

THOMAS JEFFERSON
SCHOOL OF LAW
SAN DIEGO • CALIFORNIA



**WOMEN AND THE LAW
CONFERENCE**
and
**RUTH BADER GINSBURG
LECTURE SERIES**
2001–2024

WOMEN AND THE LAW CONFERENCE HISTORY

Inaugurated in 2001, the Women and the Law Conference was the first lecture series in the western United States focusing exclusively on issues related to gender and the law. The Women and the Law Conference is unique in its early interdisciplinary approach and its commitment to bridging the gap between the teaching academy and the practicing bar.

Created by Professors Julie Greenberg, Susan Tiefenbrun and Susan Bisom-Rapp, and fostered by a committed group of faculty, staff and students, the first conference earned rave reviews from its attendees, including practitioners and legal academics. Professor Deborah Rhode of Stanford Law School, a widely acknowledged expert on the status of women in the legal profession, and then-Chair of the American Bar Association's Commission on Women in the Legal Profession, delivered the first keynote address.

After her 2003 visit to Thomas Jefferson School of Law, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg generously created the Thomas Jefferson School of Law Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecture, which at the time was one of only two lecture series bearing her name. Justice Ginsburg returned to the 2013 Women and the Law Conference and discussed the role of women in the judiciary. Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturers Joan Williams, Martha Albertson Fineman, Kathryn Abrams, Vicki Schultz, Rochelle Dreyfuss, Barbara Palmer, Cheryl Hanna, Kimberlé Crenshaw, Stacy Leeds, Sarah Weddington, Susan Williams, Stacy Pedrozo, Leslie Abramson, Bryant Garth, Leticia Saucedo, Linda C. Babcock, Chai Feldblum, Angela Onwuachi-Willig, and Sherene H. Razack have delivered presentations on a wide range of topics that have a profound effect on women. The Honorable LaDoris Cordell is delivering the 2024 Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecture.

The Women and the Law Conference is unique in its early interdisciplinary approach and its commitment to bridging the gap between the teaching academy and the practicing bar.

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg



THE CONFERENCE EMBODIES FIVE GOALS:

- 1 Advancing the legal rights of women.
- 2 Promoting gender-related scholarly work.
- 3 Facilitating an interdisciplinary dialogue among academics.
- 4 Enhancing communication about gender issues among jurists, practitioners, legal academics and other specialists working on issues of sex and gender.
- 5 Sharing the expertise of Thomas Jefferson law faculty with the wider community.



2001: Women as Workers

Keynote Speaker: Professor Deborah L. Rhode

Ernest W. McFarland Professor of Law, Stanford Law School

Keynote Address: *“Women in the Law: The Unfinished Agenda”*

2002: Women and Family Law

Keynote Speaker: Justice Judith McConnell

Administrative Presiding Justice, California Fourth District Court of Appeal

Keynote Address: *“Women in the Law: Changing the Way Courts Do Business”*

2003: Women and the Maternal Wall

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer: Professor Joan Williams

Distinguished Professor of Law, U.C. Hastings College of the Law

Keynote Address: *“Beyond the Glass Ceiling: The Maternal Wall as a Barrier to Gender Equality”*

2004: What U.S. Lawyers Can Learn from International Law: Concepts of Gender Equality Across Legal Cultures

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer: Professor Martha Albertson Fineman

Robert W. Woodruff Professor of Law, Emory University School of Law

Keynote Address: *“Comparative Concepts of Equality Across Legal Cultures:
The Use of International and Human Rights Ideas, Norms, and Concepts in U.S. Jurisprudence”*

2005: The Global Impact of Feminist Legal Theory

(Co-sponsored by Emory University’s Feminism and Legal Theory Project)

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer: Professor Kathryn Abrams

Herma Hill Kay Distinguished Professor of Law, University of California, Berkeley School of Law

Keynote Address: *“Work in the Global Context”*

2006: Sexuality at Work

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer: Professor Vicki Schultz

Ford Foundation Professor of Law and Social Sciences, Yale Law School

Keynote Address: *“The Sanitized Workplace”*

2007: Virtual Women: Emerging Issues in Gender and Intellectual Property Law

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer: Professor Rochelle Dreyfuss

Pauline Newman Professor of Law, New York University School of Law

Keynote Address: *“Girls Just Want to Have Fun: What Can Feminist Theory Tell Us About Incentives?”*

2008: Women in Politics: The Role of Gender in Political Decision-Making

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer: Professor Barbara Palmer

