Book Prize Event

The McGannon Center presents

Automating Inequality

How High-Tech Tools Profile, Police, and Punish the Poor

Friday, May 3, 2019
Fordham Law School
Bateman Room
9:30 - 10 a.m. | breakfast and mingle
10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. | program
Welcome
Olivier Sylvain
Professor, Fordham Law School
Director, McGannon Center

Book Talk
Ifeoma Ajunwa
Assistant Professor of Labor and Employment Law in the Law, Labor Relations, and History Department, Cornell University’s Industrial and Labor Relations School

Virginia Eubanks
Political Scientist; Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Albany

Cathy O’Neil
Data Scientist
Author, mathbabe.org

Break

Panel Discussion
(1.0 professional practice credit)

Scott Levy
Special Counsel, The Bronx Defenders

Diem Tran
Legislative Counsel, Brooklyn District Attorney’s Office

SPEAKER BIOS

Ifeoma Ajunwa
Assistant Professor of Labor and Employment Law in the Law, Labor Relations, and History Department, Cornell University’s Industrial and Labor Relations School

Dr. Ajunwa is an Assistant Professor of Labor and Employment Law in the Law, Labor Relations, and History Department of Cornell University’s Industrial and Labor Relations School (ILR), and Associated Faculty Member at Cornell Law School. She is also a Faculty Associate at the Berkman Klein Center at Harvard Law School and an Affiliate of the Center for the Study of Inequality at Cornell University. Dr. Ajunwa’s research interests are at the intersection of law and technology with a particular focus on the ethical governance of workplace technologies. Her research focus is also on diversity and inclusion in the labor market and the workplace. Dr. Ajunwa's scholarly articles have been published or are forthcoming in both top law review and peer review publications. Dr. Ajunwa has been invited to present her work before governmental agencies and many national and international conferences. Dr. Ajunwa’s forthcoming book, “The Quantified Worker,” which examines the role of technology in the workplace and its effects on management practices as moderated by employment and anti-discrimination laws will be published by Cambridge University Press in 2019.

Dr. Ajunwa earned a Ph.D. in Sociology at Columbia University in the City of New York (emphasis on Organizational Theory and Law and Society). Her doctoral research on reentry received a grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) and honorable mention from the Ford Foundation. Prior to graduate school, she also earned a law degree from the University of San Francisco School of Law and Dr. Ajunwa has been admitted to the Bar in the states of New York and California.

Virginia Eubanks
Political Scientist; Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Albany

Virginia Eubanks is an Associate Professor of Political Science at the University at Albany, SUNY. She is the author of Automating Inequality: How High-Tech Tools Profile, Police, and Punish the Poor; Digital Dead End: Fighting for Social Justice in the Information Age; and co-editor, with Alethia Jones, of Ain’t Gonna Let Nobody Turn Me Around: Forty Years of Movement Building with Barbara Smith. Her writing about technology and social justice has appeared in Scientific American, The Nation, Harper’s, and Wired. For two decades, Eubanks has worked in community technology and economic justice movements. She was a founding member of the Our Data Bodies Project and a 2016-2017 Fellow at New America. She lives in Troy, NY.

Scott Levy
Special Counsel, The Bronx Defenders

As Special Counsel, Scott provides critical legal and policy advice to the Criminal Defense Practice at The Bronx Defenders and currently manages The Bronx Defenders’ criminal justice reform efforts in the areas of bail,
discovery, and speedy trial. Scott is also lead counsel on Trowbridge v. DiFiore, a federal civil rights case challenging delays in misdemeanor cases in Bronx Criminal Court. Scott previously developed and managed The Bronx Defenders Marijuana Arrest Project and The Bronx Defenders Fundamental Fairness Project. Scott graduated from Princeton’s Woodrow Wilson School of International and Public Affairs and received his J.D. in 2007 from Harvard Law School, where he was the Special Projects Editor for the Harvard Civil Rights-Civil Liberties Law Review. He clerked for the Honorable Nancy Gertner in the Federal District Court of Massachusetts before joining The Bronx Defenders.

