



Co-Directors, Kevin R. Johnson &
Raquel E. Aldana
Legal Fellow, Yoxira Espinoza

<https://law.ucdavis.edu/academics/center/s/aoki-center>

UC Davis School of Law
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Dear King Hall Community,

Thank you for your continued support of the Aoki Center for Critical Race & Nation Studies. The Center remains committed to its mission of fostering multi-disciplinary scholarship and practice that critically examine the law through the lens of race, ethnicity, indigeneity, citizenship, and class.

This 2022-2023 calendar year, the Center invited scholars, researchers, directors, and leaders from the UC Davis Campus and beyond to speak on a wide array of issues that impact our culture and society. The Aoki Center hosts the 1L Critical Perspectives Series, the Interdisciplinary Speaker Series, the Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) Series and co-hosts the Racial Justice Speaker Series (which will be detailed on pages 2 - 4). Altogether, the Center hosted and co-hosted about 30 speakers across various disciplines on topics ranging from Crimmigration to Linguistic Solidarity in Black and Latinx Youth.

The Center is fortunate to have the support of King Hall faculty who share the Center's commitment to affect change in critical. This year, Professor Mary Ziegler became one of our Aoki Faculty Affiliates. Professor Ziegler is a leading expert on the law, history, and politics of reproduction, health care, and conservatism. Our Faculty Affiliates continue to be leaders in ground-breaking research and some of this work & accomplishments that relates to the mission of the Aoki Center will be detailed on pages 5 - 6 of this report.

Furthermore, the Aoki Co-Directors, Dean Johnson and Professor Aldana, continue to defend and implement CRT initiatives. Most notably, they created a book series devoted to contemporary Critical Race Theory and its challenge to racism and discrimination in U.S. society, details of which will be provided on page 7 of the report. Dean Johnson and Professor Aldana are supporters of initiatives like the Opportunity for All Campaign, which was approved by the UC Regents a few weeks ago, and the termination of the Dedicated Docket - which is a fast-track immigration court initiative targeting families seeking asylum in the United States. The Aoki Center also filed a brief in conjunction with the Korematsu Center on Tingley v. Ferguson, and Professor Aldana drafted a statement in support of the the name change for UC Law San Francisco (formerly known as UC Hastings).

The Aoki Center also has a [blog](#) and we welcome commentators to send us posts pertaining to CRT. Some recent posts include: MLK and Border Justice, The End of the Title 42 Order – a Return To Border Migration Normalcy and Due Process of Law, Victory for Undocumented Students: Hiring Restrictions Removed for All UC Students and The Ninth Circuit, Racism, and Immigration Law.

Lastly, in my capacity as the Aoki Fellow, I organized and moderated the Migrant Busing Crisis & Advance Parole Talks and participated in the LatCrit Conference last October (all which will be detailed on page 8). Thank you once again for making this program successful. Our program would not have been possible without the help from Nina Marie Bell, our Program Coordinator, and Andrea Lopez Arguallo, King Hall IT. We look forward to the amazing things, Giselle Garcia, the Aoki Center Legal Fellow '23, will do.

Sincerely,

Yoxira Espinoza Guzman
Aoki Center Legal Fellow '22



1L Critical Perspectives Series



CIVIL PROCEDURE – PROFESSOR STACY-ANN ELVY

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 6

12 - 1 p.m. | King Hall Room 1301 | Live & Via Zoom

Register in advance for this meeting:

https://ucdavislaw.zoom.us/j/6wceqjwqEzQe_HdWUpne3BmhC6LeeV0



CONTRACTS – PROFESSOR TOM JOO

"FREEDOM OF CONTRACT" AND LOAN DISCRIMINATION

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 8

12 - 1 p.m. | King Hall Room 1301 | Live & Via Zoom

Register in advance for this meeting:

https://ucdavislaw.zoom.us/j/6wceqjwqEzQe_HdWUpne3BmhC6LeeV0



CRIMINAL LAW – PROFESSOR RAQUEL ALDANA

CRIMMIGRATION

TUESDAY OCTOBER 25

12 - 1 p.m. | King Hall Room 1301 | Live & Via Zoom

Register in advance for this meeting:

