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FALL 2006 SOCIAL JUSTICE WORKSHOP: RACE, ECONOMICS, AND EDUCATION

Lia Epperson will teach the Fall 2006 Social Justice Workshop: RACE, ECONOMICS, AND EDUCATION. This workshop examines how race and economic stratification affect educational opportunity. Education plays a crucial role in sustaining a democratic society. As such, it is critical that we understand and are able to critique the legal and public policy choices that shape our education system.

The workshop will begin with an examination of the evolution of the concepts of racial integration and equal educational opportunity in the 50 years since *Brown v. Board of Education*, and the impact of recent Supreme Court affirmative action jurisprudence on integration in public schools. The next part of the semester will scrutinize school finance litigation and the relationship between school resources and student achievement. The third part of the semester will explore contemporary issues affecting educational opportunity, including ability grouping, standardized testing and assessment, and the expanding role of law enforcement measures in schools. The workshop will conclude by critically evaluating various reforms, including the school choice movement and the federal government's expanding role in educational reform. In addition to examining legal authority and the work of legal scholars, students will examine the writings of historians, social scientists, and education policy experts. Visiting scholars and practitioners who work directly with these issues will address the class.

Lectures are open to members of the university community and the general public.

Receptions at 5 p.m. in Strong Common Room*

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| 9/14/06
(Thurs.) | Rachel Moran (Professor of Law, Boalt Hall): <i>The Heirs of Brown: A Case Study of Grutter v. Bollinger</i>
2:30 to 3:50 p.m. in Wiegand, Arts & Sciences
Professor Moran has published and lectured extensively in the areas of affirmative action, desegregation, and bilingual education. |
| 10/12/06
(Thurs.) | Edward Steinman (Professor of Law, Santa Clara University): <i>Bilingual Education</i>
2:30 to 3:50 p.m. in Wiegand, Arts & Sciences
Professor Steinman has argued numerous times before the U.S. Supreme Court and was successful in three of these cases, including a landmark decision providing special education rights for millions of non-English-speaking and limited-English-speaking children. |
| 10/24/06
(Tues.) | Susan Sandler (President, Justice Matters Institute): <i>Addressing Discriminatory Effects of High Stakes Testing in California Public Schools</i>
2:30-3:50 p.m., Room TBA
Susan Sandler conducts research, advocacy and policy work to increase access to educational opportunity for low-income communities and communities of color in California, with a particular focus on building coalitions between parents, youth, teachers, and advocates to win changes in discriminatory school district or state policies. |
| 11/2/06
(Thurs.) | Dennis Parker (Director of Racial Justice Program, National ACLU): <i>Discipline Policies and the "School-to-Prison Pipeline"</i>
2:30 to 3:50 p.m. in Wiegand, Arts & Sciences
Dennis Parker coordinates the efforts of the ACLU in combating discrimination and addressing other issues that have a disproportionate impact on communities of color. He has written extensively on a range of civil rights issues including educational equity, affirmative action, and testing. |
| 11/9/06
(Thurs.) | Charles Lawrence (Professor of Law, Georgetown University): <i>Politics of Reforming Urban Schools</i>
*2:30 to 3:50 p.m. in Bannan 110; Reception at 5 p.m. in the Adobe Lodge
Professor Lawrence is best known for his work in anti-discrimination law, equal protection, and critical race theory, and has served on the District of Columbia Board of Education. |
| 11/21/06
(Tues.) | James Forman (Associate Professor of Law, Georgetown University and Founder of Maya Angelou Charter School): <i>The Rise and Fall of School Vouchers: A Story of Race, Religion, and Politics</i>
2:30 to 3:50 p.m. in Bannan 110
Professor Forman co-founded the Maya Angelou Public Charter School in 1997, which is recognized as one of the most successful programs of its kind in the country, combining rigorous education, job training, counseling, mental health services, life skills, and dormitory living for school dropouts and youth who have previously been incarcerated. |

The Center for Social Justice and Public Service provides a locus for public interest and social justice study and service. The Center builds a community for students, faculty, lawyers, and others who share the commitment to giving voice in the legal system to marginalized, subordinated, or underrepresented clients and causes.