

LOYOLA LAW REVIEW
SYMPOSIUM 2021

STRUCTURAL RACISM AND THE LAW

EXPLORING THE
LAWS AND POLICIES
CREATING AND
SUSTAINING
OPPRESSIVE
SYSTEMS

DATE + TIME

MARCH 5, 2021

9:00AM - 5:30PM

PRESENTED VIA ZOOM

REGISTER

[loynolawreviewstructuralracism
.eventbrite.com](https://loynolawreviewstructuralracism.eventbrite.com)



The *Loyola Law Review* in collaboration with the *Journal of Public Interest* and the Black Law Student Association (BLSA) presents the 2021 Symposium. The past year has demonstrated to the general public that the laws and policies of the United States are inherently racist and anti-Black. In the midst of a global pandemic, it was laid bare that the community suffering the greatest losses in terms of evictions, education, police brutality, and health outcomes was the Black community. Structural racism has created complex, yet often hidden, barriers that make it harder for Black people to succeed and has subsequently created generational and structural advantages for white people. These laws and policies might seem racially neutral on their face but often have insidious roots. This symposium will: (1) highlight the historical connection between laws and policies and current structural racism in the United States; and (2) identify the changes needed in various areas of law and policy – housing, city planning, criminal & juvenile justice, mass incarceration, and education –to ensure that as a community, we work together to challenge white supremacy and its influence in the law. Only then can we ensure that these laws are changed, and equity is attained for all people.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
PROFESSOR DEVON CARBADO
UCLA LAW SCHOOL

We have the following speakers confirmed*:

- Professor Rachel Moran, University of California Irvine Law
- Dr. Andre M. Perry, Brookings Fellow
- Professor Kimberly J. Robinson, UVA Law
- Professor Kristin Henning, Georgetown Law
- Professor Andrea Armstrong, Loyola University New Orleans College of Law
- Nia Weeks, Esq., Executive Director of Citizen SHE United
- Professor Devon Carbado, UCLA Law School
- Professor Lisa Alexander, Texas A&M University School of Law
- Professor Ezra Rosser, American University- Washington College of Law
- Rev. Gregory Manning, Activist
- Rayven Calloway, Educational Activist and Doctoral Student
- Lynn Rhodes Polk, Educational Activist and Doctoral Student
- Cashauna Hill, Esq., Executive Director of Louisiana Fair Housing Action Center
- Derwyn Bunton, Esq., Orleans Public Defender

*Please see addendum for speakers' biographies.

WEBSITE

<http://www.loyno-lawreview.com/>

SOCIAL MEDIA

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EVENTBRITE

loynolawreviewstructuralracism.eventbrite.com



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LOYOLA LAW REVIEW SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE

9:00–9:20 OPENING REMARKS AND WELCOME
Dean LeCesne

9:20–10:50 PANEL 1: STRUCTURAL RACISM IN HOUSING & CITY PLANNING
Speakers: Ezra Rosser, Cashauna Hill, & Lisa Alexander | Moderator: Prof. Crusto

First, we will delve into the anti-Black laws and policies that created systemic inequality in communities and cities. This panel will focus on the unjust zoning laws and policies that led to the destruction of Black communities, as well as, limited homeownership. Decades of racist policies, such as neighborhood segregation, have been a driving force in creating the racial wealth gap that persists today. Furthermore, the panel will reveal how the pandemic only exacerbated issues of poverty and inequality.

10:50–11:00 BREAK

11:00–12:30 PANEL 2: STRUCTURAL RACISM IN THE EDUCATION
Speakers: Rachel Moran, Kimberly Robinson, & Andre Perry | Moderator: Prof. Garda

After our introduction to the racism behind our housing and city planning, we will evaluate the impact of those laws and policies on the educational system. This panel will focus on the inequalities in education that predated the pandemic, the ways that the pandemic exacerbated those disparities, and the possible legal responses to the adverse impacts of school closures. Furthermore, this panel will reveal how structural racism has played a role in the education system since slavery continues to perpetuate these racist practices in its modern day manifestations.

12:30–12:40 BREAK

12:40–2:00 KEYNOTE SPEAKER: RACE, LAW, AND STRUCTURAL INEQUALITY
Devon Carbado

2:00–2:10 BREAK

**LOYOLA
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SYMPOSIUM
SCHEDULE**

2:10–3:40 PANEL 3: STRUCTURAL RACISM IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM BREAK
Speakers: Andrea Armstrong, Nia Weeks, & Kristin Henning | Moderator: Prof. Linares
No discussion on structural racism would be complete without analyzing the impacts of that racism in our criminal justice system. Many of these issues were laid bare this past summer: police brutality, unequal sentencing, and COVID-19 effects on incarcerated persons.

3:40–3:50 BREAK

3:50–5:20 PANEL 4: LOCAL FOCUS: HOW DOES RACISM IN THE LAW IMPACT NEW ORLEANS COMMUNITIES?
Speakers: Pastor Gregory Manning, Rayven Calloway, Lynn Rhodes Polk, & Derwyn Bunton & Y. Frank Southall Moderator: Dean Davida Finger

With a greater understanding of the structural racism built into current laws and policies, this panel will address the specific ways racism in the law impacts New Orleanians. Reflecting on the dialogues of the earlier panelists, this panel discussion will include will how racism has impacted housing policy and decisions in New Orleans, including gentrification and environmental racism; racism in the charter school movement and educational system of New Orleans; growing reform of the local criminal justice system; and an exploration of the intersections racism plays in all aspects of local policymaking. Suggestions for reform and a questions & answer section will conclude this panel.