Professor, Baldwin Wallace University

Keynote Address: *“Breaking the Political Glass Ceiling: Incumbency, Redistricting, and the Success of Women Candidates”*

2009: Confronting Domestic Violence Head On: The Role of Power in Domestic Relationships

(Co-sponsored by The Relationship Training Institute of San Diego)

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer: Professor Cheryl Hanna

Professor of Law, Vermont Law School

Keynote Address: *“Behind the Castle Walls: Balancing Privacy and Security in Domestic Abuse Cases”*

2010: Women of Color and Intersectionality

(Co-sponsored by UCLA School of Law’s Critical Race Studies Program)

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer: Professor Kimberlé Crenshaw

Distinguished Professor of Law, UCLA School of Law, and Professor of Law Columbia Law School

Keynote Address: *“Intersectionality and Women of Color”*

2011: Gender Justice and Indian Sovereignty: Native American Women and the Law

(Co-sponsored by the California Indian Association)

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer: Dean and Justice Stacy L. Leeds

Dean and Professor of Law, University of Arkansas School of Law

Chief Justice, Supreme Court for the Kickapoo Tribe

Chief Justice, Supreme Court for the Kaw Nation

Chief Judge, Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation District Court

Keynote Address: *“Resistance, Resilience, and Reconciliation: Reflections on Native American Women and the Law”*

2012: Reproductive Justice: Examining Choice and Autonomy in the New Millennium

(Co-sponsored by Planned Parenthood of the Pacific Southwest)

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer: Dr. Sarah Weddington

Professor, Attorney, Legislator, Presidential Advisor and Lead Counsel, *Roe v. Wade*

Keynote Address: *“Women Lawyers: The Importance of Leadership”*

2013: Her Honor: Women in the Judiciary

Honored Guest: U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer: Professor Susan Williams

Walter W. Foscett Professor of Law, Indiana University Maurer School of Law

Keynote Address: *“Women and Judging: A Feminist Approach to Judgment and the Issue of Customary Law”*

2014: Women and the Military

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer: Captain Stacy Pedrozo

Commanding Officer, Naval Justice School

Ginsburg Lecture: *“Sea Change: Women in the 21st Century U.S. Military”*

Keynote Speaker: Vice Admiral Nanette Derenzi

Judge Advocate General, United States Navy

2015: Women and the Criminal Justice System

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer: Leslie Abramson

Criminal Defense Attorney

Keynote Address: *“Using Female Strength to your Client’s Advantage”*

2016: Pursuing Excellence: Diversity in Higher Education

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer: Professor Bryant Garth

Chancellor’s Professor of Law, UC Irvine School of Law

Keynote Address: *“Diversity, Power, and Hierarchy in Legal Careers: An Empirical and Sociological Perspective”*

2017: Pursuing Inclusion: Diversity in The Workplace

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer: Professor Leticia Saucedo

Professor of Law, UC Davis School of Law

Keynote Address: *“Protecting the Dependent Worker in a Free Society”*

2018: Her Place at the Bargaining Table: Gender, Negotiation and “Risky” Decision-Making

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer: Professor Linda C. Babcock

James M. Walton Professor of Economics, Carnegie Mellon University

Keynote Address: *“Barriers to Women’s Advancement: Negotiation and Allocation of Time in the Workplace”*

2019: The Way Forward: Gender, LGBTQIA Rights, and Religious Liberties

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer: Commissioner Chai Feldblum

U.S. EEOC Commissioner

Keynote Address: *“Religious Liberty and LGBTQIA Rights: Finding the Balance”*

2021: Diversity, Pluralism, and Repair: Honoring Our Past and Charting Our Legacy

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer: Dean Angela Onwuachi-Willig

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

Keynote Address: *“Becoming Comfortable with Discomfort: Why the Legal Profession Must Grapple With the Ugly Truth of Our History”*

2023: Hate Crimes: Theory, Reality, Impact

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer: Distinguished Professor Sherene H. Razack

Penny Kanner Endowed Chair in Women’s Studies, UCLA

Keynote Address: *“Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women: Hate Crimes or Racial Terror?”*

2024: Perspectives on Judging

Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer: LaDoris Cordell, Judge

Retired Superior Court Judge and legal commentator

Keynote Address: *“Her Honor: My Life on the Bench...What Works, What’s Broken and How to Change It”*



Professor Deborah Rhode

The Thomas Jefferson School of Law's inaugural Women and the Law Conference in **2001**, Women as Workers, featured as keynote speaker Professor Deborah Rhode, the Ernest W. McFarland Professor of Law at Stanford Law School, former president of the Association of American Law Schools and former chair of the American Bar Association's Commission on Women in the

Legal Profession. Her keynote address, "Women in the Law: The Unfinished Agenda," focused on the status of women in the legal profession and the challenge for lawyers of leading balanced lives. She was followed by Thomas Jefferson School of Law Professors Susan Bisom-Rapp, Julie Greenberg, and Susan Tiefenbrun, who respectively touched on their research related to sexual harassment training, Title VII and gender non-conformity discrimination, and global trafficking of women sex workers.



