

ADA SYMPOSIUM
SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF LAW
HOSTED BY SYRACUSE LAW REVIEW AND THE DISABILITY LAW AND POLICY PROGRAM

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(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

Alison Barkoff, Esq.

Alison Barkoff was sworn into office as the Principal Deputy Administrator on January 20, 2021, and currently is serving as Acting Administrator and Assistant Secretary for Aging where she provides executive direction, leadership, guidance and coordination for ACL programs nationwide and advises the HHS Secretary on issues affecting individuals with disabilities and older adults. Previously, Ms. Barkoff worked in the Center for Public Representation, where she served as Director of Advocacy, leading policy advocacy with federal agencies and Congress and legal advocacy nationally to advance community living and inclusion, including in the areas of healthcare, Medicaid home- and community-based services, employment, housing, and education. While there, she led and participated in numerous coalitions with disability and aging organizations, including as co-chair of the Long-Term Services and Supports Task Force of the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities.

Ms. Barkoff has testified before Congress and the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights on disability rights and was appointed to serve on the federal Advisory Committee for Competitive Integrated Employment of People with Disabilities. Ms. Barkoff also previously served as Director of Advocacy at the Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law, where she worked on a range of disability, healthcare, education and civil rights issues. In earlier government roles, she served as Special Counsel for Olmstead Enforcement in the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice, leading efforts to enforce the rights of people with disabilities to live, work and fully participate in their communities. She also worked with the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services within the Department of Health and Human Services on policies related to Medicaid home- and community-based services and with the Department of Labor on issues affecting the workforce providing in-home services. She is a sibling to an adult brother with developmental disabilities and been involved in disability advocacy her entire life. She received her undergraduate degree from Cornell University and her Juris Doctor from Emory University School of Law.

Professor Natalie M. Chin

Natalie M. Chin is an Associate Professor of Law at the City University of New York where she teaches Administrative Law and is the Co-Director of the Disability and Aging Justice Clinic (DAJC). The DAJC represents low-income New Yorkers in a range of issues including prisoners' rights; securing due process protections in areas that include sexual rights, alternatives to guardianship and prisoners' rights; and disability-based discrimination under state, local and federal law. Prior to joining CUNY's faculty, Professor Chin was an Assistant Professor of Clinical Law and Faculty Director of the

Disability and Civil Rights Clinic at Brooklyn Law School, where she created and developed the first law school clinic that advocates for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities. As a clinical professor, Professor Chin's students have advocated on a range of issues, including the right to maintain sexual autonomy, discrimination in access to health care and in prisons, deaf discrimination, administrative appeals to the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities, parental rights, and ensuring that the due process rights of adults with intellectual disabilities was protected in 17-A guardianship proceedings.

Prior to her teaching career, Professor Chin was a devoted public interest attorney. She litigated cases and led education and public policy reform efforts to achieve equal rights for LGBT people and individuals living with HIV at Lambda Legal. Her litigation also included cases that affect people with mental health disabilities and the elderly, as well as those involving violations of the Fourth and Fourteenth Amendments. Prior to starting her legal career, Professor Chin was a journalist in California and worked in South Africa, where her reported predominantly focused on social welfare issues and on Black South African women living in the township and rural areas.

Professor Chin is a member of the Legal Advocacy Subcommittee of The Arc, a national community-based organization advocating for and serving people with developmental disabilities and their families. She is also involved in Project Shine, a group of community-based organizations that focuses on addressing inequities in sexual health for young people with intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. Professor Chin served on the Board of Directors of the Disability Rights Bar Association (DRBA) from 2018-2020, where she was a member of the DRBA's Diversity Task Force. She is also a former Co-Chair and board member of FIERCE, an LGBT youth of color organization. Professor Chin graduated with a B.S. in Journalism from Boston University. She received her J.D. from George Washington School of Law.

Professor Chin's scholarship explores the intersections of disability, race and civil rights law in areas that impact the most fundamental aspects of one's life, including sexuality, sexual rights and reproductive justice.

Professor Doron Dorfman

Doron Dorfman is an Associate Professor of Law at Syracuse University College of Law. His interdisciplinary research focuses on disability law and health law using doctrinal analysis and social science methodology. His scholarship has been published or is forthcoming in law reviews such as the *Boston College Law Review*, *Illinois Law Review*, *UC Irvine Law Review*, and the online companion to the *Stanford Law Review*, as well as in leading peer review journals as *the Law & Society Review*, *Law & Social Inquiry*, *Journal of Health Politics, Policy & Law*, and *the Journal of Law & Biosciences*. His work has been cited by federal courts and the Israeli Supreme Court and has been featured on national media outlets including the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *LA Times*, and *USA Today*.

