

International and Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Prolonged Solitary Confinement

University of Pittsburgh School of Law
April 15-16, 2016
3900 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15260

Schedule of Speakers

Friday, April 15, 2016



PittLaw

8 a.m. Breakfast

9 a.m. Welcome

Professor Jules Lobel

Peter Scharff Smith, Danish Institute for Human Rights

9:15 a.m. Current Trends With Respect to Solitary Confinement

Rick Raemisch – Director, Colorado Department of Corrections – The Reform Movement in Colorado

Professor Judith Resnik, Yale Law School – Not Isolating Isolation – Solitary Confinement in a Broader Perspective

Manfred Nowak – Professor of Law, University of Vienna, Former UN Rapporteur on Torture – Global Perspectives on Solitary Confinement – Practices and Reforms Worldwide

Moderated by Professor Matiangai Sirleaf – University of Pittsburgh School of Law

10:45 a.m. Break

Mind, Body and Soul – The Harms Wrought by Prolonged Isolation

11 a.m. Lessons From Neuroscience

Professor Michael Zigmond – University of Pittsburgh Medical School

Professor Huda Akil – University of Michigan Medical School – Past President Society for Neuroscience

Professor Richard J Smeyne – Developmental Neurobiology, St Jude's Children's Research Hospital

Moderated by Professor Michael Zigmond – University of Pittsburgh Medical School

12:15 p.m. Lunch Break**1:15 p.m. Isolation and the Body**

Professor Brie Williams – UCSF Medical School – First Do No Harm: The Physical Health Effects of Solitary Confinement

Louise Hawkley – University of Chicago, Social Science Researcher – Social Isolation, Loneliness and Health – Hypertension Rates at Pelican Bay SHU and the Social Science Research on the Health Effects of Isolation in the Adult Population

Homer Venters – Professor NYU Medical School – Self Injurious Behavior of Inmates in Isolation

Moderated by Professor Jasmine Gonzales Rose – University of Pittsburgh School of Law

2:45 p.m. Isolation and Mental Health

Professor Craig Haney, UC Santa Cruz – Prolonged Isolation, Social Death and Mental Harm

Professor Jules Lobel – The Legal Implications of Professor Haney’s Findings – comments on Professor Haney’s remarks

Moderated by Professor David A. Harris – University of Pittsburgh School of Law

3:45 p.m. Break**4-5:30 p.m. Experiencing the Harm and Suffering – The Prisoner’s Perspective**

5 Minute Film of Pelican Bay prisoners describing their experience

Albert Woodfox – recently freed prisoner held in solitary in Louisiana for over 40 years

Robert King – Life in the Hole, One of Angola 3 Held in Solitary Almost 20 Years

Danny Murillo – Former California Prisoner Who Spent 7 Years in Solitary Confinement, and is currently the John W. Gardner Fellow for Public Service at Vera Institute of Justice and NJ – STEP Consortium at Rutgers University

Shandre Delaney – Pennsylvania Activist Whose Son is in Solitary Confinement

Dolores Canales – Executive Director, California Families Against Solitary Confinement, Soros Fellow, Son Spent Many Years at Pelican Bay SHU

Bret Grote – Abolitionist Law Center and Jules Lobel, Moderators

Saturday, April 16, 2016

8 a.m. Breakfast

8:30 a.m. Historical Development of Solitary Confinement

Peter Scharff Smith – Danish Institute of Human Rights

Professor Keramet Reiter – UC Irvine, Criminology, Law and Society

9:15 a.m. Learning From Abroad – Norway and North Dakota

Don Specter – Moderator – Short Intro – What US Officials Can Learn From Europe

Are Hoidal – Governor of Maximum Security Halden Prison in Norway – Prisoner Association as an Alternative to Solitary Confinement – Lessons Learned From a Norwegian High Security Prison

Leann Bertsch – Director North Dakota Department of Corrections – President American Society of Corrections Administrators ASCA –Visiting Norway and Implementing the Lessons in North Dakota

10:45 a.m. Break

11 a.m. Treating Prisoners With Dignity and Without Extreme Isolation – The British and European Experience

Professor Andrew Coyle – Emeritus Professor of Prison Studies, University of London, Director, International Center for Prison Studies, Former Senior Administrator In UK Prison Service

Governor Jamie Bennett – Grendon Prison, UK

Sharon Shalev – Research Fellow, Oxford University

Moderated by Peter Scharff Smith – Danish Institute of Human Rights

12:30 p.m. International Law and Prolonged Solitary Confinement

Juan Mendez – UN Special Rapporteur on Torture, Professor American University Law School, Former Prisoner

1 p.m. Lunch Break

1:45 p.m. Reform Efforts in the United States

Bernie Warner – Former Director Washington Department of Corrections

Emmitt Sparkman – Former Deputy Director Mississippi Department of Corrections

Todd Ishee – Northeast Regional Director – Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction

Marlysha Myrthil – Attorney, US Department of Justice, Civil Rights Division

Comments by Rick Raemisch and Leann Bertsch

Moderated by Professor Jules Lobel – University of Pittsburgh School of Law

3:45 p.m. Break

4:00-5:30 p.m. Litigating and Challenging Solitary Confinement in Different Countries

David Fathi – Director ACLU National Prison Project

Alexis Agathocleous – Center for Constitutional Rights

Joseph Arvay – Leading Canadian Litigator Challenging Prolonged Solitary Confinement

José de Jesus Filho – Brazilian Lawyer and Human Rights Activist

Professor Margo Schlanger – University of Michigan Law School – Moderator

Solitary confinement – effects, reform, and alternatives

The issue of when, if ever, prison officials should use solitary confinement for various purposes has become a major focus of national and international attention in the past few years. In the United States there is growing criticism of the practice of locking up an estimated 80-100,000 prisoners in small cells for more than 22 hours per day with little or no social contact, no physical contact visits with family or friends, and little or no group recreation or programming.

