

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON LAW CENTER
& HOBBY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

PRESENTS

POLICY PRESCRIPTIONS FOR THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION



MAY 21, 2021 | 8:20 AM – 5:30 PM (CDT) | Zoom

Approved for 6.5 Texas CLE credits

Please join the University of Houston Law Center and Hobby School of Public Affairs for “Policy Prescriptions for the Biden Administration,” an all-day virtual event featuring candid analysis by a cross-section of national leaders discussing the President’s policies on the national budget, tax policy and the economy, health law and policy, voting rights and redistricting, racial justice/immigration, and energy/environment law and policy.

UNIVERSITY of **HOUSTON**

HOSTED BY:

Law Center and Hobby School of Public Affairs

AGENDA

TIME	TOPIC	PANELISTS	MODERATORS
8:20 – 8:30 AM	Welcome	Leonard M. Baynes, Dean UH Law Center Kirk P. Watson, Dean Hobby School of Public Affairs	
8:30 – 9:45 AM	Budget/Tax	Jason Furman, PhD, Aetna Professor of the Practice of Economic Policy, Harvard University Kennedy School Mark P. Mills, Senior Fellow, Manhattan Institute Beverly I. Moran, Professor of Law Emerita, Vanderbilt Law School	Jim Granato, PhD, Associate Dean, Hobby School of Public Affairs and Professor, Political Science
9:45 – 10 AM	Break/Set-up		
10 – 11:15 AM	Health	Brian Blase, President and CEO, Blase Policy Strategies Timothy S. Jost, Professor Emeritus, Washington and Lee University School of Law Larry Levitt, Executive Vice President for Health Policy, Kaiser Family Foundation Jacob Reider, MD, CEO Alliance for Better Health	Seth J. Chandler, Law Foundation Professor of Law, UH Law Center
11:15 – 11:30 AM	Break/Set-up		
11:30 AM – 12:45 PM	Voting	Kathay Feng, National Redistricting Director, Common Cause Mark P. Jones, Senior Research Fellow, Hobby School of Public Affairs; Fellow, Baker Institute and Joseph D. Jamail Chair in Latin American Studies, Rice University Michael Li, Senior Counsel, Brennan Center for Justice’s Democracy Program Janai S. Nelson, Associate Director-Counsel, NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc.	Richard Murray, PhD, Professor, Hobby School of Public Affairs
12:45 – 1 PM	Break/Set-up		
1:00 – 2:15 PM	University of Houston Experts Roundtable	Jim Granato, PhD, Associate Dean, Hobby School of Public Affairs and Professor, Political Science Seth J. Chandler, Law Foundation Professor of Law, UH Law Center Richard Murray, PhD, Professor, Hobby School of Public Affairs Michael A. Olivas, PhD, JD, William B. Bates Distinguished Chair in Law (Emeritus), UH Law Center	Leonard M. Baynes, Dean UH Law Center Kirk P. Watson, Dean Hobby School of Public Affairs
2:15 – 2:30 PM	Break/Set-up		
2:30 – 3:45 PM	Racial Justice/Immigration	Lenese Herbert, Professor of Law, Howard University School of Law Erika Lee, Regents Professor of History and Asian American Studies, a Distinguished McKnight University Professor, the Rudolph J. Vecoli Chair in Immigration History, and Director of the Immigration History Research Center, University of Minnesota Thomas Saenz, President and General Counsel, MALDEF (Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund) Cheryl Wade, “Dean Harold F. McNiece” Professor of Law, St. John’s University School of Law	Michael A. Olivas, PhD, JD, William B. Bates Distinguished Chair in Law (Emeritus), UH Law Center
3:45 – 4:00 PM	Break/Set-up		
4:00 – 5:15 PM	Energy/Environment	Toby Baker, Executive Director Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Marcilynn A. Burke, Dean and Dave Frohnmayer Chair in Leadership and Law, University of Oregon School of Law Lizzie P. Fletcher, Congresswoman, TX Congressional District 7, U.S. House of Representatives	Ramanan Krishnamoorti, PhD, Chief Energy Officer and Professor University of Houston
5:15 – 5:30 PM	Closing Remarks		
5:30 PM	End		

