

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW

LINDA SHERYL GREENE DEAN AND MSU FOUNDATION PROFESSOR OF LAW

> MSU COLLEGE OF LAW 648 NORTH SHAW LANE EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN 48824

TUESDAY, AUGUST 15 - FRIDAY, AUGUST 18, 2023



#### \* Subject to Change

# Tuesday, August 15, 2023

9:00 AM Registration

**Business College Complex, N130** 

Introduce yourself, enjoy coffee, and breakfast snacks.

9:30 AM Dean's Welcome

**Business College Complex, N130** 

#### **Kimberly Wilkes, Director of Admissions**

Director Wilkes oversees and implements all aspects of admissions from recruitment to application processing. Working in support of the Assistant Dean of Admissions, Director Wilkes aims to foster an MSU Law community built on collaboration and inclusivity. Director Wilkes is a first-generation college student earning two bachelors, in Marketing and Advertising magna cum laude and her M.A. in Strategic Communications, all from MSU. She serves as the MSU College of Social Science liaison for the Pre-Law Mentorship program and serves on the MSU Law Diversity Task Force and has been a member of the MSU Law family since 2012.



Director Wilkes partners with pre-law advisors, pre-law groups and provides advising to all individuals looking to lead, transform, and serve in the area of law and works to ensure all interested individuals have the information they need regarding the MSU Law community.

### Linda Sheryl Greene, Dean and MSU Foundation Professor of Law

Linda Sheryl Greene is Dean and MSU Foundation Professor of Law at Michigan State University College of Law and an elected life member of The American Law Institute. She previously served as Associate Vice Chancellor and Evjue Bascom Professor of Law at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the Inaugural Vice Chancellor for Equity/ Diversity/ Inclusion at the University of California San Diego.

A graduate of Berkeley Law, she was a civil rights and constitutional law attorney at the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, a Los

Angeles Deputy City Attorney who specialized in civil rights and Constitutional law, and a Counsel to the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee. She was the Chair of the 1990 Wisconsin Conference on Critical Race Theory, President of the Society of American Law Teachers, the founder of the

People of Color Legal Scholarship Conference movement, and Vice Chair of the Counsel on Legal Educational Opportunity. She co-founded the Black Women in Sports Foundation, served the U.S. Olympic Committee as Chair of its Legislation Committee and Vice Chair of its Audit Committee, and was a member of the UW Madison Athletic Board.

She has lectured and advised on constitutional and civil rights issues around the world. This past March, she visited Chilean law schools under Fulbright auspices to lecture and advise on the proposed Chilean constitution. Her forthcoming book is Thurgood Marshall, Dissenting: Towards an Inclusive Constitutional Democracy (2023).

10:00 AM

**Break** 

Law College, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Atrium

10:15 AM

Foundations of Law I (Class 1)

Law College, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor

**Foundations of Law Course:** As you begin your law school journey, success might feel out of reach. The Foundations of Law Course will demystify the law school experience by clarifying exactly what you need to know. It will introduce you to the study of law, with preliminary exposure to legal reasoning and coverage of the structure of government, law, and the legal system. The course will explain fundamental legal concepts and train you on how to prepare for your 1L courses and beyond. The course aims to ensure that excellent law students from a variety of academic backgrounds have a strong footing, common vernacular, and the resources needed to attain academic and professional success.







Section 1 Simard Room 471

Section 2 Sant'Ambrogio Room 472

Section 3 Singel Room 473



**Justin Simard** is an assistant professor at MSU College of Law, where he teaches Professional Responsibility, Legal History, and Commercial Law. Prior to joining the faculty at MSU Law, he taught at Willamette University College of Law in Salem, Oregon.

Professor Simard received his bachelor's degree in History from Rice University, and he completed his Juris Doctor and Ph.D. programs at the University of Pennsylvania. With his background, he aims to bring a new perspective to legal education as a historian, presenting the big picture view of concepts taught in his courses.

He has a natural enthusiasm for teaching, motivated in part by his own experiences as a student and knowing the impact of a passionate professor firsthand. He believes in helping students to find where they fit in law and is inspired by the moments when they truly understand and appreciate challenging concepts and legal skills.

Professor Simard's research studies the modern citation of slavery by American judges and lawyers today and recognizes the profession's history of legitimizing slavery through commercial practice. He has written and presented extensively on the topic, and <u>his research can be found</u> on his website.

11:45 AM Lunch Law College, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor

### Coach Robyn Fralick

Robyn Fralick was announced as Michigan State's new women's basketball head coach on March 31, 2023, bringing with her a proven track record of success and program building. Fralick is the sixth coach in Spartan women's basketball history.

Coach Fralick comes to MSU after directing the Bowling Green program the last five seasons, guiding the Falcons to an 88-73 record (including 69-31 over the last three seasons) and three postseason appearances. This season, Fralick led BGSU to a 31-7 record, matching the school and Mid-American Conference records for most



wins in a single season. The Falcons made a historic run in 2022-23, advancing to the WNIT Fab 4, before falling in the semifinals.

Fralick, who owns a career record of 192-76, was named MAC Coach of the Year in 2021 after leading the Falcons to one of the nation's top turnarounds. BGSU went from 10-21 in 2020 to 21-8 the next season. She led her squad to a MAC regular-season championship in year three of her tenure after inheriting a program that had four straight losing seasons prior to her arrival. The Falcons also earned a berth in the 2021 WNIT.

In late 2018, Fralick was named the recipient of the C. Vivian Stringer Coaching Award. The award is presented to an individual who has experienced outstanding achievement as a coach for female teams. The award's website indicates that the winner exhibits "a high standard of propriety, imagination, and innovation as a character-builder in the tradition of great teacher-coaches."

In three seasons (2015-16 to 2017-18), she accumulated an overall record of 104-3 (.972), which was the highest winning percentage in NCAA history at any level (minimum of one hundred games

coached). Overall, she spent ten seasons at Ashland as both an assistant and head coach with the Eagles earning a 267-59 record during that time.

She is a 2004 graduate of Davidson, having earned her undergraduate degree in psychology with a minor in religion. At the end of her four-year playing career, she left Davidson among the career leaders in assists (4<sup>th</sup>), steals (8<sup>th</sup>) and free-throw percentage (12<sup>th</sup>). Fralick earned her master's degree in counselor education from Western Michigan in 2007.

A native of Okemos, Michigan, the former Robyn Flewelling had a storied career at Okemos High School. She garnered second-team all-state honors and was named to the All-Michigan Fifth Team as a senior. In addition to her basketball honors, she was named all-league in soccer as well as honorable mention all-league in softball. She was named to the Okemos High School Hall of Fame in 2017.

Fralick and husband, Tim, have two children, Will and Clara.



#### **Sparty**

Michigan State University's mascot, Sparty, is the heart of the university: forever supporting its teams, bringing smiles to young and old and continually uplifting all who meet him.

Sparty is both fearless and lovable, recognized throughout the state of Michigan and across the nation. He is big and strong, garnering the honor of being voted "Buffest Mascot" by Muscle and Fitness Magazine. Sparty has also been crowned the national champion mascot three times by the Universal Cheer Association and participates in events across the country — including the NCAA Hall of Champions:

Mascot Mania and the Capital One Mascot Challenge.

Despite his size, strength, and storied history, Sparty is always available to greet MSU fans with a hug or friendly high-five.