While the U.S. undoubtedly holds more prisoners in solitary than any other country, it is nevertheless a fact that various forms of solitary confinement are routinely used in other prison systems. This conference is both international and interdisciplinary and thus affords an opportunity for interchange between prison officials, experts, lawyers, academics, activists, ex-prisoners from different countries, disciplines, and experiences to share their perspectives on the harms caused by, attempts to reform, and alternatives to prolonged solitary confinement.

Solitary confinement is used for a panoply of reasons: as disciplinary punishment, as an allegedly preventive mechanism to control prisoners perceived by officials as disruptive, violent or problematic, as a so-called voluntary regime for vulnerable prisoners; during pre-trial to avoid collusion; and even as a practical measure where other facilities are unavailable or overcrowded. It is a serious challenge to overcome traditions and culture within prison administration and begin to run prisons without the option of creating a prison within the prison, i.e. solitary confinement.

The United States has witnessed the growth of a movement to reform and end solitary confinement. That movement has been spurred by disparate influences: Supreme Court Justices Anthony Kennedy and Stephen Breyer recognizing a “new and growing awareness” about the harms associated with prolonged solitary confinement, the organization of Prison Directors in the United States calling to “limit or end extended isolation,” thousands of prisoners in California going on hunger strike opposing its use, legal and civic organizations launching campaigns and litigation challenging solitary confinement, Federal and state legislators holding hearings on the issue, and the President of the United States speaking out for reform. Internationally, the UN Rapporteur on Torture has declared that the use of prolonged solitary confinement constitutes torture or cruel, inhumane, or degrading treatment.

This conference will address four key questions that arise from the movement to reform or end solitary confinement.

1. How does solitary confinement harm human beings?

We know from extensive research that solitary confinement can seriously harm the health of prisoners. During this conference, we attempt to deepen our understandings of the effects of solitary confinement by presentations from and dialogue between diverse disciplinary and experiential viewpoints, including neuroscience, neurobiology, psychology, psychiatry, history, and social science

and the actual experience of prisoners who have suffered from solitary confinement. Sometimes the major harm is perceived as driving people mad or to commit suicide. But how does solitary harm individuals even where they can avoid mental illness or suicide? Does the deprivation of social contact deprive an individual of a basic human need? What does this tell us about the broader effects and practical results of using prolonged solitary confinement in prisons systems?

2. What are the best and most effective ways of reducing the use of solitary confinement in prison systems?

The population of prisoners placed in solitary could be dramatically reduced if prison officials did not resort routinely to solitary confinement to lock up people who, for different reasons, are perceived by prison administrators to pose problems. A number of states in the U.S., the U.S. government, and prison officials in other nations have committed to significantly reducing the number of prisoners held in segregated housing by excluding the mentally ill, pregnant woman, and juveniles; and by developing step-down programs and limiting the criteria for placement and duration in isolation.

How have these systems been able to reduce the population of prisoners held in solitary? Are even more dramatic reductions possible, and if so how? To what extent should placement or continuation in solitary be based on a determination of how the individual is reacting to solitary confinement; namely, are they decompressing or becoming mentally ill or do they seem mentally stable? What is the relationship or effectiveness of reform driven by litigation, legislation or voluntary action by prison administrators? Does limiting or ending solitary confinement require a change in the culture and attitude that we have toward prisoners more generally?

3. Should prolonged solitary confinement be abolished in all cases and in all forms?

Reducing routine use of prolonged solitary confinement still leaves us with an important question: can prolonged solitary confinement be used to house any prisoner, even those who are repeat or pathological killers? Does such confinement constitute cruel, unusual, and inhumane treatment generally which must be prohibited in the same way as other inhumane forms of punishment have been banned by the international community?

While clearly not all prisoners will suffer the same effects and harm from solitary, are there any general principles or risks of harm that would lead one to conclude that the practice ought to be seen as cruel, irrespective of whether a particular prisoner is suffering specific, present, or identifiable harm?

4. What are the penological alternatives to solitary confinement?

United States Supreme Court Justice Anthony Kennedy appeared to recently invite a legal challenge to solitary confinement in the U.S. and noted that the judiciary may be required “to determine whether workable alternative systems for long term [solitary] confinement exist, and, if so, whether a correctional system should be required to adopt them.” Such alternatives clearly exist, but how do

they work and what exactly do they achieve? Can prison systems separate prisoners who have shown themselves to be violent from the general population without isolating them and depriving them of human contact? What have been the efforts in some U.S. states and countries around the world to do so? What lessons can we learn from European countries on alternative methods of dealing with prisoners generally and, more specifically, prisoners who cause problems?

Conference Organization

Friday April 15, Day One

The first day of the conference will focus on the effects of solitary confinement on prisoners. It will attempt to deepen our understanding of the harms wrought by isolation and address the question of whether, even for those prisoners who are not driven mad, mentally ill or to attempt suicide due to placement in solitary, are there any general harms or risks of harm that would lead one to conclude that the practice ought to be seen as cruel, irrespective of the effect on a particular prisoner.

Saturday April 16, Day Two

The second day will focus on initiatives to reform and end the practice of solitary confinement worldwide. What have been the efforts of prison administrators and lawyers so far to reform the use of solitary, what are the alternatives to solitary, and how effective have the efforts so far been?

Welcomed Speakers

Alexis Agathocleous

Alexis Agathocleous is a Deputy Legal Director at the Center for Constitutional Rights, where he has worked on issues of mass incarceration, criminal justice, LGBTQ discrimination, gender justice, profiling of Muslims, and the criminalization of dissent. He is counsel for plaintiffs in *Aref, et al. v. Holder, et. al.*, challenging policies and conditions at the Federal Bureau of Prisons' Communications Management Units, and in *Ashker v. Brown*, a class action lawsuit challenging long-term solitary confinement at California's Pelican Bay prison.

He was lead counsel in *Doe v. Jindal* and *Doe v. Caldwell*, successful challenges to a Louisiana law that required individuals convicted of a "Crime Against Nature" to register as sex offenders. Before joining CCR's staff, Alexis was a senior staff attorney at the Office of the Appellate Defender (OAD) and director of OAD's Reinvestigation Project. He was a Karpatkin Fellow with the Racial Justice Program at the American Civil Liberties Union. Alexis graduated from Yale Law School, where he was a Coker Fellow and interned at the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund.