Justice Judith McConnell

The Second Women and the Law Conference theme in **2002** was Women and Family Law. The Honorable Judith McConnell, Presiding Justice of the California Fourth District Court of Appeal, delivered the keynote address, titled "Women in the Law: Changing the Way Courts Do Business," which reviewed law reform movements aimed at eliminating gender bias in the

courts and in substantive law. Her lecture was followed by presentations from Thomas Jefferson Professors Marybeth Herald, Ellen Waldman, Laura Adams and Ruth Philips, who discussed the rights of spouses to terminate life support, assisted reproductive technology, war crimes and family violence, and refugee laws and domestic violence.



Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

In **2003**, U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg visited Thomas Jefferson School of Law and delivered the address titled, "Workways of the Supreme Court." After this visit, Justice Ginsburg generously created the Thomas Jefferson School of Law Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecture, which at the time was one of only two lecture series bearing her name.

At the Conference, Women and the Maternal Wall, Joan C. Williams, then Professor of Law at American University and presently Distinguished Professor of Law at University of California Hastings College of the Law, delivered the first Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecture in 2003. Her talk, "Beyond the Glass Ceiling: The Maternal Wall as a Barrier to Gender Equality," discussed the cutting-edge legal theories developing in the fight against family care responsibility discrimination and charted a course toward a new reconstructive feminism



Professor Joan C. Williams

supporting women both in their traditional caregiving roles and in their desire for access to the traditionally masculine preserves of high status wage labor. Professor Williams' keynote was followed by commentary from Professor William Bielby, discussing social science research on the maternal wall and its effect on litigation; Thomas Jefferson Professor Susan Bisom-

Rapp, analyzing employer reactions to maternal wall lawsuits; Jennifer Roback Morris, critiquing equality jurisprudence; and Thomas Jefferson Professor Julie Greenberg, presenting a unifying theory of gender nonconformity that could be used to assist working mothers and other gender nonconformists.



Professor Martha Fineman

The **2004** conference, What U.S. Lawyers Can Learn from International Law: Concepts of Gender Equality Across Legal Cultures, brought together distinguished professors from law, the social sciences, and the humanities. Martha Albertson Fineman, Robert W. Woodruff Professor of Law at Emory School of Law and Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer, discussed

how a more expansive, substantive notion of equality grounded in international human rights law can be used by progressive lawyers and policy makers to address systemic inequality in the United States and develop a robust vision of the role and responsibility of the state vis-à-vis its most vulnerable citizens. Her talk, “Comparative Concepts of Equality Across Legal Cultures,” was followed by Thomas Jefferson School of Law Professors Linda Keller and Marjorie Cohn, who addressed worldwide noncompliance with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and the failure of the United States to ratify the treaty; Professor Huma Ahmed-Ghosh, who focused on gender discrimination in Afghanistan; and Professor Abigail Saguy, who compared the sexual harassment laws in the United States to those in France.



Professor Kathryn Abrams

In **2005**, Thomas Jefferson School of Law joined with Emory University’s Feminism and Legal Theory Project to co-host a two-day conference, The Global Impact of Feminist Legal Theory, which focused on the effect of feminist legal theory beyond U.S. borders. Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer Kathryn Abrams, Herma Hill Kay Distinguished Professor of Law at

the University of California Berkeley School of Law, delivered a lecture titled “Work in the Global Context,” in which she exhorted feminist law professors to consider issues related to work as a way of understanding the effects of globalization on women around the world. The conference brought together legal and interdisciplinary scholars from around the globe, including Professors Mary Condon and Lisa Phillips from Canada, who spoke about experiments in gender responsive government budgeting in the United Kingdom, Australia and South Africa; Professor Karen Morrow, from the United Kingdom, who evaluated the role of eco-feminists in United Nations sustainable development programming; Siobhan Mullally, who discussed citizenship and family life in Ireland; and Professor Reg Graycar from Australia, who addressed the trajectory of feminist legal theory and understandings of equality. Additional participants included: Michele Alexandre, Penelope Andrews, Judith Baer, the late Pamela Bridgewater, Kristin Bumiller, Caroline Forell, Julie Goldscheid, Thomas Jefferson School of Law Professor Marybeth Herald, Berta Hernandez-Truyol, Tracy Higgins, the late Jane Larson, Teemu Ruskola, Ruthann Robson, and Richard Storrow.