12:45 PM

## Foundations of Law (Class 2)



Section 1 Simard Room 471



Section 2 Sant'Ambrogio Room 472

Law College, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor



Section 3 Singel Room 473

Michael Sant'Ambrogio teaches and writes in Administrative and Regulatory Law, Civil Procedure, Federal Courts, Constitutional Law. His research explores decision-making by federal agencies in an era of burgeoning responsibilities, declining budgets, and enhanced presidential control. His scholarship has been published or is forthcoming in Boston University Law Review, Columbia Law Review, The Georgetown Law Journal, The George Washington Law Review, Vanderbilt Law Review, Washington University Law Review, William & Mary Law Review, and Yale Law Journal. His article, The Agency Class Action, was selected for the Harvard-Stanford-Yale Junior Faculty Forum. Sant'Ambrogio has served as a consultant to the Administrative Conference of the United States on projects studying public engagement with federal agency rulemaking and the use of class actions and other aggregate procedures in agency adjudication. In



2016, the Administrative Conference <u>adopted</u> his recommendations based on the findings described in his *Yale Law Journal* article, <u>Inside the Agency Class Action</u>. In 2018, the Administrative Conference <u>adopted</u> his recommendations on enhancing public engagement with federal agency agenda setting and rule development.

Professor Sant'Ambrogio is a 2001 graduate of New York University School of Law, where he was a Root-Tilden-Kern Scholar. He received his B.A. in History from Columbia University and an M.A. in American History from New York University. Before coming to MSU, he practiced law in New York City and taught at New York University School of Law.

### 2:15 PM Acclimating to Law School Business C

**Business College Complex, N130** 

Become familiar with the student support offices that provide individual and group services where you can get help to answer any question, solve any issue.

### Abijah Taylor, Assistant Dean for Student and Academic Affairs

Abijah Taylor is Assistant Dean for Student and Academic Affairs managing the College of Law offices of Student Affairs and the Registrar. There he establishes short and long-range department goals, objectives, policies, and operating procedures; provides leadership and strategic direction for a broad range of services and programs to enrich the experiences of a diverse student body; and integrates data-driven decision making into the work of the offices; and harnesses technology to lead continual process improvement.



Taylor advises students on academic matters: course scheduling, academic concerns, schedule variances, visit-out requests, leaves of absences, graduation requirements, exams, transfer credit evaluations, and ADA accommodations and personal and professional matters: wellness concerns, disciplinary issues, character and fitness concerns, college and ABA policies and procedures, course selection, and referrals to outside resources. He serves as a liaison between the student body, student organizations, faculty, and administration. Taylor serves as an ex-officio member of the Faculty Academic Standards and Curriculum Committees and reviews scholarship

eligibility, academic probation, and dismissals; collects and analyze data relating to student academic success, attrition, and bar passage; and assists in evaluating program effectiveness. Taylor has a Bachelor of Social Sciences degree and Juris Doctor Degree from Michigan State University.



#### Rosa Jarquin, Assistant Director for Student Affairs

An MSU College of Law graduate, Rosa knows first-hand what life is like as a law school student. Her unique qualifications as that of a lawyer and an alumna make her an asset for all new and returning law students and perfect in the role of Assistant Director for Student Affairs.

Rosa is student-focused and heavily relied upon to help maneuver through the law school experience and assist when school and personal challenges arise. Along with supporting the student body at the Law College, Rosa employs her legal prowess in helping people with immigration issues in her solo law practice. She is a

member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association.

Bilingual, Rosa earned her Master of Laws in the American Legal System from MSU and is certified as a Civil Mediator in Michigan. She also holds a Bachelor of Law from Universidad Centro Americana in Managua, Nicaragua, and certified on the reforms to Nicaraguan Family Law. Complementing her impressive legal experience is her extensive training from the U.S. Department of State Foreign Service Institute. Prior to joining MSU Law, Rosa worked in the U.S. Embassy in Managua, Nicaragua, as the Consular Section's Senior Local Employee and legal expert on local laws and regulations.

# Shayna Rakieten, Office Assistant Student and Academic Affairs Office

A recent MSU graduate with a bachelor's degree in zoology, Shayna's experience in the MSU's Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory and working with distressed animal owners comes in handy in her current position. Her kind and empathetic demeanor welcomes students who enter the Office of Student Affairs seeking assistance. Recently a part-time student and having worked full-time on the MSU campus since 2017, Shayna knows the college environment and the experiences students encounter in their undergraduate and graduate years. Shayna is the "go



to" for ensuring students' needs are met and always ready to extend a helping hand when students reach out for support.



#### Goldie Pritchard, Assistant Dean of the Academic Success Program

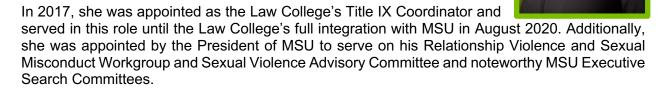
Goldie Pritchard currently serves as Assistant Dean of the Academic Success Program and Adjunct Professor at Michigan State University College of Law. Pritchard is the founder of the current Academic Success Program which is now an integral part of the law college. Since 2009, she has supported law students as they navigate their academic careers and prepare for the bar exam by developing and implementing several programs, courses, and one-on-one interactions. She embraces the challenge of deciphering how to best support individual students as they prepare to become academically successful and succeed on the bar exam.

Pritchard is most proud of her work with non-traditional, diverse, and academically at-risk students and cherishes those students she helped become lawyers who now serve clients in their respective communities. She assists and empowers students, particularly those who may or do feel disenfranchised by the law school experience, to adjust and succeed. Pritchard draws from her extensive experience in student affairs and academic support in multiple higher education settings to intersect her passion and professional duties. Pritchard also serves on academic support organization committees and volunteers her time to help students from across the country who were unsuccessful in passing the bar exam.

Pritchard received a bachelor's degree in Political Science and History with a minor in French from the University of California Davis. She also holds a law degree from Seattle University School of Law and a master's degree in Higher Education with an emphasis on College Student Affairs Leadership from Grand Valley State University.

# Mary Ann Ferguson, Assistant Dean of the Diversity and Equity Services Office

Mary Ann Ferguson, Esq. is the founder of Michigan State University College of Law's Diversity and Equity Services Office. Since its inception in 2006, she has served as the inaugural director and later was appointed as the first Assistant Dean of this office. She was the first member of the Law College's staff who identified as a Black and African American Woman to hold a decanal title.



Within her multi-faceted roles, she seeks to ensure that MSU Law's prospective and current community realizes the Law College's multicultural, equity, diversity, inclusion, and access mission. Further, she serves as MSU Law's liaison to the broader MSU campus, academy, and legal profession on the importance of increasing and sustaining diversity.

Originating from her pre-secondary education muse, Ferguson is a tireless advocate for 21st Century diversity, legal education and practice access, anti-discrimination laws, multiculturalism

equity and eradicating relationship violence & sexual misconduct within diverse communities. With the unwavering goal of giving life to silenced voices, she is internationally known for her mantra "accepting identity, appreciating voice and achieving justice for all."

She has over 30 years of public speaking, leadership, and community service on a diversified array of foci areas. In over fifty percent of her past and current leadership positions, she holds the title of inaugural member, founder or first Black/African American Woman. Currently, she is the facilitator of a national organization. Further, Ferguson is the executive board or committee member of at least six local, state, national and international professional and community organizations. Her student and professional awards span several decades.