Dr. Huda Akil

Dr. Huda Akil, PhD is the Gardner Quarten Distinguished University Professor of Neuroscience and Psychiatry and the co-Director of the Molecular & Behavioral Neuroscience Institute (MBNI) at the University of Michigan. Dr. Akil together with Dr. Stanley J. Watson and their colleagues have made seminal contributions to the understanding of the brain biology of emotions, including pain, anxiety, depression and substance abuse. She and her collaborators provided the first physiological evidence for a role of endorphins in the brain, and showed that endorphins are activated by stress and cause pain inhibition.

Dr. Akil's current research investigates the genetic, molecular and neural mechanisms underlying stress, addiction and mood disorders. Along with Dr. Watson, she is the Michigan Site Director of the Pritzker Consortium, which is engaged in large-scale studies to discover new genes and proteins that cause vulnerability to major depression and bipolar illness. She is the author of over 500 original scientific papers, and has been recognized as one of the most highly cited neuroscientists by the ISI Citation Index.

Dr. Akil's scientific contributions have been recognized with numerous honors and awards. These include the Pacesetter Award from the National Institute on Drug Abuse in 1993 and the Pasarow Award (with S.J. Watson) for Neuroscience Research in 1994. In 1998, she received the Sachar Award from Columbia University, and the Bristol Myers Squibb Unrestricted Research Funds Award. She is also the recipient of the Society for Neuroscience Mika Salpeter Lifetime Achievement Award and the NARSAD Patricia Goldman-Rakic Prize for Cognitive Neuroscience (2007), the Koch Award from the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology (2010). She has shared with Dr. Stanley Watson the Thomas William Salmon Award in 2010, and the Institute of Medicine Sarnat Award in 2012. In 2013, she received the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC)

Award for Distinguished Research in the Biomedical Sciences. In 2015, she was elected to the Lebanese Academy of Medicine and received the Kuwait Prize in Biomedical Research.

In 1994, Dr. Akil was elected to the membership of the National Academy of Medicine (NAM, previously the IOM). She was elected as a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 2000. In 2004, she was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. In 2011 she was elected to the National Academy of Sciences.

Dr. Akil service includes membership of numerous boards and scientific councils. She has served on several national and international organizations to promote scientific and brain health awareness nationally and globally. She is the past President of the American College of Neuropsychopharmacology (1998) and the past President of the Society for Neuroscience (2004) the largest neuroscience organization in the world. She has co-chaired the Neuroscience Steering Committee for Biomarkers Development at the Foundation for the National Institute of Health; she has served two terms on the Council of the National Academy of Medicine and currently serves on the National Research Council (NRC) review board. She is also a member of the Advisory Committee to the Director of NIH (ACD).

Joseph J. Arvay

Joseph J. Arvay, Q.C. holds law degrees from the University of Western Ontario Law School and Harvard Law School and is called to the Bars of both British Columbia and the Yukon. He has a busy litigation practice with an emphasis on public law and, in particular, constitutional, aboriginal and administrative law matters. Arvay has been counsel on a number of landmark cases in the Supreme Court of Canada—a court he has appeared in dozens of times. He has been the recipient of many awards and honors including, most recently, the Advocate Society's Justice Award 2015. In 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014 he was named by Canadian Lawyer Magazine as one of the top 25 Most Influential Lawyers in Canada. Arvay is a Fellow of the Litigation Counsel of America and a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers.

Dr. Jamie Bennett

Dr. Jamie Bennett is Governor of HMP Grendon & Springhill. Grendon prison manages men who have committed serious violent or sexually violent offences. It is the only prison to operate entirely as a series of therapeutic communities, and has demonstrated effectiveness in reducing harm in custody and reducing reoffending on release.

Dr. Bennett has written widely on prisons. He has edited *Prison Service Journal* since 2004 and has published five books. The most recent is *The working lives of prison managers: Global change, local culture and individual agency in the late modern prison* published by Palgrave Macmillan in 2015. He is a Research Associate at the Centre for Criminology at University of Oxford.

Leann K. Bertsch

Leann K. Bertsch has served as the Director of the North Dakota Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation since July 2005. Prior to serving as Director, Bertsch served as the Commissioner of

the North Dakota Department of Labor from September 2004 through June 2005. Prior to entering state government, Bertsch worked as a prosecutor for Burleigh County from August 1996 through August 2004. From 1992 through 1996 Bertsch worked as an attorney for Legal Assistance of North Dakota.

Bertsch also served 21 years in the North Dakota National Guard, retiring as a Major in the Judge Advocate General's Corp in 2007. As Corrections Director, Bertsch has worked to implement evidence-based practices throughout the North Dakota Corrections system focusing resources on long-term offender behavior change as opposed to monitoring and compliance. Bertsch currently serves as President of the Association of State Correctional Administrators.

Dolores Canales

Dolores Canales has become a strong advocate and spokespersons for incarcerated peoples and their families. Her passion is rooted in her own experience being formerly incarcerated for 20 years and witnessing the ongoing imprisonment of her son in solitary confinement for 15 years.

After the Pelican Bay and California Prisoner Hunger Strikes of 2011 she was instrumental in co-founding California Families Against Solitary Confinement (CFASC), a collective of family members that rose in protest of California's conditions of confinement in Security Housing Units (SHU).

Dolores sits on the Advisory Board of Californians United for a Responsible Budget (CURB), recently founded the Family Unity Network of Imprisoned People. She strongly believes that by working with families and communities we reclaim our power to lift our voices in order to bring about positive change.

Andrew Coyle

Andrew Coyle was Warden of several high security prisons in the United Kingdom before becoming Founding Director of the International Centre for Prison Studies in 1997.

He was Professor of Prison Studies in the University of London until his retirement in 2010. He provided expert evidence on the use of solitary confinement in the *Ashker* case, in the coronial inquest into the death of Ashley Smith in Canada, and in two class actions against the Government of Canada.

