

# Tulane University

## 3rd Annual Political Economy & Access to Justice Judicial Education Seminar (PEAJJES)

### 2025 Schedule

Day 1: March 27, 2025

9:00AM-9:15AM

**Welcome**

**Gary A. Hoover, Professor of Economics and Executive Director of The Murphy Institute**

Professor Hoover is the Executive Director of The Murphy Institute and Professor of Economics at Tulane University. His research focuses on the intersection of economics, race, and public policy. Since 2012, he has served as co-chair of the American Economic Association Committee on the Status of Minority Groups in the Economics Profession. He is also the current and founding editor of the *Journal of Economics, Race and Policy*, past Vice-President of the Southern Economic Association, and a fellow of CESifo Group Munich.

### SESSION I (1.25 Hours)

9:15-10:30AM

**Judicial Law-Making and Political Economy: How They Interact and Inform One Another**

This session builds understanding of how judicial opinions and other forms of policymaking interact with markets and inform the theories and methods of political economy. The session also introduces participants to key framing concepts for this year's seminar, including: normative efficiency, network effect, climate risk, and cost-benefit.

**Presenter:**

**Tom S. Clark, David and Mary Winton Green Professor, University of Chicago**

Professor Clark is a political scientist whose research and teaching interests are in the political economy of judicial politics, policing and public safety, and applied formal theory and statistical methodology. Professor Clark is the co-

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author of three books: *Judicial Decision-Making: A Coursebook* (2020); *The Supreme Court: An Analytic History of Constitutional Decision Making* (2019); and *The Limits of Judicial Independence* (2011). His work has appeared in a number of leading political science journals including *The American Political Science Review*, *The American Journal of Political Science*, and *The Journal of Politics*.

**10:30-10:45AM**

**Break**

#### SESSION II (1.25 Hours)

**10:45AM-12:00PM**

#### **The Network Effect of Virtual Court Access: Weighing the Costs and Benefits**

This session applies economies of scale theory to analyses of issues presented by opening court systems to virtual access and making virtual court accessible to the public. Consideration will be given to courts working with limited technological capacities as well as the increased pressure to modernize and adapt to evolving technologies that the judiciary faces in a post-Covid-19 environment and as AI continues rapidly to transform and foster innovation in the legal profession.

**Presenter:**

**Andrea Miller, PhD, JD, National Association of State Courts**

Dr. Miller is a Senior Court Research Associate at the National Center for State Courts. Her expertise is in the social-psychological foundations of equity and inequity under the law and in the courts. Her research leverages social-cognitive and organizational science, histories of systemic injustices in society, and new technological innovations in the courts to redesign legal institutions and practices with the goal of promoting equity and equal justice.

**12:00PM-1:15PM**

**Working Lunch**

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### SESSION III (1.25 Hours)

**1:15-2:30PM**

**Rural Resilience, Urban Renewal: Addressing and Adapting to Climate Change in the Gulf South**

This session considers how communities throughout the Gulf South are grappling with climate change as well as the threats and opportunities that catastrophic events, such as hurricanes, tornadoes, and flash flooding, present for housing development, coastal restoration, and renewable energy investments in both urban and rural environments.

**Presenter:**

**John Travis Marshall, JD, Georgia State University, College of Law**

Professor Marshall is an associate professor at the Georgia State University College of Law, where he co-directs the Center for the Comparative Study of Metropolitan Growth and teaches Environmental, Land Use, and Property Law. Professor Marshall is interested in how local laws and heightened local government capacity can improve resilience to disasters and promote more equitable recoveries for low- and moderate-income families and individuals. Trained as a land use and zoning attorney, Professor Marshall served as a partner with Holland & Knight LLP's Tampa office when he joined the staff of the New Orleans Redevelopment Authority (NORA) to help coordinate post-Hurricane Katrina neighborhood recovery initiatives. His research is funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the State of Georgia's Department of Natural Resources, Coast Resources Division.

**2:30-2:45PM**

**Evaluation**

**5:00PM**

**Dinner Debriefing**

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Day 2: March 28, 2025

8:30AM-9:00AM

Registration and Breakfast

SESSION IV (1.25 Hours)

9:00-10:15AM

**Politics, Pensions, and Protections: Assessing Intersecting Risks to Public Employees and the Environment**

This session considers state constitutional provisions governing public employee pensions and the ways that laws aimed at protecting these systems and the environment coalesce and conflict. Emphasis is placed on how pension systems, as the cornerstone of financial security for public employees that pay into them, benefit from policies aimed at bolstering environmental protection and integrating climate risk assessment into state budgeting practices.

Presenter:

**Jordan Haedtler, Climate Financial Policy Consultant, Roosevelt Institute**

Mr. Haedtler is a consultant to the Roosevelt Institute and the Sunrise Project and Climate Cabinet, his research and writing address climate financial policies within the context of state government. These include Inflation Reduction Act implementation ideas such as the establishment and design of state-run "green banks," as well as proposals to mitigate the exposure that state budgets, pension funds, displaced fossil fuel workers, and insurance policyholders have to the risks of climate change. Mr. Haedtler has served as a legislative aide at both federal and state levels and has extensive experience working on issues of monetary policy, financial stability, and insurance as a staff member of the U.S. House of Representatives Financial Services Committee.

