

# Advancing Gender Equality through Human Rights

Stanford Law School

October 12 -13, 2012

## SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES



### **Zainah Anwar**

Zainah Anwar is a founding member and former Executive Director of Sisters in Islam (SIS), a non-governmental organisation working on the rights of Muslim women within the framework of Islam. She is now on the Board of SIS and is the Director of Musawah, the SIS-initiated Global Movement for Equality and Justice in the Muslim Family. She also writes a monthly column, *Sharing the Nation*, for the *Star*, the largest English-language daily in Malaysia. Sisters in Islam is at the forefront of the women's movement which seeks to end discrimination against women in the name of religion. It has successfully created a public voice and a public space for ordinary women to claim their right to speak out on Islam and the impact of Islamic laws on women's rights and status. The group's activities in research, advocacy and public education help to promote the development and understanding of an Islam that upholds the principles of equality, justice, freedom and dignity within a democratic state. Since its launch in 2009, Musawah is making waves at the international level with its ground-breaking work in reconciling the teachings of Islam with women's rights and human rights. Musawah key areas of work in knowledge building, capacity building and international advocacy empower women activists living in Muslim contexts with knowledge and courage to speak out against the use of Islam to justify discrimination against women, maintenance of government reservations to international human rights treaties, and resistance to law reform. Zainah's other work experience includes: Chief Programme Officer, Political Affairs Division, Commonwealth Secretariat, London; Freelance Writer; Senior Analyst, Institute of Strategic and International Studies, Kuala Lumpur; Political and Diplomatic Writer, *The New Straits Times*, Kuala

Lumpur. She was also a member of the Human Rights Commission of Malaysia from 2000 – 2004. Her book, *Islamic Revivalism in Malaysia: Dakwah Among the Students* has become a standard reference in the study of Islam in Malaysia. She was educated at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University, Boston University and the MARA Institute of Technology, Malaysia, in the fields of international relations and journalism.



### **Antoine Bernard**

Antoine Bernard, jurist, has been the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) CEO since 2010, and was previously in the role of Executive Director since 1995. Having completed his DEA in public international law in 1988, he was a consultant for legal research centers at the Faculty of Law in Paris and for the UN Centre for Human Rights. He was Associate Professor 1993-1999 at the Institute of Doctorate Studies of the Faculty of Law in Paris. Since 2005 he has been Associate Professor at Paris II-Panthéon/Assas, and he is also co-organizer of the ENA training in Democratization and Human Rights. He has published extensively in the area of international law. He also lectures at the Paris Institute of Political Sciences and at the National School of Public Management. In addition, Antoine has taught at the SciencesPo Paris School of International Affairs (PSIA) since 2010 and litigates as victims' legal representative.



### **Hossam Bahgat**

Hossam Bahgat is founder and Director of the Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights (EIPR), an independent Egyptian human rights organization which works since 2002 through research, advocacy and litigation to promote and defend the rights to health, privacy,

religious freedom and bodily integrity. In 2005, Bahgat founded the EIPR's Health and Human Rights Program, which conducts policy research and strategic litigation in the areas of public health policy, access to medicines and health related discrimination. With training in political science and international human rights law, Bahgat is also a board member of the International Network on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR-Net) and a member of its Right to Health steering committee.



### **Johanna Chao Kreilick**

Johanna Chao Kreilick manages the Justice and Human Rights program at the Hauser Center for Nonprofit Organizations at Harvard University. In this position Johanna connects senior leaders of the world's leading justice and human rights NGOs with resources at Harvard and beyond, to strengthen the knowledge and networks connecting NGOs to each other, to key state officials and to international bodies. Projects include strategy sessions, executive seminars and assessment projects which highlight new directions, debates and promising practices on topics such as the rights of the working poor, collective approaches to NGO advocacy, and the mission impact of nonprofit brand. Johanna's previous work in justice and human rights included community organizing, research-to-action policy projects, and international program development. In her last position, she created and managed the economic justice program at UUSC, an international human rights organization linking members, NGOs, and civil society partners in 62 countries around the globe. She is a trained mediator and seasoned facilitator, and serves on numerous non-profit boards. She earned a B.A. with Distinction in Anthropology from Stanford University and an M.P.A. from the Harvard Kennedy School where she was named a Lucius N. Littauer Fellow in 2005.