Ferguson holds a bachelor's degree, with honors, from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and a Juris Doctor degree from Michigan State University College of Law. She is a licensed attorney.

#### Jane Meland, Schaefer Law Library Director

Jane Meland is the director at the Michigan State University College of Law Schaefer Law Library. She has been with the Schaefer Law Library for approximately 21 years. In addition to her library duties, she teaches advanced legal research (in class and online) and provides research instruction for the first-year JD research, writing, and advocacy classes. Ms. Meland earned her JD from the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, a Master's in Library Science from Wayne State University, and an undergraduate degree in accounting from Western Michigan University.



#### Alana Glass, Assistant Dean of Career Development

Alana Glass serves as the Assistant Dean of Career Development where she develops campus-wide programs, manages year-round recruitment efforts, executes inclusive placement programs, and leads the annual graduate employment data collection process. Glass has years of law school career service experience, deep connections to the Michigan legal, business, philanthropic communities, and a shared commitment to diversifying the profession.

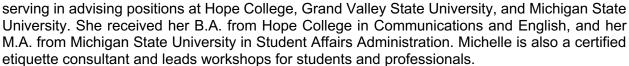
Before joining the law school Glass served as Director of Project Play, a youth sports collective impact initiative of the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan, where all children have equitable access to physical activity regardless of income, zip code, or ability. Prior to her work with Project Play, Glass served as a patent analyst for Cardinal Intellectual Property, owned and operated her own practice, and served as a contributing writer for Forbes.com SportsMoney & Women@Forbes.

Glass holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Minnesota where she was part of the Women's Basketball team and a Juris Doctor degree and LL.M. degree in Corporate Law and Finance and an LL.M. degree in Intellectual Property from Western Michigan University Cooley Law School. She studied International Law abroad at Monash University and the University of Canterbury.

# Michelle Mitchell, Assistant Director of Employer and Alumni Relations

Michelle Mitchell serves as the Assistant Director for Employer and Alumni Relations. She conducts outreach to create greater connections and opportunities for the law college and its students, manages employer relations and recruiting events on campus and virtually, and provides support to alumni seeking career assistance.

Michelle previously served as Associate Director with the office from 2001 – 2011. Her background is in higher education administration,







# Deborah Almasy, Manager of Office Administration and Technology

Deborah Almasy came to the CSO after working in education as an English and Journalism teacher in Lakewood, Michigan, and in leadership and administration at a large Lansing church. Deborah's Bachelor and Master's degrees were both earned at Michigan State University. As the Manager of Office Administration and Technology, Deborah is responsible for overseeing the support structure for the office including the budget, job bank, and database management, technology coordination and implementation, professional development planning, and continuous improvement of office processes and procedures.

#### **Lavon Ammori, Assistant Director of Career Development**

Lavon Ammori earned her Juris Doctor from Northwestern School of Law and bachelors' degrees from the University of Michigan. Lavon has spent ten years in private practice, working at both large and small firms. She was a summer associate at Miller Canfield in Detroit and Baker McKenzie in Chicago. After law school, she joined Miller Canfield as an Employment and Labor Law attorney and later worked for a small boutique firm based in Troy, MI.





#### Kristina Bilowus, Assistant Director of Career Development

Kristina Bilowus earned her LLM and JD from Thomas M Cooley Law School and her BA from Madonna University. She worked in private practice as a family law and criminal defense attorney. Prior to practice, Kristina clerked for the 16th District Court in Livonia and the 6th Circuit Court in Pontiac. She also served as an adjunct professor at WMU Cooley Law School. She currently serves on various boards and professional organizations including the State Bar of Michigan Young Lawyers Section, Women Bar Association, Women Lawyers Association of Michigan, Family Law Section Domestic Violence Awareness Committee, and the Hellenic Bar Association.

Kristina's focus as part of the CSO Team is judicial clerkships as well as small/mid-size firm practice. One of her greatest feelings of professional accomplishment is helping students work and attain their professional goals.

#### Al Nickson, Assistant Director of Career Development

Al Nickson earned his bachelor's degree and MBA from MSU's Broad College of Business, and his JD from Thomas M Cooley Law School. Al has an extensive background in regulatory and compliance work. After law school, Al worked for the Federal Government and in the Healthcare Insurance industry before becoming a family law solo practitioner prior to joining the CSO team.





#### **Carl Fanning, Administrative Assistant**

Carl has a background in Guest Services at University of Michigan Hospital in Ann Arbor, small business administration/supervision, and has a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice. Carl keeps the front office running and welcoming to all while also supporting the administrative needs of the office.

# Zachary Hunter, Manager of Programming and Communications

Zachary Hunter is the Manager of Programming and Communications and came to Career Services after a long career in education, and later serving as Vice President of a small employment and coaching firm for the disabled. He earned his bachelor's and Master's of Science in Education from the University of Pennsylvania, his Education Specialist from MSU, and MBA from Northwood University. He is responsible for programming, data collection, professional development, communications, and student advising.





Jeremy Francis works to teach and to reinforce law students' technical legal writing and editing skills. He provides workshops, seminars, and one-on-one coaching sessions to first year students in Research, Writing & Advocacy courses and to upper-level students and organizations, including The Michigan State Law Review, The Geoffrey Fieger Trial Practice Institute, The Alvin L. Storrs Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic, and the MSU Immigration Clinic.

Professor Francis taught prospective English teachers through Michigan State University's Teacher Education and English departments before joining the MSU College of Law in 2006. He received his Ph.D. in Critical

Studies in the Teaching of English from MSU and an M.A. in Education from the University of Denver.

Professor Francis has published three books with co-authors Anne Enquist and Laurel Currie Oates: Just Writing: Grammar, Punctuation, and Style for the Legal Writer 5th ed.; The Legal Writing Handbook: Research, Analysis, and Writing 7th ed.; and Just Briefs: Preparing for Practice 4th ed. Professor Francis won the Legal Writing Institute's Deborah Hecht Memorial Writing Contest Award in 2010 for his article "Finding Your Voice While Learning to Dance" and again in 2014 for his article "The Silent Scream: How Soon Can Students Let Us Know They Are Struggling?" The award is given every other year to the legal writing specialist who publishes the best article or essay on the topics of effectiveness, clarity, and writing style.

4:00 PM Dinner

**MSU Campus Locations** 



## Wednesday, August 16, 2023

9:00 AM Writing Skills Inventory

Law College, 4th Floor:

Section 1, Room 471

Section 2, Room 472

Section 3, Room 473

The writing skills inventory will begin promptly at 9:00 AM, please be in your seat ready to begin at that time.

10:00 AM Coffee Break

Law College, DCL Plaza

10:15 AM

Foundations of Law (Class 3)

**Business College Complex, N130** 



**Dr. Laura McNeal** is currently a Professor of Law where she teaches Civil Procedure, Education Law, Urban Revitalization and the Law, and Employment Discrimination. Her scholarly interests examine issues of access and equity in employment and education law, with a particular emphasis on issues of access and equity for individuals from traditionally marginalized populations. Professor McNeal has contributed to the national debate on law, education policy, and race relations through op-eds and radio and television news features for the Dr. Phil Show, CNN, MSNBC, CBS, NBC, and various other national media outlets.