Shandre Delaney

Shandre Delaney, a board member of the Abolitionist Law Center, advocates with Human Rights Coalition Fed-Up in Pittsburgh and Women of Color in the Global Women's Strike in Philadelphia and London. She has been an organizer campaigning for human and civil rights of prisoners for 15 years.

She is mother of Carrington Keys, one of the Dallas 6, a group of jailhouse lawyers and whistleblowers who were charged with riot for peacefully protesting abuse of prisoners in the restricted housing unit at SCI Dallas in Dallas, Pennsylvania. She is coordinator of the Justice for

Dallas 6 Support campaign, a national and international intersectional network started in 2013 in an effort to exonerate the Dallas 6.

More recently, she began the Prisoner Justice and Whistleblower Support Campaign to protect other prisoners and jailhouse lawyers facing retaliation and abuse for their activism and peaceful resistance. She was plenary speaker at the US Social Forum 2015 and panelist at Yale University's Rebellious Lawyering Conference 2016 and the International Women's Conference 2016 in London, England.

David C. Fathi

David C. Fathi is Director of the American Civil Liberties Union National Prison Project, which brings challenges to conditions of confinement in prisons, jails, and other detention facilities, and works to end the policies that have given the United States the highest incarceration rate in the world. He worked as a staff lawyer at the Project for more than ten years before becoming director in 2010, and has special expertise in challenging supermax prisons, where prisoners are held for months or years at a time in conditions of near-total isolation.

From 2012 to 2015 he represented the ACLU in negotiations leading to adoption of the United Nations Revised Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners, known as the "Nelson Mandela Rules."

From 2007 to 2010 Fathi was Director of the US Program at Human Rights Watch. The US Program works to defend the rights of particularly vulnerable groups in the United States, and has published groundbreaking reports on the death penalty, prison conditions, racial discrimination, the rights of immigrants, and many other human rights issues.

Fathi has lectured nationally and internationally on criminal justice issues. His op-eds have appeared in the Los Angeles Times, Chicago Tribune, Houston Chronicle, and other major media outlets. He is a graduate of the University of Washington and the Boalt Hall School of Law at the University of California, Berkeley. He lives in Washington, DC.

José de Jesus Filho

Jose de Jesus Filho is a Brazilian criminal justice researcher, specializing in corrections. Currently, he is finishing his PhD in prison administration and working as a criminal justice adviser for the federal government.

He was associated with the Brazilian Catholic Prison Pastoral Care for over 20 years as a criminal lawyer and human rights activist. He was part of the team involved in suing Brazil before the Interamerican Commission on Human Rights about solitary confinement.

Bret Grote

Bret Grote is the Legal Director of the Abolitionist Law Center, and a licensed attorney in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. He is a 2013 graduate of the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, and was recognized as the Distinguished Public Interest Scholar for his graduating class.

Grote was the Isabel and Alger Hiss Racial Justice Fellow at the Center for Constitutional Rights in 2012. He is counsel for Russell Maroon Shoatz in the case of *Shoatz v. Wetzel*, a challenge to 22 consecutive years of solitary confinement that goes to trial in federal court in Pittsburgh on July 11.

Craig Haney

Craig Haney is Distinguished Professor of Psychology, Director of the Program in Legal Studies, and holds the UC Presidential Chair, 2015–2018 at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

Haney received his PhD and JD degrees from Stanford University, and for nearly four decades has conducted research on a variety of social justice-related topics, including the psychological effects of living and working in prison environments. For most of the last 30 years, much of that research has focused on the psychological effects of solitary or “supermax” type confinement.

Professor Haney has served as an expert witness in several landmark cases addressing the constitutional rights of prisoners, including *Toussaint v. McCarthy* (1983), *Madrid v. Gomez* (1995), *Coleman v. Gomez* (1995), and *Ruiz v. Johnson* (1999), and *Brown v. Plata* (2011).

In 2012, he was appointed to a National Academy of Sciences Committee studying the causes and consequences of mass incarceration in the United States and also testified at an historic hearing before the U.S. Senate examining the nature and effects of solitary confinement. In 2014, Professor Haney he was selected as the University’s Distinguished Faculty Research Lecturer.

Louise Hawkley

Louise Hawkley has been a Senior Research Scientist with NORC at the University of Chicago since 2013, after more than a decade in the Department of Psychology at the University of Chicago. She obtained her PhD in psychophysiology from the Ohio State University, and her ongoing research focuses on causes and consequences of loneliness and social isolation during aging. She is an internationally recognized expert on loneliness and its health consequences across the life span. Her work has been funded primarily by the National Institute on Aging; she is currently an investigator on the NIA-funded National Social Life, Health and Aging Project, a longitudinal study of the social lives and health of a nationally representative sample of more than 3,000 older adults.

She has published more than 100 articles and chapters, including studies that document a link between loneliness and altered regulation of gene expression, stress hormone levels, blood pressure, sleep quality, and depressive symptoms. Her current work is aimed at developing and testing an intervention to help prevent and reduce lonely feelings in older adults.

Are Hoidal

Are Hoidal has worked in the Norwegian Correctional Services for 30 years. Hoidal has had various senior positions over the years, including 11 years as governor (warden) of the Oslo prison and now governor of Halden prison since 2009. Hoidal graduated in law in 1987 and afterward immediately began work in the Norwegian Correctional Services.

Todd Ishee

Todd Ishee began his career in 1990 as a corrections officer at Lorain Correctional Institution. Earning his Bachelor of Arts in Management degree from Malone University, he progressed through the security ranks to become Warden at the Ohio State Penitentiary, also known as Ohio's Supermax.

Following that assignment, he transferred to the Central Office of Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction to serve as North Region Security Administrator and Operations Chief. During his career, Todd has held twelve different positions within DRC and worked at five of its prisons. Currently, he serves as the Northeast Regional Director over 20 of Ohio's northeast counties and is responsible for the oversight of six DRC prisons.