https://ucdavislaw.zoom.us/j/6wceqjwqEzQe_HdWUpne3BmhC6LeeV0



Tort Law

Professor Leticia Saucedo

Tuesday, January 17, 2023

Noon - 1 PM | Room 1001 - Lunch Provided | VIA ZOOM

https://ucdavislaw.zoom.us/j/6wceqjwqEzQe_HdWUpne3BmhC6LeeV0

https://ucdavislaw.zoom.us/j/6wceqjwqEzQe_HdWUpne3BmhC6LeeV0



Property Law

Professor Alix Rogers

Monday, January 23, 2023

Noon - 1 PM | Room 1001 - Lunch Provided | VIA ZOOM

https://ucdavislaw.zoom.us/j/6wceqjwqEzQe_HdWUpne3BmhC6LeeV0

https://ucdavislaw.zoom.us/j/6wceqjwqEzQe_HdWUpne3BmhC6LeeV0



Constitutional Law

Professor Aaron Tang

Tuesday, January 24, 2023

Noon - 1 PM | Room 1301 - Lunch Provided | VIA ZOOM

https://ucdavislaw.zoom.us/j/6wceqjwqEzQe_HdWUpne3BmhC6LeeV0

https://ucdavislaw.zoom.us/j/6wceqjwqEzQe_HdWUpne3BmhC6LeeV0

The purpose of the “Critical Perspectives” talks is twofold. First, we seek to expose first-year students to critical perspectives that often do not make it onto the syllabus of regular first-year classes. Given the high level of interest among King Hall students in social justice, this exposure will connect many students to the concerns and perspectives that brought them to law school in the first place.

The second goal of the series is to connect King Hall students more closely with their faculty. King Hall has an extraordinarily accomplished faculty with expertise in areas of race, immigration, gender, and sexuality. Through these lunch talks, interested students can learn more about the cutting edge of legal scholarship in these fields and develop a better understanding of faculty research projects.

HSI Series



PROFESSOR DANNY C. MARTINEZ

UC DAVIS SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Danny C. Martinez, Ph.D. is Associate Professor of Language, Literacy and Culture and Chancellor Fellow in the School of Education at the University of California Davis. He is currently the Chair of the Graduate Group in Education. His research has explored the language and literacy practices of Black and Latinx youth in secondary literacy classrooms. Through a recent grant awarded by the Spencer Foundation, Martinez is conducting research with and alongside Teachers of Color in Northern California to explore what cultural and linguistic assets teachers of color bring to their teaching of children and youth of color in our schools. His research has been supported by the Ford Foundation, the Spencer Foundation and the McDonnell Foundation, and has been published in *Anthropology and Education Quarterly*, *Review of Research in Education*, *Research in the Teaching of English*, and *Applied Linguistics* among others. Martinez is a former teacher, and is proud to be from South Gate, California.



DR. MARCELA G. CUELLAR

UC DAVIS SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Dr. Marcela G. Cuellar is an associate professor in the School of Education at the University of California, Davis. Her research examines Latinx/a student experiences and outcomes at Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs), campus climate, and community college baccalaureates. She is currently co-leading a research project examining the unique role of R1 HSIs, especially within the University of California. Her scholarship has been published in the *American Journal of Education*, *Community College Review*, *Journal of Higher Education*, and *Review of Higher Education*.

She holds a BA in Psychology and Spanish from Stanford University, a MA in Higher Education Leadership from the University of San Diego, and a PhD in Education (Higher Education and Organizational Change) from the University of California, Los Angeles. Originally from Oxnard, California, she is the proud daughter of Mexican immigrants.



