

Haas Institute for a Fair and Inclusive Society at UC Berkeley MONTHLY ACTIVITIES FOR APRIL AND MAY 2014

APRIL HIGHLIGHT

APRIL 7 - 8

Detroit Bankruptcy & Beyond

DETROIT, MI

The Haas Institute co-sponsored [the Detroit Bankruptcy & Beyond](#) convening at the Damon J. Keith Center at Wayne State University. More than 200 policymakers, scholars, advocates, and community members gathered to discuss the historical roots and effects of Detroit's municipal distress and to explore a national perspective on distressed cities. Wayne State University provided a livestream of the event, and the Haas Institute launched a live Twitter feed that generated a lot of buzz using the trending topic [#beyondbankruptcy](#).



Above: Haas Institute Director John A. Powell (third from left) stands with conference attendees and presenters at the Detroit Bankruptcy & Beyond conference in April.

HAAS INSTITUTE SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

APRIL 1

Thurgood Marshall Lecture

UCLA, CA

Director John A. Powell delivered the **25th Annual Thurgood Marshall Lecture** at UCLA, and received a prestigious award for being the 25th Thurgood Marshall Honoree. The Thurgood Marshall yearly lecture series features prominent civil rights scholars, practitioners, and advocates.

APRIL 11

Center for Social Justice and Public Service

SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, CA

Director John A. Powell was an invited panelist for the **Teaching and Learning Law and Social Justice** conference at Santa Clara University School of Law's Center for Social Justice and Public Service.

APRIL 11

UC Berkeley Admissions and Enrollment

UC BERKELEY

Assistant Director Stephen Menendian presented research for UC Berkeley's **Admissions, Enrollment, and Preparatory Education Committee** of the Academic Senate to discuss ways that UC Berkeley might improve its undergraduate admissions process to promote and achieve the benefits of diversity.

APRIL 11

Introspection: What Does It Mean to Be Asian American?

UCLA LAW SCHOOL

Associate Director Michael Omi was an invited panelist for the conference on Asian American political identity organized by the UCLA Asian Pacific American Law Journal.

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES CONTINUED: APRIL 2014

APRIL 15

San Francisco Unified School District Professional Learning Community

SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Director John A. Powell and Race, Diversity & Educational Policy Cluster Chair Na'ilah Nasir presented at the **San Francisco Unified School District's Professional Learning Community**, a group of 50 leaders from across the school system. The Haas, Jr. Fund is supporting the National Equity Project to assist the school district with developing an African American student achievement strategy plan.

APRIL 17-19

International Islamophobia Conference

UC BERKELEY

The Haas Institute co-sponsored the **Fifth Annual International Islamophobia Conference**. The conference theme was "Latent and Manifest Islamophobia: Multimodal Engagements with the Production of Knowledge," inspired by Edward Said's work on Orientalism. The conference highlighted genres of scholarly and artistic production over a week that explored the maintenance and extension of existing power paradigms by bringing together academics, thinkers, practitioners, researchers, and artists from around the globe who engage, question and challenge the existing disparities in economic, political, social, and cultural relations. Haas Institute's Global Justice Program Director **Elsadig Elsheikh** moderated a panel at the conference.

APRIL 24

Conversation on Race

BEREA COLLEGE, KY

In this event sponsored by the **Carter G. Woodson Center for Interracial Education** at Berea College, Director John A. Powell held a conversation with renowned scholar and author **bell hooks**, who has written over thirty books, many focused on issues of social class, race, and gender. **Conversation on Race** generated an audience from across the Kentucky region.

APRIL 26

Racial Formation Symposium: Race and Neighborhood Change

ST. LOUIS, MO

Associate Director Michael Omi gave the keynote address, "Racial Formation and the Delmar Divide," for a symposium on housing segregation and racial change organized by the Missouri History Museum.

APRIL 28

The Hard Work of Reconciliation: A Conference Honoring Nelson Mandela

UC BERKELEY

Speakers included Linda Biehl and Ntobeko Peni, who partnered to help youth in impoverished South African townships, and Albie Sachs, who served as a justice on the country's Constitutional Court, celebrated the legacy of Nelson R. Mandela by sharing their experiences in the anti-apartheid and reconciliation movements in South Africa. A second panel discussed restorative justice in cases regarding assault on indigenous lands and peoples. Read Director John A. Powell's article on Mandela on the [Haas Institute's blog](#).

APRIL 30

Just Giving Conference

UC BERKELEY

Director John A. Powell presented for the **Edge Funders Alliance** at the **Just Giving 2014 Global Social Change Philanthropy Conference**. For the workshop, "Towards an Ecological and Socially Just Transition to the Next Economy," Powell spoke about the circle of human concern and its relations to space and corporate misalignment. Other presenters included Taj James of the Movement Strategy Center and Saru Jayaraman of ROC-United and Food Labor Research Center.