Todd is a certified American Correctional Association (ACA) and Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) auditor and throughout his career has visited and evaluated 26 high security prisons across the country. Recently, two articles Todd authored concerning Ohio's reentry innovations were published in professional magazines.

Robert King

Dr. Robert King is a prison reform activist and the first of the Angola 3 to win his freedom after serving 29 years in solitary confinement in Louisiana.

He was a member of the Black Panther Party in Angola, LA, the only official chapter of the BPP in the country. In the 15 years since his release in February of 2001, King's life's focus has been to campaign against abuses in the US criminal justice system, the cruel and unusual use of solitary confinement and for the freedom of the remaining imprisoned, Angola 2.

Jules Lobel

Professor Jules Lobel is the Bessie McKee Walthour Endowed Chair at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law.

Professor Lobel was the lead attorney in the landmark solitary confinement case *Ashker v. Governor of California* and is currently president of the Center for Constitutional Rights, a national human and constitutional rights organization headquartered in New York City. He has litigated numerous cases involving Constitutional and Human Rights issues in the United States Courts and has represented members of Congress challenging various Presidents' – both Democrat and Republican – assertions of Executive power to unilaterally initiate warfare. He argued *Wilkinson v. Austin* in the United States Supreme Court, challenging Ohio's placement of prisoners in its supermax prison.

Lobel has been involved in various cases challenging aspects of US policy toward suspected terrorists, including *Rasul v. Bush*, arguing for *habeas corpus* rights for Guantanamo detainees, *Arar v. Ashcroft*, seeking damages for a Canadian citizen who alleged that he was wrongfully rendered to Syria to be tortured by high U.S. officials, and *Holder v. HLP*, a Supreme Court case challenging aspects of the material aid to terrorism statute as violative of the First Amendment.

Lobel co-authored the award winning book, *Less Safe, Less Free: Why America is Losing the War on Terror* (2007) with Professor David Cole, which won the first Roy C. Palmer Civil Liberties Prize for exemplary scholarship exploring the tension between civil liberties and national security. He is also the author of, *Success without Victory: Lost Legal Battles and the Long Road to Justice in America* (2003), and editor of several books on Civil Rights Litigation as well as the U.S. Constitution.

Lobel is the recipient of the University of Pittsburgh Chancellor's Distinguished Public Service Award (2002), and the Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award (1993). In 2006, he received the Allegheny County Bar Foundation's Career Achievement Award for Pro Bono Service, and in 2001 he was named by the School of Law as a Distinguished Faculty Scholar.

Juan E. Méndez

Juan E. Méndez is a Professor of Human Rights Law in Residence at the American University – Washington College of Law, and the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment. He is the author (with Marjory Wentworth) of *Taking A Stand: The Evolution of Human Rights* (New York: Palgrave MacMillan, 2011).

Méndez was an advisor on crime prevention to the Prosecutor, International Criminal Court from 2009 to 2011 and co-chair of the Human Rights Institute of the International Bar Association in 2010 and 2011. Until May 2009 he was the President of the International Center for Transitional Justice (ICTJ). Concurrent with his duties at ICTJ, the Honorable Kofi Annan named Méndez his Special Advisor on the Prevention of Genocide, a task he performed from 2004 to 2007.

A native of Argentina, Méndez has dedicated his legal career to the defense of human rights and has a long and distinguished record of advocacy throughout the Americas. As a result of his involvement in representing political prisoners, the Argentinean military dictatorship arrested him and subjected him to torture and administrative detention for more than a year.

During this time, Amnesty International adopted him as a “Prisoner of Conscience.” After his expulsion from his country in 1977, Méndez moved to the United States. For 15 years, he worked with Human Rights Watch, concentrating his efforts on human rights issues in the western hemisphere and, between 1994 and 1996, as General Counsel. From 1996 to 1999, Méndez was the Executive Director of the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights in Costa Rica, and between October 1999 and May 2004 he was Professor of Law and Director of the Center for Civil and Human Rights at the University of Notre Dame, Indiana.

Between 2000 and 2003 he was a member of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the Organization of American States, and served as its President in 2002. He has taught International Human Rights Law at Georgetown Law School and at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, and he teaches regularly at the Oxford Master's Program in International Human Rights Law in the United Kingdom.

He is the recipient of several human rights awards: the Rafael Lemkin Award for contributions to the prevention of genocide by the Auschwitz Institute on Peace and Reconciliation (2010); the Goler T. Butcher Medal from the American Society of International Law (2010); Doctorates Honoris Causa

from the University of Quebec in Montreal (2006), the Universidad Nacional de La Plata, Argentina (2012) and the National University of Mar del Plata, Argentina (2015); the inaugural Monsignor Oscar A. Romero Award for Leadership in Service to Human Rights, by the University of Dayton (2000); and the Jeanne and Joseph Sullivan Award of the Heartland Alliance (2003).

Méndez is a member of the bar of Mar del Plata and Buenos Aires, Argentina, and the District of Columbia, U.S., having earned a JD from Stella Maris University in Argentina and a certificate from the American University Washington College of Law.

Danny Murillo

Danny Murillo is a John W. Gardner Fellow in Public Service, serving at Vera and NJ-STEP, where his work is focused on postsecondary education for justice-involved students.

After serving a 14-year prison sentence—seven of which were in solitary confinement—Danny enrolled in the University of California, Berkeley, where he was a Ronald E. McNair Scholar. His research focused on the criminalization of suspension and black male students in Oakland’s public schools.

As a UC Berkeley Peter E. Haas Public Service Leader, he was the national policy intern at the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights in Oakland, working on a national community driven research project titled, “Who Pays? The True Cost of Incarceration on Families” that addresses the economic impact of the criminal justice system on low-income communities of color. In 2013, Danny co-founded the Underground Scholars Initiative, a student association dedicated to support students who have been personally impacted by the prison industrial complex at UC Berkeley, where he also earned his BA in Ethnic Studies.

Marlysha Myrthil

Marlysha Myrthil is a Senior Trial Attorney at the Department of Justice’s Civil Rights Division, where she has worked in the Division’s Special Litigation Section since 2010.

