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# Introduction Welcome and Opening Remarks: Panel One: Introduction

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# Panel One: Introduction

*Tanya Hernandez\**

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I want to very briefly introduce our panelists and also encourage you to read their extended biographies that are in the symposium brochure, because I cannot possibly do justice to all of their glowing qualifications in our short time here today.

First I would like to introduce you to Professor Katheryn Katz. She is a Professor of Law at Albany Law School, and I cannot help but note that she was the founding partner in one of the first female law firms in upstate New York.

(Applause.)

After Professor Katz, we will have Professor John Kunich speak. He is a Professor of Law as well at Roger Williams Law School, and he is someone who is also very law and science oriented. So we will be hearing quite of bit of interesting information in this panel as well, and so I will have each of them speak, and then we can open it up for the question-and-answer session.

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\*Professor Tanya Hernandez is a Professor of Law and Justice Frederick W. Hall Scholar at Rutgers School of Law-Newark. She earned an A.B. in sociology from Brown in 1986 and a J.D. in 1990 from Yale Law School. She clerked for U.S. District Court Judge Jaime P. Pieras, Jr. in Puerto Rico from 1990-1992, then received a fellowship to the Center for Reproductive Law & Policy in New York, where she litigated challenges to women's health care restrictions and clinic violence. Thereafter she worked as a staff attorney for the HIV Unit of Brooklyn Legal Services where she represented women of color infected with AIDS.

Her scholarly interest in the intersection of race and gender is evident in the following selections from her

published work: a book chapter in *Directions in Sexual Harassment Law*, edited by Catharine MacKinnon and Reva Siegel (Yale Univ. Press); book chapter in *Rights and Realities*, published by the American Bar Foundation and Kluwer Press; and article in the *Iowa Journal of Law and Gender, Race and Justice*. In Fall, 2003 she served as a Scholar-in-Residence/Independent Scholar at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, and she is presently a Faculty Fellow at the Institute for Research on Women at Rutgers University.

