

EPOCH SYMPOSIUM 2023

Going Forward: *The Role of Affirmative Action, Race, and Diversity in University Admissions and the Broader Construction of Society*

SEPTEMBER 8 - 9, 2023



SEATTLE UNIVERSITY
LAW REVIEW

“Epoch”, as defined by Merriam Webster Dictionary, is “an event or time marked by an event that begins a new period or development, an extended period of time usually characterized by a distinctive development or by a memorable series of events.” Essentially, epoch is a defining moment in time.

The Epoch Spotlight Symposium is the product of a partnership between Seattle University’s Law Review (SULR) and Seattle University’s Chapter of the Black Law Student Association (BLSA). Its intent is to mark a turning point in the elevation of Black legal scholarship—to embody BLSA’s mission to articulate and promote the professional needs and goals of Black law students; to foster professional competence; to instill in students a greater awareness of and commitment to the needs of our diverse communities; and to create an annual event and seminal publication that motivates the next generation of Black legal scholarship through the exploration of contemporary legal issues by students, scholars, and legal practitioners from around the United States.

This third annual symposium aligns with Epoch’s mission in that it seeks to bring both a broader and more nuanced discussion about the Supreme Court’s decision in *Students for Fair Admissions, Inc. v. President & Fellows of Harvard College*— necessary conversations about affirmative action’s history and impact, potential paths forward in the wake of the dismantling of the use of race as a factor in the college admission’s process, as well as what the decision could mean for educational access, particularly as it impacts students of color, as a whole.

EPOCH 2023 brings together a collective of exceptional legal minds to set the scene for what may be possible as Universities now must operationalize the imperative of racial and ethnic diversity, support for under-represented student communities, and the implications of the SCOTUS decision. The keynote speakers for this year’s Symposium are two of those exceptional legal minds:

- **Friday - Dean Angela Onwuachi-Willig**, Dean and Ryan Roth Gallo & Ernest J. Gallo Professor of Law at Boston University School of Law
- **Saturday - Dean Linda S. Greene**, Dean and MSU Foundation Professor of Law, Michigan State University College of Law (and SALT President at the time of the C.A.R.E. March)

SPEAKERS



Angela Onwuachi-Willig, JD, MA, MPhil, PhD

**Dean and Ryan Roth Gallo & Ernest J. Gallo Professor of Law
*Boston University School of Law***

Dean Onwuachi-Willig is a renowned legal scholar and expert in critical race theory, employment discrimination and family law.

Prior to joining Boston University School of Law as Dean in 2018, she was the Chancellor's Professor of Law at the University of California, Berkeley School of Law. Dean Onwuachi-Willig also taught at the University of Iowa College of Law, and the University of California, Davis, King Hall. Her articles have appeared in many leading law journals including Yale Law Journal, Northwestern University Law Review, California Law Review, Georgetown Law Journal, and UCLA Law Review.

Dean Onwuachi-Willig is the recipient of multiple awards and accolades.

Please refer to the link for more information about Dean Onwuachi-Willig's remarkable career and accomplishments:

<https://www.bu.edu/law/profile/angela-onwuachi-willig/>



Linda S. Greene, JD

**Dean and MSU Foundation Professor of Law
*Michigan State University College of Law***

Dean Greene's academic and teaching scholarship are focused on Constitutional Law, Civil Procedure, Civil Rights, Legislation, and Sports Law.

Prior to MSU, she was the Evjue Bascom Professor of Law at University of Wisconsin-Madison and served as the Associate Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs. Dean Greene was also the inaugural Vice Chancellor for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion at University of California San Diego.

Please refer to the link for more information about Dean Greene's outstanding career and accomplishments:

https://www.law.msu.edu/faculty_staff/profile.php?prof=1140

MODERATORS

- **Steven Bender, JD** - Associate Dean for Planning and Strategic Initiatives and Professor of Law, Seattle University School of Law
- **Deirdre Bowen, JD, PhD** - Moccasin Lake Foundation Endowed Chair and Professor of Law; Director, Family Law Center, Seattle University School of Law
- **Kristin DiBiase, JD** - Associate Dean of Student Life, Diversity & Inclusion, Seattle University School of Law
- **Vinay Harpalani, M.S.Ed., M.Be., JD, PhD** - Lee & Leon Karelitz Chair in Evidence & Procedure and Professor of Law, University of New Mexico
- **Eboni S. Nelson, JD** - Dean and Professor of Law, University of Connecticut School of Law
- **Ediberto Román, JD** - Professor of Law, Florida International University College of Law
- **Anthony E. Varona, JD, LL.M.** - Dean and Professor of Law, Seattle University School of Law