Myrthil received her BA, cum laude, in Political Science-Human Rights Studies from Barnard College, Columbia University in 2004, and her JD from the University of Notre Dame Law School in 2007. After law school, Myrthil clerked for the Honorable Charles R. Wilson, Circuit Judge for the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit.

Following her clerkship, Myrthil worked as a Chesterfield Smith Fellow at Holland & Knight, LLP, where she litigated pro bono civil rights cases in federal and state courts on issues related to juvenile detention, prisoners’ rights, educational opportunities, disability rights, and immigration appeals.

After completing her two-year Chesterfield Smith Fellowship, Myrthil joined the Department of Justice as a trial attorney in the Civil Rights Division’s Special Litigation Section in 2010. In her work at the Special Litigation Section, Myrthil has pursued large scale “pattern or practice” investigations and litigation against state and local governments to remedy unconstitutional conditions of confinement, excessive use of force, sexual abuse, and discrimination against persons with disabilities.

Over the years, Myrthil has developed a particular focus and expertise on the use of solitary confinement in correctional institutions and has worked tirelessly on reforming this practice. To that end, Myrthil was part of a Department of Justice working group—convened in response to President Obama's call in July 2015—that reviewed the overuse of solitary confinement in American prisons and formulated strategies, policy solutions, and guiding principles to reduce this practice.

Manfred Nowak

Manfred Nowak is Professor of International Law and Human Rights at Vienna University and Secretary General of the European Inter-University Centre for Human Rights and Democratisation (EIUC) in Venice. He is also co-director of the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights (BIM) and Vice-Chair of the EU Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) in Vienna.

In the past, he was, inter alia, director of the Netherlands Institute of Human Rights (SIM) at Utrecht University, UN expert on enforced disappearances, judge at the Human Rights Chamber for Bosnia and Herzegovina in Sarajevo and UN Special Rapporteur on Torture.

He is author of more than 500 books and articles in the fields of public and international law as well as human rights and is regularly teaching at various universities in all world regions, including the American University in Washington, D.C. He holds an LLM degree from Columbia University in New York and served as Austrian Chair Visiting Professor at Stanford University in 2014.

Rick Raemisch

Rick Raemisch was appointed Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Corrections by Governor Hickenlooper in July 2013. During his time with the CDOC, Rick has successfully implemented prison reforms resulting in a safe, dramatic reduction of offenders held in administrative segregation (ad-seg), eliminating the use of ad-seg for offenders with serious mental illness, and eliminating the release of offenders from ad-seg directly to the community.

Rick is a recognized leader on prison reform and is sought after as a subject matter expert on both the national and international level. He has served as an expert to a United Nations sub-committee revising prisoner standards and has testified on corrections matters before a U.S. Senate sub-committee. Rick has participated in forums on corrections at Yale Law School, New York University School of Law, and New York City's John Jay College. He has authored an article in, and was profiled by, the New York Times.

Prior to joining the CDOC, Rick was head of the Wisconsin DOC. He started in the Wisconsin DOC in 2003 as the administrator of community corrections and also served for two years as deputy secretary.

Rick's criminal justice career began in 1976 as a deputy sheriff at the Dane County Sheriff's Office in Wisconsin and transitioned to work as an undercover narcotics detective. Starting in 1990, Rick served five terms as sheriff of Dane County. Rick holds a Juris Doctor, cum laude, from the University of Wisconsin School of Law and served as assistant district attorney in Dane County and an assistant US Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin.

Keramet Reiter

Keramet Reiter is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Criminology, Law & Society and at the School of Law at the University of California, Irvine. Her research focuses on prisons, prisoners' rights, and the impact of prison and punishment policy on individuals, communities, and legal systems.

Reiter uses a variety of methods in her work—including interviewing, archival and legal analysis, and quantitative data analysis—in order to understand both the history and impact of criminal justice policies, from medical experimentation on prisoners and record clearing programs to the use of long-term solitary confinement in the United States.

She is co-editor of the anthology *Extreme Punishment: Comparative Studies in Detention, Incarceration, and Solitary Confinement*. Her book, *23/7: Pelican Bay Prison and the Rise of Long-Term Solitary*, on the history and uses of U.S. supermax prisons will be released by Yale University Press in the fall of 2016.

Judith Resnik

Judith Resnik is the Arthur Liman Professor of Law at Yale Law School, where she teaches about federalism, procedure, courts, prisons, equality, and citizenship. She is the founding director of the Liman Program. Her books include *Representing Justice: Invention, Controversy, and Rights in City-States and Democratic Courtrooms* (with Dennis Curtis, 2011) and *Migrations and Mobilities: Citizenship, Borders, and Gender* (co-edited with Seyla Benhabib, 2009).

Resnik joined Liman faculty and students and the Association of State Correctional Administrators in co-authoring *Time-in-Cell: The ASCA Liman 2014 National Survey of Administrative Segregation in Prison* (2015), and the Liman Program submitted comments in January 2016 to the American Correctional Association's Committee on Restrictive Housing and to the Charles Colson Task Force on Federal Corrections.

Professor Resnik's recent articles include *Diffusing Disputes: The Public in the Private of Arbitration, the Private in Courts, and the Erasure of Rights* (Yale Law Journal, 2015); and *Detention, The War on Terror, and the Federal Courts* (Columbia Law Journal, 2010). Resnik is an occasional litigator and is a Managerial Trustee of the International Association of Women Judges; she co-founded Yale's Women's Faculty Forum; and she now chairs the Global Constitutional Law Seminar, a part of the Gruber Program on Global Justice and Women's Rights.

Resnik is the recipient of many honors, including the Margaret Brent Women Lawyers of Achievement Award from the Commission on Women of the ABA. She is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and a member of the American Philosophical Society.

Margo Schlanger

Margo Schlanger is the Henry M. Butzel Professor of Law at the University of Michigan, where she teaches torts, constitutional law, and classes relating to civil rights, prisons, and policing. She also founded and runs the Civil Rights Litigation Clearinghouse.

