

# The Legacies and Unfinished Business of *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka*

*Sunday–Wednesday*  
**MARCH 14–17, 2004**  
**Lawrence, Kansas**

*March 14*  
Lawrence High School  
1901 Louisiana Street

*March 15–17*  
Kansas Union  
The University of Kansas

*Joe Douglas Collection, Kansas Collection, Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas*



*Washington Elementary School, 1956, Topeka, Kansas*



*J.B. Anderson Collection, Kansas Collection, Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas*

*NAACP Protest March, 1960s, Topeka, Kansas*

## WELCOME

The 1954 *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka* U.S. Supreme Court decision is considered one of the most important judicial opinions in the country's democratic history. It revolutionized the legal framework for race relations, extended the protection of equal rights to all U.S. citizens, and inspired oppressed peoples around the world to believe in the United States' creed of freedom and equality. However, the country continues to struggle with fulfilling the decision's many promises.

We hope you will take information from this conference back to your communities and organizations and engage in discussions about contemporary issues related to *Brown v. Board*. The goal is to foster greater understanding about ways to solve related social and economic challenges.

We hope you enjoy the conference. While you are here, we offer you our hospitality and invite you to explore our lovely campus and community.

Special thanks for the dedicated volunteer efforts and contributions of the Conference Planning Committee:

**Victor Bailey**, director, Hall Center for Humanities and history professor, University of Kansas

**Janet Crow**, executive director, Hall Center for Humanities, University of Kansas

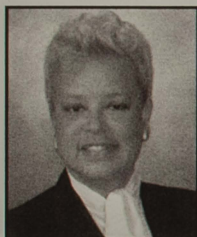
**Joyce McCray Pearson**, director, Wheat Law Library, University of Kansas

**Dorothy Pennington**, associate professor, Department of African and African-American Studies, University of Kansas

**Paul K. Stuewe**, teacher, USD 497, Lawrence, Kansas

**Sheryl Williams**, curator, Kansas Collection, Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas

**Norman Yetman**, Chancellors Club teaching professor of American studies and sociology, chair, American Studies Program, courtesy professor of African and African-American studies, University of Kansas



*Deborah Dandridge*

Deborah Dandridge  
Conference Chair  
University of Kansas Libraries  
50th Anniversary National Commission Appointee

*The National Commission was created in 2001 through federal legislation introduced and supported by the Kansas House and Senate delegations.*

## PROGRAM

*Room assignments are subject to change.*

### Sunday, March 14

*Lawrence High School Auditorium, 1901 Louisiana*

*Sunday events are open to all conference registrants and to the public (at no charge, but tickets are required).*

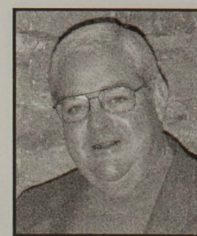
- 1:30 p.m. **Public Registration** (Space-available basis only; no reserved seating)
- 2:00 p.m. **Doors Open**
- 3:00 p.m. **Welcome**—Deborah Dandridge  
**Introduction**—Dorothy Pennington  
**Our Nation's Diverse Musical Heritage**  
—Rust College A Cappella Choir
- 4:00 p.m. **Refreshment Break** • Lobby and Cafeteria
- 4:15 p.m. **The Significance of Brown v. Board to Today's Society**—Tony Brown  
Moderator: Hank Booth
- 5:15 p.m. **Adjournment**



**Rust College A Cappella Choir**, award-winning a cappella collegiate choir, Holly Springs, Mississippi



**Tony Brown**, host of "Tony Brown's Journal," longest-running program on PBS



**Hank Booth**, Executive Director, Kansas Wildscape Foundation, Lawrence, Kansas, and local radio personality

## Monday, March 15

Kansas Union, Level 5

**Daytime sessions:** Seating is available first to registered conference attendees. Full-time KU students will be admitted with free tickets (available at the registration table in the Level 5 lobby one hour before each session) if space is available.