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES CONTINUED: MAY 2014

MAY HIGHLIGHT

MAY 8

Jobs, Education and Wealth at the Richmond Bay Campus: A Community Forum

RICHMOND, CA

The Haas Institute sponsored **Jobs, Education and Wealth at the Richmond Bay Campus: A Forum to Win Education, Small Business and Job Opportunities for Richmond Residents**. Community organizations came together to discuss the opportunities that the establishment of the UC Berkeley and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory's Richmond Bay Campus will bring to the City of Richmond and its residents. This forum is part of the Haas Institute's ongoing work in advocacy around anchor institutions.



Richmond-based community organizations enumerated goals for the Richmond Bay Campus at a community forum on May 8.

MAY 1

Macroeconomic Perspectives on Student Debt

UC BERKELEY

Haas Institute co-sponsored a seminar featuring Stephanie Kelton, Associate Professor of Economics at the University of Missouri-Kansas; Debbie Cochrane, a leading expert on financial issues in California; and Hannah Appel, an economic anthropologist. The seminar and panel discussion addressed the growing student debt crisis and offered alternatives for a new understanding of the financial system. View videos of the event [here](#).

MAY 2

Breaking Barriers, Building Community

UC BERKELEY

Associate Director Michael Omi moderated the **Engaging Communities as Partners for Change: Race, Space, Place** panel at the "Breaking Barriers, Building Community: 35 Years of Training Social Change Scholars" conference hosted by the Institute for the Study of Societal Issues. Claude Steele, UC Berke-

ley Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost, and Troy Duster, founding director of ISSI and Chancellor's Professor, also spoke about academia's relevance to achieving social justice.

MAY 8 - 9

Restoring Community Wealth Convening and Underwater America Report Launch

RICHMOND, CA

The Haas Institute sponsored **Restoring Community Wealth**, a national convening on foreclosure strategies. The Institute also released the "Underwater America" report, which analyzes data indicating that the "housing recovery" is bypassing many communities, particularly communities of color. You can read the report [here](#).

MAY 21

Summit on Race and Inclusion

HOLLAND, MI

Director John A. Powell delivered a keynote speech to more than 700 attendees at the Lakeshore Ethnic Diversity Alliance Summit on Race and Inclusion. Powell shared how implicit bias prevents us

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES CONTINUED: MAY 2014

from achieving an equitable society and offered approaches to minimize the effects of implicit bias and promoting racial equity. Read event coverage by the *Holland Sentinel* [here](#).

MAY 28

Government Alliance on Race and Equity Lecture

UC BERKELEY

Julie Nelson, Senior Fellow at the Haas Institute, gave a lecture on the development of the **Government Alliance on Race and Equity**, a national network of government agencies working to achieve racial equity. Nelson detailed racial equity toolkits that municipalities could use to advance equity efforts, and pointed to Seattle as a model with promising practices.

FROM OUR RESEARCH CLUSTERS

APRIL 1

The UN Disability Rights Treaty: Participation, Politics, and Prospects

Professor **Michael Stein** gave a lecture titled “The UN Disability Rights Treaty: Participation, Politics, and Prospects” as part of the **Disability Studies Cluster Spring Lecture Series**. Executive Director of the Harvard Law School Project on Disability and former Cabell Professor at William and Mary Law School, Stein played a prominent role in the drafting of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. A widely published and internationally known scholar, Professor Stein counsels governments on disability law and policy, represents international disability rights organizations, and trains disability human rights advocates around the globe.

APRIL 5

Economic Mobility Study Raises Distressing Questions About Child Welfare

THE CHRONICLE OF SOCIAL CHANGE

The work of **Emmanuel Saez**, a member of the Haas Institute’s **Economic Disparities Cluster**, was featured in an article on a landmark inequality report. Part of a research team that included economists from UC Berkeley and Harvard, Saez co-authored **The Equality of Opportunity Project**, which measures income mobility in the United States. **Hilary Hoynes**, Distinguished Chair of the Economic Disparities Cluster, was quoted in the [article](#).

APRIL 8

Deaf What? Constructing James Castle

Professor **Brenda Brueggemann** gave a lecture titled “Deaf What? Constructing James Castle” as part of the **Disability Studies Cluster Spring Lecture Series**. Brueggemann is Professor of English at University of Louisville, where she recently joined the faculty as Director of the University Composition Program. Brueggemann is an international figure in Disability Studies, one of the founders of the field in the late nineties. She has written several books, and has served as editor for the Gallaudet University Press “Deaf Lives” series and coedited the journal, *Disability Studies Quarterly*, from 2006-2012. Brueggemann was the founder and faculty advisor for the American Sign Language program, and the director for the interdisciplinary Disability Studies program at Ohio State University.

APRIL 10

Shari’a and the Rule of Law

Anver Emon, Law Professor at the University of Toronto, gave a lecture titled “Shari’a and the Rule of Law” as part of the **Religious Diversity Cluster Spring Lecture Series**. Emon is an internationally recognized scholar of Islamic law who works across multiple legal traditions. He consults for governments, NGOs and legal advocacy groups around the

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES CONTINUED: MAY 2014

world. Emon's research focuses on premodern and modern Islamic legal history and theory, premodern modes of governance and adjudication, and the role of Shari'a both inside and outside the Muslim world.