Professor Schlanger is the court-appointed monitor for a statewide settlement dealing with deaf prisoners in Kentucky, and serves on the Department of Homeland Security's Advisory Committee on Family Residential Centers. In 2010 and 2011, she was the presidentially appointed Officer for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

In the past she served on the Vera Institute's blue ribbon Commission on Safety and Abuse in America's Prisons; worked as an advisor on national standards implementing the Prison Rape Elimination Act, and was the reporter for the American Bar Association's Standards on the Treatment of Prisoners.

Before entering law teaching, Schlanger earned her JD from Yale in 1993, clerked for Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, and worked as a trial attorney in the U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division to remedy civil rights abuses by prison and police departments.

Sharon Shalev

Sharon Shalev (LLM, PhD) is a human rights worker and criminologist. She is a Research Associate at the Centre for Criminology, University of Oxford, and an Associate at the Mannheim Centre for Criminology, London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE).

Over the past 20 years Sharon's key research interest has been the use of solitary confinement in prisons and other places of detention, and she has authored various publications on the subject, including the influential *Sourcebook on Solitary Confinement*, a practitioner's guide to the health effects of solitary confinement and to human rights and professional standards relating to its use.

Her award winning book, *Supermax: controlling risk through solitary confinement* (Willan, 2009) provided an early in-depth look into the rise, inner-workings and consequences of supermax prisons in the United States. Her latest study, *Deep Custody: Segregation Units and Close Supervision Centres in England and Wales* (2015), conducted with the Prison Reform Trust, offers a comprehensive look into segregation (solitary confinement) practices in England and Wales.

Dr. Richard Smeyne

Richard Smeyne earned his Bachelor's degree in Biology from St. Joseph's University in 1977 and PhD in Anatomy from Thomas Jefferson University (both in Philadelphia, PA) in 1989. He did postdoctoral research at the Roche Institute of Molecular Biology in Nutley, NJ where he studied with Jim Morgan and Tom Curran and generated the first transgenic mouse carrying an inducible gene. Following his postdoctoral work, he started his own lab at the Bristol Myers Squibb Neurogenetics Program at Hoffmann-LaRoche.

In 1996, Dr. Smeyne joined the faculty at SJCRH in the Department of Pharmaceutical Research Center where he became recognized for his analysis of mice carrying mutations of the neurotrophin receptors TrkA, TrkB and TrkC. Dr. Smeyne was subsequently recruited to become the Head of the Developmental Neurobiology.

At St. Jude, Dr. Smeyne has had a long-standing interest in the cell biology of Parkinson's disease, examining both environmental and genetic models of the disease. As part of his environmental

studies, Dr. Smeyne has examined how alterations in an animal's environment can affect brain development.

Currently, Dr. Smeyne serves as a member of the Clinical and Scientific Advisory Board for the National Parkinson's Foundation and on several advisory panels for the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research and Parkinson's Disease Foundation. Dr. Smeyne's lab has been funded by the NIH, the National Parkinson's Disease Foundation, the Parkinson's Disease Foundation, the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research, the NIEHS, and NIDA.

Peter Scharff Smith

Peter Scharff Smith is Senior Researcher at The Danish Institute for Human Rights and Professor in Criminology at Aalborg University in Denmark. He has studied history and social science, holds a PhD from the University of Copenhagen and has also done research at the University of Cambridge and the University of Oslo.

Smith has published books and articles in Danish, English and German on prisons, punishment and human rights, including works on prison history, prisoner's children and the use and effects of solitary confinement in prisons. He has also published books and articles on the history of the Waffen-SS and the Nazi war of extermination at the Eastern Front.

He is the author or co-author of eight monographs and co-editor of several edited collections. His latest book in English is *When the Innocent are Punished: The Children of Imprison Parents* (Palgrave, 2014). Peter has also authored "The Effects of Solitary Confinement on Prison Inmates: A Brief History and Review of the Literature" (Crime and Justice 2006).

Emmitt L. Sparkman

Emmitt L. Sparkman is past Deputy Commissioner of Institutions for the Mississippi Department of Corrections (MDOC) serving for over ten years in the position. He has extensive experience as a prison and corrections administrator with responsibility for managing the custody, control, and treatment of long term segregation offenders.

While the MDOC Deputy Commissioner for Institutions, he directed major reforms in the use of long-term segregation at the Mississippi State Penitentiary resulting in the successful reduction of the MDOC long term segregation population from over 1300 offenders to approximately 350 offenders. He has provided consulting services to corrections systems in the states of Maryland, Illinois, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Colorado, and South Carolina regarding the use of long-term segregation and was a participant in the Federal Bureau of Prisons: Special Housing Unit Review and Assessment completed in December 2014. Recently, he was an expert witness for the plaintiffs on the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation's use of special housing units in *Ashker v. the Governor of the State of California*.

Donald Specter

Donald Specter is the Executive Director of the Prison Law Office. The Prison Law Office is a nonprofit public interest law firm based in Berkeley, California that provides free legal services to adult and juvenile offenders to improve their conditions of confinement.

Specter has been lead counsel in numerous successful institutional reform cases that, among other things, have improved health care services, guaranteed prisoners with disabilities reasonable accommodations and equal access to prison programs, reduced the use of excessive force, limited racial discrimination and restricted the use of solitary confinement in adult and juvenile correctional systems.

He has been chair of the California State Bars Commission on Corrections, was named Appellate Lawyer of the Week by the *National Law Journal* for arguing *Brown v. Plata*, 531 U.S. ____ (2011), which ordered California to dramatically reduce its prison population. Specter received the California Lawyers of the Year Award in 2006 and 2009 and was selected three times as one of the top 100 lawyers in California. Specter earned his BA in Economics from New College in Sarasota, Florida in 1974 and his JD from the University of San Francisco School of Law in 1978.

Dr. Homer Venters

Homer Venters, MD, MS, is the Chief Medical Officer of Correctional Health Services for the NYC Health and Hospital System, which provides health care in the NYC jail system.