5:20–5:30 CLOSING DISCUSSION AND THANK YOU'S



DEVON W. CARBADO

The Honorable Harry Pregerson
Professor of Law
UCLA Law

Professor Carbado graduated from Harvard Law School in 1994. At Harvard, he was editor-in-chief of the Harvard Black Letter Law Journal, a member of the Board of Student Advisors, and winner of the Northeast Frederick Douglass Moot Court Competition. Carbado joined the UCLA School of Law faculty in 1997. He served as Vice Dean for Faculty and Research at the School of Law from 2006-07, and again in 2009-10. Professor Carbado is currently working on a series of articles on affirmative action and a book on race, law, and police violence.

Devon Carbado is the Honorable Harry Pregerson Professor of Law at UCLA School of Law and the former Associate Vice Chancellor of BruinX for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. He teaches Constitutional Criminal Procedure, Constitutional Law, Critical Race Theory, and Criminal Adjudication. He has won numerous teaching awards, including being elected Professor of the Year by the UCLA School of Law classes of 2000 and 2006 and received the Law School's Rutter Award for Excellence in Teaching in 2003 and the University's Distinguished Teaching Award, the Eby Award for the Art of Teaching in 2007. In 2005 Professor Carbado was an inaugural recipient of the Fletcher Foundation Fellowship. Modeled on the Guggenheim fellowships, it is awarded to scholars whose work furthers the goals of *Brown v. Board of Education*. In 2018, he was named an inaugural recipient of the Atlantic Philanthropies Fellowship for Racial Equity.

Professor Carbado writes in the areas of employment discrimination, criminal procedure, implicit bias, constitutional law, and critical race theory. His scholarship appears in law reviews at UCLA, Berkeley, Harvard, Michigan, Cornell, and Yale, among other venues. He is the author of *Acting White? Rethinking Race in "Post-Racial" America* (Oxford University Press) (with Mitu Gulati) and the editor of several volumes, including *Race Law Stories* (Foundation Press) (with Rachel Moran), *The Long Walk to Freedom: Runaway Slave Narratives* (Beacon Press) (with Donald Weise), and *Time on Two Crosses: The Collective Writings of Bayard Rustin* (Cleis Press) (with Donald Weise). A board member of the African American Policy Forum, Professor Carbado was the Shikes Fellow in Civil Liberties and Visiting Professor of Law at Harvard Law School in 2012.

Andre M. Perry is a fellow in the Metropolitan Policy Program at Brookings, a scholar-in-residence at American University, and a columnist for the Hechinger Report. He is the author of the new book *Know Your Price: Valuing Black Lives and Property in America's Black Cities*, which is currently available wherever books are sold. A nationally known and respected commentator on race, structural inequality, and education, Perry is a regular contributor to MSNBC and has been published by *The New York Times*, *The Nation*, *The Washington Post*, *TheRoot.com* and *CNN.com*. Perry has also made appearances on CNN, PBS, National Public Radio, NBC, and ABC. His research focuses on race and structural inequality, education, and economic inclusion. Perry's recent scholarship at Brookings has analyzed Black-majority cities and institutions in America, focusing on valuable assets worthy of increased investment.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic began, Perry has documented the underlying causes for the outsized number of coronavirus-related deaths in Black communities. His Brookings research has illuminated how certain forms of social distancing historically accelerated economic and social disparities between Black people and the rest of the country. Perry also mapped racial inequities in housing, income, and health to underscore how policy discrimination makes Black Americans more vulnerable to COVID-19.

His research has spotlighted the struggles of Black businesses—including artists and art institutions, restaurants, and barbershops and beauty salons—as they await federal relief from COVID-19's economic impact. In education, he explained how college campus closings put housing-insecure students at risk during the pandemic. He's also written on the unrealized value of teachers' work that's been made apparent by COVID-19, and has commented on the potential loss of Black teachers as a result of an impending recession.

Prior to his work at Brookings, Perry has been a founding dean, professor, award-winning journalist, and activist in the field of education. In 2015, Perry served on Louisiana Governor-elect John Bel Edwards' K-12 education transition committee, as well as on New Orleans Mayor-elect Mitch Landrieu's transition team as its co-chair for education in 2010. In 2013, Perry founded the College of Urban Education at Davenport University in Grand Rapids, Mich. Preceding his stint in Michigan, he was an associate professor of educational leadership at the University of New Orleans and served as CEO of the Capital One-University of New Orleans Charter Network.



DR. ANDRE M. PERRY

Brookings Fellow

Metropolitan Policy Program

Perry's academic writings have concentrated on race, structural inequality, and urban schools. Perry co-authored the Brookings Institution report "The Devaluation of Assets in Black Neighborhoods" and has presented its findings across the country, including to the U.S. House Financial Services Committee. For the tenth anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, Perry co-authored "School by School: The Transformation of New Orleans Public Education" in *Resilience and Opportunity: Lessons from the U.S. Gulf Coast after Katrina and Rita*, published by Brookings Institution Press. Perry also co-authored "The Transformation of New Orleans Public Schools: Addressing System-Level Problems Without a System," published by the Data Center of New Orleans. He also co-authored a chapter in *Between Public and Private: Politics, Governance, and the New Portfolio Models for Urban School Reform* published by Harvard Education Press. Along with the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, Perry co-authored the report "Place Matters for Health in Orleans Parish: Ensuring Opportunities for Good Health for All."

A native of Pittsburgh, Pa., Perry earned his Ph.D. in education policy and leadership from the University of Maryland College Park.