CO-HOSTS



LEONARD M. BAYNES

University of Houston Law Center Dean and Professor of Law
B.S., New York University; M.B.A., Columbia University; J.D., Columbia University

As the ninth dean of the University of Houston Law Center, Leonard M. Baynes brings a national reputation as a communications law scholar with specializations in business, media, and diversity issues. He manages more than 60 full-time faculty and oversees 12 centers and institutes, including the No. 6 ranked Health Law & Policy Institute and the No. 7 ranked Institute for Intellectual Property & Information Law as well as the No. 9 ranked Part-Time Program.

Baynes initiated an award winning Pre-Law Pipeline Program designed to create more opportunities for first-generation, economically challenged, and under-represented college students who are considering law school. He instituted a voluntary “Community Service Day” during which incoming first-year students, faculty, and staff fan out across the city to work on public service projects. He also has increased the number of scholarships and opportunities for students to serve in school-funded, public service internships at home and abroad.

Baynes was inducted into the Minority Media & Telecommunications Council Hall of Fame, where former FCC Commissioner and MMTCC Chair Henry Rivera described him as “a champion for diversity.” Baynes previously served as the inaugural director of the Ronald H. Brown Center for Civil Rights and Economic Development at St. John’s University School of Law.

In 2010, Baynes received the Diversity Trailblazer Award from the New York State Bar Association, and in 2011, he accepted the American Bar Association Alexander Award on behalf of the Ronald H. Brown Law School Prep Program for College Students, which he designed to increase socio-economic diversity in the legal profession.

In 2019, Baynes was the recipient of the Council on Legal Education Opportunity, Inc.’s Edge Award, the John Mercer Legal Education Leadership Award from the National Black Pre-Law Conference and Law Fair, and was named a Diversity Champion by the National Diversity Council.

During his deanship, he was named one of the nation’s top 100 most influential lawyers of color, and he was awarded The Houston Lawyer Association’s Robert L. King Excellence in Education Award.



KIRK P. WATSON

Kirk Watson is Founding Dean of the Hobby School of Public Affairs at the University of Houston. There, he leads a team that puts creative public policy to work for the world.

For three decades, Watson has been immersed in public policy, spanning local and state government in Texas. He served in the Texas Senate for over 13 years, leading on a wide range of issues including education, health care, transportation and government transparency. And he was a member and vice-chair of multiple standing and special committees, including those overseeing state finance, education, higher education, nominations, and the Sunset Advisory Commission. His peers elected him President Pro Tempore of the Senate in 2019.

Watson was first appointed in 1991 by Gov. Ann Richards as Chair of the Texas Air Control Board, the agency charged with addressing air quality issues in Texas. He was Vice-Chair of the committee that oversaw the creation of the Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission, now known as the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

He was elected mayor of Austin in 1997, where he won praise for bringing different political sides together around transformative environmental and economic development initiatives. In 2012, serving the Austin area in the Texas Senate, he led the effort to build a new medical school at The University of Texas at Austin. After an unprecedented show of support by local voters, the Dell Medical School became the first medical school in nearly 50 years to be built from the ground up at a top-tier research university.

The school was just one of the 10 Goals in 10 Years that Watson laid out to positively impact the health and economy of Central Texas. As a result of this vision, a new modern teaching and safety-net hospital was built in the region, and the community came together to develop a center for world-class brain health treatment, research, and education. As a result of his efforts, Watson has been honored by the Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute, NAMI Austin, and the American Medical Association, which recognized his contribution to health care with the prestigious Dr. Nathan Davis Award for Outstanding Government Service.

He has served as Chair of the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce and the Texas Advisory Board of Environmental Defense, and he has been a member of the Executive Committee of the State Bar of Texas. He also chaired the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization, the primary transportation planning agency for Central Texas.