2005 Conference Organizers and Speakers for The Global Impact of Feminist Legal Theory



Professor Vicki Schultz

In **2006**, the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer at the Women and the Law Conference on Sexuality at Work was Vicki Schultz, Ford Foundation Professor of Law and Social Sciences at Yale Law School. Her keynote talk on “The Sanitized Workplace” argued that managers use and transform sexual harassment law from a doctrine meant to advance

women’s equality into one designed to banish all workplace sexuality, including harmless banter and dating, even when such behavior has no effect on gender equality. Finding value in certain kinds of sexual expression in gendered segregated work environments, Professor Schultz supports legal reform that updates conceptions of gender equality and organizational rationality and incorporates, under appropriate circumstances, sexuality and intimacy. Commentators on the implications of Professor Schultz’s work for women, people of color, gays and lesbians, immigrant workers, and organized labor included Ruben Garcia, Zachary Kramer, Barbara Lawless, M. Isabel Medina, Rich Paul, and Christine Williams.



Professor Rochelle Dreyfuss

At the conference in **2007**, Virtual Women: Emerging Issues in Gender and Intellectual Property Law, Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer Rochelle Dreyfuss of the New York University School of Law spoke about gender effects of incentive structures of the creative fields in her talk “Girls Just Want to Have Fun: What Can Feminist Theory Tell Us About Incentives?” Four panels

of speakers, including Ann Bartow, Dr. Boatema Boateng, Dan L. Burk, Dr. Carys J. Craig, Mallery DeMerlier, Michele Goodwin, Thomas Jefferson School of Law Professor K.J. Greene, Christine Haight Farley, Eileen Kane, Mary LaFrance, Doris Estelle Long, Malla Pollack, Adrien Pruetz, and Rebecca Tushnet, discussed the theoretical underpinnings of gender and intellectual property, the culture of gender and intellectual property, and gender issues in patent law.



Professor Barbara Palmer

The **2008** conference centered on Women in Politics: The Role of Gender in Political Decision-Making. The Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecture, “Breaking the Political Glass Ceiling: Incumbency, Redistricting and the Success of Women Candidates,” was delivered by Professor Barbara Palmer of American University, now Professor at Baldwin Wallace University. She was joined by an

array of women from the political arena, including California State Senator Christine Kehoe, San Diego District Attorney Bonnie Dumanis, former advisor to President Carter Midge Costanza, San Diego City Councilwoman Donna Frye, and U.S. Attorney Karen Hewitt, as well as several academic speakers from a variety of disciplines. Topics included special challenges facing women politicians; the intersectional effects of race, class and gender in elections; the role of gender in campaign messages; gender voting patterns; partisan differences in the nomination of women to office; female congressional candidates; and the role of gender in voting patterns.



Professor Cheryl Hanna

The Ninth Conference in **2009**, co-sponsored by the Relationship Training Institute, addressed one of the toughest issues facing the legal system and society in general—the epidemic of domestic violence in the United States. The conference, *Confronting Domestic Violence Head On: The Role of Power in Domestic Relationships*, began with domestic

violence survivors from a variety of backgrounds sharing their stories. Police officers, prosecutors, defense counsel, domestic violence shelter operators and custody mediators discussed their frustrations with the legal theories and remedies currently available in domestic violence cases. Psychiatrists, relationship counselors and batterers’ intervention experts revealed the most recent evidence regarding the causes and effects of domestic violence. In addition, best-selling authors Susan Weitzman, Sandra Brown, Patricia Evans, and David Wexler shared their insights regarding domestic violence. Vermont Law School Professor and Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer, the late Cheryl Hanna addressed the central dilemma



2008 Speakers: Susan Taylor, Barbara Burrell, Donna Frye, Midge Costanza, and Lynn Schenk



2010 Conference Organizers and Speakers for Women of Color and Intersectionality

in the legal system's treatment of domestic violence in her talk, "Behind the Castle Walls: Balancing Privacy and Security in Domestic Abuse Cases." Finally, legal scholars, including Douglas Beloof, Emily Sack, and Thomas Jefferson School of Law Professors Claire Wright, Steve Berenson, and Ilene Durst, discussed their specific proposals for improving the legal remedies available in civil and criminal cases involving domestic violence. This conference has led to a number of on-going efforts at Thomas Jefferson School of Law to combat domestic violence, including the establishment of a clinic through which students and professors provide pro bono legal assistance to victims of domestic violence in collaboration with the San Diego Family Justice Center.