Professor Elizabeth Emens

Elizabeth Emens is Isidor and Seville Sulzbacher Professor of Law at Columbia Law School, where she teaches and writes in disability law, anti-discrimination law, contracts law, law and sexuality, and lawyer-leadership. Professor Emens has published articles in the *Hastings Center Report*, *Harvard Law Review*, *Stanford Law Review*, *Nomos*, *Narrative*, *The Disability Studies Reader*, *Keywords in Disability Studies*, among others, and in 2013, she co-edited a volume on *Disability and Equality Law* with Michael Ashley Stein. She is also the author of the book *Life Admin* (2019), and most recently of an article on “*Disability Admin: The Invisible Costs of Being Disabled.*” Professor Emens earned her BA and J.D. from Yale, and her Ph.D. from King’s College, Cambridge, where she studied as a Marshall Scholar. She is currently the Director of the Davis Polk Leadership Initiative and the Mindfulness Program at Columbia Law School.

Judith (Judy) Heumann

Judith (Judy) Heumann is a lifelong advocate for the rights of disabled people. She contracted polio in 1949 in Brooklyn, New York and began to use a wheelchair for her mobility. She was denied the right to attend school because she was considered a “fire hazard” at the age of five. Her parents played a strong role in fighting for her rights as a child, but Judy soon determined that she, working in collaboration with other disabled people, had to play an advocacy role due to continuous discrimination.

She is now an internationally recognized leader in the disability rights community. Her memoir, authored with Kristen Joiner, of *Being Heumann* “*Being Heumann: An Unrepentant Memoir of a Disability Rights Activist,*” published by Beacon Press and audio recorded by Ali Stroker, who is the first wheelchair actor to perform on Broadway. Judy was featured on the Trevor Noah show. Judy is featured in *Crip Camp: A Disability Revolution*, a 2020 American award winning documentary film, directed by James LeBrecht and Nicole Newnham, produced by the Obama Higher Ground Production and is available on Netflix. She has been featured in numerous documentaries including on the history of the disability rights movement, including *Lives Worth Living* and the *Power of 504* and delivered a TED talk in the fall of 2016, “*Our Fight for Disability Rights- and Why We’re Not Done Yet*”. Her story was also told on Comedy Central’s *Drunk History* in early 2018, in which she was portrayed by Ali Stroker,. As Senior Fellow at the Ford Foundation (2017-2019), she wrote “*Road Map for Inclusion: Changing the Face of Disability in Media*”. She also currently serves on a number of non-profit boards, including the American Association of People with Disabilities, the Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund, Humanity and Inclusion, as well as the Human Rights Watch board.

Judy was a founding member of the Berkeley Center for Independent Living which was the first grassroots center in the United States and helped to launch the Independent Living Movement both nationally and globally.

In 1983, Judy co-founded the World Institute on Disability (WID) with Ed Roberts and Joan Leon, as one of the first global disability rights organizations founded and continually led by people with disabilities that works to fully integrate people with

disabilities into the communities around them via research, policy, and consulting efforts.

From 1993 to 2001, Judy served in the Clinton Administration as the Assistant Secretary for the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services in the Department of Education.

Judy then served as the World Bank's first Adviser on Disability and Development from 2002 to 2006. In this position, she led the World Bank's disability work to expand its knowledge and capability to work with governments and civil society on including disability in the global conversation.

During his presidency, President Obama appointed Judy as the first Special Advisor for International Disability Rights at the U.S. Department of State, where she served from 2010-2017. Mayor Fenty of D.C. appointed her as the first Director for the Department on Disability Services, where she was responsible for the Developmental Disability Administration and the Rehabilitation Services Administration.

She has been instrumental in the development and implementation of legislation, such as Section 504, the Individuals with Education Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Rehabilitation Act, and the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities which have been advancing the inclusion of disabled people in the US and around the world and fighting to end discrimination against all those with disabilities.

Judy graduated from Long Island University in Brooklyn, NY in 1969 and received her Master's in Public Health from the University of California at Berkeley in 1975. She has received numerous awards including being the first recipient of the Henry B. Betts Award in recognition of efforts to significantly improve the quality of life for people with disabilities and the Max Starkloff Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Council on Independent Living. She has been awarded numerous honorary doctorates.