RACHEL MORAN

Professor of Law

University of California, Irvine Law

Rachel Moran is a Distinguished Professor of Law at UCI Law. Prior to her appointment, she was the Michael J. Connell Distinguished Professor of Law and Dean Emerita at UCLA Law. Before that, Prof. Moran was the Robert D. and Leslie-Kay Raven Professor of Law at UC Berkeley School of Law. She also was a founding faculty member of UCI Law from July 2008 to June 2010.

Prof. Moran's expertise includes educational policy-making and the law, Latino-related law and policy, race and the law, legal education and the legal profession, and torts. She has been a visiting law professor at Fordham University, Harvard University, New York University, Stanford University, UCLA, the University of Miami and the University of Texas.

In 2011, she was selected by President Obama to serve on the Permanent Committee for the Oliver Wendell Holmes Devise. Prof. Moran also has previously served as President and Executive Committee member of the Association of American Law Schools (AALS). In 2015, she became the inaugural Neukom Fellows Research Chair in Diversity and Law at the American Bar Foundation. She is a member of the American Bar Foundation and the American Law Institute, and she is a Fellow of the Civil Rights Project/Proyecto Derechos Civiles. Prof. Moran has been inducted into the Chancery Club of Los Angeles and the Lincoln Club, and she was elected to the Beverly Hills Bar Association's Board of Governors. Prof. Moran received her A.B. in psychology from Stanford University and her J.D. from Yale Law School.

Throughout her career, Prof. Moran's work has focused on sources of inequality and sites of opportunity. Her book on "Interracial Intimacy: The Regulation of Race and Romance" explored the role of family and private life in producing racial stratification and separation. Her extensive and ongoing research on educational access and equity evaluates how public schools shape the lives of the nation's most vulnerable students, whether they are children of color, live in poverty, are undocumented, or speak a language other than English. Prof. Moran's current project on "The Future of Latinos in the United States: Law, Opportunity, and Mobility" explores how law and policy will affect the mobility and opportunity of the country's burgeoning Latino population in four key areas: immigration, education, economic participation, and civic and political engagement.

Kristin Henning is the Blume Professor of Law and Director of the Juvenile Justice Clinic and Initiative at Georgetown Law, where she supervises law students and represents youth accused of delinquency in the D.C. Superior Court. Professor Henning was previously the Lead Attorney for the Juvenile Unit of the D.C. Public Defender Service and is currently the Director of the Mid-Atlantic Juvenile Defender Center.

Professor Henning writes extensively about race, adolescence and policing. Her work appears in journals and books such as *Policing the Black Man: Arrest, Prosecution and Imprisonment* (2017) and *Punishment in Popular Culture* (2015). Race features prominently in her articles such as *The Reasonable Black Child: Race, Adolescence and the Fourth Amendment* and *Criminalizing Normal Adolescent Behavior in Communities of Color: The Role of Prosecutors in Juvenile Justice Reform*. Professor Henning is also the editor of an anthology *Rights, Race, and Reform: Fifty Years of Child Advocacy in the Juvenile Justice System* (2018) and is writing a book, forthcoming with Penguin Random House, about the criminalization of Black adolescence and the intersection of race, adolescence, and policing.

Professor Henning has trained state actors across the country on the nature and scope of racial bias and how it operates in the juvenile and criminal legal systems. Her workshops help stakeholders develop strategies to challenge racial injustice throughout the system. Professor Henning partnered with the National Juvenile Defender Center (NJDC) in 2019 to launch a Racial Justice Toolkit for youth advocates, and again in 2020 to launch the Ambassadors for Racial Justice program, a year-long program for juvenile defenders committed to challenging racial injustice in the juvenile legal system. Professor Henning also worked closely with the McArthur Foundation's Juvenile Indigent Defense Action Network to develop the 41-volume *Juvenile Training Immersion Program* (JTIP), a national training curriculum for juvenile defenders. She now co-hosts, with NJDC, an annual week-long JTIP summer academy for defenders.

Henning serves on the Board of Directors for the Center for Children's Law and Policy, has served as an expert consultant on juvenile justice to a number of state and federal agencies, including the USDOJ's Civil Rights Division, and was the Reporter for the ABA Task Force on Dual Jurisdiction Youth. She is the recipient of several honors, including the Robert E. Shepherd, Jr. Award for Excellence in Juvenile Defense from NJDC, appointment as an Adviser to ALI's Restatement on Children and the Law project, and the Shanara Gilbert Award from the American Association of Law Schools for her commitment to justice on behalf of children. Henning received her B.A. from Duke University, a J.D. from Yale Law School, and an LL.M. from Georgetown Law.



KRISTIN HENNING

Blume Professor of Law
Director, Juvenile Justice Clinic &
Initiative

Georgetown Law



KIMBERLY J. ROBINSON

Professor of Law

UVA School of Law

Kimberly Jenkins Robinson is a national expert who speaks domestically and internationally about educational equity, equal educational opportunity, civil rights and the federal role in education. Her scholarship has been published widely in leading journals and proposes innovative legal and policy solutions for ensuring that all children receive equal access to an excellent education.

In 2019, New York University Press published her second edited book, “A Federal Right to Education: Fundamental Questions for Our Democracy,” which gathers leading constitutional and education law scholars to consider the challenging questions raised by recognizing a federal right to education in the United States. In 2015, Harvard Education Press published her book that was co-edited with Professor Charles Ogletree Jr. of Harvard Law School, titled “The Enduring Legacy of Rodriguez: Creating New Pathways to Equal Educational Opportunity.” Robinson’s article, “Disrupting Education Federalism” and published in the Washington University Law Review, won the 2016 Steven S. Goldberg Award for distinguished scholarship in education law from the Education Law Association. This article argues that the United States should reconstruct its understanding of education federalism to support a national effort to ensure equal access to an excellent education.

