

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

- 9:00 – 9:20AM** Welcome by Rachel Viscomi
- 9:20 – 10:20AM** Panel 1:
Bringing a Theory to Life: Origins, Expectations, and Realization
- 10:30 – 11:30AM** Panel 2:
Victims in Restorative Justice
- 11:40 – 12:40PM** Panel 3:
Empowering Youth Through Restorative Justice
- 12:40 – 1:10PM** Lunch
- 1:10 – 1:30PM** Afternoon Address by Dean Minow
- 1:30 – 2:30PM** Panel 4:
Restorative Principles in Transitional Justice
- 2:30 – 2:40PM** Afternoon Break
- 2:40 – 3:30PM** Keynote Address by Senator James Eldridge

OPENING REMARKS

Rachel Viscomi



Rachel Viscomi is the Assistant Director of the Harvard Negotiation & Mediation Clinical Program (HNMCP). Before coming to HNMCP, Rachel worked as a

Principal in the Corporate Education Practice of Vantage Partners, a Boston-based consulting firm that helps clients achieve business results by transforming the way they negotiate and manage their key relationships. At Vantage, Rachel worked closely with Fortune 500 clients from a wide range of industries to design and deliver experiences that maximized learning transfer and business impact. She has taught conflict resolution sessions as part of UMass Boston's Emerging Leaders Program, NALEO's National Summit on the State of Latino Education, Amsterdam's ADR Institute, and at The Citadel, The Military College of South Carolina.

PANEL 1

Bringing a Theory to Life: Origins, Expectations, and Realization

This panel will foster dialogue between prominent scholars of the field regarding the evolution of the theory of restorative justice, the relationship of restorative justice to other theories of punishment, and foreseen future opportunities for leveraging restorative justice in novel contexts.

Moderator: Sonja Starr



Professor Sonja Starr is Professor of Law at the University of Michigan Law School, where she teaches first-year Criminal Law, International Criminal Law, and a seminar on the collateral consequences of criminal convictions. Her research interests include prosecutorial conduct, sentencing law and policy, remedies for violations of criminal defendants' rights, and re-entry of ex-offenders. Her research methods include quantitative empirical assessment of the effects of criminal justice policies as well as analysis of legal theory and doctrine.

Annalise Acorn

Professor Annalise Acorn is presently a Visiting Fellow at All Souls College, Oxford where she is working on a book on resentment and responsibility. She is the author of *Compulsory Compassion: A Critique of Restorative Justice* (Vancouver: UBC Press, 2004). Professor Acorn's main area of research interest is the theory of the emotions in the context of conflict and justice.



Mark Umbreit



Dr. Mark Umbreit is a Professor and founding Director of the Center for Restorative Justice & Peacemaking at the University of Minnesota, School of Social Work. He is an internationally recognized practitioner and scholar with more than 40 years of experience and more than 200 other publications in the fields of restorative justice, mediation, spirituality, forgiveness, and peacemaking. As a practitioner, he facilitates peace-building circles in the community between members of diverse cultures and restorative dialogues between family survivors of homicide and the offender in their quest for healing and strength. Dr. Umbreit has provided technical assistance and training in

support of restorative justice initiatives and victim offender mediation programs in hundreds of communities, including in nearly every state of the U.S. and participants from more than twenty other countries. At the National Restorative Justice Conference in June of 2013, he was elected the founding President of the new National Association for Community and Restorative Justice.

Daniel W. (Dan) Van Ness

Dan Van Ness is Executive Director of the Centre for Justice & Reconciliation at Prison Fellowship International, an association of national prison ministry NGOs in over 125 countries. Restorative justice has been Van Ness' major professional interest for 30 years. He led the working party that drafted what became the UN Declaration of Basic Principles on the Use of Restorative Justice Programmes in Criminal Matters, endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in 2002. Van Ness led an international design team that developed a prison-based victim-offender awareness program now used in 35 countries, including in Rwanda where it was adapted for use with genocide prisoners and survivors. He is the co-author of *Restoring Justice: An Introduction to Restorative Justice*, now in its 5th edition.



PANEL 2

Victims in Restorative Justice

How do victims respond to restorative justice in the face of loss and suffering? Does restorative justice lead to re-traumatization? This panel will examine whether restorative justice is truly the “victim-centered” approach it claims to be.

Moderator: Daniel Van Ness

Hon. John Cratsley



The Honorable John Cratsley (Retired) is a mediator and arbitrator in the JAMS Boston Office. Prior to joining JAMS in early 2012 he served on the Massachusetts Superior Court from 1987 to 2011 and on the District Court from 1973 to 1983. In the interim period, 1983 to 1987, he was the Chief of the Public Protection Bureau for Attorney General Frank Bellotti. While on the Superior Court Judge Cratsley served as regional Administrative Judge in both Suffolk and Norfolk Counties and as Chair of the Supreme Judicial Court’s Standing Committee on Dispute Resolution (1999 to 2004). Judge Cratsley is a member of Board of Directors of

Communities for Restorative Justice (C4RJ), a community-based restorative justice program working with police departments in twelve suburban cities and towns.

