

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Introduction

Lisa Reinsberg

Lisa Reinsberg is the Executive Director of the International Justice Resource Center (IJRC). Lisa has diverse experience in human rights advocacy, litigation, and research. Prior to founding IJRC, she was an attorney with Prisoners' Legal Services of Massachusetts. Previously, Lisa was a Rómulo Gallegos legal fellow at the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, where she worked on complaints alleging criminal due process violations, torture, and extrajudicial executions. Earlier, she represented adults and children seeking visas or asylum in the United States, at the Cabrini Center for Immigrant Legal Assistance of Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston. As a Fulbright fellow (2008-2009), Lisa carried out a multi-country research project on Latin American non-governmental organizations' use of international human rights litigation. As part of this project, she studied the Inter-American system, interviewed advocates and victims throughout the Americas, and worked directly with human rights legal organizations in Costa Rica, Guatemala and Venezuela in their litigation of cases before the Inter-American Commission and Court. She holds a J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center and a B.A. from the University of California, San Diego.

United Nations Human Rights Mechanisms

Julianne Cartwright Traylor

Julianne Cartwright Traylor is the Associate Director of International LLM and Visiting Scholar Programs at the University of San Francisco School of Law. She is a political scientist and human rights activist in the field of International Human Rights Law and Policy with a focus on the United Nations, Gender and Development Issues, and the Realization of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. She is a founding member and currently serves as President of the Board of Directors of Human Rights Advocates and as one of its permanent accredited representatives to the United Nations. She co-chairs the Women's Intercultural Network Board of Directors and is a member of the International Advisory Board of the East Bay Chapter of the United Nations – USA. She served as a member of the team of NGO representatives that worked for the passage in 1997 of an ordinance by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors that adopted the principles of CEDAW and called for its local ratification. She has served as the Chair of the Board of Directors of Amnesty International USA and currently co-chairs its Ginetta Sagan Fund which provides assistance to women working in crisis regions around the world. She holds a BA in Government from Skidmore College and a Master's Degree in Political Science from UC Berkeley. She received advanced training in International Human Rights Law at UC's Boalt Hall School of Law, and was a Research Fellow working on human rights issues at the International Peace Research Institute in Oslo, Norway, for five years.

Connie De la Vega

Professor Connie de la Vega is a Professor of Law and Academic Director of International Programs at the University of San Francisco School of Law. She writes extensively on international human rights law and participates in United Nations human rights meetings. She has submitted amicus briefs detailing international law standards to U.S. courts for juvenile death penalty and affirmative action cases, including *Roper v. Simmons*, *Graham and Sullivan v. Florida*, *Grutter v. Bollinger*, and *Fisher v. Texas*, and

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has been cited by the U.S. Supreme Court. De la Vega is co-author of *The American Legal System for Foreign Lawyers* (Wolters Kluwer, 2011) and *International Human Rights Law: An Introduction* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2007), and an entry for the *Encyclopedia of Gender and Sexuality Studies* (Wiley-Blackwell, publication pending). She is also the author of *Dictionary of International Human Rights Law* (Edward Elgar, 2013). She serves on the advisory group for the Human Rights Institute at Columbia University. She established the Frank C. Newman International Human Rights Law Clinic at USF and is a founding member of Human Rights Advocates.

Ejim Dike

Ejim Dike is Executive Director of the US Human Rights Network (USHRN). Ms. Dike has worked on social policy issues for over fifteen years and in the domestic human rights arena for the past ten years. Her human rights work focuses on addressing poverty and discrimination using a human rights framework. Previously, she was Director of the Human Rights Project at the Urban Justice Center. Under her leadership, the Human Rights Project launched an annual report card on the human rights record of New York City Council members; coordinated a shadow report on racial discrimination with 30 local groups for submission to the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD); organized a New York City visit by the UN Special Expert on Racism; and developed a toolkit on and coordinated participation for social justice activists in the Universal Periodic Review process. She has co-chaired the CERD Taskforce, a joint project of the USHRN and the Human Rights at Home Campaign. Ms. Dike worked for several years on programs aimed at increasing access to employment in low-income neighborhoods. She received her undergraduate degree from Berea College and a Masters of Urban Planning from the Robert F. Wagner School of Public Service at New York University.

Bridget Engle

Bridget Engle is a rising 3L at the University of San Francisco School of Law, where she has participated in the Frank C. Newman International Human Rights Law Clinic. As a clinic member, Bridget attended the 58th session at the Commission on the Status of Women at the UN Headquarters in New York, where she advocated for the need of the international community to respond more effectively to the disparate impact of poverty on women around the globe. Bridget is currently interning at Tetra Tech DPK, an international development consultant that helps strengthen the rule of law and access to justice in developing countries around the world, and at the East Bay Sanctuary Covenant in Berkeley, which is a non-profit legal organization that represents clients in both asylum and immigration proceedings. Bridget holds a B.A. in psychology from UC Santa Barbara.

Inter-American Human Rights System

Rosa Celorio

Rosa Celorio currently works as a Senior Attorney and Specialist for the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. In that capacity, she coordinates the execution of the legal work, projects, and the activities of the Office of the Rapporteurship on the Rights of Women, and works as Deputy Coordinator for the Subregional Section which handles matters related to the United States, Canada, Brazil, the English-Speaking Caribbean, and Haiti. Rosa has worked in the field of human rights, discrimination and gender issues for the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM-currently UN Women) in New York and Ecuador; as a lawyer in the law firms of Murphy, Hesse, Toomey and Lehane in Boston and O'Neill & Borges in Puerto Rico; as well as in Greater Boston Legal Services and Centro Presente in Boston. She currently works as an Adjunct Law Professor for George Washington University Law School,

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has previously taught at Georgetown Law School, and has been a guest lecturer at American University Washington College of Law. She has also acted as an advisor for global initiatives implemented by various United Nations Special Procedures. Rosa has offered presentations on different human rights issues in the realms of discrimination and gender in more than 20 countries, and has published several articles pertaining to these matters. She is fluent in English, Spanish, and French, and has working knowledge of Portuguese. Rosa is also from Puerto Rico and studied International Politics and Law at Georgetown University, in Boston College, and in the Political Science Institute of the University of Strasbourg, in France. She is a member of the State Bars of New York and Massachusetts.