Security at the Washington Office for Latin America (WOLA) between 2003 and 2005. From 2001 until 2003, he was director of Global Rights' Latin America program. Between 1994 and 1999, before attending graduate school, he worked as a lawyer in the Program of Institutional Violence and Citizen Security at CELS. In December 2011, CELS was selected to host the executive secretariat of the International Network of Civil Liberties Union Organizations (INCLO), and Chillier was selected as co-Chair. INCLO is a global network of ten flagship national human rights organizations from the North and South. Its objectives include developing global campaigns on specific human rights issues, exchanging experiences, and promoting the institutional strengthening of its member organizations. Gastón is a member of the Board of Directors at the Center for Justice and International Law (CEJIL). He has published numerous articles in local and foreign publications about international human rights law and democracy. He earned his law degree at the University of Buenos Aires (UBA) and obtained an LL.M. (Magna Cum Laude) in International Law and Human Rights at the Notre Dame University of Law, USA.



### **Innocent Chukwuma**

Innocent Chukwuma is a leading researcher on police, policing and criminal justice reform in West Africa as well as the founder/director of CLEEN Foundation, a non government organization that promotes public safety, security and accessible justice in West Africa. He is a consultant on criminal justice reform and change management to bilateral and multilateral agencies such as the Department for International Development (DFID), European Union, United Nations and World Bank. Chukwuma has numerous publications to his credit and was in 2010/2011 academic session a Visiting Professor at the Harvard Kennedy School and taught the course 'Management of Nonprofit Organizations in Global South'.



### **Gastón Chillier**

Gastón has been the Executive Director of CELS since 2006. Before being appointed to this position, he worked as Senior Associate of Human Rights and



### **Dr. Rangita de Silva de Alwis**

Dr. Rangita de Silva de Alwis is the Director of Women in Public Service Project's 2012 Institute at Wellesley College. Rangita is the Director of International Human Rights Policy at the Wellesley Centers for Women and Faculty at the Madeleine Albright Institute for Global Affairs at Wellesley College. She is also the inaugural Susan McGee Bailey Scholar at the Wellesley Centers for Women. She will be a Fulbright Specialist at the Asian University for Women this summer. Rangita will co-teach Human Rights Theory and Practice at Wellesley College as Distinguished Visiting Lecturer next fall. Rangita has worked globally with a vast network of academic institutions, civil society and government organizations to develop innovative human rights initiatives around the world including, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, China, Cambodia, Malaysia, Indonesia, Mexico, Georgia, Egypt, Russia, Kenya, Turkey, Morocco, Bulgaria, Romania, Lebanon, South Africa and Burma. She leads the Women's Leadership Network in Muslim Communities at the Wellesley Centers for Women. She helped convene the Asia Cause Lawyer Network in India and the Women's Watch- China. She has worked in partnership with China's leading women's rights advocates on new developments in gender and law reform in China for over 10 years. She has testified twice before the Congressional Executive Commission on China on the status of women's rights in China. She also advised UNICEF, UNFPA, UNDP and the U.N. Secretariat on the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities on state accountability under the relevant treaties and the intersections of the different treaties. Most recently, she developed a Gender Supplement to the U.N. Secretary General's Guidelines on Disability. She is a Gender Advisor to Vietnam's Ministry of Justice and National Assembly. She has published with the United Nations (Child Marriage and the Law; Girl Child Labour; The Status of the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and Legislative Compliance in Eastern Europe and Central Asia; and the Intersections of the CEDAW and the Convention on the Rights of the child) and in law journals including in the: Yale Journal of Law and Feminism; Texas Journal of Gender and the Law; University of Pennsylvania

East Asia Law Journal; Duke Journal of Gender and the Law; UCLA Pacific Rim Journal; University of Washington's Pacific Rim Law and Policy Journal; and Michigan State Journal of International Law. Rangita has created a curriculum and materials for the Asian University for Women's course on Women Leading Change in Asia. Rangita has a Doctorate in Law (S.J.D.) from Harvard Law School and was a Teaching Fellow with the European Law Research Institute at Harvard Law School and a Research Fellow with the Women and Public Policy program at the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. She served on the Advisory Group brought together by UNIFEM and UNDP to develop United Nations Evaluation Guidelines and on the Advisory Board of the Women's Democracy Network, IRI.