PANELISTS: BUDGET/TAX/ECONOMY



JASON FURMAN

Jason Furman is the Aetna Professor of the Practice of Economic Policy jointly at Harvard Kennedy School (HKS) and the Department of Economics at Harvard University. He is also nonresident senior fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics. This followed eight years as a top economic adviser to President Obama, including serving as the 28th Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers from August 2013 to January 2017, acting as both President Obama's chief economist and a member of the cabinet. During this time Furman played a major role in most of the major economic policies of the Obama Administration.



MARK MILLS

Mark P. Mills is a senior fellow at the Manhattan Institute and a faculty fellow at Northwestern University's McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Science, where he co-directs an Institute on Manufacturing Science and Innovation. He is also a strategic partner with Cottonwood Venture Partners (an energy-tech venture fund). Previously, Mills cofounded Digital Power Capital, a boutique venture fund, and was chairman and CTO of ICx Technologies, helping take it public in 2007. Mills is a regular contributor to **Forbes.com** and is author of *Digital Cathedrals* (2020) and *Work in the Age of Robots* (2018). He is also coauthor of *The Bottomless Well: The Twilight of Fuel, the Virtue of Waste, and Why We Will Never Run Out of Energy* (2005).



BEVERLY MORAN

Beverly Moran's work focuses on federal income taxation, including individuals, partnerships, tax-exempt organizations and corporate. In addition to her work on the Internal Revenue Code, Professor Moran's interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary work encompasses empirical legal studies ("Coitus and Consequences"), international and comparative tax law ("Taxation" in *The Oxford Handbook of Legal Studies*), Islamic law ("Islamic Law and Elder Care in the Central Asian Edgen System"), labor law ("The Right to Religious Accommodation in Pension Plans"), law and development ("Local Government Tax Incentives for Economic Development"), legal education ("Revisiting the Work We Know So Little About: Race, Wealth, Privilege, and Social Justice"), legal philosophy ("Capitalism and the Tax System: A Search for Social Justice"), and politics ("United States' Trade Policy and the Exportation of United States' Culture").



MODERATOR: JIM GRANATO

A native of the south side of Chicago, Jim Granato is professor and Associate Dean of the University of Houston's Hobby School of Public Affairs. He was also appointed as an inaugural University of Houston Energy Fellow.

Prior to coming to the Hobby School, Granato taught in the department of Government at the University of Texas (2005–2006) and in the department of Political Science at Michigan State University (1991–2001). His teaching and research interests include American politics, political economy, public policy, econometrics, and the unification of formal and empirical analysis.

Granato's professional experience also includes service as the political science program director and visiting scientist at the National Science Foundation (NSF). During his service at NSF, he helped

develop and implement research and education training reforms in quantitative analysis, foremost was the Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models (EITM) initiative, one that still is being supported by NSF and has had a national impact.

His research and teaching has been supported by the city of Houston, various Texas governmental agencies, the Houston Endowment, the BB&T Foundation, and the National Science Foundation. He has also given public testimony to local and state government committees on various issues.

PANELISTS: HEALTH



BRIAN BLASE

Brian Blase, Ph.D., is the CEO of Blase Policy Strategies LLC and a senior research fellow at the Galen Institute and at the Foundation for Government Accountability. Blase previously served as a special assistant to the president for economic policy at the White House's National Economic Council (NEC).

At NEC, Blase coordinated the development and execution of many of the Trump Administration's health policy achievements, developed legislative and regulatory strategies, and advised the President, the NEC Director, and other senior government officials. Notably, this work included promulgating rules expanding association health plans, short-term limited-duration insurance, and health reimbursement arrangements as well as the development of the 120-page report, *Reforming America's Health Care System Through Choice and Competition*. Blase also played a central role in the Trump Administration's actions to increase health care price and quality transparency.