Dr. McNeal has worked with the Charles Hamilton Houston Institute for Race and Justice at Harvard Law School for 8 years where she conducted national empirical legal studies that explore issues of access and equity in education, employment, and criminal law. She also conducted a national prosecuting attorney study through her work with the Charles Hamilton Houston Institute that examined prosecutorial decision-making and incentive structures. She also began her antibias work while at Harvard where she helped write the curriculum for anti-bias workshops offered through the Institute. Dr. McNeal has published extensively on the intersection of bias and the law and currently conducts anti-bias workshops for educators, students, lawyers, judges, non-profit organizations, and various other sectors. Additionally, Dr. McNeal has served as an invited speaker and panelist at several conferences such as the Law and Education Institute at Penn State University Dickenson School of Law, and Harvard Law School's, Advocates for Education Conference. Recently, she served as an Expert Witness for the Indiana Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights: Hearings on School-to-Prison Pipeline. She has received numerous fellowships, honors, and awards, including the prestigious University of Louisville's Distinguished Faculty Award for Outstanding Scholarship, the Washington University

Employment Law Achievement Award and a two-year Stafford Faculty Fellowship for the National Institute on Leadership, Disability and Students Placed at Risk. Lastly, Dr. McNeal was inducted into the Illinois State University Hall of Fame for her innovative work in the area of education law and policy. During the summer she serves as a Guest Lecturer at Columbia University where she teaches a Law and Ethics course.

Prior to teaching at the Brandeis School of Law, Professor McNeal served as an Assistant Professor of Urban Education in the highly recognized Department of Teacher Education and Educational Policy at Michigan State University. She also served on the faculty at Georgia State University where she taught education law, policy, and leadership courses. While at these institutions, Professor McNeal helped develop the curriculum for a \$5 million education pipeline program grant to help at risk students successfully matriculate into college. Additionally, during her career, she has contributed more than thirty-five peer reviewed articles, book chapters and presentations to the education field.

11:45 AM Lunch Law College, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor

12:45 PM Research, Writing, and Analysis (Class 1) Law College, Various



Professor Nancy Costello: Room 471

**Professor Charles Adside: Room 335** 

**Professor Kevin Gentry: Room 341** 

**Professor Mary Harokopus: Room 345** 

Professor Stephanie LaRose: Room 346

**Professor Deanne Lawrence: Room 325** 

**Professor Daphne O'Regan: Room 473** 

**Professor Elaine Spiliopoulos: Room 340** 

**Professor Paul Stokstad: Room 472** 

2:25 PM Break Law College, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Atrium

2:35 PM

#### Foundations of Law (Class 4)





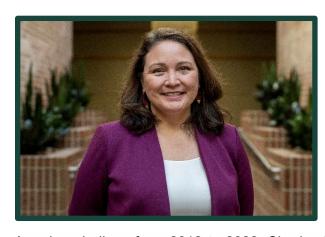




Section 1 Simard Room 471

Section 2 Sant'Ambrogio Room 472

Section 3 Singel Room 473



Wenona T. Singel is an Associate Professor of Law at Michigan State University College of Law and the Director of the Indigenous Law & Policy Center. She teaches Federal Law and Indian Tribes, Property, and other courses related to Natural Resources, Environmental Justice, and Indigenous Human Rights.

Professor Singel's research and writing address issues related to Tribal Sovereignty and Indigenous Rights. She served as an Associate Reporter (co-author) of the American Law Institute's Restatement of the Law. The Law of

American Indians from 2012 to 2022. She is also a new co-author of Cases and Materials on Federal Indian Law, the leading casebook in the field of Federal Indian Law, and she is writing a book called Indian Removal, Past and Present, that describes the intergenerational impact of federal Indian law and policy on Native families which weaves in stories of multiple generations of her own family's experience of forcible Indian removal in Michigan; land dispossession at Burt Lake, Michigan; attendance at Michigan Indian boarding schools; and removal of children from their families and placement into foster care and adoptive homes. Professor Singel's most recent law review article, co-authored with Matthew Fletcher and titled, *Lawyering the Indian Child Welfare Act*, was published in the Michigan Law Review in the summer of 2022. Professor Singel's scholarship on the Indian Child Welfare Act and the history of federal child removal policies impacting Native children was cited extensively by the U.S. Supreme Court in its recent decision in *Haaland v. Brackeen*.

Prof. Singel served as deputy legal counsel for Gov. Gretchen Whitmer from 2019-21, advising on Tribal-State affairs. She also served as Chief Appellate Justice for the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians for thirteen years and Chief Appellate Judge for the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians. Recently, she returned to serve once again as an Appellate Justice for the Little Traverse Bay Bands. She is the former president of the Michigan Indian Judicial Association, and she serves on the National Council of the World Wildlife Fund. In

2012, she was appointed by President Barack Obama to the Advisory Board of the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corp., a position she held until 2017.

Prof. Singel is a citizen of the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, and she is a descendant of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, the Burt Lake Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, and the Grand River Bands of Ottawa Indians. She was the first in her family to attend college, and she is committed to widening access to higher education and law school for other first-generation students. Wenona received an A.B. *magna cum laude* from Harvard College and a J.D. from Harvard Law School.

4:00 PM

Just Mercy Movie Night

**Business College Complex, N130** 



6:15 PM

**Dinner and Discussion** 

**MSU Brody Hall** 



## Thursday, August 17, 2023

#### Professional Attire Recommended

12:00 PM

Library Resource Fair (Section 1 start here, then rotates)

Clinic Open House (Section 2 start here, then rotates)

Professional Headshots (Section 3 start here, then rotates)

Law College, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, 140

Law College, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 215

Law College, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, 343

**Preregister for the professional headshots here, photos taken first come, first served.** 

1:45 PM Class Photo

Law College, DCL Plaza

2:15 PM Student Bar Association

Q & A

**Chemistry Building, 138** 

Get to know your student leadership team and how they represent you at the MSU College of Law.



3:00 PM Student Organization Q & A

Chemistry Building, 138

MSU Law students uplift one another and channel their passions to countless co-curricular and extracurricular activities. Our 35+ student organizations include affinity-based groups, active political clubs, a musical revue, social justice alliances, and interest-specific societies. You are encouraged to join student organizations for social, intellectual, and cultural engagement, as well as professional development.

**Break** 

Chemistry Building, 138

### 4:15 PM Professionalism in Action Panel

**Chemistry Building, 138** 

**Professionalism in Action.** A lawyer is a representative of clients, an officer of the legal system, and accountable for justice. Lawyer professionalism requires adherence to standards and norms of conduct required by ethical rules. It requires civil conduct and respect for others. But, as an emerging lawyer, you must initiate the development of your own professional identity, requiring you to explore your core values, and develop your ethical skills and your professional network. Beginning with a panel of seasoned professionals, Professionalism in Action will delve into professional standards and professional identity development. Attorney and judge facilitated break-out sessions will follow, where groups will discuss and reflect on professionalism issues, decisions, and consequences. Following these sessions, you will further broaden your legal community through networking with additional attorneys, judges, mentors, faculty, staff, and colleagues. What kind of attorney will you be? It all starts here.



**Veneshia Cezil** is the Chief Operating Officer and Diversity Equity and Inclusion Officer for the Michigan Department of the Attorney General. Prior to this role, Cezil served as the Bureau Chief in charge of the Criminal Justice Bureau, which includes the Department's Children and Youth Services Division, Criminal Appellate Division, Criminal Division, and Financial Crimes Division.