### **Krishanti Dharmaraj**

Krishanti Dharmaraj is the Principal of the SamasaMdhi Initiative, focusing on realizing a just and equitable world through the progressive measurement of human rights. SamasaMdhi refers to "peace on equal terms". She is also the co-founder of Children's Fund for Peace, an organization providing resources to children affected by armed conflict in South Asia. Ms. Dharmaraj is the former founding Executive Director of Women's Institute for Leadership Development for Human Rights (WILD for Human Rights). Ms. Dharmaraj develops strategies to impact public policy by utilizing international human rights treaties and through grassroots advocacy. With her leadership, San Francisco became the first city in the United States to pass legislation implementing an international human rights treaty—the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). Ms. Dharmaraj also helped initiate the US Human Rights Network, the US NGO Steering Committee to the World Conference Against Racism (2001) and the Women's Human Rights Caucus for WCAR, and co-founded the Sri Lanka Children's Fund to support children affected by the tsunami and civil war in Sri Lanka.





### **James A. Goldston**

James A. Goldston oversees the Justice Initiative's promotion of rights-based law reform and the development of legal capacity worldwide. A leading practitioner of international human rights and criminal law, he has litigated several groundbreaking cases before the European Court of Human Rights and United Nations treaty bodies. He served as coordinator of prosecutions and senior trial attorney in the Office of the Prosecutor at the International Criminal Court. Prior to Open Society, Goldston was the legal director of the Budapest-based European Roma Rights Centre; director general for human rights of the Mission to Bosnia- Herzegovina of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe; and prosecutor in the Office of the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York. Goldston graduated from Columbia College and Harvard Law School and has taught at Columbia Law School and Central European University.



### **Viviana Krsticevic**

Viviana Krsticevic is the executive director of the Center for Justice and International law. Ms. Krsticevic received her law degree from the University of Buenos Aires, a master's degree in Latin American Studies from Stanford University, and an LLM from Harvard University. She has led numerous conferences and workshops in the Americas and Europe on the international protection of human rights. Ms. Krsticevic has also litigated cases before both the Inter-American Commission and the Inter-American Court of Human Rights. She is the author of numerous articles, which have been published in the US, Latin America and Europe.



### **Xiaonan Liu**

Xiaonan Liu is the Executive Director of the Center for the Study on Constitutionalism at China University of Political Science and Law. Through this position, Xiaonan has conducted research and coordinated on cooperative projects on equality and non-discrimination with Yale Law School China Law

Center, the Ford Foundation, International Labor Organization, Norwegian Centre for Human Rights and CLD Consultants (Beijing) Co., LTD. As an Associate Professor, Xiaonan has also taught employment discrimination law and gender and law at China University of Political Science and Law since January 2008. Before joining the Center for the Study on Constitutionalism, Xiaonan worked at the Center for the Study of Legal Education from July 2006 – June 2009 in which she taught jurisprudence and gender and law. She was also the team leader on a number of research projects that focused on gender equality and the condition of legal education in China. Xiaonan holds an LL.M from Yale Law School, as well as an LL.B., Master of Law and Ph.D. from Jilin University School of Law. Xiaonan's current research interests include anti-discrimination law and feminist legal theory.



### **Janet Love**

Janet Love has been an anti-apartheid activist since 1974. From 1991 to 1994, Janet was involved in negotiations for a settlement in South Africa from the Convention for a Democratic South Africa (CODESA), through the Multi-Party Process to the establishment of the Transitional Executive Council (TEC). Becoming a Member of Parliament in 1994, she served as Chairperson of the National Assembly Portfolio Committee on Agriculture, Water Affairs and Forestry and of the National Assembly Portfolio Committee on Water Affairs and Forestry, following April 1999 elections. She was involved in the negotiation and drafting of the final Constitution of South Africa and was a member of the 22-person Constitutional Committee of the Constitutional Assembly, the body responsible for steering of the constitution-making process. She left Parliament to take up the position of Special Advisor to the Minister of Water Affairs and Forestry.