DR. LUIS CARVAJAL-CARMONA

UC DAVIS

Dr. Luis Carvajal-Carmona is a professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Medicine and holds the Auburn Community Cancer Endowed Chair in Basic Science in the University of California Davis (UCD). He is the Associate Director for the Inclusivity, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility (IDEA) Office, and the Founder/Director of the Latinos United for Cancer Health Advancement (LUCHA) Initiative and of the Center for Advancing Cancer Health Equity at the UCD Comprehensive Cancer Center. Dr. Carvajal-Carmona specializes on cancer genetics, epidemiology, health disparities and global health. He has discovered multiple cancer susceptibility genes and variants and has published over 100 manuscripts in influential journals such as *Nature Genetics*, *Gastroenterology*, *American Journal of Human Genetics*, *Lancet Gastroenterology and Hepatology* and *PNAS*. His main contributions to science include the elucidation of the genetic origins of Latino populations, the discovery of the first common variants increasing risk of colorectal cancer and the identification of a novel familial form of gastric cancer. All his research effort are community-focused following a bench to community approach. In addition to his passionate pursuit for scientific research, Dr. Carvajal-Carmona is a keen supporter of a diverse biomedical research force. He has mentored dozens of undergraduate and graduate students, 95% of whom have been first-generation college graduates and members of under-represented groups. His mentees have been awarded 50+ fellowships and research awards and are all currently pursuing higher education or are employed at leading institutions and companies. In addition to the satisfaction of helping people with his research, Dr. Carvajal-Carmona's most rewarding accomplishment is to see his mentees shine and achieve their dreams. He has been awarded the UCD Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Mentoring Undergraduate Research and the UCD ADVANCE Scholar Award for his outstanding scholarship and mentorship.

LEVERAGING BLACK AND LATINX YOUTH INGENUITY FOR LINGUISTIC SOLIDARITY

In U.S. public schools Black and Latinx youth have experienced a range of harms brought about by restrictive educational policies and practices. These policies and practices limit how Black and Latinx youth experience their familial and community cultural and linguistic practices in schools. That is, Black and Latinx youth are likely to be viewed as needing remediation when they display communicative practices associated with their racial or ethnic group. This talk will highlight ethnographic data from two respective projects in California high schools where Black and Latinx youth are the majority populations. Through a lens of ingenuity, Martinez will discuss what happens when we forefront ingenuity of Black and Latinx youth in research, over supposed deficits. In doing so, Martinez argues for leveraging of Black and Latinx youth's linguistic flexibility toward a relational understanding of solidarity between these racialized groups. Martinez will present classroom data to make the case that Black and Latinx youth are already engaged in culturally sustaining practices that adults can use to create powerful learning activities that encourage a move toward solidarity.



INTERROGATING THE INTERSECTION OF ORGANIZATIONAL IDENTITIES WITHIN HISPANIC-SERVING RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS (HSRIS)

Over the past 25 years, the number of Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs) has grown exponentially in the United States. In fall 2020-21, there were 559 HSIs compared to 311 ten years earlier. While HSIs are commonly identified by at least a 25% Latinx/a undergraduate and 50% low-income student enrollment threshold, these institutions vary across institutional characteristics, including degree offerings, location, and institutional resources. Historically, most HSIs have been open and broad access institutions, but a growing number are also research institutions (HSRIs). More culturally responsive and asset-based approaches to serving Latinx/a communities are necessary as these selective institutions that were predominantly white educate more racially diverse populations. Dr. Cuellar will discuss emergent themes on organizational identities and individual level analyses based on a growing body of scholarship exploring HSIs and the experiences of Latinx/a students, faculty, and staff within these institutions. In doing so, this talk explores tensions and possibilities in the transformation of HSIs to be more humanizing and intentionally enact servings.



ADVANCING CANCER HEALTH EQUITY THROUGH COMMUNITY-FOCUSED RESEARCH

Our research group is interested in the study of cancer genetic susceptibility. We use genetic, genomic and functional approaches to identify novel cancer-causing gene and mutations in human populations, to investigate the function of genetic variation associated with disease and to carry out pre-clinical studies aimed at developing better molecularly guided therapies. We are also interested in investigating somatic genetic pathways and clonal architecture of common cancer types. An important number of our studies focus on the genetics and epidemiology of cancer in Latinos, for which we have developed long-standing collaborations with researchers in Latin America and Europe. At the UC Davis School of Medicine, we are active members of our Comprehensive Cancer Center where I am the Associate Director for Basic Science and lead the Latinos United for Cancer Health Advancement (LUCHA) Initiative.



