



haas institute for a fair and inclusive society monthly activities for march 2014

MARCH HIGHLIGHT

MARCH 5

Transforming Ourselves, Transforming the World

EAST BAY MEDITATION CENTER, OAKLAND

On March 5, HIFIS co-sponsored an event that was developed with the East Bay Meditation Center (EBMC) on the role of mindfulness and how it intersects with social justice advocacy. Director John A. Powell and Larry Yang, core dharma teacher at EBMC, were the featured speakers before a standing-room only crowd of faculty, staff, social justice advocates and EBMC members.



Front row, from left: Larry Yang, Core Teacher at East Bay Meditation Center (EBMC) and HIFIS Director John A. Powell. Back row, from left: Brenda Salgado, Director at EBMC, and HIFIS staff Stephen Menendian, Michael Omi and Veronica Hash

HIFIS SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

MARCH 1

American Constitution Society for Law and Policy Student Convention

UCLA LAW SCHOOL, LOS ANGELES

Assistant Director Stephen Menendian served on a panel to discuss the 60th anniversary of *Brown v. Board of Education*, its historical impact, current efforts to achieve educational equity and what innovative methods are being engaged to secure Brown's future.

MARCH 3

Annual Symposium for the Berkeley Journal of African-American Law and Policy

BOALT SCHOOL OF LAW, UC BERKELEY

Director John A. Powell made the closing remarks at this symposium entitled "25 Years From Now: The Case for Diversity and Future of Affirmative Action in the Wake of *Fisher* and *Schuetz*." Assistant Director Stephen Menendian served as a panelist and also gave a response to the keynote at a lunch seminar.

MARCH 4

Local Government and Racial Equity: Strategies and Opportunities for Sustainable Change

Director John A. Powell was a key speaker at this webinar, where he joined other academics as well as elected leaders from Portland, Seattle and Minneapolis to discuss the unique positions that cities are in to lead work on race and equity issues, and the critical need for strategies for institutional change.

MARCH 4

2014 WA Equal Justice Community Leadership Academy

Director John A. Powell was invited by the Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law to be a featured speaker at this webinar where he presented on structural racialization, systems thinking and implicit bias.



monthly activities cont.

MARCH 8

The National Equity Project

GRAND RAPIDS, MI

Director john a. powell was invited to help develop capacity-building for community leaders in Grand Rapids, Michigan in the areas of targeted universalism and reducing structural racialization.

MARCH 10

State of Population Health Report Meeting

DETROIT, MI

Director john a. powell was a featured presenter at this community forum convened by the Greater Detroit Area Health Council and Detroit Wayne County Health Authority to formally launch the report entitled “The State of Population Health.” The report was developed by the Population Health Council, a regional collaborative dedicated to creating environments where people have access to resources necessary to lead healthy lives.

MARCH 17

100 Resilient Cities Centennial Challenge

SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Director john a. powell led a panel at this event organized by the Rockefeller Foundation, where he joined the Mayors of Alameda, Berkeley, Oakland and San Francisco in discussing violence, crime and social cohesion for the region. john’s role was to frame the issue from an objective point of view and discuss how violence and crime impacts a variety of functions in the area.

MARCH 20

Planning for Sustainable Communities

UC BERKELEY

Global Justice Project Director Elsadig Elsheikh was an invited guest lecturer at UC Berkeley’s City and Regional Planning class. His talk was titled “Africa’s Food System: Challenges and Opportunities.”

MARCH 20

The Consumer Health Foundation’s 16th Annual Meeting

WASHINGTON DC

Director john a. powell was a speaker and panelist at this conference focused on “Health and Racial Equity in Turbulent Times: Implicit Bias Examined.” john gave an overview of implicit bias and how it operates at the societal and institutional level.

MARCH 21

Boston Society of Architects

BOSTON, MA

Director john a. powell spoke at this planning event for a central transit equity project in Boston. The event was attended by urban designers, planners, engineers, city and state officials, and non-profit organizers.

MARCH 24

Oregon Metro Equity Strategy Program

PORTLAND, OR

Director john a. powell was invited to share his expertise with this senior leadership and staff on developing a new equity strategy for this regional government agency.

MARCH 25

Governing for Racial Equity

PORTLAND, OR

Director john a. powell and Senior Fellow Julie Nelson presented at this conference where john led a workshop entitled “Developing a National Movement of Local Government working on Racial Equity—Strategies and Opportunities for Sustainable Institutional Change.” Julie and john shared results of a recent review of government’s work on racial equity.



monthly activities cont.

