The following article was posted to the website of the Western University Examiner on Monday, August 29, 2011 (available online at http://www.yourhoustonnews.com/west_university/news/roundtable-to-discuss-death-row-minority-defendants/article_1f214278-c4be-5fe7-b3c8-1af2339ed27.html):

**Roundtable to discuss Death Row minority defendants**

A panel of scholars and legal experts will discuss the impact of the death penalty, particularly on minority defendants at a roundtable to be held 6-8 p.m. at the University of St. Thomas in the Jerabeck Center's Scanlan Room, 3800 Montrose Blvd.

Topics to be addressed include capital punishment, disregard of Geneva Conventions and other accords concerning consulates and detained nationals.

Panelists include:

Ricardo Ampudia, a journalist, former Mexican Consul General of Houston and author of "Mexicans on Death Row," which explores the history and ethics of capital punishment and how it affects the sentencing of Mexicans in the U.S.

Scott J. Atlas, a former litigation partner with Vinson & Elkins, who led the legal team that won the release of Ricardo Aldape Guerra, an undocumented worker who spent 14 years on Texas' death row. He was the first Mexican National ever released from Texas’ death row.

Nicole Casarez, attorney and UST professor, who teaches journalism, media law, public relations and media ethics. Casarez’s affiliation with the Texas Innocence Network has led to investigative work on several capital and non-capital cases, including that of Texas death row inmate Anthony Graves.


The event is free and open to the public, and is followed by a book-signing by Ampudia.