

INNOCENCE, & RACIAL JUSTICE & THE END OF THE DEATH PENALTY

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER SERIES, 2013 - FRANK R. BAUMGARTNER, COORDINATOR

All events begin at 5:30pm in Room 200, Genome Sciences Building, on the UNC campus - Free and open to the public

Feb 13 Rep. Paul “Skip” Stam. Rep Stam (R-Wake County) was one of the strongest critics of the 2009 Racial Justice Act and a prime mover of its revision in 2011.

Feb 20 Glen Edward Chapman and Prof. Pam Laughon. Ed served 15 years on NC’s death row for two murders he did not commit. Prof. Laughon of UNC-A was an investigator assigned to his defense at trial and subsequently an advocate for his release.

Feb 27 William Michael Dillon. Bon Dillon, a Chapel Hill resident, served 27 years in Florida for a murder he did not commit. He is now a recording artist and public speaker.

March 6 Ron McAndrew. Ron is a former Florida State Prison warden responsible for administering executions using the electric chair. Ron is now an advocate for abolition.

March 20 Christine Mumma and Greg Taylor. Greg Taylor served 17 years in prison for a crime of which he was innocent. Chris is the Director of the NC Center on Actual Innocence and was Greg’s attorney.

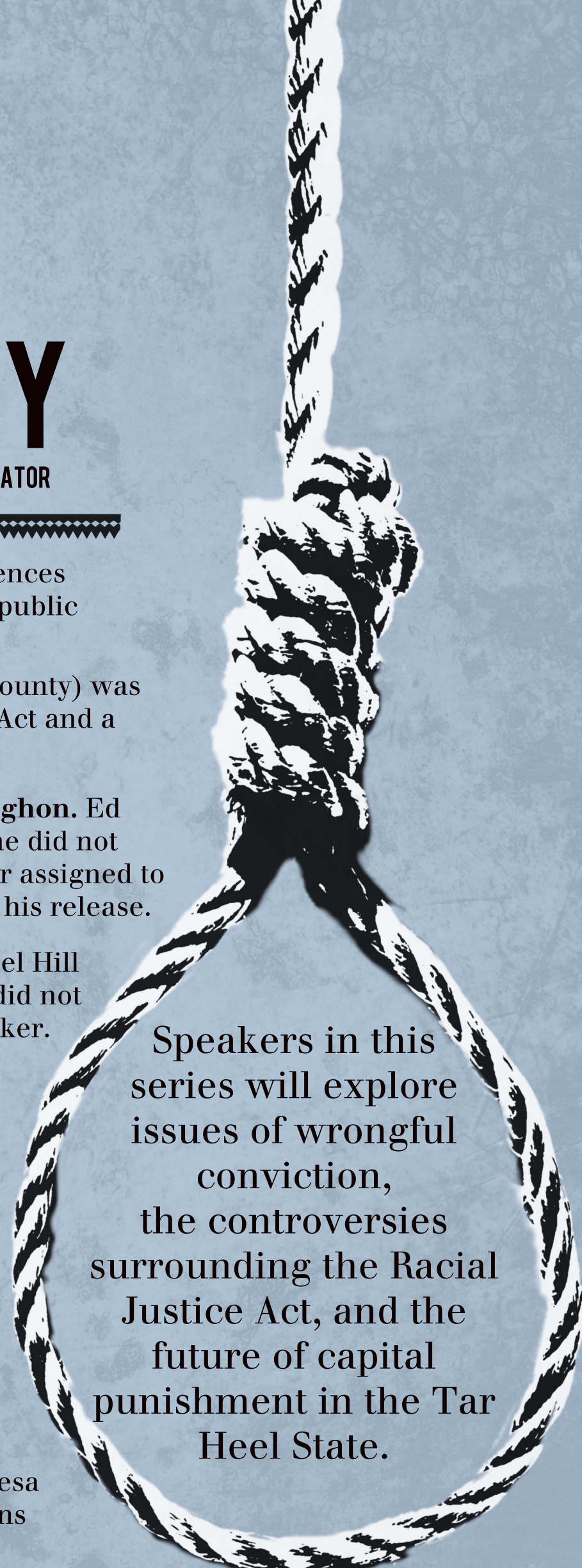
March 27 Theresa A. Newman and LaMonte Armstrong. LaMonte served 17 years in prison for a murder of which he was innocent. His attorney Theresa Newman is Director of the Duke Wrongful Convictions Clinic, and a Professor at the Duke Law School.

April 3 Tye Hunter. Tye Hunter is Executive Director of the Center for Death Penalty Litigation and represented inmates appealing their sentences under the Racial Justice Act.

April 10 Scott Bass and Mrs. Shirley Burns. Scott is Executive Director of Murder Victims’ Families for Reconciliation. Mrs. Burns is the mother of Marcus Robinson, who was sentenced to death but successful in his use of the Racial Justice Act in having his death sentence changed to Life in Prison without Parole. Mrs. Burns’s other son Curtis was murdered but the killer received a term sentence.

April 17 Judge Gregory Weeks presided over cases under the Racial Justice Act.

Sponsors: UNC Department of Political Science, UNC Department of African and African-American Studies, UNC Law School Innocence Project, UNC Law School Center for Civil Rights, UNC Black Student Movement, North Carolina Coalition for a Moratorium



Speakers in this series will explore issues of wrongful conviction, the controversies surrounding the Racial Justice Act, and the future of capital punishment in the Tar Heel State.