Professor Kimberlé Crenshaw

In **2010**, Thomas Jefferson School of Law broadened the scope of the conference by teaming with the UCLA School of Law's Critical Race Studies Program, led by Professor Kimberlé Crenshaw. Thomas Jefferson School of Law became a Principal Co-Sponsor of the Fourth Annual Critical Race Studies Symposium at UCLA in March 2010, a conference featuring leading feminist scholars, including Catharine MacKinnon, Mari Matsuda and Patricia Williams. Professor Kimberlé Crenshaw then delivered the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecture, "Intersectionality and Women of Color," at Thomas Jefferson in April 2010. She was joined by a distinguished panel of Critical Race scholars, including Professors Devon Carbado, Cheryl Harris, Russell Robinson, and Saul Sarabia.



2011 Conference Organizers and Speakers for Gender Justice and Indian Sovereignty: Native American Women and the Law



Professor and Justice
Stacy Leeds

In **2011**, the Tenth Anniversary Women and the Law Conference, which was co-sponsored by the California Indian Law Association, focused on Gender Justice and Indian Sovereignty: Native American Women and the Law. Stacy L. Leeds, then the Interim Associate Dean and Professor at the University of Kansas School of Law and presently the Dean

of the University of Arkansas School of Law, delivered the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecture, “Resistance, Resilience, and Reconciliation: Reflections on Native American Women and the Law.” Professor Leeds, a citizen of the Cherokee Nation, drew upon her experience as a judge on several tribal courts, including her service as Chief Justice of the Supreme Courts for the Kickapoo Tribe and the Kaw Nation, and her former service as a Justice of the Cherokee Nation Supreme Court. She was joined by a remarkable national assemblage of additional speakers, including American Indian women judges, practitioners, and academics from across the country.



Dr. Sarah Weddington

The **2012** conference, Reproductive Justice: Examining Choice and Autonomy in the New Millennium, was generously co-sponsored by Planned Parenthood of the Pacific Southwest. The conference focused on a broad spectrum of legal, social, scientific and policy issues. Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer Dr. Sarah Weddington, lead counsel for

the plaintiff in *Roe v. Wade*, fascinated the audience during her talk, “Women Lawyers: The Importance of Leadership,” when she described her personal experience as a very young attorney preparing and arguing the landmark Supreme Court case, as well as her subsequent contributions in politics and education. Three panels of speakers, including Thomas Jefferson School of Law Professor Brenda Simon, Professors Hank Greely, Martha M. Ertman, Rene Almeling, Priscilla Smith, Nancy Ehrenreich, Khiara M. Bridges, Courtney G. Joslin, and Lisa Ikemoto and policy expert Vince Hall, provided insight on a broad range of reproductive rights topics, including post *Roe v. Wade* developments in the laws regulating access to abortion, commodification, autonomy, intersectionality and marginalized populations.



2013 Conference Organizers and Speakers for Her Honor: Women in the Judiciary



Professor Susan Williams

For the **2013** conference, Thomas Jefferson School of Law presented prestigious jurists and distinguished academics discussing Her Honor: Women in the Judiciary. This conference celebrated female judges and examined the importance of women in the judiciary. Speakers discussed the important effect women judges have had on the judicial system and legal

regimes. They also examined the special accomplishments of and the challenges facing women in the judiciary. Honored guest U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg participated in a special Q&A panel with Thomas Jefferson Professors Ken Vandeveld and Rebecca Lee and then-Thomas Jefferson student Jennifer McCollough. This panel was moderated by Thomas Jefferson Professor Susan Tiefenbrun, and in this session Justice Ginsburg shared her perspectives as the second appointed female member of the nation's highest court. Susan Williams, the Walter W. Foskett Professor of Law and Director of the Center for Constitutional

Democracy at the Indiana University Maurer School of Law, delivered the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecture, "Women and Judging: A Feminist Approach to Judgment and the Issue of Customary Law." Professor Williams has authored numerous books and articles on feminist theory and constitutional law. Other jurists and academics sharing their global and domestic insights included Former French Supreme Court Justice Noëlle Lenoir; Justice Carlos Augusto Ayres de Freitas Britto, former Chief Justice of the Supreme Federal Court of Brazil (retired); Justice Laurie Zelon of the California Court of Appeal; Carla Pratt of Pennsylvania State Dickinson School of Law and Associate Justice of the Standing Rock Sioux Supreme Court; Leslie Kuan-Hsi Wang of Zhejiang University Guanghua Law School; Nienke Grossman of University of Baltimore School of Law; Sally Kenney of Tulane University; and Lillian Lim, San Diego Superior Court Judge (retired) and Thomas Jefferson alumna.