10:15-10:30AM

Evaluations & Break

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### SESSION V (1.25 Hours)

**10:30-11:45AM**

**Justice Denied?: Weighing the (Potential) Costs of the Use of Forensic Evidence in Criminal Justice Administration**  
Forensic evidence is widely accepted as a reliable form of evidence in both civil and criminal proceedings. This session considers some of the potential costs associated with the use of forensic evidence in the context of criminal justice, including issues that can arise from labeling, handling, and storing DNA and invalid, unreliable, or misleading firearms identification and forensic ballistics. The goal of the session is to enrich understanding of the ethical use of forensic evidence and how promoting accuracy in its presentation can substantially lessen, if not completely eliminate, wrongful convictions.

**Presenter:**

**Brandon L. Garrett, JD, Duke University, Law School**

Professor Garrett is the L. Neil Williams, Jr. Distinguished Professor of Law and Director of the Wilson Center for Science and Justice at Duke University. An internationally renowned scholar of criminal justice outcomes, evidence, and constitutional rights, Professor Garrett has been widely cited by courts, including the U.S. Supreme Court, lower federal courts, state supreme courts, and courts in other countries. Professor Garrett also frequently speaks about criminal justice matters before legislative and policymaking bodies, groups of practicing lawyers, law enforcement, and to local and national media. He has been involved with a number of law and science reform initiatives, including the American Law Institute's project on policing, for which he serves as Associate Reporter, and a National Academy of Sciences Committee concerning eyewitness evidence.

**11:45-12:00PM**

**Evaluations & Break**

**12:00PM-1:00PM**

**Working Lunch**

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### SESSION VI (1.25 Hours)

**1:00-2:30PM**

**At the Intersection of Industry and the Environment: The Role of Judicial Decision-Making**

This session considers how various theories of legal, statutory, and constitutional interpretation interact with and inform critical thought about the relationship between industry and the environment. Special consideration will be given to how the distinctive histories and characterizations of land use influence the cultural, socioeconomic, and political dynamics of the Gulf South and inform policies that impact both industry and the environment throughout the region.

**Presenter:**

**Nicholas Bryner, JD, LLM, Louisiana State University**

Professor Bryner holds the John P. LaBorde Endowed Professorship in Energy Law 1 and 2 and is the Director of the Climate Change Law and Policy Project and Professor of Law at Louisiana State University Paul M. Hebert Law Center. His research and teaching focus on environmental, energy, and natural resources law. He has lectured throughout the United States and Brazil, in Portuguese and English, on topics including Brazilian environmental law, environmental human rights, and international environmental law.

**2:30-2:45PM**

**Formative Evaluations and Afternoon Unwind**

**5:00PM**

**Dinner Debriefing**

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Day 3: March 29, 2025

8:30AM-9:00AM

Registration and Breakfast

SESSION VII (1.25 Hours)

9:00-10:15AM

**The Ethics and Economics of Substance (Ab)Use-Averse Policies and Drug Court Programs: Spotlighting the Opioid Crisis in Rural America**

The crisis created by wide-spread non-medical use of prescription painkillers is well documented. This session mines the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of drug court programs addressing this crisis, with particular focus on rural communities. Consideration will be given to whether and how these programs use epidemiologically-informed prevention-intervention strategies and the related effects on broader questions of public safety, public health, healthcare costs, and health policy.

Speaker:

**Keith Humphreys, PhD, Esther Ting Memorial Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Stanford University**  
Professor Humphreys researches individual and societal level interventions for addictive and psychiatric disorders. He focuses particularly on evaluating the outcomes of professionally-administered treatments and peer-operated self-help groups (e.g., Alcoholics Anonymous), and, analyzing the impact of public policies touching addiction, mental health, public health, and public safety.

10:15-10:30AM

Evaluations & Break

SESSION VIII (1.25 Hours)

10:30-12:00PM

**When “Democratization” Isn’t Enough: Identifying and Eliminating the Hidden Costs of AI**

This session addresses the ethical and professional implications of rapid innovations in legal education and praxis

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prompted by the various apparatuses of Artificial Intelligence (AI). Specifically, questions related to quality of data, information, disinformation and misinformation will be discussed. As well, the session will consider best practices for identifying and eliminating AI-bias and promoting algorithmic transparency so that the gains and potential benefits of AI technologies can be reaped by all.

**Facilitator:**

**Professor Ngozi Okidegbe, JD, PhD, Boston University School of Law**

Ngozi Okidegbe is the Moorman-Simon Interdisciplinary Career Development Associate Professor of Law and Assistant Professor of Computing & Data Sciences at Boston University. Her research and teaching focus at the intersection of racial justice, law, and technology and particularly engage how the use of predictive technologies in the criminal justice system impacts racially marginalized communities. Her articles have been published in *Critical Analysis of Law*, *Connecticut Law Review*, *UCLA Law Review*, *Cornell Law Review*, and *Michigan Law Review*.

**12:00-12:30PM**

**Summative Evaluations & Closing**

**Continuing Legal Education Units Applied For: 11**