Robinson published “Fisher’s Cautionary Tale and the Urgent Need for Equal Access to an Excellent Education” in the November 2016 issue of the Harvard Law Review, which analyzes the legal and policy issues regarding the challenge to the affirmative action

policy at the University of Texas in Fisher v. University of Texas at Austin. In 2016, she published an article in the Stanford Law and Policy Review, titled “No Quick Fix for Equity and Excellence: The Virtues of Incremental Shifts in Education Federalism,” that proposes how the federal government could incrementally increase its influence over education in ways that would promote equity and excellence in school funding. Her scholarship has appeared in the University of Chicago Law Review, Boston College Law Review, William and Mary Law Review and UC Davis Law Review, among other venues.

Robinson was a visiting professor at the George Washington University Law School in spring 2017, where she taught Race, Racism and the Law. She is a senior fellow at the Learning Policy Institute, a leading think tank on education policy, where she is working with Linda Darling-Hammond on issues related to educational access and equality.

During her time at the University of Richmond, Robinson served as chair of the law school's Diversity Committee and co-chair of a university-wide faculty learning community on reducing implicit bias in teaching. She previously served as co-chair of the Faculty Senate's Sexual Assault Response and Prevention Committee, where she led the drafting of recommendations for strengthening the University of Richmond's sexual assault policy, including many recommendations that were incorporated into a revised sexual assault policy. Robinson also served as chair of a university-wide faculty learning community on reducing stereotype threat in teaching.

Prior to joining the Richmond Law faculty in 2010, Robinson was an associate professor at Emory University School of Law and a visiting fellow at George Washington University Law School. She also served in the General Counsel's Office of the U.S. Department of Education, where she helped draft federal policy on issues of race, sex and disability discrimination. In addition, Robinson represented school districts in school finance and constitutional law litigation as an associate with Hogan & Hartson (now Hogan Lovells). She is a frequent lecturer on education law and policy issues, including serving as the dean's distinguished lecturer at the Harvard Graduate School of Education in March 2014 and the keynote speaker at the "Is Education a Civil Right?" conference at Harvard Law School in April 2013. She also has written editorials that address national education law and policy issues, including co-authoring with Professor Charles Ogletree Jr. an article in 2017 in *Education Next* titled "Inequitable Schools Demand a Federal Remedy" and "Neglecting the Broken Foundation of K-12 Funding" in *Education Week* on May 18, 2016. Robinson organized a conference to analyze the impact of the Supreme Court's decision in *San Antonio Independent School District v. Rodriguez* in 2013.

Professor Armstrong joined the Loyola University New Orleans, College of Law faculty in 2010. She is a leading national expert on prison and jail conditions and is certified by the U.S. Department of Justice as a Prison Rape Elimination Act auditor. Her research focuses on the constitutional dimensions of prisons and jails, specifically prison labor practices, the intersection of race and conditions of incarceration, and public oversight of detention facilities. She teaches in the related fields of constitutional law, criminal procedure, law and poverty, and race and the law. Prof. Armstrong also received a three-year Interdisciplinary Research Leader grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, shared with the Voice of the Experienced and LSU Center for Healthcare Value and Equity, to examine the effects of incarceration on health service use in Louisiana, currently a global and national leader in incarceration rates.

Andrea Armstrong was elected as the inaugural co-chair of Community Advisory Group for the New Orleans MacArthur Safety and Justice Challenge (2017-2019) and was a founding board member of the Promise of Justice Initiative, a non-profit organization focused on death penalty abolition and prison conditions. Professor Armstrong is a graduate of Yale Law School, the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University, where she completed her M.P.A. in International Relations, and New York University.

Prior to law school, Professor Armstrong's research focused on international human rights and regional conflict dynamics. She has worked with the Center on International Cooperation at NYU, the International Center for Transitional Justice, as well as the United Nations Department of Political Affairs and the U.N. Commission on Human Security. She also taught policy modules on democratization at the Junior Summer Institute at Princeton University.

After graduating from law school, Professor Armstrong served as a clerk for the Honorable Helen G. Berrigan of the United States Eastern District of Louisiana. She also litigated prisoners' rights issues, among others, as a Thomas Emerson fellow with David Rosen and Associates in New Haven, CT. She is admitted to practice in Connecticut (retired), New York (retired) and Louisiana state courts, as well as the U.S. District Court of Connecticut (retired), the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit (retired) and the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana.

Her publications can be found at: https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/cf_dev/AbsByAuth.cfm?per_id=1612387.



ANDREA ARMSTRONG

Professor of Law

Loyola University New Orleans,
College of Law



LISA T. ALEXANDER

Professor of Law

Texas A&M University School of Law

Lisa Alexander is a Professor of Law at Texas A&M University School of Law with a joint appointment as a Professor in Texas A&M University's Department of Landscape Architecture and Urban Planning. She is also a Co-founder and a Co-Director of Texas A&M University School of Law's new Program in Real Estate and Community Development Law.

Professor Alexander's research and teaching focuses on housing law and policy, fair housing, community economic development law, equitable development, and business and social enterprise law. Alexander has published in the *Hastings Law Journal*, *Nebraska Law Review*, *Wisconsin Law Review*, *Yale Law Journal Forum*, *Georgetown Journal on Poverty Law and Policy*, *Fordham Urban Law Journal*, *William and Mary Business Law Review*, and the *ABA Journal on Affordable Housing and Community Development Law*, among other publications.

Professor Alexander was the first person from Texas A&M University School of Law and one of only 21 professors selected at Texas A&M University to receive a 2018 Presidential Impact Fellow Award, which are among the most prestigious recognitions for scholarly impact presented to Texas A&M faculty.