Hon. Janine Geske

Justice Janine Geske, after practicing law at the Milwaukee Legal Aid Society, was elected and served as a Milwaukee Circuit Court judge for 12 years and then as a Wisconsin Supreme Court justice for five years. She resigned from the Supreme Court to work more closely with the voiceless in the community and served as a Marquette Law School Distinguished Professor of Law, where she practiced, taught, and supervised students in a mediation clinic. She also established and taught in the MU Restorative Justice Initiative.



Pierre R. Berastaín



Pierre R. Berastaín serves as the Communications and Marketing Coordinator for the National Latin@ Network, the national institute on domestic violence in the Latino community in the US. Prior to the National Latin@ Network, Pierre worked for Renewal House, a domestic violence shelter in Boston, Mass as the Restorative Justice Advocate. During his time there, he developed curriculum to train other shelters to work with survivors and victims of domestic violence through a restorative and transformative approach. He

Co-Founded the Massachusetts Restorative Justice Collaborative and served as the Co-Chair of the Massachusetts Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgender (GLBT) Domestic Violence Coalition. As a contributor to the Huffington Post, he writes on domestic violence, restorative justice, and general issues of social justice.

Karen Lischinsky

Karen Lischinsky is an Associate Professor of Sociology at Curry College. Karen also teaches for the Boston University Prison Program where she teaches sociology classes at Norfolk Prison which is a medium security prison for men and at Framingham Prison which is the only state prison for women. Karen is working with the staff of The Insight Prison Project located in California to bring their Victim Offender Education Group curriculum – affectionately known as VOEG to correctional facilities throughout Massachusetts. Karen also along with Daria Lyman and Darren Kew have created the Transformational Prison Project (TPP), which is the first university based prison initiative in Massachusetts located at UMASS Boston.



PANEL 3

Empowering Youth Through Restorative Justice

Restorative justice is used in family, schools, and courts. How can restorative justice be used to divert youth away from the traditional juvenile justice systems? What effects does it have on the future of young offenders and their communities? This panel explores this topic with a view towards restorative justice as a tool for preventing the school-to-prison pipeline.

Moderator: Mark Umbreit

Hon. Jay D. Blitzman



Jay D. Blitzman is the First Justice of the Massachusetts Juvenile Court, Middlesex Division. Prior to his judicial appointment, Judge Blitzman was a founder and the first director of the Roxbury Youth Advocacy Project, a community based interdisciplinary public defenders unit which created the basis for the development of a statewide department. Jay also co-founded Citizen's for Juvenile Justice (CfJJ). Since becoming a judge, he has continued to present and write on a wide range of juvenile justice and child welfare issues. In 2013, Middlesex County Juvenile Court was one of sixteen sites in the country that was awarded a technical

assistance grant by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges to re-dress school-to-prison pipeline issues (School Pathways to Juvenile Justice). In 2014, Middlesex was awarded a Trial Court Innovation Grant to help develop the Juvenile Court Restorative Justice Diversion Program.

Erin Freeborn

Erin Freeborn, J.D., M.Div, is the executive director of Communities for Restorative Justice (C4RJ), a community-police partnership that offers restorative justice to those affected by crime. Erin also co-founded



and served as executive director of the Juvenile Court Restorative Justice Diversion, Inc. (JCRJD), a successful restorative justice diversion program headquartered in Lowell, Massachusetts.

Christine Agaiby



Christine Agaiby is an Adjunct Professor of Restorative Justice at Northwestern Law, Loyola Law, and North Park University. She is also the Owner and Principal trainer at Reaching Resolution, an organization devoted to training conflict resolution and community building skills. Ms. Agaiby has created grassroots coalitions and educated decision makers regarding the causes of the school-to-prison pipeline and provided solutions to dismantle it through restorative justice philosophy for 10 years. Ms. Agaiby has trained over 80 Chicago-area schools and worked to remove zero tolerance from discipline codes across the nation. She also volunteered as a Community Conferencing

Facilitator through the District Attorney's office in Milwaukee County and continues to work with the Innocence Project to create a space for restorative practices as victims re-enter society as exonerees and meet with victim survivors in their cases.

