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Houston Law Review’s 26th Annual Frankel Lecture explores academic freedom in a polarizing time

Nov. 17, 2021 — The Houston Law Review will host its 26th Annual Frankel Lecture on Friday, Nov. 19 to examine the topics of academic expression and the challenges of discrimination when teaching and writing in a university setting. Harvard Law School Professor Jeannie Suk Gersen will discuss the connection between academic freedom and university rules; norms and practices of discrimination; and harassment and bullying. She also plans to look at the relation between the promotion of free speech and the promotion of diversity and inclusion.

Commentators for the lecture hosted by the Houston Law Review are Professor of Law Khiara M. Bridges from UC Berkeley School of Law and Professor of Politics Keith E. Whittington from Princeton University.

Gersen is the John H. Watson, Jr. Professor of Law at Harvard Law School. She teaches constitutional law, criminal law and procedure, family law, and the law of art, fashion, and the performing arts. Before joining Harvard faculty in 2006, she served as a law clerk to Justice David Souter on the United States Supreme Court, and to Judge Harry Edwards on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit.

A Yale and an Oxford graduate, Gersen was a Marshall Scholar and at Harvard, a Paul and Daisy Soros Fellow. Gersen has also been a Guggenheim Fellow and a recipient of Harvard Law School’s Sacks-Fruend Award for Teaching Excellence. She has written three books, including “At Home in the Law” which was awarded the Law and Society Association’s Herbert Jacob Prize for the best law and society book of the year.

The Frankel Lecture will be held online from 12 – 2 p.m. (Central), Friday, Nov. 19. Participating attorneys will receive one hour of CLE credit. Click here to register.

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About the University of Houston

The University of Houston is a Carnegie-designated Tier One public research university recognized with a Phi Beta Kappa chapter for excellence in undergraduate education. UH serves the globally competitive Houston and Gulf Coast Region by providing world-class faculty, experiential learning and strategic industry partnerships. Located in the nation's fourth-largest city and one of the most ethnically and culturally diverse regions in the country, UH is a
federally designated Hispanic- and Asian-American-Serving institution with enrollment of more than 47,000 students.

About the University of Houston Law Center

The University of Houston Law Center (UHLC) is a dynamic, top tier law school located in the nation’s 4th largest city. UHLC’s Health Law, Intellectual Property Law, and Part-time programs rank in the U.S. News Top 10. It awards Doctor of Jurisprudence (J.D.) and Master of Laws (LL.M.) degrees, through its academic branch, the College of Law. The Law Center is more than just a law school. It is a powerful hub of intellectual activity with more than 11 centers and institutes which fuel its educational mission and national reputation. UHLC is fully accredited by the American Bar Association and is a member of the Association of American Law Schools.

About the Houston Law Review

The Houston Law Review is a scholarly journal published by students at the University of Houston Law Center. Houston Law Review was founded in 1963 under guidance of Dean Newell Blakely, and with contribution from twenty lifetime sponsors including Houston firms such as Baker Botts, Norton Rose Fulbright, and Vinson & Elkins. In 1970, Professor G. Sidney Buchanan became the first faculty advisor to the law review. Now in its 58th year of publication, the law review has over 1000 alumni members making valuable contributions to the legal community all across the nation. These include judges on United States District Courts and the Texas Supreme Court, renowned practitioners, and general counsel to Fortune 500 companies. Recent alumni members of Houston Law Review have served as judicial clerks to federal district and circuit judges.