Cezil joined the Department in 2015 and has given hundreds of children a voice by representing the Department of Health and Human Services in child abuse and neglect cases, zealously advocating on their behalf to achieve reunification while ensuring that her actions always promote children's safety and are in their best interest.

Prior to joining the Attorney General, Cezil worked for the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office in its General Trials Division and Sexual Assault Units where she prosecuted several hundred cases from assaultive crimes, larcenies, drug crimes, armed robberies, homicides, motor vehicle crimes, and sexual assault crimes. Cezil was assigned to vertically prosecute very difficult cases. The prosecutions of these cases included, but were not limited to, charging decisions, handling preliminary examinations, and litigating numerous trials. Many of the cases involved DNA evidence, serial rapist suspects, and media attention. Despite the complexity of those assignments, she always rose to the occasion and empowered victims to face their attackers with the primary goal of giving survivors a voice.

Cezil immigrated from Jamaica to the United States with her mother as an infant. She became a U.S. citizen in 2020 and remains passionate about serving her community through mentoring young people and self-empowerment initiatives. Cezil received her undergraduate degree from Oakwood University and her Juris Doctor from Western Michigan University Cooley Law School. Shortly after graduating Cezil was licensed in Michigan and Illinois.



Chief Justice Elizabeth T. Clement joined the Michigan Supreme Court in November 2017, becoming the 113th Justice and the 11th woman to serve on the bench. In November 2022, she was chosen unanimously by her colleagues to serve as Chief Justice, making her the 7th woman to step into that role. Chief Justice Clement also represents the Michigan Supreme Court as the chair of the Michigan Judicial Council and serves on the Governor's Juvenile Justice Task Force.

Clement previously served as the Court's co-liaison to the State Court Administrative Office Department of Child Welfare Services.

Child Welfare Services provides assistance to juvenile courts on child welfare matters, including child protective proceedings, foster care, adoption, termination of parental rights, permanency outcomes, and data collection and analysis. She has presented as a panelist for the National Association of Women Judges Webinar, "The Critical Roles of Child Welfare Judicial Leadership and Community Collaboration: Building Resilience in the Wake of Covid-19." She co-authored, "The Moment to Transform Child Protective Courts" with University of Michigan Professor Vivek Sankaran for the Child Welfare League of America Essay Collection, "Covid-19 and Child Welfare Challenges and Responses." Clement also served as co-chair with Justice Megan Cavanagh and MDHHS Child Welfare Director Demetrius Starling for the Child Welfare Leadership Workgroup, a collaborative effort between the judiciary and MDHHS focused on child welfare system improvement.

In addition to her role with Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice, Clement previously served as the liaison to more than 200 problem-solving courts in the state of Michigan and the Michigan Judicial Institute. Problem-solving courts include drug and sobriety, mental health, veterans, and other nontraditional courts. These special court programs focus on providing treatment and intense supervision to offenders, resulting in improved quality of life, reduced crime, safer communities, and avoiding costly incarceration. The Michigan Judicial Institute is the Court's training arm for the judiciary.

Prior to her election to the court, Chief Justice Clement served as Chief Legal Counsel in the Executive Branch, advising on a wide variety of legal, legislative, and policy matters. Her duties as Chief Legal Counsel also included working with the Attorney General's Office on litigation affecting the state of Michigan, negotiating tribal compacts and settlement agreements, and interviewing and recommending appointees to Court of Appeals and Supreme Court judicial vacancies. She previously held the positions of cabinet secretary and deputy chief of staff, as well as deputy legal counsel in the Governor's Office.

Chief Justice Clement served as legal counsel in the Michigan Senate in 2010 where she provided legal research, analysis, and advice on legislation and management of the office. In addition, she was responsible for the State Senate advice and consent process including providing reports and recommendations on appointees. Prior to this role, she served in the Senate Majority Policy Office from 2006 to 2010, where she provided analysis and research to the Senate Judiciary Committee, Senate Health Policy Committee, and the Senate Local and State Affairs Committee.

Chief Justice Clement began her legal career in private practice, representing individuals and in the areas of family law, adoption, probate, estate planning, and criminal law.

Chief Justice Clement was licensed to the State Bar of Michigan in 2002. She graduated from the Michigan State University College of Law that same year, where she served as an executive member

of the Moot Court Board. She attended Michigan State University on an academic scholarship and graduated in 1999 with a B.A. in political science.

Chief Justice Clement lives with her husband and children in East Lansing.

Myles V. Lynk was the first Peter Kiewit Foundation Professor of Law and the Legal Profession at the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, Arizona State University, where he specialized in legal ethics, corporate law, civil procedure, and professional responsibility. He was co-chair of the State Bar of Arizona's Task Force on Multijurisdictional practice and was a member of the State Bar's Task Force on the Future of the Legal Profession. He is a member of the American Law Institute and served on its governing Council and served two terms from 1998 to 2004 on the Civil Rules Advisory Committee of the Judicial Conference of the United States, where he chaired its Discovery Rules Subcommittee.



He served on the White House Domestic Policy Staff in the Carter

Administration and was a law clerk to Judge Damon J. Keith of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the
Sixth Circuit. Professor Lynk was a partner in the Washington, D.C., office of a national law firm
from 1985 through 1999. A past president of the District of Columbia Bar, Professor Lynk was
Senior Assistant Disciplinary Counsel for appellate litigation in the District of Columbia Courts'
Office of Disciplinary Counsel from 2019 through 2022. He has held visiting professorships in law
at Duke University, the University of South Carolina, and George Washington University. In 2014,
Professor Lynk was a Visiting Fellow at Magdalene College, University of Cambridge, England,
and a Visitor to the Faculty of Law at the University of Cambridge. Professor Lynk is author of
numerous articles and public lecture presentations and a graduate of Harvard Law School.

5:00 PM	Break	Law College, Various
5:15 PM	Professionalism in Action Break-Out S	essions Law College, Various
6:30 PM	Professionalism in Action Reception	Law College, 1 <sup>st</sup> Floor, 140





## Friday, August 18, 2023

#### Foundations Week Shirts Recommended

MSU 2023 Foundations Week Access to Justice Day. Access to justice is a basic principle of the rule of law. In its absence, people are unable to have their voice heard, exercise their rights, challenge discrimination, or hold decision-makers accountable. In order to achieve 100% access to justice, the legal system must be welcoming, understandable, collaborative, adaptive, and trusted. People must know that they are heard, respected, and treated fairly. Access to Justice Day allows students to visit the front lines where courts and legal service providers tackle these issues each day. Visit the Michigan Supreme Court, the 30<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court, or the 54A or 54B District Courts; call upon the State Appellate Defenders Office,



Legal Services of South Central Michigan, or a local Immigration Law Clinic; speak with attorneys at the Legislative Services Bureau; or drop into the Michigan Self-Help Center, Dickinson Wright PLLC, the Tri-County Office on Aging, or the Salas Center, an LGBTQ+ community center, to see what issues they face and what each is doing to ensure access to justice for their clients. Then, come together over lunch to discuss the similarities and differences between sites, and what you, the newest member of the legal community, can do to support justice for all.

