Addressing Critical Needs:
Cultivating Alliances and Committing to a Culture of Racial and Ethnic Inclusion in Legal Education

Friday, October 17th

Conference Summary:
Syracuse University College of Law cordially invites you to a one-day conference where we will examine and discuss the obstacles to racial and ethnic diversity and inclusion in legal education and the legal profession. Through dialogue and the sharing of experiences and ideas, we will:

- Evaluate institutional efforts towards achieving meaningful inclusion of students of color from the pipeline, to the classroom, to the workplace.
- Identify and implement effective approaches to increase racial and ethnic diversity in law schools.
- Develop essential lawyering skills and cultural competencies to meet the legal needs of diverse communities.
- Explore how law schools can create an environment where students of color thrive, engage, and remain connected to the law school and the legal community at large.
- Devise an action plan for law schools and legal employers that incorporates deliberate efforts to make inclusion matter in their institutions and their communities.

Where:
Syracuse University College of Law
Dineen Hall
950 Irving Avenue
Syracuse, New York 13244

Register:
Please follow the link to our Conference Registration Page or visit the Conference Website to register. Registration fee is $100; $150 by check at the door.

CART Services will be available during all conference sessions.
Conference Sponsors:

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY
Office of Human Capital Development
The Graduate School

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY
University College
Continuing education since 1916

BOND SCHOENECK & KING ATTORNEYS
Commitment - Service - Value - Our Bond

BOTTAR LEONE, PLLC
Attorneys at Law

SEYFARTH SHAW

HISCOCK & BARCLAY

HANCECK ESTABROOK, LLP
COUNSELORS AT LAW

Harter Secrest & Emery LLP
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS

Central New York
Women's Bar Association

Wegmans
helping you make great meals easy
October 17, 2014
Agenda:

8:30-9:00 am  Registration

9:00 -9:30  Welcome and Opening Remarks

9:30 - 10:30 Keynote Speaker: Marc-Tizoc González, Associate Professor St. Thomas University School of Law
Marc-Tizoc González has been engaging multidimensional issues of diversity, inclusion, and social justice within law schools and the legal profession for over a decade. Undertaking such work as a law student, an attorney, a community organizer, a consultant, a bar leader, and a professor in both J.D. and undergraduate programs, he brings a unique perspective on and from the positions of multiple constituencies invested in the topic of this conference. Professor González teaches and writes in the areas of property, poverty, social justice lawyering and Latina & Latino Critical Legal Theory. He is a co-author of the American Bar Association report, Diversity in the Legal Profession: The Next Steps, and a contributor to the forthcoming Oxford University Press Encyclopedia of Latino/a Law, Politics and Social Movements. We are delighted by his participation.

10:30 -10:45  Break

10:45- 12:00 pm Closing the Academic Achievement Gap and Improving the Classroom Experience
What are the present parameters of, measures for assessing, and strategies for addressing gaps in legal academic achievement discernible across racial and ethnic lines? What counts as academic achievement? How have and how do conventional and emerging teaching and assessment methods contribute to and/or ameliorate this gap? How does classroom experience affect academic achievement? Specifically, how do pedagogy, class size, and curriculum affect the classroom experience for students of color?

12:00- 1:00  Lunch

1:00 -2:00  The Road Beyond Law School: Methods to Enrich Diversity within the Profession
With what definitions of diversity, and for what purposes, have employers, associations, and others sought to increase diversity within the profession? What actions and actors have been successful? How can legal employers cultivate
sustainable change within the workplace to ensure the professional development of their minority lawyers? Who is responsible for anchoring such attempts, and with what accountability? How might we best help students capitalize upon, professionalize within, and prepare themselves for various parts of the profession’s engagements with increasing or enriching diversity?

2:00 - 2:15  Break

2:15 - 3:30  Working Group Sessions
In the following four break-out dialogues, attendants will take up at greater length and depth topics from the morning and afternoon panels.

1) The Classroom
2) The Greater Law School Community
3) Work place/ Professional Organizations
4) Work in Social Justice

3:30 - 4:30  Closing Plenary: Strategy and Action Plans
Reports from Work Group Sessions
Ending the day, reports from the working groups, themes from the day, case studies, personal stories, central challenges, and action items will be compiled and presented.

This plenary’s aim is to say: “We have been here together. What will we do now?”
The goal is to have every participant leave with action items that can be presented, implemented, or further explored in their own schools and workplaces.
Conference Speakers:

**Mecca Santana**, Chief Diversity Officer for the State of New York
For more information, please see the biography for [Ms. Santana](#).

**Carla Pratt**, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at Penn State Law; Co-Author of *The End of The Pipeline: A Journey of Recognition for African Americans Entering the Legal Profession*
For more information, please see the biography for [Ms. Pratt](#).

**Marc-Tizoc González**, Associate Professor, St. Thomas University School of Law
For More information, please see biography for [Mr. González](#).

**Michele Coleman Mayes**, General Counsel of NYC Public Library, former GC of Allstate
For more information, please see the biography for [Ms. Mayes](#).

**Vernellia Randall**, Professor Emeritus, University of Dayton School of Law
For more information, please see the biography for [Ms. Randall](#).

**I. Javette Hines**, Senior Vice President, Supplier Diversity and Sustainability at Citi
For more information, please see the biography for [Ms. Hines](#).

**James S. Yu**, Partner, Seyfarth Shaw, LLP
For more information, please see the biography for [Mr. Yu](#).

**David Tang, L’05**, Associate, Underberg & Kessler, LLP
For more information, please see the biography for [Mr. Tang](#).

**Jose Perez, L’07**, Solo Practitioner
For more information, please see the biography for [Mr. Perez](#).

**Janis McDonald**, Professor of Law and Co-Director of the Cold Case Justice Initiative (CCJI), Syracuse University College of Law
For more information, please see the biography for [Ms. McDonald](#).

**José Bahamonde-González, L’92** Associate Dean for Administrative Affairs & Compliance, University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law
For more information, please see the biography for [Mr. Bahamonde-González](#).

**Angela C. Winfield**, Of Counsel, Hiscock & Barclay, LLP.
For more information, please see the biography for [Ms. Winfield](#).

**Diane R. Wiener**, Director of Disability Cultural Center at Syracuse University.
For more information, please see the biography for [Ms. Weiner](#).