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Editor’s Note: Sincere thanks to Karen Breda and Ryan Hynes of Boston College Law School for invaluable assistance. –RA
Thursday, January 7, 2016

**Law and Religion: Religious Responses to Same-Sex Marriage**  
10:15am - 12:00pm

**Moderator:** Michael A. Helfand, Pepperdine University School of Law

**Speakers:**  
Erik Eckholm, New York Times  
Katherine M. Franke, Columbia University School of Law  
R. R. Reno, First Things  
Kevin Walsh, University of Richmond School of Law  
Robin Fretwell Wilson, University of Illinois College of Law

Over the past 15 years, the United States has seen a rapid change in attitudes toward same-sex marriage. That change has raised significant questions and challenges for various religious communities in the United States. Religious communities have responded in different ways—from endorsement to ambivalence to rejection. This year’s panel of the Law & Religion section will explore these various reactions, including theological changes within religious communities, legal challenges advanced by religious communities, and legislative initiatives pursued by religious communities, as well as a host of other social, political, and legal responses to same-sex marriage in the United States. It will discuss how religious communities might, or might not, adapt to continuing social changes in the United States and how the United States will maintain its constitutional and cultural commitment to the religious freedom of these different communities.

**Jewish Law: Is Analytical Jurisprudence Conceptually Relevant to, and Illuminating of, Jewish Law?**  
1:30pm - 3:15pm

**Moderator:** Mark D. Rosen, Chicago-Kent College of Law, Illinois Institute of Technology

**Speakers:**  
Michael Jay Broyde, Emory University School of Law  
Perry Dane, Rutgers School of Law - Camden  
Dr. Richard S. Lewis, Shalem College  
Chaim N. Saiman, Villanova University School of Law  
Suzanne L. Stone, Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law

Is Jewish law explicitly, or impliedly, premised on some foundational understandings of the nature of what law is? Are there multiple such conceptions in early rabbinic materials? Have multiple understandings emerged over time and across space, perhaps influenced by non-Jewish jurisprudence? Do competing jurisprudential understandings have divergent implications for legal reasoning and other methods (such as looking to custom) for determining the law’s
content? Is there a connection between Jewish analytical jurisprudence (if there is such a thing) and formalism? Is self-conscious consideration of analytical jurisprudence’s application to Jewish law useful? Merely academic? Potentially pernicious? Why?

Saturday, January 9, 2016

Islamic Law Business Meeting
7:00am - 8:30am

Employment Discrimination Law, Co-Sponsored by Islamic Law, Minority Groups, and Women in Legal Education
10:30am - 12:15pm

Speakers: Sahar Aziz, Texas A&M University School of Law
Mr. Kylar W. Broadus
Devon Wayne Carbado, University of California, Los Angeles School of Law
Wendy Greene, Samford University, Cumberland School of Law
Tanya Kateri Kateri Hernandez, Fordham University School of Law
Ann C. McGinley, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, William S. Boyd School of Law
Angela I. Onwuachi-Willig, University of Iowa College of Law
Deborah L. Rhode, Stanford Law School

This program will explore an open question in employment discrimination jurisprudence – What is the scope of an employer’s ability to regulate appearance in the workplace? In partnership with the Sections on Islamic Law, Minority Groups and Women in Legal Education, the program will engage more broadly the concept of diversity and inclusion in modern employment settings and ask – What does leadership look like in the 21st century?

Case law which spans 35 years addressing employer dress and grooming standards, on the one hand, and physical appearance including bodily and facial characteristics of individuals, on the other, reflects the judiciary’s continuous struggle to balance employers’ business judgment and the identity and dignitary interests of workers. Through perspectives on a range of developments including enforcement litigation by the EEOC and notable anniversaries of seminal cases, the panelists will examine the impact of appearance norms on workplace dynamics and notions of belonging, as well as the evolution of interpretive frameworks in anti-discrimination law based on gender, race, color, national origin, religion, as well as the cultural and social contingency of “looks” generally.

This program offers an opportunity to reflect on appearance norms, the substantive contours of the anti-discrimination law, and significantly, the impact of these developments on workplace opportunities for women, people of color, and others whose physical appearance, features or related characteristics raise important questions about employer selection procedures and policies, actual job capacity, and diversity and inclusion in the contemporary workplace. Anti-discrimination scholarship reflects a range of interventions over the years from scholars’ efforts
to contextualize the various identity categories and the meaning of employment discrimination. This program includes some of the notable and most impactful voices on the issue.

Islamic Law, Co-Sponsored by International Human Rights, International Law and National Security Law

Challenging Sovereignty: Exploring the Rise of ISIS and Boko Haram
1:30pm - 3:15pm

Moderator: Nadia Ahmad, Barry University Dwayne O. Andreas School of Law

Speakers: Sahar Aziz, Texas A&M University School of Law
Bernard K. Freamon, Seton Hall University School of Law
Professor John Kelsay, Florida State University Department of Religion

In the past three years, two militant insurgencies have challenged the international order of national borders and understandings of sovereignty in the Middle East and West Africa. The military and political actions of ISIS and Boko Haram have resulted in the taking of large swaths of territory without regard to previously drawn and globally recognized borders, claiming Islamic justification for their actions. ISIS’ self-proclamation as a caliphate, coining money and establishing Sharia courts further presses questions about the nature of Islamic government in a modern world, and its relationship with global international norms of sovereignty. Even more urgently, ISIS and Boko Haram’s enslavement of thousands of war captives and cruel and inhumane treatment of prisoners of war and civilians, demands new attention to the relationship of Islamic law with international human rights norms. In sum, the conduct of ISIS and Boko Haram have stimulated vigorous debate among legal scholars and opinion-makers around the world on the role of international law, human rights, and Islamic law in the face of such destructive transnational organizations.
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