Blase served in both the U.S. House of Representative and Senate. He guided the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform's health care and entitlement program oversight efforts and related investigations from 2011–2014. In that capacity, he developed oversight strategies, conducted dozens of transcribed interviews, prepared members and staff for hearings, and was the primary author of eleven staff reports issued by the Committee. From 2014 through 2015, Blase served as the health policy analyst at the Senate Republican Policy Committee. In that capacity, Blase authored papers distributed at the weekly Senate Republican policy lunch and participated in the development of legislative proposals and strategies.

Prior to working in the White House, Blase worked as a senior research fellow with the Spending and Budget Initiative at the Mercatus Center at George Mason University from 2015-2017. Prior to working in Congress, Blase worked as a health policy analyst with The Heritage Foundation from 2010-2011.

Blase has authored or co-authored dozens of research papers, written more than 100 commentaries, regularly briefed federal and state policymakers, and frequently appears in media. Blase's work has been mentioned many times by the Wall Street Journal's editorial page and he is a regulator contributor to the Wall Street Journal and New York Post. His commentaries have also been published in the Washington Post, the Philadelphia Inquirer, and Forbes, among numerous outlets. He has also appeared on television several times, including on FoxNews, CSPAN, CNBC, and PBS, and has frequently appeared on radio.



TIMOTHY JOST

Timothy Stoltzfus Jost, J.D., is an emeritus professor at the Washington and Lee University School of Law. He is a coauthor of a casebook, *Health Law*, used widely throughout the United States in teaching health law and now in its eighth edition. He has written numerous monographs on legal issues in health care reform for national organizations and until 2018 blogged regularly on regulatory issues for Health Affairs, where he is a contributing editor. He is a member of the National Academy of Medicine and is widely quoted in the media on health reform issues.



LARRY LEVITT

Larry Levitt is Executive Vice President for Health Policy, overseeing KFF's policy work on Medicare, Medicaid, the health care marketplace, the Affordable Care Act, women's health, and global health. He previously was Editor-in-Chief of kaisernetwork.org, KFF's online health policy news and information service, and directed KFF's communications and online activities and its Changing Health Care Marketplace Project.

Prior to joining KFF, he served as a Senior Health Policy Advisor to the White House and Department of Health and Human Services, working on the development of President Clinton's Health Security Act and other health policy initiatives. Earlier, he was the Special Assistant for Health Policy with California Insurance Commissioner John Garamendi, a medical economist with Kaiser Permanente, and served in a number of positions in Massachusetts state government.

He holds a bachelors degree in economics from the University of California at Berkeley, and a masters degree in public policy from Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government.

PANELISTS: HEALTH



JACOB REIDER

Jacob Reider MD, FAAFP, is a family physician who wants the world to be healthier. He has worked for decades to improve the health of our communities through the innovative use of technology, and the promotion of benevolence in business. He is currently CEO of Alliance for Better Health, a New York DSRIP care transformation initiative, Chief Health Officer of Health Coda, and co-founder of RS Partners, a health IT consulting and investing firm. He previously served as the Deputy National Coordinator for Health Information Technology at the US Department of Health and Human Services. In his three years at HHS, he was responsible for the policies and programs designed to improve health through the development and implementation of safer, more resilient, reliable, usable, helpful and interoperable information technology.

He has more than 20 years of experience in health information technology with a special interest in user experience, clinical decision support and information portability. He served as the CMIO of Allscripts, one of the nation's largest health IT developers, and was Associate Dean for Biomedical Informatics at Albany Medical College where he continues to teach on an adjunct basis. He co-founded four successful health IT start-up companies, and has held Directorships on boards of both non-profits and private companies. He has also held leadership roles in the American Medical Informatics Association and the New York State Academy of Family Physicians. His interests include organizational leadership and culture, shared clinical decision-making and evidence-based management of common outpatient conditions.



MODERATOR: SETH J. CHANDLER

Seth J. Chandler is a Law Foundation Professor of Law at the UH Law Center who specializes in insurance law and the application of mathematics and computer science to law. Professor Chandler won a prestigious university-wide teaching excellence award in 1995, was a first year winner of the Innovator Award from Wolfram Research, received the President's Medal from Loyola University for extraordinary service in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, and has been called on twice to testify before Congress on the Affordable Care Act. Professor Chandler has a broad Internet presence; he is the author of over 100 interactive Demonstrations, 21 Resource Functions and several Data Repositories on the Wolfram Research website.

