



# Toward a More Inclusive Campus

Brathwaite heads BC Law's new diversity program.

Lisa Brathwaite, a specialist in legal higher education affinity groups and minority and race issues, has joined BC Law as Director for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Programs.

"Lisa's energy, insights, and ideas are sure to inspire our community's DEI efforts for years to come," said Dean Vincent Rougeau. "We are thrilled to welcome such an experienced hand in matters of justice and inclusion to BC Law."

Brathwaite comes to the Law School from the Northeastern School of Law Center for Co-op and Professional Advancement, where she designed and implemented evidence-based programming for student affinity groups, fostered and maintained relationships with minority bar and professional development associations, and advised affinity groups as well as students navigating personal, professional, and climate-based concerns. She was also a member of the school's Committee Against Institutional Racism.

She is a graduate of Bowdoin College, where she majored in Sociology and Gender and Women's Studies and minored in Africana Studies.

At BC Law, she will work in close partnership with colleagues across student-facing offices and help lead the collaborative effort of the Law School community to provide a diverse, equitable, and inclusive environment committed to the success of all students.

## GOOD GOVERNANCE MATTERS

A group of BC Law students have put feet to pavement to improve the policies underpinning modern political systems. Their first step was forming the Good Governance Project (GGP), a partnership between the Law School and BC's Clough Center for the Study of Constitutional Democracy.

"During my 1L year, I felt that there was not a place or club through which I could pursue my interest in campaign finance reform," GGP President Matthew Victor '22 said. "The Good Governance Project seeks to fill that void, and provide structure and resources for students interested in the critical work of democracy reform."

Next, the organization began forming cohorts of students to leverage their voices on relevant issues like gerrymandering, campaign finance, ranked-choice voting, and voter suppression and



then hosted a kickoff event in October featuring notable reformers in the space.

The speakers were president of American Promise Jeff Clements; entrepreneur and former Tennessee congressman Zach Wamp; and Sara Eskrich, executive director of Democracy Found.

Massachusetts State
Senator Jamie Eldridge '00
also spoke and offered these
words of encouragement: "I do
really think it's important for
law students or young lawyers
to get involved in your community and raise these issues
about all the systemic barriers
to improving our democracy
and providing common sense
policy." —JAMIE EHRLICH '23

#### AROUND THE ACADEMY



#### Richard Cordray

As the Rappaport Distinguished Visiting Professor at BC Law last fall, the former director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and Ohio Attorney General participated in a number of Rappaport Center activities. He taught a seminar, "Consumer Finance Law and Federalism," gave a community address, "Comparing the Economic Effects of the COVID Crisis of 2020 with the Financial Crisis of 2008," and moderated a webinar panel on race and economic justice during the pandemic.



### Franita Tolson

The USC Gould School of Law Professor discussed her forthcoming book In Congress We Trust? Enforcing Voting Rights from the Founding to the Jim Crow Era with BC Law Professors Mary Bilder and Daniel Farbman. Co-sponsored by the BC Law Legal History Roundtable and BC's Clough Center for the Study of Constitutional Democracy, the November 13 conversation also turned to the election. A voting rights expert, Tolson was a CNN analyst for the 2020 election.



## Angel Taveras

Racial injustice was the topic of an event sponsored by the Latin American Law Student Association (LALSA) and the BC Law Democrats on October 14. Taveras, mayor of Providence, RI, from 2011-2015 and the first Dominican American to hold that office, was one of three panelists. He highlighted barriers that display the unfortunate truth about voting system inequity, but also expressed hope for a brighter future as a result of the widespread mobilization of social justice warriors.



#### Sandra Leung '84

On October 20, the executive vice president and general counsel at Bristol-Myers Squibb gave the BC Law-Ropes & Gray International IP Summit keynote on the intellectual property challenges that may lie ahead for the biopharma industry. Leung, who is the primary legal advisor to her company's board and senior leadership, said the pandemic changed the world almost overnight, but that the biopharma industry has continued its mission to innovate life-saving medicines and technologies.



#### Aziz Huq

The University of Chicago Law School scholar joined the American Constitution Society on September 30 for a discussion about how the pandemic has exposed the risks and disappointments of federalism. He called the federal response to the pandemic "calamitous," expressed disappointment with interstate compacts to deal with it, saw in the government's behavior parallels to militaristic nations, but added that legal skills are "useful tools in the protection and vindication of democracy."