9:00 AM Check-in, Coffee, and Breakfast Snacks Business College Complex, N130

9:30 AM Access to Justice Day Introduction Business College Complex, N130



Mary Ann Ferguson, Assistant Dean of the Diversity and Equity Services Office

Linda Greene, Dean and MSU Foundation Professor of Law





#### Angela Tripp, Co-Chair of the Justice for All Commission

Angela Tripp is the Director of the Michigan Legal Help Program, which is responsible for the statewide website for self-represented litigants (MichiganLegalHelp.org) and twenty-one affiliated Self-Help Centers around the state. In 2021, Michigan Legal Help Program saw nearly 3 million visits, and over 60,000 people used its resources to complete legal forms. Ms. Tripp has led the development and growth of Michigan Legal Help Program from its inception in 2011. Prior to that, she was a staff and managing attorney in the Lansing office of Legal Services of South Central Michigan. Ms. Tripp is also Co-Director of Michigan Statewide Advocacy Services, which manages five statewide programs including Michigan Legal Help Program.

Since 2021, Angela Tripp has served as Co-Chair of the Justice for All Commission that embraces the goal of 100% access to the Civil Justice system in Michigan.

Ms. Tripp holds a J.D. from Northeastern University School of Law in Boston and a B.A. from the University of Cincinnati.

10:00 AM Access to Justice Day Site Visits

**Various** 

#### **Legal Services of South Central Michigan**

Elaine Barr serves as the supervising attorney of the Legal Services of South Central Michigan, Inc. There she represents indigent clients in various areas of civil law, primarily victims of domestic and sexual violence in divorce, custody, and personal protection order cases. She has served on multiple community boards including Clinton County Housing and Homeless Coalition, Ingham County STOP Grant, Livingston County Domestic Violence Task Force, and the Capitol Area Domestic and Sexual Violence Coordinating Council. In 2018, she was honored as the Most Outstanding Advocate for the Michigan Advocacy Program. Before her work with Legal Services, Barr worked as a research and teaching fellow for the Indigenous



Law and Policy Center and a staff attorney for Michigan Indian Legal Services.

Barr is a 2011 graduate of the Michigan State University College of Law and earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from University of Michigan in August 2008. She has bar membership in the Michigan State Bar, the Supreme Court of the United States, as well as the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe, Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi Indians, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, and the Grand Rapids Bay Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians.

### Dickinson Wright, PLLC



Aaron Burrell, Dickinson Wright is a business lawyer who focuses his practice in the areas of complex commercial litigation, appellate law, labor and employment law, and minority business enterprises. As a member of the firm's litigation practice, he has prevailed in numerous complex, commercial-litigation cases in a number of state and federal trial courts and courts of appeals. As a member of the firm's labor and employment practice, he has successfully defended clients in a wide range of discrimination and unfair-labor-practice claims in state and federal courts and administrative agencies, and he has counseled clients on all aspects of the employment relationship, including hiring; discipline; diversity, equity, and inclusion matters; and the creation and enforcement of employment agreements. Burrell has further advised entertainment and minority business enterprise clients

on a wide array of corporate matters.

At Dickinson Wright, Burrell serves as co-chair of the firm's Diversity & Inclusion Committee and co-chair of Litigation Training. Burrell also serves as a lateral recruiter for the firm.

Burrell has demonstrated leadership in the legal profession throughout his career. He has served as a member of the Board of Commissioners of the State Bar of Michigan; chair of the State Bar of Michigan's Representative Assembly; co-chair of the State Bar of Michigan's Equal Access Initiative; president of the D. Augustus Straker Bar Association; vice president of the D. Augustus Straker Bar Foundation; and affiliate representative of the National Bar Association. He is a member of the Board of Directors of Western Michigan University Cooley Law School and the Oakland County Bar Association. He is a fellow of the Oakland County Bar Foundation, Michigan State Bar Foundation, and the American Bar Foundation. Burrell is an active member of the Wolverine Bar Association, the Detroit Bar Association, and the American Bar Association.

Burrell has been named an "Up and Coming Lawyer" by *Michigan Lawyers Weekly*; a "40 Under 40 Honoree" by *Crain's Detroit Business* and *National Black Lawyers*; a "Top Lawyer" in Labor and Employment Law by *DBusiness Magazine*; a "Black Leader Worth Watching™" by *Profiles in Diversity Journal*; a "Top 100 Under 50 Emerging and Executive Leader" by *Diversity MBA* Magazine; a Michigan Top 100 Bet-the Company-Litigator®; and a "Rising Star" by *Michigan Super Lawyers*. He is the author of the Commercial Torts chapter of *Torts: Michigan Law and Practice* (ICLE 2017), a co-author of the Business Torts and Related Actions chapter of *Michigan Causes of Action Formbook* (ICLE 2020), and a contributor to *Employment Discrimination Law* (BNA, 2017).

#### **Legislative Services Bureau**

# Jennifer L. Dettloff, Legislative Council Administrator & Legislative Service Bureau Director

Jennifer L. Dettloff was appointed Legislative Council Administrator on November 9, 2016, and serves as the Legislative Service Bureau Director. The Council Administrator is responsible for supervisory oversight for all Legislative Council agencies to include Legislative Service Bureau; Legislative Corrections Ombudsman; Michigan Veterans' Facility Ombudsman; Michigan Law Revision Commission; Michigan Commission on Uniform State Laws; Joint Committee on Administrative Rules; State Drug Treat Court Advisory Committee; and the Opioid Advisory Commission.



As Council Administrator, Ms. Dettloff has the following duties and responsibilities: provide personnel policy oversight and development for all Legislative Council agencies; develop prepare, and present Legislative Council agency budgets; review quarterly financial statements of Legislative Council agencies and monitor budgetary compliance; act as secretary to the council; and perform other duties and responsibilities as determined and assigned by the Legislative Council.

In addition, Ms. Dettloff is a member of the Michigan Law Revision Commission, the Michigan Commission on Uniform State Laws, and the Opioid Advisory Commission. Prior to being appointed to the Legislative Council, Ms. Dettloff served as Legal Counsel for two Senate Majority Leaders and previously served in numerous capacities in both the House and Senate. Ms. Dettloff is a member of the State Bar of Michigan. She holds a B.A. form James Madison College at Michigan State University in Social Relations and a J.D. from Thomas M. Cooley Law School.

#### Kevin Studebaker, Legal Division Director, Legislative Service Bureau



Kevin Studebaker has been employed with the Legislative Service Bureau Legal Division since 2004, serving as Assistant Division Director from 2014 to 2019, and Division Director since 2019.

Mr. Studebaker drafts bills in the energy, hunting and fishing, public utilities, state, and weapons areas.

Mr. Studebaker has a J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School and a B.S. in environmental engineering from Michigan Technological University.



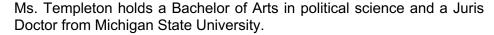
# Grace Katalinich, Legislative Service Bureau Research Services Division, Research Attorney

Grace Katalinich serves as a Research Attorney for the Legislative Service Bureau Research Services Division. She responds to research requests and drafts policy resolutions regarding elections, campaign finance, law enforcement, weapons, civil rights, civil liberties, homeland security, military affairs, and administrative procedure.

Ms. Katalinich has a J.D. from the University of Virginia School of Law and a B.A. in political science – prelaw from Michigan State University.

# Brittni Templeton, Legislative Service Bureau Research Services Division, Research Attorney

Brittni Templeton has been employed by the Legislative Service Bureau as a Research Attorney since July 2022. She primarily works in the areas of crimes, criminal procedure, corrections, controlled substances, housing, and workers compensation. Prior to joining LSB, Ms. Templeton worked in both criminal and civil litigation.