He founded two blogs, acadeathspiral.org, which addressed the ACA, and catrisk.net, which addressed catastrophic insurance in Texas. Professor Chandler's blog entries have over 400,000 views. He practiced with Munger, Tolles & Olson in Los Angeles and Williams & Connolly in Washington, D.C. before beginning his academic career in 1990 at the UH Law Center. Professor Chandler teaches contracts, health law, analytic methods and constitutional law.

PANELISTS: VOTING



KATHAY FENG

Kathay Feng is Common Cause's National Redistricting Director.

Feng has led Common Cause's work to challenge partisan and incumbent gerrymandering, through litigation, state-based organizing around ballot initiatives and legislation and creating new platforms for community-based redistricting. As Executive Director of California Common Cause, she championed and won election and redistricting reforms, stronger government sunshine and accountability laws, campaign finance reforms, stronger net neutrality laws, and the voting rights of traditionally disenfranchised communities. Kathay is the architect of California's Citizens Redistricting Commission, leading the multi-year effort to study, write, and pass the two initiatives, Propositions 11 and 20, that created the commission and new community-focused process. She also led efforts that secured passage of California laws bringing online voter registration and same day registration (called conditional voter registration) to the state.

Locally, Kathay helped lead successful efforts to improve Los Angeles' matching funds campaign finance system, providing a super-match of public funds to city office candidates that raise small dollar donations from city residents. Under Kathay's leadership, CCC has anchored California's election protection efforts, assisting and independently monitoring elections throughout the state, since 2006. Kathay has been an activist and civil rights attorney in California for more than 20 years.



MARK P. JONES

Mark P. Jones, Ph.D., is the fellow in political science at the Baker Institute, the Joseph D. Jamail Chair in Latin American Studies and a professor in the Department of Political Science at Rice University.

Jones also serves as the faculty director of Rice's Master of Global Affairs program. His research focuses on the effect of electoral laws and other political institutions on governance, representation and voting. He has received substantial financial support for this research, including grants from the National Science Foundation. His research has been published in journals such as the American Journal of Political Science, Electoral Studies and the Journal of Politics, as well as in edited volumes published by Cambridge University Press, Oxford University Press and Penn State University Press, among others. He is a frequent contributor to Texas media outlets, and his research on the Texas Legislature has been widely cited in the media as well as by numerous political campaigns.

Jones regularly advises U.S. government institutions on economic and political affairs in Argentina and has conducted research on public policy issues in Latin America and Texas for numerous international, national and local organizations, including the Inter-American Development Bank, the United Nations Development Programme, the U.S. Department of Defense, the Texas Department of Agriculture and the city of Houston. He is a frequent commentator in local, state, national and international media on government, politics and public policy. He is currently working on two principal research agendas, one that examines the impact of political institutions on politics and public policy in Latin America, and the other that analyzes the evolution of partisan politics in Texas over the past 50 years. Jones received his doctorate from the University of Michigan and his bachelor's degree from Tulane University.



MICHAEL LI

Michael Li serves as Senior Counsel for the Brennan Center's Democracy Program, where his work focuses on redistricting, voting rights, and elections. Prior to joining the Brennan Center, Mr. Li practiced law at Baker Botts L.L.P. in Dallas for ten years and is the author of a widely cited blog on redistricting and election law issues that The New York Times called "indispensable." He is a regular writer and commentator on election law issues, appearing on PBS Newshour, MSNBC, and NPR, and in print in The New York Times, Los Angeles Times, USA Today, Roll Call, Vox, National Journal, Texas Tribune, Dallas Morning News, and San Antonio Express-News, among others.

In addition to his election law work, Mr. Li previously served as executive director of Be One Texas, a donor alliance that oversaw strategic and targeted investments in non-profit organizations working to increase voter participation and engagement in historically disadvantaged African-American and Hispanic communities in Texas.