PANELISTS

- **Michèle Alexandre, JD** - Dean, Loyola University Chicago School of Law
- **Raquel Aldana, JD** - Martin Luther King Jr. Professor of Law, UC Davis School of Law
- **Michèle Alexandre, JD** - Dean, Loyola University Chicago School of Law
- **Mario Barnes, JD, LL.M.** - Professor of Law, UC Irvine Law
- **Sheldon Bernard Lyke, JD, PhD** - Associate Professor, Loyola University Chicago School of Law
- **Nicky Boothe Perry, JD** - Dean, University of Illinois Chicago Law
- **Marcilynn Burke, JD** - Dean and Dave Frohmyer Chair in Leadership and Law, University of Oregon
- **Sumi Cho, JD, PhD** - Director of Strategic Initiatives, African American Policy Forum
- **Jermaine Cruz, JD** - Assistant Dean for Diversity and Inclusion, Albany Law School
- **Meera E. Deo, JD, PhD** - The Honorable Vaino Spencer Chair and Professor of Law, Southwestern Law School
- **Olympia Duhart, JD** - Associate Dean for Faculty Development and Professor of Law; Director of Legal Writing, Nova Southeastern University Shepard Broad College of Law
- **Danieli Evans, JD, PhD candidate** - Assistant Professor of Law, Seattle University School of Law
- **Jonathan Feingold, JD** - Associate Professor, Boston University School of Law
- **Kim Forde-Mazrui, JD** - Mortimer M. Caplin Professor of Law; Director, Center for the Study of Race and Law, University of Virginia School of Law
- **Allyson Gold, JD** - Associate Dean for Experiential Learning and Clinical Professor of Law; Director of Medical-Legal Partnership, Wake Forest University Law
- **Marc-Tizoc González, JD, MA** - Professor of Law, University of New Mexico School of Law
- **Jeff Hoagland, JD** - Judicial Clerk, New Mexico Court of Appeals
- **Darren Hutchinson, JD** - Professor of Law and John Lewis Chair for Civil Rights and Social Justice; Director of Community and Inclusion; Chief Diversity Officer, Emory University School of Law

- **Craig L. Jackson, JD** - Professor of Law, Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law
- **Lucy Jewell, JD** - Professor of Law and Director of Legal Writing, University of Tennessee College of Law
- **Michael J. Kaufman, JD** - Dean and Professor of Law, Santa Clara University School of Law
- **Madeleine M. Landrieu, JD** -- Dean, Loyola University New Orleans
- **Tamara F. Lawson, JD, LL.M.** - Toni Rembe Dean and Professor of Law, University of Washington
- **Margaret Montoya, JD** - Senior Adviser to Executive Vice President for UNM Health Sciences Center, Professor Emerita, University of New Mexico School of Law
- **Rachel Moran, JD** - Professor, Texas A&M University School of Law
- **Akita Mungaray, JD** - Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging, and Assistant Dean of Students for the JD Program, University of Southern California Gould School of Law
- **Camille Nelson, JD, LL.M.** - Dean, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa William S. Richardson School of Law
- **Reginald Oh, JD, LL.M.** - Professor of Law, Cleveland-Marshall College of Law
- **Shakira D. Pleasant, JD** - Assistant Professor of Law; Director, Legal Writing Resource Center, University of Illinois Chicago Law
- **Steven A. Ramirez, JD** - Abner J. Mikva Professor of Law; Director, Center for Business Law, Loyola University Chicago School of Law
- **Darren Rosenblum, JD, MA** - Professor & Associate Dean (Graduate Studies), McGill University
- **Stella Emery Santana, PhD** - FAESA School of Law
- **Francisco Valdes, JD** - Professor of Law; Dean's Distinguished Scholar, ; 2017 Social Justice Faculty Lead-UMIA, University of Miami School of Law
- **Kimberly West-Faulcon, JD** - Professor of Law, James P. Bradley Chair in Constitutional Law, Loyola Los Angeles
- **Erika K. Wilson, JD** - Professor of Law, Wade Edwards Distinguished Scholar, and Director of the Critical Race Lawyering Civil Rights Clinic, University of North Carolina School of Law