Professor Alexander was a Summer Honors Program attorney at the U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division, Housing Section; an Equal Justice Works Fellow; an Earl Warren Civil Rights Scholar; and a Coro Fellow in Public Affairs. She is affiliated with Texas A&M University's Center on Housing and Urban Development, and with the University of Wisconsin's Institute for Research on Poverty. She is a former Associate Editor of the *ABA Journal of Affordable Housing & Community Development Law*, the premiere scholarly publication in the field of affordable housing and community development law, and was also appointed to the Wisconsin State Advisory Committee for the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. She holds a B.A. in Government with honors from Wesleyan University and a J.D. from Columbia University School of Law.

Nia Weeks is the Founder and Executive Director of Citizen SHE United, and advocacy group in Louisiana that is building an aligned base of Black Women who inform, advocate for and enact a collective policy agenda to address the needs of Black Women across the state. She is the former director of Policy and Advocacy at Women With A Vision located in New Orleans Louisiana. Nia is a native of New Orleans, and has spent years fighting for the rights of women, children, and families. Nia received her bachelor's degree in Communications with a minor in Women's studies at Indiana State University, where her advocacy training began. After completing her undergraduate education, she worked in public relations before beginning law school. She then graduated with a law degree from the Loyola School of Law in New Orleans in 2009. Her post Law School career has been immersed in work that focuses on addressing a variety of systemic issues that marginalized community members have asked to be examined. The year immediately following law school, she clerked for a City Court Judge.



NIA WEEKS, ESQ.

Founder & Executive Director
Citizen SHE United



EZRA ROSSER

Professor of Law

American University- Washington

College of Law

Ezra Rosser joined the WCL faculty in 2006. He has taught Property, Federal Indian Law, Poverty Law, Land Use, and Housing Law. Previously he served as a visiting professor at Ritsumeiken University, a 1665 Fellow at Harvard University, a visiting scholar at Yale Law School, and a Westerfield Fellow at Loyola University New Orleans School of Law. Ezra is a past chair of the AALS Property Law, Poverty Law, and Indian Nations and Indigenous Peoples sections. His articles have appeared in journals including the California Law Review, Harvard Law & Policy Review, Washington University Law Review, Yale Human Rights and Development Law Journal, Environmental Law, and the American Indian Law Review. Ezra received the Elizabeth Payne Cubberly Scholarship Award in 2017 and 2012, as well as the Emalee C. Godsey Scholarship Award in 2008.

Ezra is a co-author of a textbook *Poverty Law, Policy, and Practice* (Aspen 2014) (2nd ed. 2021) (with Juliet Brodie, Clare Pastore & Jeff Selbin) and was a co-editor of *The Poverty Law Canon* (Michigan Press 2014) (with Marie Failing) and *Tribes, Land, and the Environment* (Ashgate 2012) (with Sarah Krakoff). His first sole authored book, *A Nation Within: Navajo Land and Economic Development*, will be published by Cambridge University Press in Spring 2021.

Cashauna Hill has served as Executive Director of the Louisiana Fair Housing Action Center (formerly the Greater New Orleans Fair Housing Action Center) since 2015. At Louisiana Fair Housing, Cashauna leads a staff of advocates in fulfilling the organization's mission to end housing discrimination and segregation. Prior to leading LaFHAC, Cashauna spent several years challenging discriminatory housing policies and practices through litigation and policy advocacy. She has written about housing segregation and civil rights for Next City and The Hill, among other outlets, and in 2017 was honored as the inaugural recipient of the Tulane Law School Public Interest Law Foundation's Practitioner Service Award. Cashauna is a graduate of Spelman College and Tulane Law School.



CASHAUNA HILL, ESQ.

Executive Director Louisiana Fair
Housing Action Center



DERWYN BUNTON, ESQ.

Chief District Defender
Orleans Public Defenders

Derwyn Bunton is the Chief District Defender for Orleans Parish (New Orleans) Louisiana leading the Orleans Public Defenders Office (OPD).

Prior to becoming Chief Defender, Derwyn was the Executive Director of Juvenile Regional Services (JRS). JRS was the first stand-alone juvenile defender office in the nation and the first non-profit law office devoted to juvenile justice reform and front-line juvenile representation. Derwyn is also the former Associate Director of the Juvenile Justice Project of Louisiana (JJPL), a nonprofit juvenile justice reform and advocacy organization. Derwyn graduated from New York University School of Law in 1998.

From 2000 to 2005, Derwyn aided in monitoring the settlement agreement between the United States Department of Justice, the Juvenile Justice Project of Louisiana, private plaintiffs and the State of Louisiana regarding Louisiana's juvenile prisons. Derwyn was part of the litigation team that sued Louisiana over the conditions of its juvenile prisons.

During Hurricane Katrina, Derwyn was part of a team of advocates and lawyers assisting the Orleans Parish Juvenile Court, the Louisiana Office of Juvenile Justice and the Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections locate and reunite youth and adults evacuated to multiple DOC facilities across the state after being trapped by floodwaters in the Orleans Parish Prison in the wake of Katrina.

Appointed in 2009, Derwyn has led OPD to be among the most highly-regarded public defense programs in the country and a leading voice for public defense and criminal justice reform. He is the 2015 recipient of the Louisiana Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers' prestigious Justice Albert Tate Award.

A native New Orleanian and mother, Rayven has worked in education for over a decade. She became an educator because she had witnessed both the best and worst of education in New Orleans and believed -then as now- that students can and will learn in carefully crafted environments that motivate them, embrace them as individuals, and support achievement.

She began her career at the highest performing school in St. Mary Parish and achieved the highest English scores at the school. She subsequently asked the Superintendent to transfer her to the district's lowest-performing school, much to his surprise.