Mr. Li received his J.D., with honors, from Tulane Law School and his undergraduate degree in history from the University of Texas at Austin.

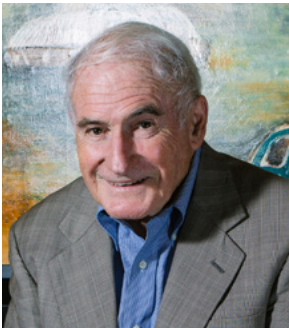
PANELISTS: VOTING



JANAI S. NELSON

Janai S. Nelson is Associate Director-Counsel of the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. (LDF). As an organizational thought-leader at LDF, Nelson works with the President and Director-Counsel to determine and execute LDF's strategic vision and oversee the operation of its programs, including having served as interim director of LDF's Thurgood Marshall Institute. She is also a member of LDF's litigation and policy teams and was one of the lead counsel in *Veasey v. Abbott* (2018), a federal challenge to Texas's voter ID law. She has testified before Congress on voter suppression, algorithmic bias, and in support of the Voting Rights Advancement Act. Prior to joining LDF in June 2014, Nelson was Associate Dean for Faculty Scholarship and Associate Director of the Ronald H. Brown Center for Civil Rights and Economic Development at St. John's University School of Law where she was also a full professor of law. Nelson's most recent scholarly publication, *Counting Change: Ensuring an*

Inclusive Census for Communities of Color, 119 Colum. L. Rev. 1399 (2019), advances a theory of representational equality in which all U.S. residents "are to be counted — and served — as constituents" and that centers the Census and the accurate count of the country's most vulnerable populations in the functioning of our democracy.



MODERATOR: RICHARD MURRAY

Richard Murray is a native of Louisiana with B.A. and M.A. degrees in Government from Louisiana State University and a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Minnesota. Professor Murray is retiring from the University of Houston in the spring of 2021, ending a 55 year teaching career in the Department of Political Science.

Murray is continuing as Senior Research Associate in the Hobby School of Public Affairs at the University of Houston, where he holds the Bob Lanier Chair in Urban Public Policy.

Professor Murray has written extensively on Texas politics and elections, and his current research interests focus on partisan political change in Texas.

PANELISTS: RACIAL JUSTICE & IMMIGRATION



LENEISE HERBERT

Leneise Herbert, Professor of Law at Howard University School of Law, currently teaches Evidence, Criminal Procedure I and II, Criminal Law, and Social Media and the Law. She co-authors CONSTITUTIONAL CRIMINAL PROCEDURE, a problem-based casebook adopted at a number of law schools across the country. Her scholarly work is published in a number of law reviews and journals and has been widely cited.

Immediately prior to entering law teaching, Professor Herbert served as an Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia in both the Criminal and Civil Divisions under former U.S. Attorney General and U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia, Eric Holder. She also served as in the Manipulation and Trade Practice Unit of the Division of Enforcement, U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission, where she investigated and regulated futures trading practices of brokers and firms.

A graduate of UCLA School of Law, Professor Herbert has practiced before administrative law judges and Article III courts at the trial and appellate levels. She has also appeared as a legal analyst and expert source for media outlets such as C-SPAN, the Washington Post, BBC, SCOTUSblog, PBS NewsHour, Voice of America, Al-Jazeera English, NBC News Channel 4 (Washington, DC), WTTG Fox 5 (Washington, DC), News Channel 8 (Washington, DC), and The Washington Informer.



ERIKA LEE

Professor Erika Lee is an award-winning historian and author, Regents Professor of History and Asian American Studies, and Director of the Immigration History Research Center at the University of Minnesota. The granddaughter of Chinese immigrants, Lee was recently elected to the American Academy of Arts & Sciences and testified before Congress in its historic hearings on anti-Asian discrimination and violence.