**Refreshment breaks:** Available to registered conference attendees.

**Dinner:** Available to attendees with prepaid tickets.

**Books:** Books will be available throughout the day in the Big 12 Room.

11:00 a.m. **Registration** • Jayhawk Room

2:30 p.m. **Plenary Session** • Woodruff Auditorium

**Welcome**—David Shulenburg

**Introduction**—Tony Sawyer

2:40 p.m. **Education, Diversity, and Affirmative Action**

Robert Hemenway and Walter Broadnax

Public debates, laws, and court cases about affirmative action and diversity are major legacies of *Brown v. Board*. Education is most frequently the focal point of these issues. Two distinguished education leaders will explore the significance of these issues to public education for today's students.

3:40 p.m. **Refreshment Break** • Jayhawk Room

4:00 p.m. **Stories of Struggle and Triumph: Brown v. Board Plaintiffs and the Kansas Defense** • Woodruff Auditorium

Invited Speakers:

Joseph A. DeLaine, *Briggs v. Elliot* (South Carolina Case)

Maurita Burnett Davis, *Zelma Henderson, Leola Montgomery, Vicki Lawton Benson*, and Harriet Wilson, *Brown v. Board* (Kansas Case)

Alonzo Smith, *Bolling v. Melvin Sharpe* (Washington, D.C.)

John Stokes, *Davis v. County School Board of Prince Edward County* (Virginia Case)

The *Brown* decision represented court challenges from Delaware, Kansas, South Carolina, Virginia, and Washington, D.C. This session will feature the individual stories of the participants in these cases.

Moderator: Sherrie Tucker

5:15 p.m. **Break**

Note: Registration Tables have moved to the Level 5 Lobby

5:30 p.m. **Reception** • Ballroom

6:00 p.m. **Dinner** • Ballroom

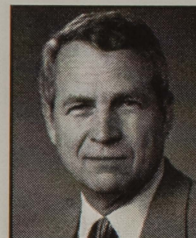
Speaker: Stella Bentley

6:30 p.m. **Public Registration** (No reserved public seating)

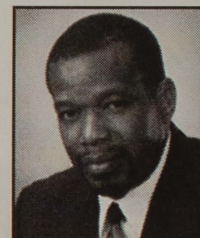
7:00 p.m. **Doors Open** (Conference registration or free ticket required)



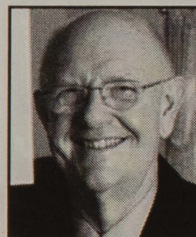
NAACP meeting, Topeka, Kansas



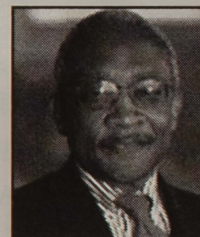
David Shulenburg,  
provost, University of  
Kansas



Tony Sawyer,  
superintendent, USD 501,  
Topeka, Kansas



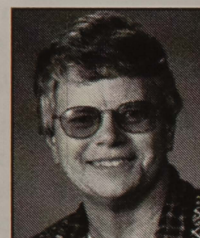
Robert Hemenway,  
chancellor, University  
of Kansas, known for  
biography of African-  
American novelist Zora  
Neale Hurston



Walter Broadnax,  
president of Clark Atlanta  
University, leading  
scholar-practitioner  
in public policy and  
management



Sherrie Tucker,  
assistant professor  
of American studies,  
University of Kansas



Stella Bentley,  
dean of libraries,  
University of Kansas

7:30 p.m. **\*The Legacies of Race and Law in the United States** • Woodruff Auditorium

*Lani Guinier*

Ms. Guinier will discuss the interplay between legal and political solutions to social justice challenges, focusing on the relationship between Thurgood Marshall, then director counsel of the NAACP Legal Defense Fund and later Supreme Court justice, and Martin Luther King, Jr. She also will discuss the role of education in a democracy and how recent Supreme Court decisions in the Michigan affirmative action cases continue that ongoing conversation between lawyers, public officials, and grass-roots activists.

*\*CLE credit is available for this session.*

Moderator: *Stephen R. McAllister*

8:30 p.m. **Lani Guinier Book-Signing** • Big 12 Room

## Tuesday, March 16

*Kansas Union, Levels 4 & 5*

**Continental Breakfast:** Available to registered conference attendees.

**Daytime Sessions:** Restricted to registered conference attendees. Full-time KU students will be admitted with free tickets (available at the registration table in the Level 5 lobby one hour before each session) if space is available.