The simple reason for this request? Rayven wanted to work with children who "look like me, but who did not have the same opportunities that were afforded to me." At Franklin Junior High, which suffered from unfortunate student growth outcomes at the time, Rayven worked for three years as a lead technology teacher, content leader, and grade-level chair. She designed rigorous learning programs and professional development opportunities and, ultimately, achieved 48% growth in 7th grade and 50% in 8th grade alone. She is quick to credit the students' hard work to make this exciting achievement possible.

As an experienced and proven teacher-leader, Rayven was selected by the Louisiana Department of Education to work on the design and implementation of the Guidebooks curriculum for English Language Arts students across the state of Louisiana in (2015-2016) as well serve on the Instructional Review Committee for the state. Rayven's career then took her to St. James Parish, where she served as a District Instructional Specialist. She combined her passion for student achievement in the classroom, her knowledge of curriculum and instruction, and her talent for building and leveraging mission-driven teams to achieve unprecedented growth. By implementing a robust teacher support system, with weekly Professional Learning Communities and real-time coaching, among other changes, she was able to help drive growth in the School Performance Score based on student achievement and increased the School Performance Score.

Rayven went on to take her achievement-oriented education experience, her ability to coach adults and drive strong school-wide culture to the roles of Assistant Principal and Academy Director from there. She joined Mary D. Coghill School in 2018 and initially served as Academy Director. She became Head of School/CEO in 2019, inheriting a failing grade from the State Department of Education. Never one to shy from a challenge, Rayven went to work to turn the school around. In short order, Coghill had earned an A for financial stewardship, several non-compliances were closed under her leadership, and the school was on an upward trajectory.



RAYVEN CALLOWAY

Educational Activist and Doctoral Student

Excelling for Excellence

Educational Services, LLC

At the outset, Rayven's confidence in the team she had assembled and in the school's Board of Directors (Better Choice Foundation) led her to take her boys out of private school and enroll them at Coghill. Rayven's hard work, and that of her team and the students themselves led to a turn-around that earned the school the vote of confidence of the New Orleans School Board, which recognized the progress and voted to keep the school under its current leadership to continue its positive trajectory. The Superintendent of Schools overrode this vote and awarded the school to another charter. Despite this blow, Rayven committed to staying to lead the school through what was perhaps the New Orleans School District's most challenging time, steering the students and their families through the Covid-19 epidemic and ensuring 8th-grade Seniors an unprecedented and special graduation.

Currently, Rayven is pursuing her doctorate at the University of Holy Cross- New Orleans in Executive Leadership and has co-founded (with Lynn Polk, former Coghill School Principal), Excelling 4 Excellence, an education consultancy created to empower parents and students.



C. LYNN RHODES-POLK

Educational Activist and Doctoral Student

Excelling for Excellence Educational Services, LLC

Mrs. C. Lynn Rhodes-Polk is a skilled educational leader and an excellent communicator with a strong, decisive, and collaborative leadership style. She has extensive training and experience in leadership and administration, coupled with mentoring, observation, and supervision of education professionals. She is a visionary leader with a passion for children. In addition, she is an advocate of diversity and accountability as well as a curriculum alignment practitioner and data-driven leader.

She has earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Elementary Education from Southern University at New Orleans, a Master of Arts in Urban Education from Southern University at New Orleans, and a Master of Arts in Educational Leadership Administration from the University of Phoenix. She is currently pursuing a Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Executive Leadership at Holy Cross University New Orleans. The State of Louisiana licenses Mrs. Rhodes-Polk as an Educational Leader, level 2, and Elementary Education grades 1-8. Her experiences include School Director, School Leader, Principal, Assistant Principal, Assistant Principal of Curriculum, Curriculum Coordinator, Instructional Facilitator, and Teacher. Lynn has also tutored professionally; she owns and operates a state-licensed state business Excelling for Excellence Educational Services, L.L.C., where she is the co-CEO.

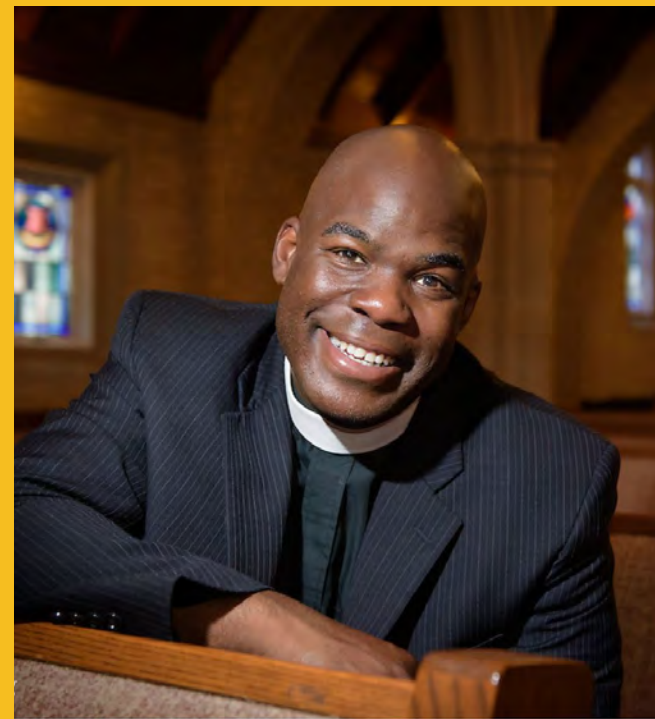
Three of her most significant accomplishments: as a teacher and leader at Lake Forest Montessori and Charter School, she successfully produced scores of 100% of all 4th and 8th-grade students passing the LEAP and LEAP 2025 assessments; this was accomplished over a 17-year period; as Assistant Principal she was instrumental in leading her school to achieve the highest educational honor, the National Blue Ribbon School 2013, she flew to Washington D. C. to personally accept the award on behalf of the school. Lastly, she successfully wrote two charter applications that were approved upon the 1st presentation.