Vice Admiral Nanette M.
"Nan" DeRenzi
Keynote Speaker



Captain Stacy A. Pedrozo
Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer

The **2014** Women and the Law Conference, Women and the Military, gathered together a slate of luminaries in military leadership to explore the unique forces shaping women’s access to power in the U.S. military. The Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecturer, Captain Stacy Pedrozo, Commanding Officer, Naval School of Justice, delivered a talk entitled “Sea Change: Women in the 21st Century U.S. Military.” Her lecture detailed her journey as a military lawyer. She was followed by a panel of experts who discussed the political and legislative dimensions of recent highly-publicized statistics on sexual assault in the military, including whether changes to the Uniform Code of Military Justice are likely to be effective in combating these crimes. A panel of active-duty and former active-duty service members discussed standards for integrating women into the military along with lessons learned when the military has previously integrated underrepresented service members into various communities. Vice Admiral Nanette Derenzi, former Judge Advocate General of the Navy and former Commander of the Naval Legal Service Command, delivered a moving keynote address that explored the expanding roles of female leaders in the military.



Attorney Leslie Abramson

In **2015**, the conference explored Women and the Criminal Justice System. Noted criminal defense attorney and author Leslie Abramson, who handled the Menendez Brothers trial and the Phil Spector case, delivered the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecture, “Using Female Strength to Your Client’s Advantage.” Conference speakers included judges, prosecuting attorneys, defense attorneys, civil rights attorneys, academics, and former inmates, who examined gender disparities in prison and throughout the criminal justice system.



2001–2024 A CHRONICLE OF THE WOMEN AND THE LAW CONFERENCE



2017 Conference Organizers and Speakers for Pursuing Inclusion: Diversity in the Workplace



Professor Bryant Garth

The **2016** conference, Pursuing Excellence: Diversity in Higher Education, provided a multidisciplinary perspective on critical issues related to diversity in higher education. Bryant Garth, Chancellor's Professor of Law, UC Irvine School of Law and former Director of the American Bar Foundation, delivered the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecture, "Diversity, Power, and Hierarchy in Legal Careers: An Empirical and Sociological Perspective." Other conference speakers, including members of the California State Assembly, the judiciary, leaders of higher education institutions, and professors from diverse disciplines examined how diversity in higher education both affects and is inspired by students, faculty members, and leaders and discussed how enhancing diversity in our educational institutions benefits society in a multitude of ways.

The **2017** conference, Pursuing Inclusion: Diversity in the Workplace, brought together leading experts and practitioners to examine the challenges to and strategies for achieving workplace diversity and inclusion. At a time of polarized public discourse on matters involving race, ethnicity, national origin, gender, religion, sexual orientation and identity, disability, age, and socio-economic status, this event highlighted a number of critically important topics, including: developing cultural competency; the strengths and weaknesses in employment and civil rights law; identifying and overcoming unconscious bias; how strategic efforts can inform public policy; and how other countries confront diversity at a time



Professor Leticia Saucedo

when work is changing rapidly. Professor Leticia Saucedo, an expert in employment, labor, and immigration law and Professor of Law at UC Davis School of Law, delivered the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecture.

Speakers included: Mario L. Barnes, Associate Dean and Professor, UC Irvine School of Law; Zahra Billoo, Executive Director, CAIR San Francisco Chapter; Susan Bisom-Rapp, Associate Dean and Professor, Thomas Jefferson School of Law; San Diego City Attorney Mara W. Elliott; Julie Greenberg, Professor Emerita, Thomas Jefferson School of Law; Anne M. Koenig, Associate Professor of Psychology, University of San Diego; Rebecca K. Lee, Associate Professor, Thomas Jefferson School of Law; Orly Lobel, Professor, University of San Diego School of Law; Doreen J. Mattingly, Associate Professor and chair of Women's Studies, San Diego State University; Miranda McGowan, Professor, University of San Diego School of Law; Patti C. Perez, Shareholder, Ogletree Deakins; Camille Gear Rich, Professor, University of Southern California School of Law; Malcolm Sargeant, Professor, Middlesex University Business School (UK); Susan Tiefenbrun, Professor, Thomas Jefferson School of Law; and Kaimi Wenger, Associate Professor, Thomas Jefferson School of Law.