**Lunch:** Available with prepaid tickets.

**Refreshment Breaks:** Available to registered conference attendees.

**Note:** Books will be available throughout the day in the Big 12 Room.

7:30 a.m. **Registration** • Level 5 Lobby

**Continental Breakfast** • Ballroom

8:30 a.m. **Discussion: Race, Ethnicity, and U.S. Public Education** • Woodruff Auditorium, Level 5

*Ray Hiner, John H. Jackson, Cornel Pewewardy*

This session will examine the unique role of public education in the historical development of the United States and explore how, in the past and today, educational opportunities and experiences in this nation are shaped by "race" and "ethnicity."

Moderator: *Angela Lumpkin*

9:30 a.m. **Refreshment Break** • Jayhawk Room

9:45 a.m. **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

1. **Primary and Secondary School Resources for Teaching Brown v. Board** • Alderson Auditorium, Level 4

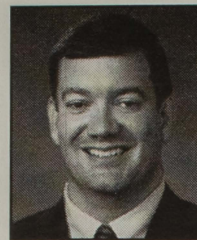
*William Guillermo Luna, Janet Sims-Wood, La Tonya Miller, Alonzo Smith*

Diverse teaching resources on Brown will be discussed and demonstrated.

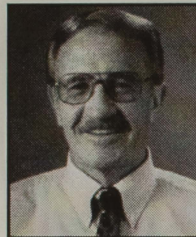
Moderator: *Paul Stuewe*



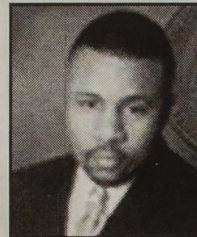
**Lani Guinier**, Harvard Law School faculty, first African American woman appointed a tenured professorship at Harvard Law



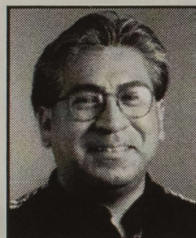
**Stephen McAllister**, professor and dean, School of Law, University of Kansas



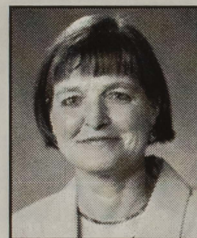
**Ray Hiner**, Chancellors Club teaching professor of history and education, University of Kansas, author and editor



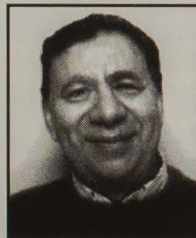
**John Jackson**, national director of education, NAACP



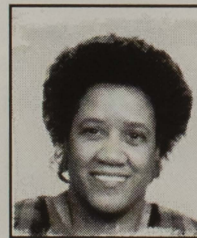
**Cornel Pewewardy**, associate professor, Department of Teaching and Leadership, University of Kansas



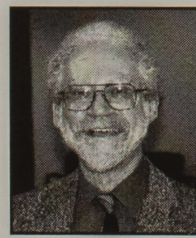
**Angela Lumpkin**, professor and dean, School of Education, University of Kansas



**William Guillermo Luna**, president and curator, Museum of Mexican Culture and History, Chicago, Illinois

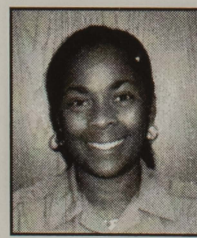


**Janet Sims-Wood**, assistant chief librarian, Moorland-Spingarn Research Center, Howard University, Washington, D.C.



**Alonzo Smith**, research historian, Smithsonian Institute National Museum of American History

Blacks in Government, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Chapter. Photo courtesy of USPTO Office of Public Affairs.



**La Tonya Miller**, spokesperson, Brown v. Board National Historic Site, National Park Service, Topeka, Kansas

2. **Proposals and Technical Assistance for Achieving Equity in Public Schools** • Big 12 Room, Level 5

*John H. Jackson, Charles Rankin*

This session will present information about the NAACP's National Call for Action in Education to Governors project and the Midwest Equity Assistance Center. The center provides technical assistance, professional development, and information dissemination on race equity, gender equity, and national origin equity to local educational agencies, including public school districts and charter schools in Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska. The NAACP project seeks to reduce education-related racial disparity by 50 percent over the next five years.

Moderator: *Steve Ramirez*

3. **Images of Race and Ethnicity in Film** • Woodruff Auditorium, Level 5

*Madison Lacy, Kevin Willmott*

National film award-winners will demonstrate how their art and industry shape views of race and ethnicity.