Rev. Manning graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in theater and religion from Wabash College and went on to earn his Masters of Divinity degree from Concordia Theological Seminary.

Rev. Manning believes firmly that everyone's life has a story. This present chapter of his life includes a strong commitment to the ministry of Broadmoor Community Church, community organizing, and a consistent fight to dismantle systemic racism on all fronts. This is accomplished through Pastor Manning's involvement as co-moderator for Justice and Beyond, a coalition of activists and organizations that advocate for equity and justice.

Pastor Manning is also the founder and chairman of the Greater New Orleans interfaith Climate Coalition. As facilitator for Coalition Against Death Alley, he has been deeply engaged in the fight against the petrochemical industry's poisoning of River parishes. Criminal justice reform is a passion for Rev. Manning as well. Therefore, he serves on the steering committee for the Peoples DA Coalition to elect a progressive District Attorney for New Orleans. Pastor Manning also enjoys serving on the board of directors of The Greater New Orleans YMCA, The Lighthouse of Louisiana, The Salvation Army and Rebecca's Garden of Hope.

Pastor Manning considers it to be a special blessing to be an international speaker who has had the privilege of speaking as far north as Norway and as far South as Australia. His messages is one of hope and peace in times of struggle as he shares his message of faith; that nothing is too hard for God.



REV. GREGORY MANNING

Activist



PROFESSOR MITCHELL F. CRUSTO

Moderator for Panel 1: Structural Racism in Housing & City Planning

Professor Mitchell F. Crusto, a native New Orleanian, has a J.D. from the Yale Law School, a M.A. in Jurisprudence from Oxford University, England (Marshall Scholar), and a B.A., Scholar of the House (History), magna cum laude from Yale College. He is a member of the Louisiana, Illinois, and Missouri Bar Associations and the Honorable Society of the Middle Temple in London. He clerked for Judge John Minor Wisdom on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit and has served two U. S. Presidents in senior governmental policy positions. He came to the legal academy after extensive legal practice with major corporate and international law firms, investment and chemical manufacturing industries, management consulting, and governmental policy positions.

Professor Crusto currently teaches first year Common Law Property and The Legal Profession courses as well as upper level business courses. Over fifteen years at Loyola, he has taught Common Law Property I and II, Business Organizations I and II, Agency and Partnership, Trust and Estates, Insurance, Environmental Management, and American Legal History. In addition to his Loyola teaching experiences, he has taught as a Visiting Professor at Washington University (St. Louis), University of Miami (Florida), and the Vermont Law School. He has received several awards for teaching and for student advising.

Professor Crusto's legal scholarship focuses on the inter-disciplinary intersections between law and society, especially business and the environment, the constitution and equality, insurance and fairness, and the law of sole proprietors and unconscious classism. He has recently published three important leading constitutional law articles. *Enslaved Constitution* analyzes the constitutional right to intra-state travel, published in the *University of Pittsburgh Law Review*. *Unconscious Classism* argues for the equal treatment of business entities under constitutional principles, published in the *University of Pennsylvania's Journal of Constitutional Law*. And *Obama's Moral Capitalism* proposes a constitutional right against economic exploitation, published in the *University of Miami Law Review*. He has recently commented on legal issues relative to the BP oil spill on both television and radio. Crusto's latest book, entitled *Involuntary Heroes: Hurricane Katrina's Impact on Civil Liberties*, is now available from Carolina Academic Press.

Professor Garda teaches contracts, commercial transactions, international commercial transactions, employment discrimination, legal methods, and scholarly writing. He is the author of numerous articles and reports on education law. His recent articles appear in the North Carolina Law Review, Florida Law Review and Journal of Law & Education. His legal scholarship covers a variety of topics including: the rights of disabled students, affirmative action, integration in K-12 education, special education spending and legal issues surrounding charter schools. His current projects concern: introducing outcome accountability into special education law, the impact of monied interests on education legislation and the changing purposes of education as recognized by the Supreme Court and embodied in recent legislation.

Professor Garda was the past national Chair of the Association of American Law Schools (AALS) Section on Education Law and currently serves on its Executive Committee. He also serves as a member of the Louisiana Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights and the Board of Directors for the Louisiana Mental Health Advocacy Services. He has worked on projects with the Louisiana Bar Foundation and Louisiana Appleseed. He also works with national and local public interest groups on education and disability issues and is a frequent commentator in the Louisiana media on education issues. He was awarded the 2010 Good Apple Award from the Appleseed Network and the 2009 Gillis Long Poverty Law Center Public Service Award for his public service. He was also voted the Favorite Professor of the Year in 2008-2009 and 2009-2010.

Professor Garda joined the Loyola Law School faculty in 2002. Prior to entering academia he graduated from Duke University Law School where he served as Articles Editor on the Duke Law Journal. After externing for Justice Zimmerman of the Utah Supreme Court, Professor Garda became a partner at the Salt Lake City firm of Fabian & Clendenin focusing primarily in the areas of education law, commercial litigation, and employment law.