2018 Conference Organizers and Speakers for Her Place at the Bargaining Table: Gender, Negotiation and “Risky” Decision-Making



Professor Linda C. Babcock

The conference in **2018** focused on the theme Her Place at the Bargaining Table: Gender, Negotiation and “Risky” Decision-Making. This event convened leading experts and practitioners to focus on issues related to gender and the law to address the issue of women at the bargaining table: how does gender affect the way we

approach and manage negotiations in a variety of settings? Explorations into the enduring wage gap between men and women prompted us to examine this important topic. Despite advances, women on average continue to earn roughly eighty cents for each male dollar earned. Negotiation experts maintain that women’s antipathy to negotiation and risk-taking provides a partial explanation. 2018’s conference explored women and decision-making, with particular attention paid to the art and science of bargaining for advantage. Professor Linda C. Babcock, the James M. Walton Professor of Economics at Carnegie Mellon University, delivered the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecture.



Commissioner Chai Feldblum

The **2019** conference, The Way Forward: Gender, LGBTQIA Rights, and Religious Liberties, brought together leading experts and practitioners to discuss critical federal and state legislative, executive, and judicial developments affecting women, the LGBTQIA community, and people concerned about religious liberties. At a time when public

discourse about these issues seems irreconcilably polarized, this event focused on the means to resolve these opposing views. EEOC Commissioner Chai Feldblum delivered the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecture. Other speakers and experts on LGBTQIA rights and religious liberties, included Alan Brownstein, Emeritus Professor of Law at UC Davis School of Law; Julie Greenberg, Emeritus Professor of Law at Thomas Jefferson School of Law; Pamela Halliwell, therapist at the San Diego LGBT Community Center; Shannon Minter, Legal Director at the National Center for Lesbian Rights; Jocelyn Samuels, Executive Director at the Williams Center UCLA School of Law; Maimon Schwarzschild, Law Professor at the University of San Diego School of Law; and Mattheus Stephens, Founding Partner of the Progressive Law Group.



2019 Conference Organizers and Speakers for The Way Forward: Gender, LGBTQIA Rights, and Religious Liberties



Dean Angela Onwuachi-Willig

The **2021** conference, Diversity, Pluralism, and Repair: Honoring Our Past and Charting Our Legacy, brought together experts and practitioners to discuss critical legal and political developments affecting women, people of color, and the body politic as we pursue diversity in a pluralistic society. Although public discourse about diversity

and inclusion is politically contentious, this event focused on the means to acknowledge our past, chart a course forward, and repair civil society in a fractious period in our history. Angela Onwuachi-Willig, who is Dean and the Ryan Roth Gallo and Ernest J. Gallo Professor of Law at Boston University School of Law, delivered the Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecture. Other speakers included: Luz E. Herrera, Associate Dean and Professor, Texas A&M University School of Law; Elizabeth Kronk Warner, Dean and Professor, University of Utah College of Law; Jennifer L. Levi, Professor, Western New England School of Law; Donna E. Young, Dean, Ryerson University Faculty of Law (Toronto, Canada); Susan Tiefenbrun, Professor Emeritus, Thomas Jefferson School of Law; Yahairah Aristy, President, Lawyers Club of San Diego; and Renee N. G. Stackhouse, President, San Diego County Bar Association.



Professor Sherene H. Razack

The **2023** conference, Hate Crimes: Theory, Reality, Impact, explored hate crimes through many lenses. It interrogated the efficacy of the hate crimes framework in Distinguished Professor Sherene H. Razack's keynote address, "Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women: Hate Crimes or Racial Terror?"

The conference featured experienced practitioners discussing the legal nuances of hate crimes and obstacles to prosecution. Finally, distinguished panelists offered a variety of perspectives on the impact of hate crimes on various communities. Panelists include Dorothy Alther, California Indian Legal Services; Matthew Brown, Anti-Defamation League; Estela De Los Rios, CSA San Diego County; Abigail Dillon, San Diego District Attorney's Office; Kim Fountain, The San Diego LGBT Community Center; Brother Yusef Miller, North County Equity and Justice Coalition; Ashanti Smith, Office of the Primary Public Defender of San Diego; and Alicia Williams, Assistant U.S. Attorney, Southern District of California.