In 2019, the UC Davis Hispanic Serving Institution Taskforce issued a report titled *Investing in Rising Scholars and Serving the State of California: What it means for UC Davis to Become a Hispanic Serving Institution*. The recommendations in this report embarked UC Davis on an equity project and called for transformative changes that aligned with the UC Davis mission as a public, land grant university in one of the most diverse states in the nation. This speaker series explores topics related to the role of higher education in promoting equity at UC Davis, our neighboring communities, and the state of California.

Racial Justice Speaker Series



King Hall's Racial Justice Speaker Series

Created in response to the tragic killings by police of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and others and the widespread protests that followed, UC Davis Law's Racial Justice Speaker Series is now in its third year. Reaffirming the law school's longtime commitment to racial justice, the series invites leading scholars from around the country to explore systemic racism as it pertains to all communities of color and areas of law.

The goals are to inform, enlighten, and - most important - engage in meaningful conversation with our King Hall community and the larger public.

Aoki Faculty Affiliates



Andrea Cann Chandrasekher is a Professor of Law, whose research lies within the fields of empirical arbitration and criminal justice public policy. Some of her works in progress include: "Race and Space: An Experimental Examination of How Exposure to Other Races Affects Perceptions of Personal Space" (with Richard Brooks), and An Empirical Investigation of Diversity in U.S. Arbitration.



Gabriel Chin is a teacher and scholar of Immigration Law, Criminal Procedure, and Race and Law. Some of his recent publications include: *Slave Law, Race Law*, 94 *UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO LAW REVIEW* 551 (2023) and *The End of California's Alien Land Law: A Case Study in Reparations and Transitional Justice*, 29 *ASIAN AMERICAN LAW JOURNAL* 17 (2022) (with Anna Ratner).



Mary Louise Frampton is Professor of Law Emerita and former Director of the Aoki Center. She is currently a visiting scholar at UNC Chapel Hill working on a book on the trials arising out of the 1979 Greensboro Massacre. Some of her latest publications are: "Can Restorative Justice Transform School Culture in California? Qualitative Research Shines a Little Light," *UC Hastings Race and Poverty Journal* and *UC Hastings Gender and Law Journal Special Issue* (Spring 2023)
"Common Threads of Racial Injustice From Tulsa to Greensboro to the Present," 57 *TULSA Law Review* 141 (2022).



Angela P. Harris is Professor of Law Emerita and while at King Hall founded the Aoki Center. Her research & expertise are in CRT, Feminist Jurisprudence, Law & Cultural Studies, Race Relations, Women's Rights, and Law & Society.



Lisa C. Ikemoto teaches bioethics, health care law, public health law, reproductive rights, law & policy, and marital property. Some of her recent projects include: rewrite of the California Supreme Court's opinion in *Moore v. Regents of the University of California* (Cal. 1990), from a feminist perspective, and a chapter in "Religious Lochnerism in Health Care, Reproducing Racial Purity in Direct to Consumer Markets and Fear and Hope for Reproductive Justice After Roe."



Irene Oritseweyinmi Joe teaches Criminal Law, Criminal Procedure, Professional Responsibility (Legal Ethics), and Voir Dire (Jury Selection). Some of her recent contributions include: *Learning from Mistakes* (forthcoming Washington and Lee Law Review 2023) and *Everyday Injustice*, Podcast Episode 145, Vanguard News Group (March 2022).

Aoki Faculty Affiliates



Thomas Joo specializes in corporate governance, contract law, white collar crime, critical race theory and antitrust. Some of his latest contributions include: *CONTRACTING LAW*, 6th ed. (Carolina Academic Press, forthcoming 2023)(with Deborah Post, Deborah Zalesne, and Nancy Ota) and *The Harms of Police Surveillance Technology Monopolies* (with Elizabeth Joh) *DENVER LAW REVIEW FORUM* (2022) (invited symposium contribution).



