

SPRING 2020

# RACE INNOCENCE & THE END OF THE DEATH PENALTY

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER SERIES

GENOME SCIENCE 100, UNC CHAPEL HILL  
5:30-7:00 PM

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

WED. JAN 29

**KIRK BLOODSWORTH**

Mr. Bloodsworth, an honorably discharged US Marine, was wrongfully convicted of killing a young girl and sentenced to death in Maryland. He was the first person in the US to be exonerated from death row by DNA, and is the Executive Director of Witness to Innocence

TUES. FEB 4

**DAVID BOYCE**

Mr. Boyce was wrongfully convicted of capital murder and robbery at age 20 after his roommate was found stabbed and killed in a motel in Newport News, VA; he served 23 years for a crime he did not commit.

WED. FEB 12

**KRISTINE BUNCH**

Ms. Bunch was convicted of murder by arson and served more than 17 years before she could demonstrate that the fire that had killed her young son in a trailer home they shared in 1995 had been accidental. At the time of her arrest, she was pregnant with a son, who was taken from her and raised by her family. After her release, she created a nonprofit, JustIs4JustUs.

WED. FEB 19

**GARY GRIFFIN & KEN ROSE**

Mr. Griffin served five years on Mississippi's death row before his death sentence was overturned. He was released from prison after 23 years, and later worked as an investigator on death penalty appeals. Mr. Rose, a former capital litigator, was Mr. Griffin's appellate lawyer, motivator, and supporter.

WED. FEB 26

**DONTAE SHARPE  
& THERESA NEWMAN**

Mr. Sharpe was sentenced to life in prison for a Greenville NC murder he did not commit. He served 24 years in prison before he was released in August 2019, having consistently refused to accept plea offers. Prof. Newman is a leader of the Duke Wrongful Convictions Clinic, which has exonerated multiple individuals in the state of North Carolina.

MON. MAR 2

**JIMMY DENNIS**

Mr. Dennis served over 25 years on Pennsylvania's death row for a crime he did not commit. Two federal legal decisions exonerated him, and his innocence read into the court record.

WED. MAR 25

**CHRIS TURNER**

Mr. Turner was one of 17 young people in Washington DC to be charged in a brutal killing, in what became known as the "8th and H" case. The crime occurred in a busy area of the city in broad daylight and yet there were no witnesses. Mr. Turner served 26 years in maximum security prisons throughout the federal system.

WED. APRIL 1

**PANEL DISCUSSION ON  
HEALING AFTER HATE**

In February 2015, Chapel Hill was shaken by the senseless killing of three residents: Deah Barakat, his wife Yusor, and Yusor's sister Razan. Together for the first time to discuss healing after tragedy

THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

are: Farris Barakat, Deah's brother; Satana Deberry, District Attorney of Durham, NC; Kendra Montgomery-Blinn, the Assistant District Attorney who prosecuted the case; and Amanda Gardner, the legal assistant who worked closely with the families throughout the process.

TUES. APR 7

**JEROME MORGAN**

Mr. Morgan was sentenced, at age 17, to Life in Prison without Parole for a murder at a New Orleans sweet-sixteen party. After 20 years in the plantation-like Louisiana State Prison at Angola, Mr. Morgan's release was secured by the Innocence Project - New Orleans. Mr. Morgan later founded the Free Dem Foundations.

WED. APR 22

**ANDREA HARRISON &  
KATIE MONROE**

Andrea Harrison's mother was murdered when Andrea was a young child. When the original conviction was overturned after almost two decades, the state declared the case to be "cold," ensuring that the true perpetrator would likely go unpunished. Katie Monroe, the daughter of an exoneree, is the Executive Director of Healing Justice, which provides services to those affected by wrongful convictions.

**FRANK R. BAUMGARTNER,  
ORGANIZER**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION,  
SEE**

**[HTTP://FBAUM.UNC.EDU/TEACHING/POLI203\\_SP20/POLI203-SP20-SPEAKERS.HTML](http://fbaum.unc.edu/teaching/poli203_sp20/poli203-sp20-speakers.html)**



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