Redistricting Reform: Mapping Our Future
Co-hosted by Common Cause and The George Washington University Law School
Wednesday, October 7, 2015

Symposium Program

8:45 am. Registration and breakfast

9:15 am. Welcome
- Miles Rapoport, President – Common Cause
- Spencer Overton, President and CEO – Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, The George Washington University Law School

9:30 – 10:30 am. Where do we draw the line on partisan gerrymandering?
- Anthony McGann, Professor – University of Strathclyde School of Government and Public Policy
- Charles Anthony Smith, Assoc. Professor of Political Science – Univ. of California, Irvine.
- Moderated by Emmet Bondurant, Bondurant, Mixon, & Elmore.

10:30 – 11:30 am. Mountains and Rivers: How do we overcome entrenched interests and adversity in the fight for fair representation?
- U.S. Rep. Alan Lowenthal (D-CA)
- U.S. Rep. Reid Ribble (R-WI)
- Jennifer Bevan-Dangel, Executive Director – Common Cause Maryland
- Christie Hefner, Board member - Illinois Independent Map Amendment
- Moderated by Chris Carson, League of Women Voters of United States

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm (lunch panel). Shifting Sands: How is the Supreme Court re-shaping representation of We the People?
The Supreme Court has been rapidly re-shaping voting rights and redistricting jurisprudence through a series of recent cases. Legal experts will discuss recent and upcoming redistricting cases, including Alabama Legislative Black Caucus v. Alabama, Shapiro v. McManus, Evenwel v. Abbott, Arizona State Legislature v. Arizona Independent Redistricting Commission.
- Michael Li, Democracy Program Counsel – Brennan Center
- Rajeev Muttreja, Associate – Jones Day
- Thomas A. Saenz, President, General Counsel – Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund
- Paul Wolfson, Partner and Vice Chair of the Appellate and Supreme Court Litigation Practice Group – WilmerHale
- Moderated by Alan Morrison, The George Washington University School of Law and Kathay Feng, Common Cause

Special thanks to MacArthur Foundation, WhyNot Foundation, and Emmet Bondurant for making this symposium possible.

The George Washington University Law School / Student Conference Center, 2nd floor
2023 G Street NW, Washington, DC 20052
1:00 – 2:00 pm. **Cutting through the Thicket: Can we untangle redistricting for the courts?**

Profs. Chen and Rodden will present a winning paper of the “Gerrymander Standard” writing competition: *Cutting through the Thicket: Redistricting Simulations and the Detection of Partisan Gerrymanders.* Hebert will discuss the current Florida litigation and how the court has handled the issue of partisan gerrymandering.

- **Jowei Chen**, Associate Professor of Political Science – University of Michigan
- **Jonathan Rodden**, Professor of Political Science and Hoover Institution Senior Fellow – Stanford University
- **Gerry Hebert**, Exec. Director, Dir. of Litigation – Campaign Legal Center
- Moderated by **Derek Muller**, Pepperdine University

2:00 – 3:00 pm. **Paving New Roads: Can we carve new pathways for redistricting through litigation in the states?**

- **Joanna Cuevas Ingram**, Associate Counsel – LatinoJustice PRLDEF
- **Anita Earls**, Executive Director – Southern Coalition for Social Justice
- **Nicholas Stephanopoulos**, Assistant Professor of Law – University of Chicago
- Moderated by **Dan Vicuna**, Common Cause

3:00 – 4:00 pm. **Building bridges: How do we build strong coalitions to stand together for fair districts?**

- **Melanie McElroy**, Executive Director – Common Cause Michigan
- **Jane Pinsky**, Director – North Carolina Coalition for Government and Lobbying
- **Catherine Turcer**, Policy Analyst – Common Cause Ohio
- **Former Reps. Ellen Tauscher** (D-CA), **Tom Davis** (R-VA) – Independent Lines (invited)
- Moderated by **Greg Moore**, NAACP National Voter Fund

4:00 – 5:15 pm. **Metes and Measures: How do we measure unfair partisan gerrymandering?**

Professors Best and McDonald will present the winning “Gerrymander Standard” writing competition papers: “Unfair Partisan Gerrymanders in Politics and Law: A Diagnostic Applied to Six Cases.” Nguyen will discuss the current Virginia litigation and the status of the court-directed redistricting process.

- **Robin E. Best** – Assistant Professor of Political Science – SUNY Binghamton
- **Michael D. McDonald**, Professor of Political Science, Director of the Center on Democratic Performance – SUNY Binghamton
- **Tram Nguyen**, Co-Executive Director – New Virginia Majority
- Moderated by **Norm Ornstein**, American Enterprise Institute

5:15 – 6:30 pm. **Reception**