Moderator: *Chuck Berg*

10:45 a.m. **Refreshment Break** • Jayhawk Room, Level 5

11:00 a.m. **Practices and Policies of "Whiteness"** • Woodruff Auditorium

*Kevin Fox Gotham, Norman Yetman*

Two scholars will explore how the socially determined category of "White" determines public policies and practices in American society, especially in education. This session topic establishes the intellectual framework for examining historical and contemporary issues of equal opportunity, privilege, and diversity.

Moderator: *Chico Herbison*

11:50 a.m. **Adjourn for Lunch**

Noon **Lunch** • Ballroom, Level 5

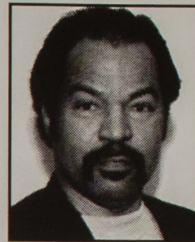
1:15 p.m. **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

1. **Race and Today's Media** • Woodruff Auditorium, Level 5

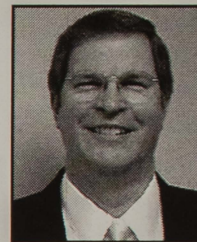
*Karen Bates*

This session will focus on how issues of race are portrayed in today's print and electronic media. The presenter will emphasize the media's influence in shaping views and attitudes of "race."

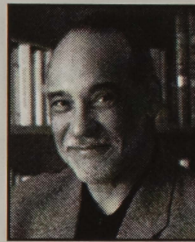
Moderator: *Janet Campbell*



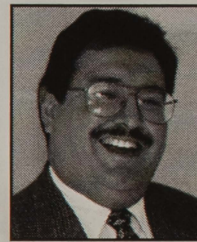
**Charles Rankin**, director, Midwest Equity Assistance Center, professor of foundations and adult education, Kansas State University



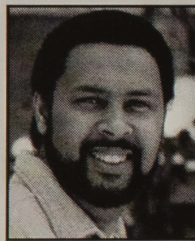
**Paul Stuewe**, member, Conference Planning Committee, teacher, USD 497, Lawrence, Kansas



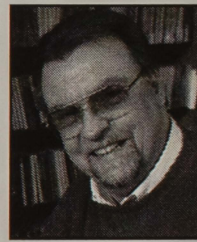
**Madison Lacy**, visiting Langston Hughes Professor, University of Kansas, and multiple Emmy Award-winning writer, producer, and director of television and film



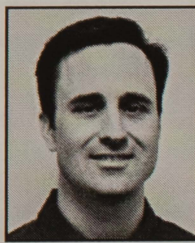
**Steve Ramirez**, assistant director, Office of Equal Opportunity, University of Kansas



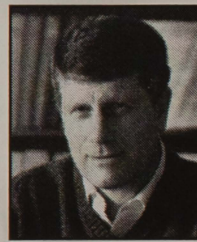
**Kevin Willmott**, assistant professor, Department of Theatre and Film, University of Kansas, screenwriter and filmmaker



**Chuck Berg**, professor and associate chair, Department of Theatre and Film, University of Kansas



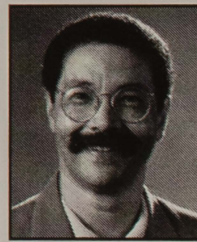
**Kevin Fox Gotham**, associate professor of sociology, Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana



**Norman Yetman**, Chancellors Club teaching professor of American studies and sociology, chair, American Studies Program, courtesy professor of African and African-American studies, University of Kansas



**Karen Bates**, Los Angeles-based correspondent, National Public Radio's "Day to Day"



**Chico Herbison**, instructor, African and African-American studies, University of Kansas

2. **Isolated by Law and Language: Latinos in the U.S.**  
 • Alderson Auditorium, Level 4

*Norma Cantu*

Law and the use of language have shaped the Latino experience in the United States. This session will describe how and will explore ways to meet these challenges.

Moderator: *Antonio Augusto*

- 2:00 p.m. **Refreshment Break** • Jayhawk Room, Level 5

- 2:30 p.m. **Discussion: The Latino Pursuit of Excellence and Equity in U.S. Public Schools, Before and After Mendez (1946)** • Woodruff Auditorium, Level 5

*Norma Cantu, William Guillermo Luna*

The prominent historical role of Latinos in U.S. school desegregation court challenges and contemporary Latino educational concerns will be examined in this session, which will foster discussion about achieving educational excellence and equity.