APRIL 14

Trans/Disabilities: Sex, Eugenics, and Disability Discourses in Contemporary Japan

Professor **Karen Nakamura** gave a lecture related to her current book project, *Trans/Japan, Trans/Disability*, which is about the transgender population in southern Japan and the uses of disability law by transgender activists. The lecture was part of the **Disability Studies Cluster Spring Lecture Series**. Nakamura is an Associate Professor of Anthropology and East Asian Studies at Yale University. She has also made two ethnographic films: the award-winning *A Japanese Funeral* (2010) and *Bethel: Community and Schizophrenia in Northern Japan* (2007).

APRIL 17

The Making of an Educational Policy Entrepreneur: The Roles of Race, Class, Ideology in America

Tina Trujillo, Assistant Professor at UC Berkeley's Graduate School of Education and member of the Haas Institute's **Race, Diversity & Educational Policy Cluster**, gave a lecture titled, "The Making of an Educational Policy Entrepreneur: The Roles of Race, Class, and Ideology in Teach for America" as part of the cluster's Spring 2014 Faculty Speaker Series.

APRIL 18

Transgender Studies Symposium

UC BERKELEY

The **LGBTQ Citizenship Research Cluster's** day-long symposium titled "**Transgender Studies Matters**" integrated cutting-edge research from a spectrum of emerging scholars ranging from political work on art and activism to ongoing discussions about policy implications.



Attendees and speakers from the LGBTQ Citizenship Research Cluster's "Transgender Studies Matters" symposium

APRIL 21

Islam and Pluralism?

Roxanne L. Euben, Ralph Emerson and Alice Freeman Palmer Professor of Political Science at Wellesley College, gave a lecture entitled "Islam and Religious Pluralism?" as part of the **Religious Diversity Cluster Spring Lecture Series**. Professor Euben explored why questions about the relationship between Islam and religious pluralism often descend into claims and counter-claims about the intolerance or ecumenicalism of Islam. Euben outlined an Islamic ethos of *talab al-'ilm* (travel in search of knowledge), and argued that it constitutes an exhortation to Muslims to regard openness to and appreciation of religious pluralism as an enactment of Islamic piety.

APRIL 23

Risk, Disability, and the History of Adoption in America

Professor **Sandra Sufian** gave a lecture entitled "Risk, Disability, and the History of Adoption in America" as part of the **Disability Studies Cluster Spring Lecture Series**. Sufian is an Associate Professor of Medical Humanities and History in the Department of Medical Education of the College of Medicine, and an As-

MONTHLY ACTIVITIES CONTINUED: MAY 2014

sociate Professor of Disability Studies in the Department of Disability and Human Development in the College of Applied Health Sciences at the University of Illinois-Chicago. She is also co-founder and organizer of a national mentorship program for graduate student historians of disability, and is on the Disability Culture Committee and ADA Committee at UIC.

APRIL 24

Sub-contracting Race: Education, Philosophy, and Racism

Zeus Leonardo, Associate Professor at UC Berkeley's Graduate School of Education and member of **Race, Diversity & Educational Policy Cluster**, gave a lecture titled, "Sub-contracting Race: Education, Philosophy, and Racism" as part of the cluster's Spring 2014 Faculty Speaker Series.

APRIL 25

Birth of the Culture Wars: How Race Divided American Religion

Melissa Wilde, Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of Pennsylvania, gave a talk entitled "Birth of the Culture Wars: How Race Divided American Religion" as part of the **Religious Diversity Cluster Spring Lecture Series**. Starting with the question "How did we get here?" Wilde delved into the history of the first religious debates about birth control to demonstrate that the politics of sex and gender that today divide American religion are rooted in inequalities of race and class.

APRIL 29

Choreographies of Sharing: Sacred Sites in Ottoman and Contemporary Turkey

Karen Barkey, Professor of Sociology from Columbia University, lectured on "Choreographies of Sharing: Sacred Sites in Ottoman and Contemporary Turkey"

as part of the **Religious Diversity Cluster Spring Lecture Series**. Her presentation focused on how different religious groups come to share one distinct space. Professor Barkey spoke of her ethnographic research examining how these practices continue, and how the narratives of diversity and identity have been changing under national political circumstances.

APRIL 30

Ending Untouchability: Hinduism, Exclusion and Indian State Building

Christian Davenport, Professor of Political Science from the University of Michigan gave a lecture entitled "Ending Untouchability: Hinduism, Exclusion and Indian State Building" as part of the **Religious Diversity Cluster Spring Lecture Series**. Professor Davenport's talk focused on his ongoing research project to conceptualize and measure untouchability across 1,589 villages and individuals in Gujarat, India. He also put forth an argument regarding the importance of Indian state building and offered preliminary evidence suggesting that untouchability is strongest where the Indian government is weakest.

MAY 19

School Spending Increased Linked to Better Outcomes for Poor Students

EDUCATION WEEK

Race, Diversity & Educational Policy Cluster member **Rucker Johnson's** co-authored working paper published for the National Bureau of Economic Research titled "The Effect of School Finance Reforms on the Distribution of Spending, Academic Achievement, and Adult Outcomes" was featured in *Education Week*. Full article available [online](#).