982, Sociology), graduating With Distinction.

Wilson is married to Michael W. Jones. They and their four children live in Woodway, Texas.

#### **KAMILLE WOLFF**

Kamille Wolff is an Assistant Professor on the faculty of Thurgood Marshall School of Law where she currently serves as a fall 2009 Co-Chair of the Caribbean Law Clinic at Thurgood Marshall School of Law sponsored by the American Caribbean Law Initiative. Professor Wolff teaches in the areas of Commercial Law, Estate Planning, and Professional Responsibility. Prior to joining the Thurgood Marshall School of Law faculty in the fall of 2007, Professor Wolff served as an Assistant Professor of Lawyering Process at Florida Coastal School of Law from 2004 through 2007 where she developed the Black Law Students Association (BLSA) Moot Court/Mock Trial Program. At Florida Coastal, she also served as BLSA's faculty advisor. Prior to entering the academy, Professor Wolff was a law clerk for the Fourth Judicial Circuit of the State of Florida. Professor Wolff has served as a moderator and panelist at legal education conferences and continuing legal education programs regarding various aspects of the law including entertainment law, estate planning, immigration law, and alternative dispute resolution. Professor Wolff is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania School of Law and Queens College of the City University of New York where she received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Urban Studies/Regional Planning.