

PRACTICE GREATNESS DEFINED



PennState
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NEWS AND INFORMATION FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

October 2020

CONWAY NAMED A RECIPIENT OF AALS INAUGURAL IMPACT AWARD



Dean and Donald J. Farage Professor of Law Danielle M. Conway has been honored with the Association of American Law Schools (AALS) Inaugural Impact Award with four other law school deans for the creation of the Law Deans Antiracist Clearinghouse Project. Launched in June, the project is a webpage for law deans, faculty, and the public that contains resources and information related to addressing racism in law and legal education. The AALS Executive Committee established the Impact Award this year to honor individuals or a group of individuals who have had a significant positive impact on legal education or the legal profession.

[Full story](#)

GENEROUS GIFT FROM J. RODMAN 'ROD' STEELE '66 AND FAMILY ESTABLISHES THE STEELE FAMILY LEADERSHIP PROGRAM IN GENDER AND RACIAL EQUITY



J. Rodman 'Rod' Steele '66 and his family have generously supported Dickinson Law for years. Their new gift establishes the Steele Family Leadership Program in Gender and Racial Equity at Dickinson Law, with an eye toward long-term progress in this critical area of the law. [Full story](#)

JOIN US FOR COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS ON NOVEMBER 9 FEATURING PROFESSOR AND FORMER DEAN PETER GLENN AND ASSOCIATE DEAN AND PROFESSOR OF LAW GAIL PARTIN '93



Reconnect with some of your former law school professors during our next "Community Conversations" on Monday, November 9, from 4 to 5 p.m. EST. Glenn and Partin, along with Professor of Law Tom Place, are retiring at the end of the fall 2020 semester. Prior to the global health pandemic, Dickinson Law's Office of Academic and Student Services launched this program to provide our community an opportunity to learn more about a faculty or staff member's life experiences, career trajectory, challenges, and accomplishments. [Join via Zoom](#)

TRANSGENDER COMPETENCY IN THE CLASSROOM AND THE COURTROOM



To be competent, diligent, and to communicate effectively, lawyers must strive to understand all types of people. On Monday, November 16, at 4 p.m. EST, Sara Jacobson, Esq., Executive Director of Training for the Public Defender Association of PA and Jasper Katz, Esq., Attorney at Philadelphia Legal Assistance, will cover the basic aspects of "transcompetency," that is, transgender competency in the classroom and in the courtroom. The PA CLE Board has approved this program for 1.0 hour of ethics distance learning credit. [Details and registration](#)

FACULTY-STUDENT COLLABORATION FEATURED ON LAW REVIEW BLOG



Over the past two semesters, Professor of Clinical Law, Children's Advocacy Clinic Director, and Center on Children and Protection of the Law Director Lucy Johnston-Walsh '97 and Emily Kortright '21 worked together with older youth who have had to overcome challenges getting to work, to and from visits with family friends, and even required appointments. In this post published on the University of Michigan Law's Journal of Law and Mobility blog, Johnston-Walsh and Kortright explore the transportation challenges faced by foster children and the ways in which new and emerging forms of transportation may impact those challenges. [Full story](#)

ADDRESSING RACISM THROUGH MEDICAL-LEGAL PARTNERSHIPS



Founding Director of Dickinson Law's Medical-Legal Partnership (MLP) Clinic and Assistant Professor of Law Medha Makhoulouf has always discussed racial health disparities in her MLP Clinic class. In fact, she said, "it is probably the thread tying together all of the individual class topics." Recently, she thought about how MLPs can address racism directly—rather than the effects of racism—as a social determinant of health. She completed a literature review on the topic and was surprised to find only one law review article addressing it. After researching how Critical Race Theory can help to inform the operation of MLPs seeking to address racism as a social determinant of health, she shared her early ideas in her first blog post, "Addressing Racism through Medical-Legal Partnerships," which was published in a digital symposium—"Understanding the Role of Race and Health"—hosted by Harvard Law's Petrie-Flom Center for Health Law Policy, Biotechnology, and Bioethics.

[Full story](#)

CONWAY A FEATURED GUEST ON SEASON PREMIERE OF BARRON'S "DIGGING DEEPER"



Dickinson Law Dean and Donald J. Farage Professor of Law Danielle M. Conway joined Penn State President Eric Barron and Penn State College of Liberal Arts Professor Michael Berkman on the season premiere of WPSU's "Digging Deeper" to discuss the 2020 U.S. presidential election and its potential impact on the country's democratic values and ideals. [Watch the episode](#)



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