Moderator: *Ann Weick*

- 3:30 p.m. **Refreshment Break** • Jayhawk Room, Level 5

- 3:45 p.m. **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**

1. **Race and U.S. Foreign Policy** • Alderson Auditorium, Level 4

*Mary Dudziak*

U.S. foreign policy concerns played a central role in shaping the social and political context for the Brown decision. This session will explore the relationship of U.S. law to race relations and the Cold War.

Moderator: *Reginald Robinson*

2. **CARE: Recognizing the Culture, Abilities, Resilience, and Efforts of Culturally Diverse Students** • Woodruff Auditorium, Level 5

*Linda Cabral*

This research-based, interactive session will explore how teachers influence student achievement in culturally diverse schools. It will emphasize English-language learning, socioeconomic status, ethnicity, and culture.

Moderator: *Christy Levings*

- 5:00 p.m. **Reception** • Ballroom

*Sponsored by the Brown Foundation*

- 6:30 p.m. **Public Registration** (No reserved public seating)

- 7:00 p.m. **Doors Open** (Conference registration or free ticket required)

- 7:30 p.m. **The Economics of Brown v. Board** • Woodruff Auditorium, Level 5

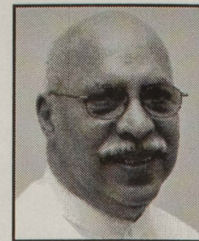
*Julianne Malveaux*

Moderator: *David Katzman*

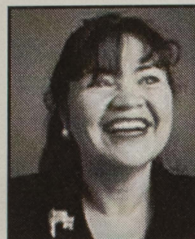
- 8:30 p.m. **Julianne Malveaux Book-Signing** • Jayhawk Room, Level 5



**Janet Campbell**, director, KANU Radio, a National Public Radio affiliate, University of Kansas



**Antonio Augusto**, Greater Topeka Chamber of Commerce, Topeka, Kansas



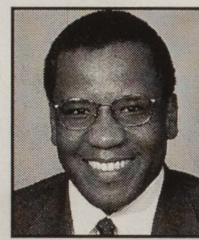
**Norma Cantu**, Professor of Education and Law, University of Texas at Austin



**Ann Weick**, professor and dean, School of Social Welfare, University of Kansas



**Mary Dudziak**, the Judge Edward J. and Ruey L. Guirado professor of law and history, University of Southern California School of Law



**Reginald Robinson**, president and CEO, Kansas Board of Regents



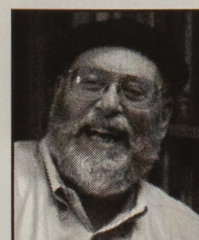
**Linda Cabral**, senior professional associate, Human and Civil Rights Division, National Education Association, Washington, D.C.



**Christy Levings**, President, Kansas NEA, Topeka, Kansas



**Julianne Malveaux**, nationally syndicated columnist on economic and socio-political issues, commentator, and author



**David Katzman**, professor of American studies, University of Kansas

## Wednesday, March 17

Kansas Union, Level 5

**Continental Breakfast:** Available to registered conference attendees.

**Daytime Sessions:** Restricted to registered conference attendees. Full-time KU students will be admitted with free tickets (available at the registration table in the Level 5 lobby one hour before each session) if space is available.

**Note:** Books will be available in the Big 12 Room all morning.

8:00 a.m. **Registration** • Level 5 Lobby

**Continental Breakfast** • Jayhawk Room, Level 5

9:00 a.m. **\*Brown v. Board Origins and Legacies** • Woodruff Auditorium, Level 5