Professor Arlene S. Kanter

Professor Kanter is the founder and Director of the College of Law's Disability Law and Policy Program (DLPP) and the Faculty Director of International Programs. The DLPP houses the nation's most extensive disability law program, including joint degrees, certificates, clinics and externships, and the first LL.M. Program in the US with a specialization in international human rights and comparative disability law.

Professor Kanter is an internationally acclaimed expert in international and comparative disability law. She publishes and lectures extensively on domestic and international human rights and disability law and policy. Her recent book, *The Development of Disability Rights Under International Law: From Charity to Human Rights* (Routledge, 2015, 2017) traces the development of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities (CPRD). She is co-author (with Beth Ferri) of *Righting Educational Wrongs: Disability Studies in Law and Education* (Syracuse Univ. Press, 2014). This is the first book to bring together scholars from the fields of law, education, and disability studies. She also co-authored the first law casebook on

international and comparative disability law, and has published over 100 articles and book chapters on topics related to international human rights and comparative disability law, US disability and special education laws, inclusive education, violence against women with disabilities, mental health law, legal personhood, and alternatives to guardianship.

In Fall 2017, Professor Kanter was a visiting scholar at Harvard Law School. In Spring 2018, she was awarded the prestigious Lady Davis Fellowship at Hebrew University Faculty of Law. Previously, she was named the 2010-11 Distinguished Switzer Fellow by the US Department of Education's National Disability Rehabilitation Research Institute, and the 2010-11 Fulbright Scholar at Tel Aviv University.

Professor Kanter is co-editor of the Critical Disability Series at Syracuse University Press, founder and editor of the SSRN Journal on Disability Law, co-founder of the Disability Law Section of the American Association of Law Schools, and co-founder of the Disability Collaborative Research Group of the Law and Society Association. She is a former Commissioner of the American Bar Association's Commission on Mental and Physical Disability Law.

At SU, Professor Kanter is a recipient of the University's highest teaching award, the Laura J. and L. Douglas Meredith Professorship of Teaching Excellence, and the Bond, Schoeneck and King Distinguished Professorship of Law. Professor Kanter is the recipient of several awards for her work in disability rights. Prior to joining the SU College of Law faculty, Professor Kanter taught at Georgetown University Law Center and practiced public interest law at a national disability rights organization in Washington, DC, now known as the Bazelon Center on Mental Health Law, where she represented clients before the United States Supreme Court and Congress.

Arlene Mayerson, Esq.

Arlene B. Mayerson has been the Directing Attorney of DREDF since 1981 and has devoted her career exclusively to disability rights practice. She has provided representation to disabled people and parents of disabled children and the disability community in a wide array of disability issues, from the administrative level to the Supreme Court. Ms. Mayerson's central role in crafting disability legislation and public policy over the last three decades has been recognized and called on by the U.S. Congress in testimony before Congressional committees, and as a respected drafter and negotiator.

Mayerson's current work includes the development of special education-related legal remedies to combat the school-to-prison pipeline that disproportionately affects disabled students in public schools by addressing excessive discipline, failure to serve, and abusive restraint and seclusion. She has written extensively on disability rights issues and received the Herma Hill Kay Lecturer Award from Berkeley Law.

Ms. Mayerson has received many awards for her work, notably the American Bar Association Paul G. Hearne Award for Disability Rights in 2016, and is a 2018 National

Women's History Project Honoree. She holds a B.S. degree from Boston University, a J.D. (Order of the Coif) from Berkeley Law and an L.L.M. from Georgetown University.

Professor Jamelia N. Morgan

Jamelia N. Morgan's teaching and current scholarship focus on issues at the intersections of race, gender, disability, and criminal law and punishment. Her research examines the development of disability as a legal category in American law, disability and policing, overcriminalization and the regulation of physical and social disorder, and the constitutional dimensions of the criminalization of status. Morgan's prior research projects have explored the ways in which political discourse over race-conscious remedies influence how antidiscrimination claims and remedies are conceptualized in court opinions involving voter discrimination and disability discrimination.

Prior to joining the faculty at UConn, Professor Morgan was a civil rights litigator at the Abolitionist Law Center and worked to improve prison conditions and end the use of solitary confinement in Pennsylvania state prisons. In this role, she worked as part of the legal team to draft briefs that secured the removal of a client from solitary confinement after 24 years. From 2015 to 2017, Professor Morgan was an Arthur Liman Fellow with the ACLU National Prison Project, where she focused on the impact of prisons on individuals with physical disabilities and authored an ACLU report released in January 2017 titled, *Caged In: Solitary Confinement's Devastating Harm on Prisoners with Disabilities*. Prior to her fellowship, she served as a law clerk to the Honorable Richard W. Roberts of the United States District Court for the District of Columbia.

