

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW PRESENTS:

The Two Faces of Mediation:  
**Reasons For Worry, Reasons For Hope**



March 1, 2024

 TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY  
School of Law



**ANNUAL  
DISPUTE RESOLUTION  
SYMPOSIUM**

## AGENDA

8:30 – 9:00 am Registration

9:00 – 9:15 am **WELCOME**

- **Robert B. Ahdieh**, Vice President for Professional Schools & Programs, Texas A&M University; Chief Operating Officer, Texas A&M – Fort Worth; and Dean & Anthony G. Buzbee Endowed Dean's Chair, Texas A&M University School of Law

9:15 – 9:40 am **SETTING THE STAGE**

- **Nancy A. Welsh**, Frank W. Elliott, Jr. University Professor, Professor of Law, and Director, Aggie Dispute Resolution Program, Texas A&M University School of Law

9:40 – 11:00 am **PANEL 1 – BULLISH ON MEDIATION**

- **Jim Alfini**, Dean Emeritus, South Texas College of Law Houston
- **Michael Colatrella**, Tracy A. Eglet Chair in Alternative Dispute Resolution, University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law
- **Kelly Browe Olson**, Associate Professor of Law and Mediation Clinic Director, University of Arkansas – Little Rock, William H. Bowen School of Law
- *Moderator:* **Cynthia Alkon**, Professor of Law and Director, Criminal Law, Justice & Policy Program, Texas A&M University School of Law

11:00 – 11:20 am Break

11:20am – 12:40pm **PANEL 2 – DIFFERENT FRAMES FOR ASSESSING WHAT MEDIATION PROVIDES**

- **Lisa Blomgren Amsler**, Distinguished Professor and Keller-Runden Professor of Public Service, Paul H. O’Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs, Indiana University
- **Isabelle Gunning**, Mayor Tom Bradley Professor of Law and Director, Critical Race, Gender and Sexuality Studies Concentration, Southwestern Law School
- **Michael Moffitt**, Philip H. Knight Chair and Professor of Law, University of Oregon School of Law
- *Moderator: Michael Z. Green*, Professor of Law and Director, Workplace Law Program, Texas A&M University School of Law

12:40 – 1:40 pm Lunch

1:40 – 3:00 pm **PANEL 3 – WORRY AND HOPE AS WE LOOK TO THE FUTURE**

- **Erin Archerd**, Associate Professor, University of Detroit Mercy School of Law
- **Art Hinshaw**, John J. Bouma Fellow in Alternative Dispute Resolution, Clinical Professor Law and Faculty Director, Lodestar Dispute Resolution Center and Mediation Clinic, Arizona State University, Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law
- **Colin Rule**, CEO of mediate.com and odr.com and Practitioner-in-Residence, Texas A&M University School of Law
- *Moderator: Peter Reilly*, Professor of Law and Associate Director, Aggie Dispute Resolution Program, Texas A&M University School of Law

3:00 – 3:20 pm Break

3:20 – 3:50 pm **DISCUSSION** (for all presenters, moderators, and members of the audience)

- What do today’s presentations reveal about mediation as currently institutionalized and practiced?
- What do mediators and the mediation process reliably offer to parties?
- What do today’s presentations reveal about mediation’s future?
- Does anything require further study?
- What do we need to do – if anything – to help mediation achieve its potential and avoid dangers?

3:50 – 4:00 pm **CONCLUDING REMARKS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- **Nancy A. Welsh**