PROFESSOR ROBERT GARDA

Moderator for Panel 2: Structural
Racism in the Education



PROFESSOR HECTOR LINARES

Moderator for Panel 3: Structural Racism in the Criminal Justice System

Professor Linares teaches the Youth Justice section of the Law Clinic and is the Coordinator of Skills & Experiential Learning. He received his B.A. in International Relations and Latin American Studies in 2000 from Tulane University and his J.D. in 2003 from New York University School of Law, where he was an editor on the Review of Law and Social Change. His academic interests include juvenile and criminal law. Professor Linares has published an article entitled An Open Door to the Criminal Courts: Analyzing the Evolution of Louisiana's System for Juvenile Waiver, 71 La. L. Rev. 191 (2010), and is an editor of The Louisiana Juvenile Defender Trial Practice Manual.

Before joining the faculty at Loyola, Professor Linares taught a juvenile defense clinic at another law school. Prior to entering academia, he was a juvenile public defender in New Orleans at Juvenile Regional Services (now Louisiana Center for Children's Rights).

He also practiced disability rights law as a supervising attorney at Protection & Advocacy, Inc. in Los Angeles, California. He began his career as the Southern Poverty Law Center Special Education Fellow at the Juvenile Justice Project of Louisiana, where his advocacy on behalf of disabled students was nationally recognized through the Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates (COPAA) Award for Distinguished Advocacy for the Educational Rights of Children with Disabilities. Professor Linares has served on the boards of several non-profit organizations, including the Louisiana Public Defender Board, the Louisiana Mental Health Advocacy Service, and the Innocence Project - New Orleans. He currently serves on the Louisiana State Law Institute's Children's Code Committee, the LSBA's Children's Law Committee, and the Southern Juvenile Defender Center Advisory Committee.

Professor LeCesne was employed by the New York law firms of LeBoeuf, Lamb, Leiby & MacRae (1980-1983), and Weil, Gotshal & Manges (1983-1987). He served as Deputy City Attorney for the City Attorney of New Orleans from 1987-1989 and was a partner with the law firm of Brook, Morial, Cassibry, Fraiche & Pizza from 1989-1991. He began his career at Loyola in 1991. Professor LeCesne teaches Louisiana Civil Procedure, Criminal Law, Torts, and Trial Advocacy.

Professor LeCesne has authored casebooks in the fields of Torts and Louisiana Civil Procedure and law review articles on a variety of topics including: capital punishment, search and seizure, environmental torts, negligence, and the regulation of managed care. His current projects involve liability determinations in the BP oil spill litigation, a proposed statutory model for gross negligence, class action developments in Louisiana, and special proceedings under the Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure.

Professor LeCesne is a frequent expert legal analyst on the BP oil spill and has been interviewed and quoted extensively by such diverse media sources as the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, National Law Journal, USA Today, Reuters, and the Associated Press. He has also appeared as a legal analyst on radio and television outlets such as PBS News Hour, the British Broadcasting Company, Al Jazeera Television, The Voice of Russia, WYES, and WWL-TV.

Professor LeCesne is President of the Board of Directors for the highly acclaimed Lusher Charter School and has served in that capacity since the school's inception in 2006. He was also a past member and Vice-Chairman of the New Orleans Civil Service Commission serving from 1997-2011, and a member of the Board of Directors of the Federal Bar Association (New Orleans Chapter) where he served from 1991-1994. Professor LeCesne is a past recipient of the Favorite Professor Award and Most Trusted Professor awards from the Student Bar Association, Distinguished Service Award by the Federal Bar Association, and the Monroe Lemman Award by the Louisiana Civil Service League



DEAN BLAINE LECESNE

Dean of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion



DEAN DAVIDA FINGER

Moderator for Panel 4: How Does Racism in the Law Impact New Orleans Communities?

Professor Finger's empirical research on housing justice presented the first comprehensive look at the eviction crisis in New Orleans. In 2020, the Clinical Legal Education Association (CLEA) named Professor Finger co-editor of the Best Practices blog, which grew out of CLEA's best practices committee and serves as an information hub on current reforms in legal education. Professor Finger has been on the planning team for the Southern Clinical Conference for the last decade.

Professor Finger served as the 2011-12 chair of the AALS Poverty Law section. Prior to joining the clinical faculty at Loyola, she practiced law in Seattle.

Davida Finger, Clinic Professor, teaches the Community Justice section of the Law Clinic. She and her clinic students represent on cases such as: landlord-tenant, post-disaster housing, housing discrimination, and on other civil rights matters. In addition to litigating cases, Professor Finger strives to provide support and collaboration on community advocacy for anti-poverty and justice initiatives. In 2020-21, Professor Finger will teach the Externship seminar and the Law and Poverty course. She currently serves as the Associate Dean of Students and Experiential Learning.

Professor Finger is the founding director of the College of Law's Incubator Program for solo practitioners working for social justice. She also founded the Education Project to represent low income families on special education matters.

Professor Finger was honored to serve as the Co-President, 2018-20, of the Society of American Law Teachers (SALT), a national organization that works to expand the power of law to under-served communities. She has served on the SALT Board of Governors since 2014 and has played a leadership role through SALT on issues related to diversity in legal education.

Professor Finger frequently presents on topics related to clinical education and is engaged with the national clinical community through scholarship and service. In 2016, she was awarded the Bellow Scholars fellowship by the Association of American Law Schools Section (AALS) on Clinical Legal Education's Committee on Lawyering in the Public for empirical research designed to improve the quality of justice in communities.

While in law school, Professor Finger was the founding Editor in Chief of the Seattle Journal for Social Justice and an Associate Editor on the Seattle University Law Review. At graduation, she received the Faculty Scholar Award for excellence in high academic achievement and substantial service to the law school community. In 2007, Seattle University Law School named her an inspiring alum.

Professor Finger's scholarship interests include poverty law, clinical education, community lawyering, access to justice, delivery of legal services, housing, and post-disaster government accountability.