Lisa Reinsberg (See above)

Gender Discrimination & Other Forms of Discrimination against Women

Krishanti Dharmaraj

Krishanti Dharmaraj is Executive Director of the International Action Network for Gender Equity & Law (IANGEL). She is an accomplished leader and human rights advocate with over 25 years of experience both within the US and internationally. Before joining IANGEL as its Executive Director, Krishanti was the spokesperson for Amnesty International's Western Region. She created the Dignity Index, a human rights measurement tool and methodology utilized to reduce discrimination. Krishanti was the founding executive director of the Women's Institute for Leadership Development (WILD for Human Rights), she initiated the US Human Rights Network and co-founded the Sri Lanka Children's Fund. Krishanti's tireless advocacy for justice and women's human rights has earned her many awards and honors in the U.S. and internationally.

Violence against Women

Caroline Bettinger-López

Caroline Bettinger-López is an Associate Professor of Clinical Legal Education and Director of the Human Rights Clinic at the University of Miami School of Law. Her scholarship, advocacy, and teaching concern international human rights law and advocacy, violence against women, gender and race discrimination, immigrants' rights, and clinical legal education. She focuses on implementation of human rights norms at the domestic level, principally in the United States and Latin America. Professor Bettinger-López regularly litigates and engages in other forms of advocacy before the Inter-American Human Rights system, the United Nations, and federal and state courts and legislative bodies. She is lead counsel on *Jessica Lenahan (Gonzales) v. United States* (Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, 2011), the first international human rights case brought by a domestic violence victim against the U.S. Her work has appeared in numerous journals, law reviews, and online and traditional media, including *Harvard Human Rights Law Journal*, *Columbia Human Rights Law Review*, *American Journal of International Law*, *Clearinghouse Review: Journal of Poverty Law and Policy*, *New York Times*, *Miami Herald*, National Public Radio, *Huffington Post*, and *Jotwell*.

Blaine Bookey

Blaine Bookey is Associate Director and Staff Attorney with the Center for Gender & Refugee Studies (CGRS). CGRS protects the fundamental human rights of refugee women, children, LGBT individuals, and others who flee persecution in their home countries through legal expertise and training, impact litigation, policy development, research, and in-country fact-finding. Blaine is involved in many aspects

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of the Center's work including appellate litigation, international human rights, and research and policy analysis. In addition, Blaine is an Adjunct Professor at UC Hastings and is Co-Chair of the Board of Directors for the international women's rights organization MADRE. Prior to joining CGRS, Blaine served as a law clerk to the Honorable Dolores K. Sloviter, United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, and as a fellow with the Institute for Justice & Democracy in Haiti/Bureau des Avocats Internationaux in Port au Prince. She is a graduate of UC Hastings College of the Law and holds an undergraduate degree in Social Policy and Gender Studies from Northwestern University.

Sexual and Reproductive Rights

Katrina Anderson

Katrina Anderson serves as Human Rights Counsel for the Center for Reproductive Rights. She works in partnership with U.S. reproductive justice organizations, most recently with the National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health and its affiliates in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas. She authored the 2013 human rights report on behalf of the Center and the Latina Institute, called *Nuestra Voz, Nuestra Salud, Nuestro Texas: The Fight for Women's Reproductive Health in the Rio Grande Valley*, which documents barriers to sexual and reproductive healthcare for immigrant women and Latinas living on the border of Mexico. Katrina also uses international human rights accountability mechanisms to hold the U.S. and state governments accountable to their international human rights commitments to respect, protect, and fulfill reproductive rights. As a member of the U.S. Human Rights Network's ICCPR Task Force, she helped coordinate U.S. civil society's participation in the Human Rights Committee's review of the U.S. human rights record in March 2014. The committee's concluding observations call on the U.S. to ensure health coverage for all immigrant women in order to improve their access to reproductive health care. Before rejoining the Center in 2011, Katrina served as Legal Officer for the Women's Initiatives for Gender Justice in The Hague, the Netherlands, then as a Program Officer at the UN Trust Fund to End Violence against Women and Girls. She is a graduate of the University of Virginia (BA with distinction), Seattle University School of Law (JD, *summa cum laude*) and American University Washington College of Law (LLM in international legal studies).

Lisa Davis

Lisa Davis is the Clinical Professor of Law for the International Women's Human Rights Clinic at the City University of New York School of Law. For over fifteen years she has worked as an advocate for human rights and has written extensively on international women's human rights issues, including on LGBT rights and sex worker rights and is considered an expert in gender issues in post-conflict / post-disaster settings. Prior to joining the IWHR Clinic, Lisa Davis served as the Human Rights Advocacy Director for MADRE, an international women's human rights organization, where she still helps lead the advocacy efforts. Previously, Lisa worked as an international human rights legal consultant for various UN Experts, international organizations, and governments in Latin America, Africa, Europe and Southeast Asia. Lisa currently serves as the Coordinator for the Lawyers' Earthquake Response Network (LERN) Gender Working Group. She is a member of the American Bar Association's International Human Rights Committee and the National Lawyers' Guild Working Group on Haiti. She received her J.D. from CUNY Law School where she was editor-in-chief of the Law Review, and her M.A. in International Policy from American University.