Professor Morgan is a 2013 graduate of Yale Law School, where she was an active member of the Criminal Defense Project and the Detention and Human Rights Clinic. During her summers in law school, she interned at the ACLU of Mississippi, the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, and Emery Celli Brinckerhoff and Abady, where she worked on employment discrimination, voting rights, and police misconduct cases. Prior to law school, she served as associate director of the African American Policy Forum, a social justice think tank that works to bridge the gap between scholarly research and public discourse related to affirmative action, structural racism, and gender inequality. She is a 2006 graduate of Stanford University, where she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and Master of Arts degree in Sociology.

In addition to her academic appointments, Professor Morgan serves of counsel and as vice president and board member of the Abolitionist Law Center, board member for the Connecticut Fair Housing Center, and as a board member of Mary's Daughter, LLC, a non-profit organization dedicated to meeting the needs of formerly incarcerated women of color. In June 2019, she was appointed a commissioner on the Permanent Commission on the Status of Hartford Women.

Professor Prianka Nair

Prianka Nair is Assistant Professor of Clinical Law and Faculty Director of the Disability and Civil Rights Clinic. The clinic represents adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities with respect to a range of issues, including access to public benefits, housing

and guardianship termination, and restoration of rights. Prior to joining the faculty at Brooklyn Law School, Professor Nair worked as a public interest attorney at Disability Rights New York. She conducted abuse and neglect investigations, focusing on access to services in correctional facilities across New York State. She has also litigated cases and led policy changes to achieve equal rights for persons with disabilities. Her litigation included cases involving violations of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and the Fourteenth Amendment. She has also represented clients in all aspects of guardianship and related proceedings in state and federal court. Professor Nair completed her Masters of Law (LL.M) at Columbia University, where she was a Kent Scholar. Prior to this, she worked as a solicitor representing the Australian federal government at the Australian Government Solicitor.

Kathryn Rucker, Esq.

Kathryn Rucker began her legal career with the Center in August of 1999. Ms. Rucker's individual representation and system reform work has focused on serving adults and children with serious mental illness, as well as individuals with Acquired Brain Injury and Intellectual and Developmental Disability. She is co-counsel in several of the Center's class action lawsuits, advocating for the development and expansion of integrated, community service systems. Ms. Rucker provides technical assistance to a national network of disability attorneys, and has co-authored amicus briefs on issues of importance to the disability community. During the pandemic, her advocacy has included the development of non-discriminatory crisis standards of care and equitable vaccine allocation and distribution strategies. Ms. Rucker received her undergraduate education from the College of the Holy Cross, and went on to participate in the Jesuit Volunteer Corps. She is a graduate of Northeastern University School of Law.

Steve J. Schwartz, Esq.

Steven J. Schwartz is the Legal Director and former Executive Director of the Center for Public Representation in Northampton, Massachusetts. He has practiced disability and civil rights law since 1972. Mr. Schwartz has extensive experience litigating class action cases related to the reform and development of community services systems for persons with disabilities, as well as civil rights damage cases for institutionalized persons. He currently is litigating nine community integration class action cases in Alabama, Kansas, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, Texas, and Massachusetts (2). He is one of the leaders of the national COVID response to ensure equal access to life-saving treatment in hospitals. Mr. Schwartz has authored a number of law review articles related to issues affecting the rights of persons with disabilities and has testified before Congress on several occasions. He has been on the faculty of the Harvard and Western New England Law Schools. Mr. Schwartz also provides litigation support and technical assistance to attorneys throughout the United States on mental disability issues.

Professor Mark C. Weber

Professor Weber's main professional interests are disability rights and complex civil litigation. He is the author of *Disability Harassment* (NYU Press), *Understanding Disability Law* (Lexis-Nexis), *Special Education Law Cases and Material* (Lexis-Nexis) (with others), and *Special Education Law and Litigation Treatise* (LRP Pubs.). He has presented testimony on the implementation of the ADA to the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, and is active in community service and legislative initiatives on disability matters. Professor Weber's work on complex litigation includes both scholarship and law reform efforts. He began his career at the Legal Assistance Foundation of Chicago and worked as a clinical fellow at University of Chicago Law School. At DePaul, he has served as associate dean and acting dean of the College of Law. . He was named Vincent de Paul Professor of Law in 2004. Professor Weber hold's a B.A. from Columbia University and a J.D. from Yale University.