MARCH 27

Maine Health Access Foundation

HALLOWELL, MAINE

Director John A. Powell was a keynote speaker where he addressed the importance of understanding structural racism, inequity, and social justice through a lens of targeted universalism.

MARCH 28

White Privilege Conference

MADISON, WI

Director John A. Powell was a keynote presenter at this conference where he spoke on the changing meaning of race and whiteness in the twenty-first century and the different ways that race is and can be used to construct our society and to advance or impede justice and interbeing. He also shared his analysis on what is needed to build healthy, just relationships and community.

FROM THE RESEARCH CLUSTERS

MARCH 6

Race, Diversity, and Educational Policy Spring 2014 Faculty Speaker Series

UC BERKELEY

Rucker C. Johnson, Associate Professor at the UC Berkeley Goldman School of Public Policy, was the featured speaker at the HIFIS-sponsored lecture entitled "The Effect of School Finance Reforms on the Distribution of Spending, Academic Achievement, and Adult Outcomes."

MARCH 19

Fresh Fruit, Broken Bodies: Migrant Farmworkers in the United States

INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF SOCIETAL ISSUES BERKELEY, CA

Member of the Health Disparities Research Cluster **Seth M. Holmes, PhD, MD**, who is Martin Sisters Endowed Chair Assistant Professor in the UC Berkeley School of Public Health's Community

Health and Human Development Division and the Graduate Program in Medical Anthropology, spoke at an event to launch his paper and book entitled *Fresh Fruit, Broken Bodies: Migrant Farmworkers in the United States*. The recent work explores how market forces, anti-immigrant sentiment and racism undermine health and health care. More on the book can be found [here](#).

MARCH

Health Disparities Cluster New Faculty Recruitment

UC BERKELEY

The Haas Institute Health Disparities Candidate research cluster continued its public candidate lecture series for the recruitment of a new faculty member for the cluster. In March, the following four lectures were given by potential candidates (the first of the five-part lecture series was presented by Professor Lisa Park on Feb. 26). The search is being conducted jointly by HIFIS along with the Schools of Public Health, Anthropology and Social Welfare. All lectures were held at UC Berkeley.

MARCH 3

Professor **Angela Garcia** of Stanford University spoke on her work engaging historical and institutional processes through which violence and suffering is produced and lived. A central theme of her work is the disproportionate burden of addiction, depression and incarceration among poor families and communities. Professor Garcia's book, *The Pastoral Clinic: Addiction and Dispossession Along The Rio Grande* (University of California Press, 2010), received the 2012 Victor Turner Prize and a 2010 Pen Center USA Award.

MARCH 10

Professor **Clara Han** of Johns Hopkins University spoke on her long-term research efforts which have been centered on poverty, health, and violence. Her first book, entitled *Life in Debt: Times of Care*





monthly activities cont.

and Violence in Neoliberal Chile (University of California Press, 2012), examines the experiences of care and limits amongst urban poor families in the context of the post-authoritarian state's attempts to pay "moral and social debts" to the population.

MARCH 17

Professor **Joan Fujimura** of the University of Wisconsin-Madison gave a talk entitled "What is 'Race' in the Age of Genomics?" Professor Fujimura is the Founding Director of the Robert F. and Jean E. Holtz Center for Science and Technology Studies. Prior to Madison, she was the Henry R. Luce Professor for Biotechnology and Society at Stanford University and Assistant Professor in Sociology at Harvard University. Joan Fujimura has written on developments in genetics, molecular biology, biotechnology, biomedicine and HIV-AIDS research.

MARCH 24

Professor **Osagie Obasogie** from the UC Hastings Law School gave a talk entitled "Race as a Risk Factor." Professor Obasogie's recent work asks: how do blind people understand race? By engaging in qualitative research with individuals who have been totally blind since birth, this project provides an empirical basis from which to rethink core assumptions embedded in social and legal understandings of race. His first article from this project won the Law & Society Association's John Hope Franklin Prize in addition to being named runner-up for the Distinguished Article Award by the Sociology of Law Section of the American Sociological Association.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

MARCH 20

Community Wealth Building Strategies

RICHMOND, CA

This workshop was convened to discuss how Richmond can build new community businesses and grow local businesses by engagement with major anchor institutions. The event was sponsored by the Haas Institute for a Fair and Inclusive Society, Contra Costa Interfaith Supporting Community Organization, Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment, the Safe Return Project and Mayor of Richmond Gayle McLaughlin.

find more information on these events and upcoming activities on our website at <http://diversity.berkeley.edu/haas-institute>.

