

April 17th and 18th, 2019

5th Annual Human Rights/Human Relations Conference

WVSU Wilson Student Union

“Building Community among Diverse Interests”



Richard Rothstein
Author of “The Color of Law”

When we discuss “community” in the public sense, the notion takes on a connotation of those who occupy the same geographic space, but the better definition, is a group with a common interest. In this case, our common interest is the space that we share. That said, we don’t always agree on the best way to get us to this “better place.” 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, “Building Community among Diverse Interests,” continues West Virginia State University’s commitment to addressing issues of diversity and understanding, as a “Living Laboratory of Human Relations.”



WEST VIRGINIA STATE
UNIVERSITY

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17TH

12:00 PM – 12:30 PM

WELCOME – REGISTRATION

12:30 PM – 1:30 PM

Wilson Student Union, Room 134

“Domestic Violence”

– Kenyatta Coleman Grant, WV Coalition Against Domestic Violence Community Organizing Coordinator, and Leighann Davidson, Assistant Professor and Chair, WVSU Department of Criminal Justice

Wilson Student Union, Room 135

“A Community Concert: Diversity in Music and Dance Education”

--Lydia Sheets, WVSU Student

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

Wilson Student Union, Room 134

“Between Takes: Increasing Cultural Awareness through International Film Projects at WVSU”

--Robin Broughton, Professor and Director of WVSU Media Studies Program

2:30 PM – 3:00 PM

BREAK

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Wilson Student Union, Room 134

“The Role of the YMCA and YWCA in Serving the Community in the Kanawha Valley”

- Jennifer Goddard, Chief Program Officer, Charleston YWCA, and Monty Warner, President and CEO, YMCA of the Kanawha Valley

Wilson Student Union, Room 135

“Community Psychology and Experiential and Service Learning”

—Dr. Rebecca Francis, WVSU Psychology Professor, Dr. Ami Smith, WVSU Extension Director, Kathy Barnette, Director of the St. Albans WV Hansford Senior Center, and Major Lori Gilliam, Charleston Salvation Army

4:00 PM – 4:30 PM

BREAK

4:30 PM – 5:30 PM

Wilson Student Union, Room 134

"Our Forgotten History and Vision for a New West Side Story"

Panelists Robert Hardy, Executive Director, Charleston Economic and Community Development Corporation; Ricardo Martin, President, Charleston WV NAACP; and Reverend Matthew Watts, Pastor, Grace Bible Church, will share their experiences and perceptions of Charleston's West Side, along with their vision for revitalization and transformation.

Panel presentation will be followed by a response from Richard Rothstein. The panelists will take questions from the audience.

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Research Poster Presentations, Room 136 WVSU Student Union

7:00 PM

Keynote Address—WVSU Ferrell Hall Auditorium

Richard Rothstein, Author "The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America"

"In his 2017 book, *The Color of Law*, Richard Rothstein illustrates how segregation in America is the byproduct of government policies at the local, state, and federal levels. To scholars and social critics, the racial segregation of our neighborhoods has long been viewed as a manifestation of unscrupulous real estate agents, unethical mortgage lenders, and exclusionary covenants working outside the law. This is what is commonly known as "de facto segregation," practices that were the outcome of private activity, not law or explicit public policy. Yet, as Rothstein breaks down in case after case, private activity could not have imposed segregation without explicit government policies (de jure segregation) designed to ensure the separation of African Americans from whites."

THURSDAY, APRIL 12TH

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Wilson Student Union, Room 134

“West Virginia State University's Healthy Grandfamilies: Program Outcomes and Next Steps”

—Dr. Kerri Steele, WVSU Department of Social Work, Bonnie Dunn, WVSU Extension Specialist-Family and Consumer Sciences, and Yvonne Lee, WVSU Department of Social Work

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Wilson Student Union, Room 134

“We’ve Got to Be Talking About Taxes”

—Ted Boetner, Co-Founding Executive Director of the Center for Budget and Policy

Wilson Student Union, Room 135

“The Big Umbrella”

—Sydney Johnson, WVSU Student

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

LUNCH

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Wilson Student Union, Room 134

“West Virginia Youth in Crisis: Education, Trauma, and Next Steps”

—Moderator: Kimberly Massie, Lasting Solutions Behavioral Health Services, Panelists: Tabitha Surface, WVSU 4H Youth Development Agent/Educator, Kaysha Moreno, WVSU 4H Youth Development Agent/Educator, Loren Farmer, Executive Director of the Bob Burdette Center, Michelle Parsons, Executive Director of the Charleston Salvation Army Boy and Girls Club, Stacey Losh, Early Literacy Specialist, Marshall University, Amy Carlson, Marshall University Autism Center

Wilson Student Union, Room 135

“A Melting Pot”

—Emily Thompson, WVSU Student

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Wilson Student Union, Room 134

“Building Community 101: From Art to Entrepreneurship”

-- Adam Hodges, WVSU Community Development Agent/Educator for Fayette County, Christine Kinder, WVSU Community Development Agent/Educator for Beckley, Chris Zeto, WVSU Community and Economic Development Agent/Educator, Hatfield McCoy Trail Authority, Daniel Boyd, Retired WVSU Professor, Director of the WVSU Creators Program

Wilson Student Union, Room 135

“STEM in Public Schools”

—Olivia Fox, WVSU Student

3:00 PM – 3:30 PM

BREAK

3:30 PM -4:30 PM

Wilson Student Union, Room 134

“Know Yourself First...then Change the World”

--Dr. Raphael Mutepa, WVSU Social Work Faculty

Wilson Student Union, Room 135

“Music is the Universal Language: A Performance and Concert Proposal”

--Jade Saul, WVSU Student

4:30 PM – 5:30 PM

Wilson Student Union, Room 134

“Elk City Mural: Building Neighborhood Pride”

--Josh Martin, M.F.A., Assistant Professor and Chair, WVSU Art Department

Wilson Student Union, Room 135

“Build a Quilt”

--Kari Moss, WVSU Student

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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