Ethics & Professionalism: Exploring Bias
Hosted by the Tennessee Journal of Race, Gender, & Social Justice
and co-sponsored by the UT College of Law and the Tennessee Law Review

Friday, February 26th
University of Tennessee College of Law
1505 W. Cumberland Ave, Knoxville Tennessee
Room 241
4:00-7:00 p.m.

Registration $40 for CLE Credit; $10 without credit but materials; free for students
1.25 general; 1.50 dual credit for a total of 2.75 credits including panel

General Overview Statement: The purpose of this program is to educate and inform
both lawyers and non-lawyers about the legal implications of Obergefell and how it and
future litigation will shape the ethics surrounding attorney-client relationships.

Schedule of Speakers

Donna Braquet and Kristen Godfrey (4:00-5:00 p.m.) (1 hour)
Topic: Defining Orientation & Gender Identity
Professor Braquet and MSSW student Kristen Godfrey will provide a shortened
version of a Safe Zone training, which seeks to inform lawyers about their duty in
interacting with lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) clients.
The presentation will focus especially on the issues concerning concepts of
gender and gender-neutral pronouns, which were the focal point of much legal
discussion in the most recent Supreme Court term.

Break (5:00-5:15 p.m.) (15 minutes)

Bethany Dumas, Esq. (5:15-5:45 p.m.) (30 minutes)
Topic: Language Sensitivity and Clients
Bethany Dumas is a lawyer and linguist where her research focuses on legal
language and its impact on diversity. Bethany will discuss the lawyer’s role in
communicating with the client as it directly relates to Rule 1.4 of the Model Rules
of Professional Conduct and how this role can vary both regionally and socially.

Regina Lambert, Esq. (5:45-6:15 p.m.) (30 minutes)
Topic: Attorney-Client Relationships in Tanco
Regina Lambert represented the plaintiffs in Tanco v. Haslam, litigation in
Tennessee, which successfully was granted certiorari to the Supreme Court and
resulted in the legalization of same-sex marriage nationwide. She will discuss the
unique challenges she encountered in order to maintain a professional
relationship with friends and experiences she encountered addressing various audiences, including the media and protestors.

George Kuney (6:15-6:45 p.m.) (30 minutes)
**Topic:** Gender Identity Concerns in Contract Drafting
George Kuney, a transactional professor at UT College of Law, will discuss what the Supreme Court has stated about gender identity in contract drafting and the lawyer’s duty of competence, and maintaining that competence, as it relates to the evolving legal landscape regarding diversity and inclusion.

Panel (6:45-7:00 p.m.) (15 minutes)
**Topic:** Moderated questions and questions from the audience
Various speakers will answer questions from the audience.

Reception (7:00-8:00 p.m.)
*Light refreshments will be served.*
Speaker Biographies

Donna Braquet

Donna Braquet is an Associate Professor and Biology Librarian with University Libraries. She has been a UT faculty member since 2004. She received the 2008 Chancellor’s Honors LGBT Advocate Award and 2015 UT Libraries Diversity Award. Additionally, Donna helped to create the University’s first LGBT advisory council, the Commission for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender People. Through her work on the Commission, she oversaw the opening of the Pride Center in February 2010 and has served as Director since that time. As Director, Donna oversees the strategic direction and management of the Center, as well as supervises the Center’s graduate assistant and student assistants. Donna is committed to making UT a welcoming campus for LGBT faculty, students, and staff. Being able to bring the Center into existence at UT is a dream come true.

Kristen Godfrey

Kristen is currently a student in the Masters of Social Work Program at the University of Tennessee. She is from Arizona and attended the University of Arizona to receive her bachelor’s degree in anthropology and history. At UT, she is a graduate assistant at the Pride center and she is president of the Masters of Social Work Organization. She is also on the planning committee for OUTstanding Seminar, 2015. Kristen is particularly passionate about social justice, foster care and the importance of racial conciliation and intersectionality. Kristen hopes to create a non-profit that works to create safe living spaces for LGBTQ+ adolescents and allies in foster care.

Bethany Dumas

Bethany K. Dumas, J.D., Ph.D., is a Forensic Linguist and Emeritus Professor of English at The University of Tennessee. Her primary activities since retiring from The Department of English in 2012 have been chairing the Linguistics Program at UT and continuing research activity and consulting in court cases. Her primary research areas are applied linguistics broadly defined, including forensic linguistics and educational and social applications of linguistic science, with focus on institutional language, particularly legal language; variation, regional and social, especially in American English; linguistic diversity and literacy; linguistic prejudice and discrimination; and discourse analysis. She often provides court testimony as an expert witness. The primary products of her activities are papers, articles, expert reports, books — and jury verdicts.

Regina M. Lambert

Regina Lambert graduated summa cum laude from the University of Tennessee College of Law in 2001 and was inducted into the Order of the Coif. While in law school, Ms.
Lambert served as the Editor-in-Chief of the *Tennessee Law Review*. Most recently, Ms. Lambert represented the plaintiffs in the *Tanco v. Haslam* marriage equality litigation, resulting in a Supreme Court decision recognizing same-sex marriage nationally. She has taught as an adjunct professor at the University of Tennessee College of Law since 2010.

**George Kuney**

Prior to joining the faculty in 2000, Professor Kuney was a partner in the San Diego office of Allen Matkins Leck Gamble & Mallory LLP where he concentrated his practice on insolvency and reorganization matters nationwide. Before that he received his legal training with the Howard, Rice and Morrison & Foerster firms in his hometown of San Francisco, California. He holds an AV Peer Rating, Martindale-Hubbell’s highest peer rating for ethical standards and legal ability and is admitted to practice in the state and federal courts of California and Tennessee, the federal courts of Arizona, and the Supreme Court of the United States of America.

Kuney’s expertise and scholarly interests relate to business transactions and litigation with an emphasis on mergers and acquisitions, recapitalizations, and reorganizations. He is the faculty editor and advisor of *Transactions: The Tennessee Journal of Business Law* and the faculty advisor for the *Sports and Entertainment Society*. He consults with law firms and clients nationwide in his areas of expertise in a limited number of matters annually, generally related to business law, bankruptcy, contracts, legal drafting and writing, commercial law, chapter 11, and insolvency. He conducts transactional training seminars and clinics for law students, lawyers, and law firms across the country.