#### **54A District Court**



Hon. Anthony Flores is a 54A District Court Judge. Before joining the bench, Judge Flores served the Ingham County Prosecutor's as an assistant prosecuting attorney in the district and circuit courts, and with the Tri-County Metro Conspiracy Task Force. Flores earned the opportunity to serve as a Unit Chief for the Child Sexual Assault and Physical Abuse section and a unit chief for the District Court.

Prior to his experience in Ingham County, Flores was an assistant prosecuting attorney in district, circuit, and family courts in the Mecosta County Prosecutor's Office beginning in 1992.

Judge Flores taught at the University of Michigan from 2010 – 2014 and Western Michigan University Cooley Law School from 2014 to 2022. He taught Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Evidence and Trial

Skills. Flores has authored works on prosecutorial ethics, trained at the Mid-Michigan Police Academy, and lectured across the state for the Governor's Task Force for Neglect and Abuse Training.

Judge Flores has lived in the Lansing community for 30 years and he believes in reforming the criminal justice system while collaborating with police and prosecutors to address violent crime. He works to continue to improve services at the 54-A District Court - securing public safety, protecting the rights of the victims of crime, and ensuring equitable access to justice for all of the people of Lansing.

Flores earned his law degree from Thomas M. Cooley Law School and a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Colorado.

#### 30th Circuit Court



**Hon. Lawrence Garcia** is a probate court judge for the Ingham County Probate Court in Lansing, Michigan, the 30<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court. He has served as the Chairman of the Michigan Civil Rights Commission and the Michigan Bias Crime Task Force and co-chaired the Michigan Alliance Against Hate Crimes. He serves on the Mental Health Commission Children's Workgroup and the Juvenile Justice Taskforce.

He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Notre Dame and his Juris Doctor from the University of Michigan. Before becoming judge, Garcia worked as an attorney in private practice, as an associate for Howrey & Simon in Washington D.C. and Foster, Swift, Collins, and Smith in Lansing and later as a partner of Adkins

& Garcia and Lynch, Gallagher, Lynch, and Martineau, both in Lansing, Michigan.

## Tri County Office on Aging and the Michigan Elder Justice Initiative



Alison Hirschel is the Director and Managing Attorney of the Michigan Elder Justice Initiative and the elder law attorney at the Michigan Poverty Law Program. She is also a consulting attorney for the Crime Victims Legal Assistance Project-Elder Justice. Hirschel engages in systemic advocacy on behalf of older adults and people with disabilities on issues related to individual rights, long term care, public benefits, and elder abuse. Previously, Hirschel was a staff attorney at Michigan Protection and Advocacy Service, director of the Elderly Law Project, and Director of Planning at Community Legal Services in Philadelphia; and served as a law clerk in federal district court.

Hirschel is co-editor and one of the authors of Advising Clients on Elder and Disability Law (ICLE, 2018). She serves as the co-chair of the Medical Care Advisory Council and was appointed to

serve on the Attorney General's Elder Abuse Task Force and the Governor's Nursing Home Workforce Stabilization Council. She is serving her second term as President of the Governing Board of the National Consumer Voice for Quality Long Term Care and was a Commissioner of the American Bar Association Commission on Law and Aging. Hirschel also served for seven years on the adjunct faculty of the University of Pennsylvania Law School and for more than 20 years on the adjunct faculty of the University of Michigan Law School. Hirschel received her B.A. from the University of Michigan and her J.D. from Yale Law School.





**Nicole Shannon** is the Systemic Litigation and Advocacy Attorney at the Michigan Elder Justice Initiative. Previously, Shannon was the Supervising Attorney and a Staff Attorney at Legal Services of South Central Michigan's Lansing office, where she managed foreclosure, consumer, and elder cases for low-income and older clients. Shannon was also a Staff Attorney with Michigan Protection and Advocacy Service where she served adult clients with disabilities in civil rights matters. In her current position, Shannon is focused on systemic issues facing older clients and individuals with disabilities, such as guardianship, long-term care, and public benefits.

Shannon has a B.A. from James Madison College at Michigan State University and a J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School, where she served as a Note Editor on the *Michigan Law Review*.

#### **American Civil Liberties Union and Salas Center**

**Jay Kaplan** is a staff attorney for the ACLU of Michigan's Nancy Katz & Margo Dichtelmiller LGBT Rights Project. At the forefront of constant legal efforts to ensure the civil rights of LGBTQ+ people throughout Michigan are protected, and expanded, Kaplan is also a frequent speaker on college campuses and panelist at civil rights forums. Among many other things, Kaplan was honored with the 2006 Unsung Hero Award from the Michigan State Bar and the 2010 Virginia Uribe Civil Rights Award from the National Education Association.

He has worked on cases including challenging undercover sting operations targeting gay men, fighting Michigan's constitutional amendment prohibiting same-sex couples from marrying, defending the



validity of second parent adoptions granted in Michigan, and recently advocating for a transgender high school student to be able to run for prom court. Kaplan was honored with the 2006 Unsung Hero Award from the Michigan State Bar and the 2010 Virginia Uribe Civil Rights Award from the National Education Association (NEA).



**Geoffrey Johns** is Treasurer of Salas Center, Lansing's LGBTQ+ Community Center. Johns lives in the Eastside neighborhood with his best friend and their two cats. He teaches writing at Michigan State University, where he is also an alum. As a queer educator, he is committed to dismantling everyday binaries (including what "good" and "bad" writing looks like). He taught for three years in CMU's Women and Gender Studies program and has worked closely with the Institute for Transformative Dialogue to facilitate conversations that promote social equity and focused allyship. He loves tabletop gaming, learning (and making) new recipes, watching (and riffing) old movies, and anything related to house genealogy or local history research.

### **Immigration Law Clinic and Refugee Development Center**

Marie Nelson is the Interim Director of the Immigration Law Clinic at Michigan State University College of Law. Previously, Nelson was a staff attorney at the Michigan Immigrant Rights Center (MIRC), a nonprofit providing direct representation to immigrants across the state of Michigan. Nelson represented residents of Washtenaw County and metropolitan Detroit and focused on domestic violence and asylum cases. Prior to joining MIRC, she was the senior attorney at Freedom House Detroit where she primarily represented US asylum seekers. Nelson also spent several years in private practice as an immigration lawyer with Antone, Casagrande & Adwers, P.C.



Nelson is a graduate of Harvard Law School and New York University.

While in law school, she was a student attorney with the Harvard Immigration Project and the Predatory Lending Prevention Clinic, and a legal intern with the US Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division and the New York Attorney General's Consumer Fraud's Bureau. She is a member of the American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) and currently serves as the Michigan chapter Asylum Liaison. She also serves on the State Bar of Michigan's Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee.



Mariah Shafer is the Outreach Director for the Refugee Development Center in Lansing. As a part of this evolving and responsive team, she acts as a language instructor, home visit specialist, and community liaison. Shafer began her professional career in hospitality management where she gained valuable experience working as an event planner and sales representative for small businesses, international corporate companies as well as government entities. Using her work experience and her MA in TESOL degree from Michigan State University, she dedicates her time to community building and supporting newcomers and longtime Lansing folks as they work to become their best selves.

When she is not working, she with spending time with her family, friends, and her plethora of animals.