LaDoris Cordell

The **2024** conference, Perspectives on Judging, brings together distinguished jurists to discuss judicial decision-making, with a particular focus on the effects of enhancing the diversity of the judiciary. The Honorable LaDoris Cordell will deliver the RBG lecture, “Her Honor: My Life on the Bench...What Works, What’s Broken, and How to Change It.” Distinguished judges

who have been on the front-line confronting bias, including judges who have been the first female of their race or their ethnicity to be appointed to the bench will offer their unique perspectives on judging, discussing their road to the bench, how their background impacts their approach to judging, and judging on nontraditional courts. Esteemed jurists include: Judge Nadia Keilani, Judge Lilys McCoy, Judge Jinsook Ohta, Judge Paula Rosenstein, Judge Renee N.G. Stackhouse, and Judge Rohanee Zapanta. In addition, Kimberly Papillon, an expert on decision-making, will discuss the implications of neuroscience, psychology, and implicit association on judicial decision-making.

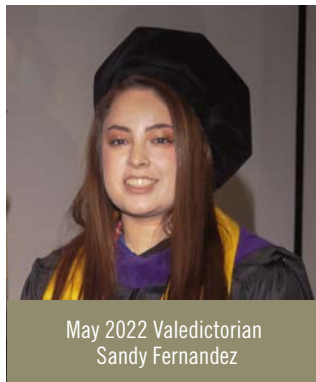
WOMEN AT THOMAS JEFFERSON SCHOOL OF LAW

The Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecture and the Women and the Law Conference are only two aspects of the important role of women at Thomas Jefferson School of Law. Faculty, administration, staff, and students work together to create a unique learning atmosphere in which women are given the opportunity to excel.

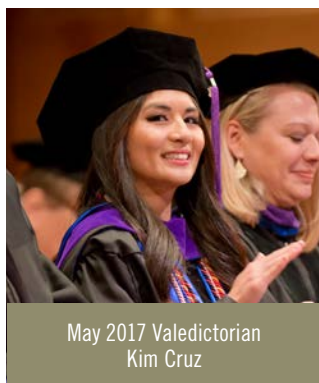
Empirical research demonstrates that female students at many other law schools may not perform as well as male students who entered law school with comparable academic credentials. The same is not true of women who choose to attend Thomas Jefferson. In recent years, approximately half of our student population has been female, comprised mostly of women of color. Thirteen of the last sixteen valedictorians were women.



December 2016 Valedictorian
Kathlynn Cadiente



May 2022 Valedictorian
Sandy Fernandez



May 2017 Valedictorian
Kim Cruz

Female law students also are chosen for positions of honor by their peers. Women currently lead over half of the student organizations. Women have always had a significant presence on the managing board of the Thomas Jefferson Law Review. In fact, the Managing Editors of the 2016-2017 Law Review were

all African-American women. Many of the recent Editors-in-Chief have been women. Female graduates excel in leadership roles, including two recently serving as President of the San Diego County Bar Association, and a third currently serving as President-Elect.



Briana Givens, Liku Madoshi, Monique Larmond
2016-2017 Managing Board of the Thomas Jefferson Law Review

Women also play a significant role in the administration of the law school. The President/Dean, the Vice President/General Counsel, and the Vice President/CFO are all women. Finally, scholarship of faculty and faculty emeritus includes articles and books on women and human rights law; gay, lesbian, transgender and other sexual identity issues; women migrants; sexual privacy issues; women's treatment by the medical profession; assisted reproductive technologies; sex slavery and trafficking; the intersection of gender, race and intellectual property; and women's rights and cultural groups.



December 2023 Valedictorian Cynthia Barbosa
with then-Dean Linda Keller

ORGANIZERS AND SUPPORTERS OF THE WOMEN AND THE LAW CONFERENCE



Susan Bisom-Rapp
2001, 2003, 2005,
2006, 2017, 2018,
2019, 2021



Julie Greenberg
2001, 2004,
2006, 2008,
2016, 2019, 2024



Susan Tiefenbrun
2001, 2002



Marybeth Herald
2004



Linda Keller
2005, 2023, 2024



William Slomanson



Sandra Rierson
2007, 2008, 2023



Julie Cromer-Young
2007, 2013



Claire Wright
2009



Kaimipono Wenger
2010



Bryan Wildenthal
2011



Joy Delman
2012



Maureen Markey
2012



Thom Golden
2012



Meera Deo
2013, 2016



Amy Day
2014



Marjorie Cohn
2015



Rebecca K. Lee
2017



Ellen Waldman
2018



Taylor Israel
2019