She is the author of four award-winning books including, most recently, *The Making of Asian America: A History* (Simon & Schuster) and *America for Americans: A History of Xenophobia in America* (Basic Books,) which won the American Book Award and the Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature, as well as other honors. Named to many best books lists and identified as an essential book illuminating the Trump era and the 2020 elections, it will be published with a new epilogue on xenophobia and

racism during the COVID-19 pandemic in June, 2021. *The Making of Asian America* has also been republished with a new postscript about the latest campaigns against Asian Americans.

Lee has been featured in PBS's film series "Asian Americans," appeared on CNN, PBS Newshour, National Public Radio, and quoted in the New York Times, Washington Post, LA Times, BBC, and many other news outlets. She is President-Elect of the Organization of American Historians and directs three major digital humanities projects: *Immigrant Stories*, #ImmigrationSyllabus, and *Immigrants in COVID America*.



THOMAS SAENZ

Thomas Saenz is President and General Counsel of MALDEF; he leads the organization in pursuing litigation, policy advocacy, and community education to promote the civil rights of all Latinos living in the United States in the areas of education, employment, immigrants' rights, and voting rights. Saenz rejoined MALDEF in August 2009, after four years on Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa's executive team. He previously spent 12 years at MALDEF practicing civil rights law, including four years as litigation director. He has served as lead counsel for MALDEF in numerous cases, including challenges to California Proposition 187, California Proposition 227, and California congressional redistricting. In 2016, Saenz argued before the U.S. Supreme Court in *United States v. Texas*, representing intervenors defending Obama Administration deferred action initiatives. Saenz graduated from Yale College and Yale Law School; he clerked for two federal judges before initially joining MALDEF in 1993.

PANELISTS: RACIAL JUSTICE & IMMIGRATION



CHERYL WADE

Cheryl L. Wade is the “Dean Harold F. McNiece” Professor of Law at St. John’s University School of Law. She teaches Issues of Race, Gender and Law, Business Organizations, Corporate Governance and Accountability, and Race and Business. Her book, “Predatory Lending and The Destruction of the African American Dream” was published by Cambridge University Press in July 2020 and was coauthored with Dr. Janis Sarra, Professor of Law, Peter A. Allard School of Law, University of British Columbia. Professor Wade is a member of the American Law Institute, a national organization of prominent judges, lawyers and academics who work to clarify, modernize and reform the law.

Professor Wade has written book chapters and law review articles on securities, education law and the intersection of race and business. She has been invited to present at and write for many symposia including articles published by Boston University Law Review, Tulane Law Review, The Maryland

Law Review, The Washington & Lee Law Review, and The Iowa Journal of Gender, Race & Justice. Her articles have been cited in several leading law reviews. One of her articles on education law, When Judges Are Gatekeepers: Democracy, Morality, Status and Empathy in Duty Decisions (Help From Ordinary Citizens) was listed in The National Law Journal’s Worth Reading Column. Another article, Corporate Governance as Corporate Social Responsibility: Empathy and Race Discrimination, was excerpted in a text entitled “Corporate Governance: Law, Theory and Policy. Her article, Transforming Discriminatory Corporate Cultures: This is Not Just Women’s Work was listed on the Social Science Research Network’s Top Ten Download List for Diversity Studies.



MODERATOR: MICHAEL A. OLIVAS

Michael A. Olivas is the William B. Bates Distinguished Chair in Law (Emeritus) at the University of Houston Law Center and Director of the Institute for Higher Education Law and Governance at UH. From 1983–1987, he also chaired the UH graduate program in Higher Education. From 1990–95, he served as Associate Dean of the Law Center; he once again served in 2001–2004. In 1989–90, he was a Visiting Professor of Law at the University of Wisconsin, and Special Counsel to then-Chancellor Donna Shalala. In 1997, he held the Mason Ladd Distinguished Visiting Chair at the University of Iowa College of Law. He holds a B.A. (Magna Cum Laude) from the Pontifical College Josephinum, an M.A. and Ph.D. from the Ohio State University, and a J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center. He is the author or co-author of sixteen books, including *The Dilemma of Access* (Howard University Press, 1979), *Latino College Students* (Teachers College Press, 1986), *Prepaid College Tuition Programs* (College Board,