Janet has post-graduate qualifications from universities in Johannesburg and London in public administration, development management and economics. She worked in the South African Reserve Bank for five years as head of strategic analysis and support in the currency department. She took up her current position as National Director of the Legal Resources Centre in January 2006. In October 2009, Janet was appointed as one

of the Commissioners of the South African Human Rights Commission.



### **Nancy Northup**

Nancy Northup is President & CEO of the Center for Reproductive Rights, a global human rights organization that has brought groundbreaking cases before national courts, U.N. committees, and regional human rights bodies, and has built the legal capacity of women's rights advocates in over 50 countries. Headquartered in New York, the Center has offices in Washington, Nairobi, Bogotá, Kathmandu, and Geneva. Under her leadership, the Center has continued its track-record of success in U.S. state and Federal courts and expanded its international litigation docket – including the first abortion case decided by the U.N. Human Rights Committee and the first case to frame preventable maternal deaths as a human rights violation. She has also led the Center to take the human rights framework into its work in the U.S., and to establish the Law School Initiative to promote legal scholarship and teaching on reproductive health and human rights. Before joining the Center in 2003, Ms. Northup was the founding director of the Democracy Program at the Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School of Law, an Assistant U.S. Attorney and Deputy Chief of Appeals in the Criminal Division of U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York, and a law clerk for the Honorable Alvin B. Rubin on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit. Ms. Northup holds adjunct appointments at NYU and Columbia law schools, where she has taught courses in constitutional and human rights law. She received her B.A. from Brown University, where she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, and her J.D. from Columbia Law School, where she was a Kent Scholar and managing editor of the Columbia Law Review. A frequent public speaker, Ms. Northup is quoted widely in the national press and has appeared on ABC World News Tonight, CBS Evening News, NBC Nightly News, CNN, FOX News, PBS, MSNBC and NPR.



### **Priscilla Nyokabi Kanyua**

Priscilla Nyokabi Kanyua is an advocate of the High Court of Kenya. She was admitted to the Bar in July, 2004. Priscilla studied law at the University of Nairobi (LLB) and Kenya School of Law. Currently she is the Executive Director of Kituo cha Sheria, a non-profit organization that promotes access to justice and offers legal aid to the poor and marginalized. Kituo deals with issues of legal education and awareness, forced migration, advocacy, governance and community partnerships. Before joining Kituo in August 2009, she worked for the International Commission of Jurists (ICJ Kenya Chapter) for six years when she championed the Freedom of Information Bill Campaign. She is also a Complaints Commissioner in the Media Council of Kenya and has served as the Deputy Presiding Officer (East Africa) Economic Social and Cultural rights Council (Civil Society Permanent Assembly of African Union). Priscilla is a mother of one daughter and loves watching football and plays.



### **Christopher Stone**

Christopher Stone is the president of the Open Society Foundations. He is an international expert on criminal justice reform and on the leadership and governance of nonprofits. Prior to joining Open Society as president in July 2012, he was the Guggenheim Professor of the Practice of Criminal Justice at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government and director of the Hauser Center for Nonprofit Organizations. Before that, Stone spent a decade as director of the Vera Institute of Justice. He founded the Neighborhood Defender Service of Harlem and served as a founding director of the New York State Capital Defender Office and of the Altus Global Alliance. Stone received his BA from Harvard, an MPhil in criminology from the University of Cambridge, and his JD from Yale Law School. He was awarded an honorary Order of the British Empire for his contributions to criminal justice reform in the United Kingdom.