Chandra Banks

Since 2006, Chandra Banks, Ed. M., has held the position of District Wide Conflict Mediator for Cambridge Public Schools District (CPSD) providing mediation services to employees and directing the Peer Mediation Program for students. In this position she has spent the past few years piloting Restorative Practices and providing training in RJ for staff in the district. She has spent the past twenty-five years working to serve youth through employment with a variety of child serving agencies including the Public School System, Department of Child & Family Services and the Department of Human Service Programs. Her main focus has been on developing and implementing policy, evidence based practice and trainings that promote resiliency in the area of violence prevention and mental health for children, families and practitioners.



AFTERNOON ADDRESS

Dean Martha Minow



Martha Minow, the Morgan and Helen Chu Dean and Professor of Law, has taught at Harvard Law School since 1981, where her courses include civil procedure, constitutional law, family law, international criminal justice, jurisprudence, law and education, nonprofit organizations, and the public law workshop. An expert in human rights and advocacy for members of racial and religious minorities and for women,

children, and persons with disabilities, she also writes and teaches about privatization, military justice, and ethnic and religious conflict.

She served on the Independent International Commission Kosovo and helped to launch Imagine Co-existence, a program of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees, to promote peaceful development in post-conflict societies. Her five-year partnership with the federal Department of Education and the Center for Applied Special Technology worked to increase access to the curriculum for students with disabilities and resulted in both legislative initiatives and a voluntary national standard opening access to curricular materials for individuals with disabilities. She has worked on the Divided Cities initiative which is building an alliance of global cities dealing with ethnic, religious, or political divisions.

PANEL 4

Restorative Principles in Transitional Justice

Is transitional justice restorative? How do the two concepts intersect? How can restorative justice concepts apply to truth and reconciliation commissions? This panel examines the application of restorative justice concepts to transitional justice, focusing on the unique challenges that such application presents.

Moderator: Adriaan Lanni



Adriaan Lanni is Professor of Law at Harvard Law School. She teaches Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure and a variety of legal history courses. She has written about transitional justice and restorative justice in the ancient and modern world. Her publications also include *Law and Justice in the Courts of Classical Athens* (CUP 2006) and several articles on ancient law and the modern criminal jury.

Timothy Longman

Timothy Longman is director of the African Studies Center and associate professor of political science and international relations at Boston University. Professor Longman's research interests center on state-society relations, focusing in particular on religion and politics, identity politics, human rights, transitional justice, and gender. Professor Longman has served as a consultant in Rwanda, Burundi, and the Democratic Republic of Congo for USAID, the Department of Justice, and the International Center for Transitional Justice, and Human Rights Watch, for whom he served as director of the Rwanda field office 1995-1996. He has conducted research in Rwanda, Congo, Burundi, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, and South Africa.



Carl Stauffer

Dr. Carl Stauffer teaches Justice and Development Studies at the Graduate Center for Justice and Peacebuilding, Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Virginia. Stauffer also serves as Co-Director of the Zehr Institute of Restorative Justice, and the Academic Director of the Caux Scholars Program in Switzerland. Stauffer's work has taken him to 20 African countries and 15 other countries in the Caribbean, Middle East, Europe, North & South Asia and the Balkans. From 2000 to 2009, Stauffer was appointed as the Regional Peace Adviser for the Southern Africa region of the Mennonite Central Committee (MCC), an international relief and development agency. His research concentrates on the critique of transitional justice from a restorative frame, and the application of hybrid, parallel indigenous justice systems.



Pushpi Weerakoon



Pushpi Weerakoon is a specialist in Peacebuilding, Restorative Justice, Development, and Diplomacy, with experience spanning three continents. She initiated and coordinated the Reconciliation Secretariat for the Sri Lankan government, coordinated projects on reconciliation and development for Search for Common Ground, worked with the Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery, UNDP, and the Sri Lanka Mission to the United Nations in New York. During the Sri Lankan conflict she was the Program Manager Legal at the International Development Law Organization, Conflict

Transformation Manager at the Business for Peace Alliance and the Director/Registrar at the Alternative Dispute Resolution Institute.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Senator James Eldridge



State Senator Jamie Eldridge has served as State Senator for the Middlesex and Worcester district since January 2009.

Previously, Senator Eldridge served as State Representative for the 37th Middlesex district, after being elected the only Clean Elections candidate to public office in Massachusetts history in November 2002.

Since then, Senator Eldridge has focused his energies in the House and in the Senate on enhancing public education, stimulating the economy, promoting campaign and ethics reform, protecting the environment, improving public safety, expanding access to health care, and improving public transportation.

Prior to his election as State Representative, Jamie worked as a public interest attorney with Merrimack Valley Legal Services in Lowell, a non-profit organization that provides free legal services to the poor and the elderly. As a public interest lawyer, he also worked to help low-income residents with issues of housing, Social Security, disability, and unemployment.