#### Michigan Indigent Defense Counsel and State Appellate Defender's Office

Kristen Staley is the Executive Director of the Michigan Indigent Defense Commission, where she leads a dedicated staff responsible for aiding the Commission in development and implementation of minimum standards for public defense statewide. Staley has also served the MIDC as its South-Central Michigan Regional Manager, where she oversaw the compliance of MIDC standards and development of best practices in public defense among twelve counties. Prior to joining the MIDC, Staley was the Deputy Director of the Michigan Council on Crime and Delinquency, a non-profit organization dedicated to advancing effective policies and practices within the adult and youth justice systems.



During her tenure, Staley helped increase resources and technical assistance for evidence-based programming among Michigan's courts; led public policy initiatives to limit the adultification of youth in Michigan's justice system; and spearheaded legislative and grassroots campaigns to safely reduce reliance on incarceration. Staley is Co-Director of the Midwest Juvenile Defender Center and a member of the National Juvenile Defender Center's national advisory board. She also worked as a legal advocate in the Vermont Legal Aid's Health Care Ombudsman Office, was an appellate clerk with the Kentucky Department of Public Advocacy's Juvenile Post-Disposition Unit and is an experienced facilitator of restorative justice panels.

Staley received her B.A. from American University and J.D. from the University of Louisville.

Jonathan Sacks is Director of the State Appellate Defender's Office. A career public defender, Sacks has previously served as the first Executive Director of the Michigan Indigent Defense Commission, where his work culminated in Michigan's first minimum standards for indigent defense at trial and the submission of the first plans for compliance with those standards. Sacks served as Deputy Director for eight years at SADO after starting as an Assistant Defender. At SADO, he has set up projects involving early release of people serving jail sentences during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, review of the failed Detroit Crime Lab, pre-screening convicted people for claims of actual innocence, and social worker sentencing assistance. Sacks



has also worked as an assistant defender, major trials attorney, and felony trial supervisor at the Defender Association of Philadelphia. He served as public defender and criminal defense attorney representative on the Michigan Task Force on Forensic Science.

Sacks was born in South Africa and worked for the South African Council of Churches on voter education and election monitoring programs for the first democratic elections in 1994.

#### Michigan Legal Help Center and the State of Michigan Law Library



Angela Tripp is the Director of the Michigan Legal Help (MLH) Program, which is responsible for the statewide website for self-represented litigants (MichiganLegalHelp.org) and twenty-one affiliated Self-Help Centers around the state. In 2021, Michigan Legal Help saw nearly 3 million visits, and over 60,000 people used its resources to complete legal forms. Tripp has led the development and growth of Michigan Legal Help from its inception in 2011. Prior to that, she was a staff and managing attorney in the Lansing office of Legal Services of South Central Michigan. Ms. Tripp is also Co-Director of Michigan Statewide Advocacy Services, which manages five statewide programs (including Michigan Legal Help). Since 2021, Angela Tripp has served as

Co-Chair of the Justice for All Commission that embraces the goal of 100% access to the Civil Justice system in Michigan.

Ms. Tripp holds a J.D. from Northeastern University School of Law in Boston and a B.A. from the University of Cincinnati.

### Michigan Supreme Court and the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Commission

Justice Elizabeth Welch is a Michigan Supreme Court Justice. She co-chairs the Diversity Equity & Inclusion Commission, co-chairs the Justice for All Commission's Data Workgroup, and serves on the Justice for All Commission's Resource Workgroup. She currently serves as the Justice Liaison on data gathering and transparency in the civil, criminal, and juvenile justice systems, as well as the Liaison to the Michigan Judicial Institute.

After law school, she practiced labor/employment law at large law firms located in Louisville, KY and Grand Rapids, MI prior to starting her own law practice. She also published many articles in academic and industry publications, including serving as a Chapter Editor for The Developing Labor Law treatise.



During her 25-year career, she counseled nonprofit organizations, businesses, and individuals on labor/employment law matters and represented her clients in arbitrations, administrative agency matters, and litigation. Justice Welch also handled pro bono abuse/neglect matters, worked as counsel to a criminal defense law practice, counseled nonprofit organizations on board governance, and served as local counsel for municipal clients on litigation related to the opioid epidemic. Justice Welch is a trained mediator and volunteered for many years with the West Michigan Dispute Resolution Center.

Justice Welch has been a member of numerous professional and nonprofit boards, including serving as a Trustee for the Grand Rapids Bar Association and a board member for the Women Lawyers Association of Michigan - Western Region (where she also served as President). Justice Welch is currently Vice President of the Steelcase Foundation and a Trustee of the Grand Valley University Foundation.

Prior to her joining the Supreme Court, Justice Welch devoted 15 years to public education advocacy and voting rights. Beyond having served as Vice President and a Trustee on the East Grand Rapids Public Schools Board of Education, she worked with leaders across the state to engage and train community members to be advocates for local public schools and regularly worked with legislators on public school policy. She also served on the School Finance Research Collaborative (a statewide coalition of education stakeholders who commissioned a study to determine the true cost of educating a child in Michigan). Justice Welch also served on the Grand Rapids Mayor's Task Force in 2013 and 2016, which was charged with examining and improving local elections.

Justice Welch has received several awards in recognition for her public school and other community work. Justice Welch received her law degree from Ohio State University (where she served as Research Editor of the Law Journal) and her undergraduate degree from Penn State University. She and her husband Brian Schwartz live in Grand Rapids and have four adult children.

#### 54B District Court's Drug, Sobriety, and Veterans Courts

Judge Molly Hennessey Greenwalt serves as 54B District Court Judge and oversees the court's Veteran's Treatment Court, Sobriety, and Drug courts. Originally from Minnesota, she relocated to East Lansing when her husband was hired by the Michigan State University College of Education after completing his doctorate. She was enrolled in law school and transferred to MSU's College of Law, from which she graduated.

After completing her degree, she served as a law clerk for a judge on the Michigan Supreme Court and then an assistant prosecuting attorney for the Ingham County Prosecutor before returning to the Michigan Supreme Court as a commissioner, a staff counsel job in which attorneys advise the court on civil, criminal, and administrative matters.



12:00 PM Lunch, Discussion, and Reflection

**Business College, Various** 

1:00 PM Foundations Week Wrap-up

**Business College, N130** 



Margie Aimery is the Director of Events for the College of Law. She brings over 37 years of Michigan State University experience to the college. She has been with College of Law since April, 2022. She works tirelessly on events and is key to many events servicing the college, from faculty lunches, staff meeting breakfasts, lunch meetings with the Dean , students, faculty and staff, receptions with the Michigan Bar Association Western and Eastern Districts, and Diversity Equity and Inclusion events for the college, Commencement, Dean's Speaker Series, faculty workshops, dean's fellows lunches; provides services for Foundations Week and Indigenous Law Tribal In-House Counsel Association's annual meetings, Student Admit Days, and so

much more within the college. She was instrumental in pulling together Wellness Wednesdays for students, faculty, and staff in the College of Law, after the tragedy in February 2023 at MSU.

Margie previously worked in central administration in the Office of Planning and Budgets with the Vice President, where she also served as building manager for the Administration Building and worked alongside with the Assistant Provosts for Institutional Research and Institutional Planning and Space Management. Four months of her time was spent with the Covid Compliance office, helping students become compliant with MSU's requirements. She graduated with her B.A. degree from MSU in Interdisciplinary Studies, with a history minor. She is also a Certified Tourism Agent through the Greater Lansing Convention Bureau. Margie is a great team player and has a passion for helping others and community service.

Her favorite quote is from Sparky Anderson; "There is nothing in this world that you will ever do that's better than helping a child."