1993) and *The Law and Higher Education* (4th ed., Carolina Academic Press, 2015). *Colored Men and Hombres Aqui* was published by Arte Publico Press in 2006, while *Education Law Stories* was published by Foundation Press in 2007. In 2012, NYU Press published *No Undocumented Child Left Behind*. In 2013, he edited a scholarly volume on early 20th Century Tejano lawyer, Alonso S. Perales (“In Defense of My People”: Alonso S. Perales and the Development of Mexican-American Public Intellectuals, Arte Publico Press).

PANELISTS: ENERGY / ENVIRONMENT



TOBY BAKER

Toby Baker was appointed executive director of the TCEQ on August 20, 2018. The executive director, who is hired by the commissioners, is responsible for managing the agency's day-to-day operations.

Prior to Baker's recent move to executive director, he served as commissioner for TCEQ for 6 years. He along with his two fellow full-time commissioners established overall agency direction and policy and made final determinations on contested permitting and enforcement matters.

Baker also serves as Governor Abbott's appointee to the Gulf Coast Ecosystem Restoration Council, represents Texas as the chair on the Gulf of Mexico Alliance Management Team, and serves on the Coastal Land Advisory Board.



MARCILYNN BURKE

Dean Marcilynn A. Burke studies leadership, property, environmental and natural resources law. At Oregon Law, she serves as the Dean and Dave Frohnmayer Chair in Leadership and Law. Her scholarly works have included features in the Notre Dame Law Review, the Land Use and Environmental Law Review, the University of Cincinnati Law Review, and the Duke Environmental Law & Policy Forum.

From 2009–2013, Dean Burke served in the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Initially she served as Deputy Director for Programs and Policy in the BLM, and then as the Acting Assistant Secretary for the U.S. Department of the Interior over the BLM following a 2011 appointment by President Barack Obama. In that role, she helped develop the land use, resource management, and regulatory oversight policies that are administered by the BLM, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement, and the Office of Surface

Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, with a geographic scope that encompassed the continental U.S. and Alaska.



LIZZIE FLETCHER

Lizzie Fletcher represents Texas' Seventh Congressional District, in the greater Houston area. Located entirely within Harris County, the district includes residents of Houston, Bellaire, Bunker Hill Village, Hedwig Village, Hilshire Village, Hunters Creek Village, Jersey Village, Piney Point Village, Southside Place, Spring Valley Village, West University Place, and unincorporated Harris County west to Katy.

A resident of Houston and Congressional District 7 nearly all of her life, Congresswoman Fletcher was elected to represent the district in 2018. Prior to her election, she represented Houstonians in the courtroom as a lawyer on a wide range of matters, first at an international law firm headquartered in Houston and later at a boutique litigation firm, where she became its first woman partner.

Congresswoman Fletcher graduated from Kenyon College in Ohio in 1997, where she earned highest honors in History and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. After college, she worked in the business and non-profit sectors for six years before attending William & Mary Law School in Virginia. At William & Mary, she was the editor-in-chief of the William & Mary Law Review and received the Gambrell Professionalism Award when she graduated in 2006.



MODERATOR: RAMANAN KRISHNAMOORTI

Ramanan Krishnamoorti is the Chief Energy Officer at the University of Houston. Prior to this, Krishnamoorti served as interim vice president and vice chancellor for research and technology transfer for UH and the UH System, respectively. During his tenure at the university, he has served in multiple academic leadership roles in the Cullen College of Engineering. He currently is a professor of chemical and biomolecular engineering with affiliated appointments as professor of petroleum engineering and professor of chemistry. Dr. Krishnamoorti also serves as the Principal Investigator for the Subsea Systems Institute and the Center for Carbon Management in Energy at UH. Dr. Krishnamoorti obtained his bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology Madras and doctoral degree in chemical engineering from Princeton University in 1994.