### **David Tolbert**

David Tolbert is the President of the International Center for Transitional Justice (ICTJ). Previously, he served as Registrar (Assistant Secretary-General) of the Special Tribunal for Lebanon and prior to that was Assistant Secretary-General and Special Expert to the United Nations Secretary-General on United Nations Assistance to the Khmer Rouge Trials. From 2004 to 2008, Mr. Tolbert served as Deputy Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY). He had previously been the Deputy Registrar of the ICTY and at an earlier time served at the ICTY as Chef de Cabinet to President Gabrielle Kirk McDonald and Senior Legal Adviser, Registry, serving a total of nine years at the ICTY. From 2000 to 2003 Mr. Tolbert held the position of Executive Director of the American Bar Association's Central European and Eurasian Law Initiative, which operates rule-of-law development programs throughout Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. He also held the position of Chief, General Legal Division of the United Nations Relief Works Agency in Vienna, Austria, and Gaza. In addition, Mr. Tolbert taught international law and human rights at the post-graduate level in the United Kingdom and practiced law for many years in the United States. David Tolbert was Jennings Randolph Senior Fellow at the United States Institute of Peace and served as a member of the American Society of International Law Task Force on United States Policy toward the International Criminal Court (ICC) during 2008 and 2009. He has a number of publications on international criminal justice, the ICTY, and the ICC, in the Harvard Human Rights Journal, The Fletcher Forum of World Affairs, and other journals and books. Mr. Tolbert frequently lectures and makes public appearances on international justice issues. He also represented the ICTY in the discussions leading up to the creation of the ICC and the Rome Conference and served as an expert to the ICC Preparatory Committee Inter-Sessional meetings.



### **Judge Patricia M. Wald**

Judge Patricia M. Wald has been a remarkable role model for a generation of public interest lawyers. She graduated from

Connecticut College in 1948 and earned her law degree from Yale Law School in 1951. Upon graduation, she served as a clerk for Judge Jerome Frank of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, the first woman to clerk on that Circuit. She later was also the first woman to work at Arnold and Porter in Washington, DC before leaving the firm after about a year to join her Navy JAG husband, Robert, who had been assigned to duty in Norfolk. For almost a decade, Judge Wald stayed at home, devoting her energies to launching the lives of the couple's five children and doing occasional legal research and writing. When she returned to the practice of law in the sixties, she worked in such diverse fields as criminal justice, juvenile law, mental disability law, drug abuse, poverty and public interest law, administrative law, constitutional law, judicial process, and women and the law. Judge Wald worked at the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Criminal Justice, Washington D.C.'s Neighborhood Legal Services Program, the Center for Law and Social Policy, and the Mental Health Law Project, among others. She served in the Carter administration as Assistant Attorney General before being appointed as the first woman to be a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, where she served as chief judge from 1986 until 1991. After 20 years on the federal bench, Judge Wald accepted an appointment to serve as a judge for the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia. She later served as a member of the Iraq Intelligence Commission. In addition to her exceptional career as a jurist, she has taken on countless leadership roles in professional associations, national commissions and legal reform efforts in the United States and abroad.



### **Sawsan Zaher**

Sawsan Zaher is a Palestinian citizen of Israel. She is the director of Adalah's Social, Economic and Education Rights Unit. Ms. Zaher specializes in social and economic rights, and has worked with Adalah since 2005. Within her work at Adalah Ms. Zaher litigated several landmark cases in the Israeli Supreme Court such as challenging the constitutionality of the Israeli Citizenship law which bans family unification between Arabs citizens of Israel and Palestinians;

challenging discriminatory policies of budget allocations for Jewish and Arab towns in social and economic fields; challenging the constitutionality of laws which limit freedom of expression of the Arab citizens and institutions through restricting state funding and others. She received an L.L.B. in Law from the College of Management, School of Law in 1997, and an L.L.M. in International Legal Studies with a concentration on human rights and gender from the American University, Washington College of Law (USA) in 2004. Ms. Zaher was a fellow at the Women in Public Service Project at Wellesley College, M.A., USA (2012). She was a Fellow of the Public Law Program in the Public Interest Law Institute in Colombia University in New York in 2008. She has been Academic Assistant in the Legal Status of the Arab Minority in Israel in the Faculty of Law in Tel Aviv since 2007, and in the Law Faculty in Haifa University since 2009. She established and coordinated the legal department for Arab women's rights in Kayan – Feminist Organization in 2004 and 2005. Specialized in civil law and managed a private law office from 1998 to 2003. In July 2012 she was named by Israeli The-Marker Magazine as one of the 40 promising people under the age of 40 in her field of expertise.