Call for Papers
“The Highest Tribute”:
The Michigan Journal of Race & Law at Twenty

September 19, 2014
University of Michigan Law School
Ann Arbor, Michigan

“In recognizing the humanity of our fellow beings, we pay ourselves the highest tribute.” Writing in 1972 in Furman v. Georgia, Thurgood Marshall set the bar for students and scholars of race and law. Twenty years ago, students at Michigan Law embraced Marshall’s challenge and from their efforts the Michigan Journal of Race & Law was born. Since then, the Journal has been a platform for the exploration of issues relating to race, law, and civil rights. The Journal is recognized for publishing cutting edge scholarship enabling it to examine many subjects in-depth and with great effect, including critical race theory, law and economics, immigration, education, criminal justice, and beyond. The Journal takes pride in the many perspectives it embraces, publishing the views of scholars, students, practitioners, and social scientists. Since the inaugural issue, the Journal has become nationally recognized as one of the leading civil rights journals in the country.

The Michigan Journal of Race & Law, in conjunction with the Michigan Law Program in Race, Law & History, will host a day-long event to mark the Journal’s first twenty years, looking back at the history of the Journal and its leadership in the field. We also seek to launch the Journal’s next twenty years, highlighting new directions in scholarship at the intersection of race and law. Our keynote speaker will be Mary Frances Berry (JD ’70, PhD ’66), the Geraldine R. Segal Professor of American Social Thought and Professor of History at the University of Pennsylvania. We seek paper proposals that reflect the Journal’s broad mission. We especially encourage the submissions of new (yet-to-be-published) work and submissions by alumni of the Journal.

Please submit a 300 word abstract and short (maximum 3 page) C.V. no later than December 15, 2013. We will accept electronic submissions via e-mail at mjrl@umich.edu. Please include “MJRL Symposium Submission” in the subject line of your e-mail. The final program selections will be announced January 15, 2014. Final papers of no more than 9,000 words are due by August 1, 2014. All papers will be pre-circulated to conference participants. Support for presenters’ travel and lodging expenses will be provided. Special note for Michigan Law alumni, the conference date coincides with the reunion weekend for the classes of 1989, 1994, 1999, 2004 and 2009.

When: Friday, September 19, 2014
Where: University of Michigan Law School, Ann Arbor, Michigan
For more information, please e-mail mjrl@umich.edu.