

## **Society of American Law Teachers—SALT**

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April 20, 2010

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### **Deconstructing the Ballot Initiative Conference Brings Together Activists and Scholars**

On April 16<sup>th</sup>, SALT and University of Denver Sturm College of Law co-sponsored an exciting conference, bringing together activists from Colorado, Arizona, Utah, and Nebraska, along with national civil rights figures, to discuss the use of the state ballot initiative to outlaw affirmative action. Organized by SALT members Melissa Hart (University of Colorado) and Roberto Corrada (University of Denver), with former SALT co-presidents Margaret Martin Barry (Catholic) and Deborah Post (Touro), the conference's aim was to understand the lessons learned from the November 2008 election cycle in Arizona, Oklahoma, and Missouri, where the "civil rights initiative" proposed by Ward Connerly and the American Civil Rights Institute failed to be certified for the ballot, Nebraska where it won, and Colorado where Connerly was handed his first state ballot initiative defeat.

As of today, Arizona voters are facing a legislative-passed initiative to ban affirmative action in public education, employment, and contracting in November 2010. The Utah legislative initiative was thwarted in committee, but is likely to be reintroduced.

[Read more...](#)

### **SALT Blog Postings**

Remember to include the new [SALTLAW.org blog](#) in your daily web wandering! Read [andre cummings'](#) post. Join in the conversation. Log in to comment.

## **CLS v. Martinez Argument Before US Supreme Court**

[Access the transcript of the argument before the US Supreme Court.](#)

[Read commentary on the argument.](#)

## **Nominations Open for SALT M. Shanara Gilbert Human Rights and Great Teacher Awards**

SALT holds an annual dinner each year during the January AALS meeting, which is in San Francisco in 2011. This year the dinner will be on Friday, January 7th at Delancey Street Foundation. A highlight of the dinner is the presentation of SALT's M. Shanara Gilbert and Great Teacher Awards.

M. Shanara Gilbert Human Rights Award: SALT recognizes the contributions of activists whose passion for social justice has driven their lives. The M. Shanara Gilbert Human Rights Award is named after a CUNY Law School professor who dedicated her life to equality, equity, and justice. She was killed at the age of 45, along with Haywood Burns, in a car accident while visiting South Africa. In her memory, SALT honors those who believe in fighting for a better world. The Award is not bestowed annually, but when there is an exceptional person or institution whose struggle for human rights requires recognition from our community.

Past M. Shanara Gilbert Honorees starting with the most recent: Rhonda Copelon (2009); Jennifer Harbury and Sister Dianna Ortiz (2008); Joshua Rosenkranz (2007); David Cole and Center for Constitutional Rights (2006); Eva Patterson (2005); Congressman John Lewis (2004); Steven Bright and Bryan Stevenson (2003); Honorable Barney Frank (2000); Dr. Jesse N. Stone, Jr. (1999); and M. Shanara Gilbert (1997).

SALT Great Teacher Award: The Great Teacher Award recognizes individuals or institutions that have made especially important contributions to teaching, legal education and mentoring.

Past recipients of the Great Teacher award, starting with the most recent:

Francisco Valdés, Steve Wizner, Fran Ansley, Stephanie Wildman, Eric Yamamoto, Howard Glickstein, Bill Quigley, Charles Lawrence & Mari Matsuda, SALT Founders, Sylvia Law, Marjorie M. Schultz, Anthony Amsterdam, Jim Jones, W. Hayward Burns, Barbara Aldave, Trina Grillo, Norman Dorsen, Cruz Reynoso, Mary Jo Frug, Marilyn Yarborough, Rhonda Rivera, University of Wisconsin Law School, Howard Lesnick, Barbara Babcock, Clinton Bamberger, CUNY Law School, Derrick Bell, Herma Hill Kay, Charles Black, Arthur Leff, Harry Edwards, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Rennard Strickland, Thomas Emerson, Charles Miller, David Cavers.

***SALT invites you to submit a nomination for one or both of these awards.***

***If you would like to make a nomination, please submit the name of the person or organization and a 1-2 page statement supporting the nomination(s), along with the name of the award.*** The statement should explain why the person or organization deserves the award, including how they contribute to the values of SALT. Please submit all nominations by **May 31, 2010**, to [Ruben Garcia](#) and [Hazel Weiser](#). We strongly encourage you to re-nominate candidates who have been nominated in past years, as every year we have many worthy nominees, but only two awards.

### **Calls for Proposals**

- ***April 26 Deadline for Submitting Proposals: Lat Crit XV: THE COLOR OF THE ECONOMIC CRISIS: EXPLORING THE DOWNTURN FROM THE BOTTOM UP***, University of Denver Sturm College of Law, Denver, CO LatCrit/SALT Junior Faculty Development Workshop- October 7-8, LatCrit Conference, October 8-10, 2010 [Click here for the full call for proposals.](#)
- ***May 14 Deadline for Submitting Proposals: First Annual Critical Legal Studies Conference: Uproot, Sow, Cultivate***, University of Idaho College of Law, September 24-25, 2010. [Click here to read the full call for proposals.](#)
- ***Third National People of Color Legal Scholarship Conference***: Seton Hall University School of Law, September 9-12: Call for works-in-progress (WIP) sessions and shorter “thoughts-in-progress” sessions to informally discuss research ideas. [Click here to learn more.](#)

### **Calendar**

- **April 21-22:** [Annual Meeting of Law School Diversity Professionals](#), hosted by Loyola University College of Law and Tulane University Law School, New Orleans
- **April 30:** [2010 Women and the Law Conference—Ruth Bader Ginsburg Lecture](#), Thomas Jefferson School of Law
- **May 21-23:** [The Second International Criminal Defense Conference](#): “Lessons from the Defense at the Ad Hoc UN Tribunals, and Prospects for International Justice at the ICC,” Brussels, Belgium
- **Mark Your Calendars!! October 7-8:** [Eighth Annual SALT-LatCrit Junior Faculty Development Workshop](#), University of Denver Sturm College of Law

### **SALT Members in the News—Michael Avery on Goodwin Liu**

Michael Avery, co-chair of SALT’s Judicial/Governmental Nominations Committee, was interviewed on CNN about the nomination of Goodwin Liu to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. [Click here to watch the video.](#)