Cathy O'Neil
Data Scientist
Author, mathbabe.org

Cathy O'Neil earned a Ph.D. in math from Harvard, was a postdoc at the MIT math department, and a professor at Barnard College where she published a number of research papers in arithmetic algebraic geometry. She then switched over to the private sector, working as a quant for the hedge fund D.E. Shaw in the middle of the credit crisis, and then for RiskMetrics, a risk software company that assesses risk for the holdings of hedge funds and banks. She left finance in 2011 and started working as a data scientist in the New York start-up scene, building models that predicted people’s purchases and clicks. She wrote Doing Data Science in 2013 and launched the Lede Program in Data Journalism at Columbia in 2014. She is a regular contributor to Bloomberg View and wrote the book Weapons of Math Destruction: how big data increases inequality and threatens democracy. She recently founded ORCAA, an algorithmic auditing company.

Olivier Sylvain
Professor, Fordham Law School
Director, McGannon Center

Olivier Sylvain is a Professor of Law at Fordham University School of Law. His academic interests are chiefly in information and communications law and policy. He has written a variety of law review articles, symposium pieces, essays, policy papers, news articles, op-eds, and blog posts on current controversies in communications policy, online intermediary liability, privacy, and copyright. He is part of a team of legal scholars, research engineers, and social entrepreneurs to whom The National Science Foundation in fall 2017 awarded a three-year one-million-dollar grant to prototype an “edge-cloud” network that is to be owned and operated as a “commons resource” for Harlem residents.

Diem Tran
Legislative Counsel, Brooklyn District Attorney’s Office

Diem Tran began her career in private practice as a Litigation Attorney at Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP. She then turned to public service at the New York State Senate before joining the Manhattan District Attorney’s Office. Serving as DA Cyrus Vance’s Legislative Counsel, she collaborated with legislators, policymakers, advocates, and other government and community partners to help develop important criminal justice legislative reforms, including advocating for the legalization of marijuana, decriminalizing fare evasion, and protecting immigrants. She also served as co-director of Prosecutors Against Gun Violence, collaborating with D.A.s and gun safety advocates across the country, and served as the office’s liaison to both the District Attorneys Association for the State of New York (D.A.A.S.N.Y.) and the Association of Prosecuting Attorneys.

She recently joined the Brooklyn District Attorney’s Office as Legislative Counsel to help shape legislative and policy reforms that reflect the progressive values of DA Eric Gonzalez’s Justice 2020 Initiative, promoting both safety and fairness for the people of Brooklyn.

Diem received her undergraduate degree from the University of Pennsylvania, and obtained her J.D. from the University of Virginia School of Law, where she served on the editorial board of the Virginia Law Review.
CLE CREDITS

CLE Credits for this program has been approved in accordance with the requirements of the New York State CLE Board for (1.0) professional practice credit hours. The content of the course is appropriate for transitional and nontransitional attorneys.

GUEST WI-FI ACCESS

1. Go to Settings>Wi-Fi and select Connect-Fordham-WiFi.
2. Open your web browser and navigate to a frequently refreshed URL, such as CNN.com. You will automatically be directed to the Fordham network welcome page. Select Join as a Guest. (Note: For Apple iOS devices, use only the Safari browser for this process.)
3. Agree to the acceptable use policy. You will be directed to a new website. Click Join Now.
4. Follow the prompts to complete the process, which includes downloading/installing a small configuration files that allows you to connect to our public Wi-Fi network. You may need to enter the password for the device/computer to complete the process.
5. You’ll receive a message confirming that you’ve joined the network. Click Done.

Guest Wi-Fi is available throughout Fordham University’s Lincoln Center campus. While guest access does not expire, on subsequent use with your device/computer, you may be prompted to agree to the acceptable use policy. For more detailed, device- or computer-specific instructions, visit www.fordham.edu/wireless, pick up a more detailed instruction sheet at the information desk, or call the Fordham Law Helpdesk at 212-636-6786.