Dr. Venters is also a faculty member at the NYU Center for Survivors of Torture and co-chair of the ICE-NGO health advisory group which advises U.S. Department of Homeland Security on medical care for detainees. Dr. Venters work focuses on the health risks of incarceration and the intersection between correctional health and human rights.

Bernie Warner

Bernie Warner is the Senior Vice President of Corrections for Management Training Corporation, a family-owned company overseeing 60,000 offenders in institutions and the community, both in the US and the UK. He is the former Secretary of the Washington Department of Corrections and has over 34 years of experience in both juvenile and adult corrections. As Secretary, Warner led an agency of 8,000 employees responsible for over 35,000 offenders in 12 prisons, 15 work release facilities and 123 community supervision offices throughout the state.

Warner has also held executive positions in corrections in the states of Arizona, Florida and California where he served as the Director of the state juvenile justice system. In each jurisdiction, he has focused on comprehensive system reform based on an evidence-based model of risk, need and responsivity.

In Washington state, Warner led several innovative initiatives such as: the reengineering of community corrections, providing for the first statewide implementation of the HOPE model, blending swift and certain sanctions with community based cognitive behavioral interventions; a “mission-focused” response to offenders in restrictive programs, significantly reducing the number of

inmates in segregation; the piloting of a prison-based “cease-fire” model, as a strategy to manage serious gang behavior; and a gender-responsive strategy to ensure appropriate services for incarcerated women.

Brie Williams

Brie Williams, MD, MS is an Associate Professor of Medicine in the UCSF Division of Geriatrics, with board certification in internal medicine, geriatrics and hospice/palliative care.

Dr. Williams works with collaborators from the criminal justice, public safety and legal fields to apply geriatrics and palliative care paradigms to transform criminal justice healthcare through clinical research. She has published work calling for a more scientific development of compassionate release policies; broader inclusion of prisoners in national health datasets and in NIH-funded health research; and improved systems for defining, recognizing, and responding to disability, cognitive impairment, and multimorbidity in incarcerated older adults.

She is the Founding Director of the UC Criminal Justice & Health Consortium, a UC-wide community of over 120 faculty and graduate students spanning more than 20 academic departments which seeks to bring evidence-based healthcare solutions to criminal justice reform. She also directs the European-US Criminal Justice Innovation Program, an immersion program funded by the Prison Law Office for U.S. criminal justice leaders and government officials that introduces them to innovative criminal justice policies and systems in Europe and delivers targeted planning, technical assistance, and evaluation support to enable them to achieve transformative change in their home jurisdictions.

In her role as Associate Director of Tideswell at UCSF, Dr. Williams directs the Criminal Justice Aging Project, which develops and delivers geriatrics and palliative care training to criminal justice professionals including police, correctional officers, judges, attorneys, and healthcare clinicians. Dr. Williams has served as an expert witness in several lawsuits related to the health effects of solitary confinement.

Albert Woodfox

Albert Woodfox is the last of the Angola 3 to be released. He was released on his birthday, February 19th, 2016 after his conviction had been overturned a total of three times, spanning the years 1992-2015.

Motivated by the many years it took to be heard, Albert has made a life-long commitment to continue his activism and advocacy on behalf of all those wrongfully imprisoned due to the multiple abuses of the criminal justice system related to prosecutorial misconduct, missing or false evidence, bad science, and racism. As a former member of the Black Panther Party he hopes to be a voice for the voiceless, suffering under brutal prison conditions.

Dr. Michael Zigmond

Dr. Michael Zigmond joined the faculty of the University of Pittsburgh 1970, where he is currently a member of the Pittsburgh Institute for Neurodegenerative Diseases, and Professor of Neurology,

Psychiatry and Neurobiology. He is also a Distinguished Professor at Fudan University, in Shanghai, China, a Visiting Professor at the Shanghai University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, an Honorary Fellow of the Indian Academy of Neurology, and the current secretary of the Neuroscience Section of American Association for the Advancement of Science. He has served as the secretary of the Society for Neuroscience. His research has been supported by the National Institutes of Health for more than 40 years and he has published almost 200 papers.

Dr. Zigmond received his BS in Chemical Engineering at Carnegie Mellon University, his PhD in Biopsychology at the University of Chicago, and his postdoctoral training in neuropharmacology at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He has also done sabbatical research at the National Medical Research Institute (London), the Scripps Research Institute in La Jolla, CA, and Children's Hospital at Harvard Medical School. His research focuses on neuronal cell death, survival, and adaptation in the brain with particular attention to neurodegenerative diseases, such as Parkinson's disease and aging. This is part of a broader interest in the influence of lifestyle on brain health and chronic, non-communicable disease. A major focus of the lab currently is the impact of physical exercise and environmental enrichment on brain plasticity and its protective effects against stress and neurotoxins.

Dr. Zigmond has been active in a variety of educational programs, focusing on neuroscience, professional development, and research integrity. He has received several awards for his educational work in the United States and many other countries, including the Award for Lifetime Achievements from the Society for Neuroscience for his research and his mentoring of women.

Thank You To Our Sponsors

The conference is sponsored and supported by the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, the University of Pittsburgh's Global Academic Partnership (GAP), Office of the Provost, the University Center for International Studies, the Global Studies Center, the Center for International Legal Education, Center for Latin American Studies, Department of Psychology and the University of Pittsburgh Brain Institute.

In addition, the Danish Institute for Human Rights sponsored and supported the conference and the University of California Criminal Justice & Health Consortium and the Jacob and Valeria Langeloth Foundation sponsored the conference and funded the health panels.

Guest Wi-Fi Access Instructions

1. Open your wireless network manager and select GUEST-WIRELESS-PITNET.
2. Open a Web browser. The Guest Login window will display.
3. Log in using your email address and the password that you selected in advance.

If you have not set your password yet, enter your email address where you see Haven't set your password yet? If your request has been approved, you will be prompted to accept the usage agreement and select a password. However, if your faculty or staff host hasn't approved your request, you must contact him or her first.

If you have access problems, please contact lawit@pitt.edu or 412-624-HELP.