*Theodore M. Shaw*

This session will cover *Brown v. Board of Education* in its historical context, as a cold war imperative, and as a key constitutional development. *Brown's* intellectual underpinnings have been criticized as vague and its legacy is mixed. The presenter will argue that, while *Brown* stands as one of the most important decisions in American jurisprudence, public schools are intensely segregated today and *Brown's* legacy is largely a legal fiction—a break between pre-*Brown* de jure segregation and current de facto segregation. While this effect is more than symbolic, and while governmentally sanctioned racial subordination is undeniably consigned to the trash bin of history, the real-life connection between American history and slavery, segregation and present inequality, endures. This endurance is largely attributable to the limitations of constitutional doctrines. Moreover, the Fourteenth Amendment has been severed from its historical moorings, turned on its head, and applied in a decontextualized and ahistorical manner that would foreclose any attempts to achieve even voluntary desegregation. We are left with the end of remediation, as witnessed in the recent affirmative action cases involving the University of Michigan. The presenter will end with an appeal for the resurrection of the Fourteenth Amendment and its remedial objections. **\*CLE credit is available for this session.**

Moderator: *Bill Tuttle*

10:15 a.m. **Refreshment Break** • Jayhawk Room, Level 5

10:30 a.m. **Race, Public Education, and Public Policy** • Woodruff Auditorium

*Gary Orfield, John H. Jackson*

This session will explore the unfinished business of the *Brown* decision as it pertains to public education. The current research findings of the Harvard Project on School Desegregation will be presented, with an exploration of how today's issues of race and education may be addressed and resolved.

Moderator: *Bill Tuttle*

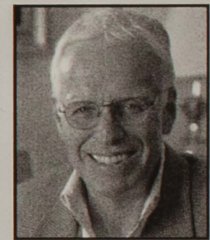
Noon **Adjournment**



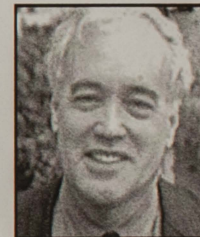
1960s Architects of Kansas Civil Rights Legislation  
Wyandotte County, Kansas



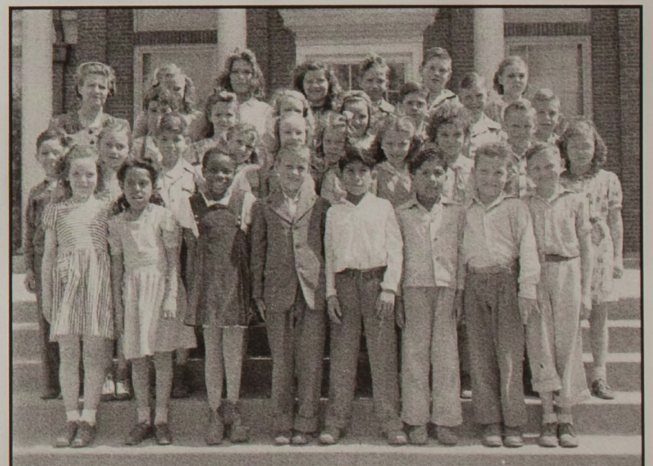
**Theodore Shaw**, associate director and counsel, NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund



**Bill Tuttle**, professor of American studies, University of Kansas



**Gary Orfield**, founding co-director, Civil Rights Project, Harvard University, and faculty member, Harvard Graduate School of Education



New York Elementary School, 1940s, Lawrence, Kansas

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS LIBRARIES PROUDLY PRESENT this historic conference commemorating the 1954 *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka* U.S. Supreme Court decision. The Libraries' African American Collections in the Kansas Collection include the papers of Charles S. Scott, who participated in the case as one of the local attorneys for the Kansas plaintiffs, as well as papers from Oliver L. Brown, the named plaintiff, and papers from the Brown Foundation, a nonprofit established as a living tribute to the attorneys and plaintiffs of the case.

THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES ACKNOWLEDGE the contributions of many partners in presenting this conference. The students and school teachers in attendance are the primary beneficiaries of these partners' generous support. Please join us in thanking them.

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## CONFERENCE SPONSORS

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American Studies Program    Department of African and African-American Studies  
Department of Political Science    Department of Public Administration  
Department of Sociology    Graduate School and International Programs  
Office of the Executive Vice Chancellor for University Relations    Office of the Vice Provost for Student Success  
School of Journalism and Mass Communications    School of Social Welfare

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*Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka Web Site*

**[www.kuce.org/brown](http://www.kuce.org/brown)**

An important component of the conference is the establishment of an educational Web site. It is our hope that the conference will foster discussion about contemporary issues related to the Brown v. Board Supreme Court decision. The site will be updated as conference resources become available.