
CORAL GABLES, FL (January 28, 2011) – The University of Miami School of Law along with the Human Rights Center of the University of Diego Portales (Chile), the Center for Reproductive Rights, and the Human Rights Institute of Columbia Law School, will host a conference entitled “Gender Justice in the Americas: A Transnational Dialogue on Sexuality, Violence, Reproduction & Human Rights” on February 23-25, 2011. The conference, to be held on the UM Coral Gables campus, is a unique event that will include leading scholars and advocates from over 20 countries in North, South, Central America and the Caribbean. Participants will examine recent law and policy developments at the local, national, and international levels in the areas of human rights, women's rights, gender, sexuality and economic justice, as well as the legal and advocacy strategies employed by the women's and human rights movements in the region to deepen their effect.

The goals of the Gender Justice Conference are multifold. One of the main purposes is to promote a transnational exchange between advocates and academics working on sexual, reproductive and women's rights issues in the Americas. Additionally, the conference will serve as a catalyst for the revitalization of the women's rights movement in the Americas. Ultimately, the organizers hope the conference will foster the development of a new network of advocates and scholars across the region engaged in using the international human rights framework as a tool for advancing women’s human rights.

The Gender Justice Conference features such renowned international figures as Elizabeth Abi-Mershed, the Adjunct Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Commission on
Human Rights; Susana Chiarotti, Member of the Advisory Board for the Latin American and Caribbean Committee for the Defense of Women's Rights (CLADEM); Rebecca Cook, Professor of Law at the University of Toronto; and Nancy Northup, the Executive Director of the Center for Reproductive Rights. The University of Miami School of Law Dean, Patricia White, will give opening remarks on Thursday, February 24, 2011.

For more information, visit http://www.law.miami.edu/genderjustice.

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EDITOR’S NOTE: Media are encouraged to attend the conference. Email or call Elizabeth Amore (eamore@miami.edu / 305-284-5500) to confirm interest.

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