Courtney Joslin teaches in the areas of Constitutional Law, Employment Discrimination, Family Law, and Sexuality, Gender, and the Law. Some of her latest publications include: *SOCIAL PARENTHOOD IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE* (NYU Press 2023) (co-editor with Clare Huntington & Christiane von Bary), *SEXUALITY, GENDER, AND THE LAW* (Foundation Press, 5th ed. 2023) (with William N. Eskridge Jr & Nan D. Hunter), and *How Parenthood Functions*, 123 *COLUMBIA LAW REVIEW* 319 (2023) (with Douglas NeJaime).



Lisa R. Pruitt is a Professor of Law, her research interests and expertise include: Law and Rural Livelihoods, CRT, Feminist Jurisprudence, Legal Profession, Critical Whiteness Studies & Torts. Some of her recent publications include: *Rural Bashing*, 57 *University of Richmond Law Review* 963 (2023) (with Kaceylee Klein) and "Investigating Access to Justice, the Rural Lawyer Shortage, and Implications for Civil and Criminal Legal Systems," 67-68 in *Research Methods for Rural Criminologists* (Ralph Weisheit, Artur Pytlarz, and Jessica Peterson, eds.) (Routledge, 2022) (with Andrew Davies).



Leticia Saucedo is a Professor of Law and an expert in employment, labor, CRT and immigration law. She teaches immigration law, employment law, labor law and torts. She is also completing an in-residence at MALDEF as National Senior Counsel and has begun a Migrant & Labor Center.



Mary Ziegler is an expert on the law, history, and politics of reproduction, health care, and conservatism in the United States from 1945 to the present. Some of her recent contributions include: editing a comparative volume on the international law of abortion with Elgar Press that includes scholars from every continent, and a piece in the *Harvard Law Review Forum* responding to Dov Fox's article on medical disobedience.

The Co-Directors



Kevin R. Johnson is Co-Director of the Aoki Center, Dean and Mabie-Apallas Professor of Public Interest Law and Chicana/o Studies. He is a well-renowned expert in Immigration Law and Policy, Refugee Law, Critical Latina/o Theory, and CRT. Some of his latest publications include: Immigration Law and Social Justice (Aspen Casebook Series Wolters Kluwer, 2017 and 2d ed., 2022) (with Bill Ong Hing and Jennifer M. Chacón) (and 2023 Supplements and Teacher's Manual), Teaching Racial and Social Justice in the Immigration Law Survey Course, 67 St. Louis University Law Journal 473 (2023) (symposium issue), and The Racist Foundations of Modern U.S. Immigration Law, in Handbook on Race, Racism, and the Law (Edward Elgar Publishing, Aziza Ahmed & Guy Uriel-Charles editors, forthcoming 2023).



Raquel E. Aldana is Co-Director of the Aoki Center and Professor of Law. Her research interests & expertise include: Immigration Law And Policy, Latinos And The Law, International Human Rights, and Sustainable Development in Latin America and Central American Studies. Some of her recent publications include: Repairing Fixable Trauma in Immigration in Trauma-Informed Lawyering (ABA 2023); Taming Immigration Trauma, Cardozo L. Rev. (Winter 2022); and Trauma as Inclusion, Tennessee Law Review (along with Koga, Patrick Marius and O'Donnell, Thomas and Skwara, Alea and Perris, Caroline). She was selected as a fellow of the prestigious Council of Foreign Relations in 2022.

CRITICAL RACE THEORY BOOK SERIES

Dean Johnson and Professor Aldana, in their position as Aoki co-directors are working with the UC Press on a CRT book series. The series aims to provide an insight on the past, present, and future of Critical Race Theory. Although the intricacies of the program are still being discussed, the co-directors envision an early book in the series offering background about what CRT is and is not and dispelling myths about CRT. They further propose "that another of the early installments in the series focus on the full richness of multiracial America, including the many different communities marginalized throughout U.S. history."



