

**April 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**5<sup>th</sup> Annual Human Rights/Human Relations Conference**

**WVSU Erickson Alumni Center**

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***Increasing Human Understanding***

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***Presenters Include***

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***Gerard Robinson, Exec. Director***

***TMCF Center for Advancing  
Opportunity***



***Rabbi Victor Urecki***

***Rabbi and Spiritual Leader  
B'nai Jacob Synagogue***



***Dr. Daryl Scott***

***Professor of History  
Howard University***

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Our university, our community, and our world are incredibly diverse places. This diversity, which in the modern world is frequently used to divide us, can also be a powerful source of strength. The better we understand the experiences of those who come from backgrounds unlike our own, the more cohesive our communities become. This year's theme, "Increasing Human Understanding," continues West Virginia State University's commitment to addressing issues of diversity and understanding, as a "Living Laboratory of Human Relations."

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**WEST VIRGINIA STATE**  
UNIVERSITY

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11<sup>TH</sup>

**12:00 PM – 12:30 PM**

**WELCOME – REGISTRATION**

**12:30 PM – 1:00 PM**

**Montclair String Quartet** – Inequalities in Access to Classical Music Education. The quartet will also play selections from Mozart and Schubert.

\*Sponsored by West Virginia State University and the College of Arts and Humanities

**1:00 PM – 2:30 PM**

**Elizabeth Roldan-Suarez and John Idenyi** - International Visiting Scholar Perspectives on WVSU

\*Sponsored by West Virginia State University -- Office of International Affairs, and the WVSU Research & Development Corporation

**2:30 PM – 3:00 PM**

**BREAK**

**3:00 PM – 4:00 PM**

**Sen. Mark Drennan, Del. Mike Pushkin, and Dr. Michael Pennington** – Politics, Bipartisanship, and the Representation of Diverse Interests

\*Sponsored by WVSU College of Business and Social Sciences, Political Science Program

**4:00 PM – 5:00 PM**

**Samantha Loudin, Megan Diehl, Roxanne Dragonowski, Bonnie Swan, and Dr. Manashi Ray (Facilitator)** – Community Organizations

\*Sponsored by WVSU College of Business and Social Sciences, Sociology Program

**5:00 PM – 5:30 PM**

**BREAK**

**5:30 PM – 7:00 PM**

**Research Poster Presentations**

**7:00 PM**

**Gerard Robinson, Executive Director of the Center for Advancing Opportunity, Thurgood Marshall College Fund** – Education, Civil Society and Human Relations

\*Sponsored by West Virginia State University.

## THURSDAY, APRIL 12<sup>TH</sup>

**10:00 AM – 10:45 AM**

**Rabbi Victor Urecki, Rabbi and Spiritual Leader, B'nai Jacob Temple** – Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day

\*Sponsored by WVSU National Center for Human Relations, Office of Interfaith Relations.

**11:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

**Dr. Kerri Steele and Dr. Brenda Wamsley** – Grandfamilies: An Underserved Population

\*Sponsored by the WVSU College of Professional Studies, Dept. of Social Work

**12:00 PM – 1:00 PM**

*LUNCH*

**1:00 PM – 2:00 PM**

**Gerard Robinson, Marlene Hackett, Kevin Kemerer, and Traci Phillips** – Entrepreneurship and Employment Opportunity

\*Sponsored by WVSU College of Business and Social Sciences, Dept. of Business & Economics.

**2:00 PM – 3:00 PM**

**Dr. T.J. Park and Yassmine Alsaadi** – Economic Sanctions on North Korea and Syria in View of Human Rights Concerns

\*Sponsored by WVSU College of Business and Social Sciences, History Program

**3:00 PM – 3:30 PM**

*BREAK*

**3:30 PM -4:30 PM**

**LeighAnn Davidson, Dr. Elizabeth Campbell, and Lee Ann Vecellio** – From Hell to Hope: A Collaborative Women's Writing Project

\*Sponsored by WVSU College of Professional Studies, Dept. of Criminal Justice

**4:30 PM – 5:30 PM**

**Dr. Daryl Scott** – The Role of Black History in the Remaking of American Intergroup Relations in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century

\*Sponsored by West Virginia State University Committee for Cultural Activities and Educational Assemblies

West Virginia State University was founded under the provisions of the Second Morrill Act of 1890 as the West Virginia Colored Institute, one of 19 land-grant institutions authorized by Congress and designated by the states to provide for the education of black citizens in agriculture and the mechanical arts. West Virginia was one of the states that maintained segregated educational systems at that time.

From 1891 to 1915, the original Institute offered the equivalent of a high school education, vocational training, and teacher preparation. In 1915, the West Virginia Collegiate Institute began to offer college degrees. Under the leadership of President John W. Davis, the academic program was expanded and new buildings were constructed, and in 1927, the Institution was accredited by the North Central Association; in 1929, it became West Virginia State College. Over the next decades, WVSC became recognized as one of the leading public institutions of higher education for African-Americans.

In 1954, the United States Supreme Court gave its historic decision outlawing school segregation. The consequence of this decision for West Virginia State College was a rapid transition to an integrated institution serving a predominantly white, commuting, and older student population. Enrollment quadrupled during the following decades.

Meanwhile, by a decision of the West Virginia Board of Education, WVSC was compelled to surrender land-grant status, the only one of the 1890 institutions to do so. Only after a 12-year effort was the college's land-grant status fully restored, in 2001 by an act of Congress.

In 2004, the West Virginia Legislature approved WVSC's transition to University status, and today WVSU offers 22 bachelor's degrees and four master's degrees. With a rich history, and promising future, WVSU is positioned to become the most student-centered research and teaching, land-grant university in West Virginia, and beyond.

**<http://www.wvstateu.edu/>**

**(304) 766-3000**

***THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING!***



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