We applaud Alexis S. Elston, Director of Diversity and Student Life, and the MLK committee for their leadership and planning of the MLK Day of Service at King Hall. The Day of service consisted of a blood drive, naturalization workshop at the Mexican Consulate in Sacramento and donations for the Malcolm X Academy.

Aoki Legal Fellow



The Migrant Crisis: From the Border to Martha's Vineyard

Please join us for a discussion led by Iván Espinoza-Madrigal, the Executive Director of Lawyers for Civil Rights (LCR) in Boston, the organization representing the Venezuelan migrants sent by Ron deSantis to Martha's Vineyard.

Thursday, November 10, 2022
Virtual Only Event
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
Register Here: tinyurl.com/2z3nvv99

Our Speaker:

Iván Espinoza-Madrigal
Iván Espinoza-Madrigal is the Executive Director of the Lawyers for Civil Rights (LCR), an organization founded at the request of President John F. Kennedy in the 1960s at the height of the civil rights movement. Iván is an expert in legal protections for people of color and immigrants. He has filed and won dozens of life-changing and law-changing cases across the country. He advises federal, state and local policymakers on the legal needs of marginalized communities. His work is regularly featured in publications such as the New York Times, including his most recent work with migrants relocated to Martha's Vineyard. He graduated from the University of Pennsylvania and NYU School of Law. Iván currently serves on the Board of Ambassadors of Eastern Bank, the Board of Directors of the New England Foundation for the Arts (NEFA), and the Board of Trustees of Crossroads, a youth empowerment summer camp.

Rediscovering Mexico: Stories & Experiences with Advance Parole

Please join us for a discussion led by Cinthya Bolaños Zamora, Marcela Fonseca, Maribel Magaña, Paulina Torres, and Professor Armando Vasquez-Ramos (Director of CA-MEX Studies Center).

Tuesday, March 21, 2023
Zoom Event with Live Viewing in RM 1301
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (PST)
Zoom Link: <https://tinyurl.com/yhpdvkb8>

Our Panel:

Marcela Bolaños Zamora
Paulina Torres
Prof. Armando Vasquez-Ramos
Cinthya Bolaños Zamora
Maribel Magaña

This past Winter Break, students and young professionals from across the country traveled back to Mexico with Advance Parole. The Dreamers embarked on this journey with the help of the California-Mexico Studies Center (CMSC). In 2014, CMSC established the California-Mexico Dreamers' Study Abroad Program (DSAP). Since its initiation, DSAP has allowed over thousands of Dreamers the opportunity to study abroad in Mexico. Dreamers from Winter Program will address the Advance Parole application process, recent stories and experiences from their time in Mexico, shed light into their experience re-entering into the US, and many more. For more information on CMSC and DSAP, please visit <https://www.california-mexicostudiescenter.org/> and check out their latest documentary on YouTube: <https://youtu.be/UCoabtyrmlng>.

From October 13 through October 15, 2022, I attended the Society of American Law Teachers Conference in the beautiful city of Chicago. In a matter of three days, I was exposed to a plethora of work and ideas from academics and activists across the nation. The theme was Rest and Resistance, so the importance of rest was emphasized throughout the conference. In order to fight the resistance, the injustices, and the attacks on CRT, lawyers need to learn to sustain themselves through self-care of the soul, mind and body. Though there was a profusion of talks during the three-day conference, one of the highlights was listening to a panel of Afghan refugees. The women, some prosecutors and another journalists, recounted their heart-wrenching stories of persecution in their home country. They left promising careers as professional women due to concerns for their safety. Despite all of the adversity they experienced, they remained hopeful and willing to continue the fight to help the women in their country. Listening to them, reaffirmed my commitment and mission to help the immigrant and refugee community. Additionally, in my capacity as the Aoki Fellow, I organized and moderated the Migrant Busing Crisis and Advanced Parole Talks.