

BERNADETTE ATUAHENE

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Twitter: @ProfAtuahene Facebook: WeWantWhatsOurs

EDUCATION

YALE LAW SCHOOL (JD) 2002

HARVARD UNIVERSITY, JOHN F. KENNEDY SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT (MPA)
Political & Economic Development, 2002

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES (BA) (Magna Cum Laude)
Political Science & African American Studies, 1997

HONORS AND FELLOWSHIPS

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION, Law & Social Sciences Grant Recipient, 2016

AMERICAN BAR FOUNDATION, Research Professor, 2016-present & Faculty Fellow, 2007-2016

PRINCETON WOODROW WILSON SCHOOL, Law and Public Affairs Fellow, 2011-2012

COUNCIL ON FOREIGN RELATIONS, International Affairs Fellow, 2008-2009 & Term member, 2008-2012

INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION, Fulbright Fellow for South Africa, 2002-2003

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

CHICAGO-KENT COLLEGE OF LAW, ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY (IIT)

Full Professor, 2014-present

Associate Professor with Tenure, 2010-2014

Assistant Professor, 2005 - 2010

Courses: Property; International Business Transactions; Trusts & Estates; and Law, Policy and International Development

WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL, WAYNE STATE UNIVERSITY

Damon J. Keith Distinguished Visiting Professor of Law, Fall 2017 & Spring 2018

Course: Law, Policy and International Development, Property & Race

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO LAW SCHOOL, UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

Visiting Professor, Fall 2016

Course: Law, Policy and International Development

FORDHAM LAW SCHOOL, FORDHAM UNIVERSITY

Visiting Professor, Fall 2012

Course: Property

YALE COLLEGE, YALE UNIVERSITY

Instructor, College Seminar Program, 2002

Course: Law, Policy and International Development

HARVARD COLLEGE, HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Instructor, Economics Department Tutorial Program, 2002

Course: Law, Policy and International Development

Teaching Fellow, Professor Cornel West, Fall 2001

Course: Introduction to African-American Studies

Teaching Fellow, Professor Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham, Spring 2001

Course: Seminar on the Civil Right Movement

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

DOCUMENTARIES TO INSPIRE SOCIAL CHANGE (DISC)

Executive Director, 2010-present

- Directed and produced *Sifuna Okwethu (We Want What's Ours)*, which is an 18 min. short documentary film about one South African family's fight to regain their land stolen by the apartheid authorities.
- Film won an audience award at the Africa World Documentary Film Festival and was an official selection in the Pan African Film Festival, Montreal Black Film Festival, New York African Film Festival, and the Chicago International Film Festival.
- Lead a team in creating a curriculum that uses *Sifuna Okwethu* to help secondary students in the US and South Africa understand the link between struggles for social justice in both countries.

SOUTH AFRICAN LAND RESTITUTION COMMISSION

Consultant, 2008

- Appointed by Tozi Gwanya, Director General of the Department of Land Affairs, to conduct an empirical study of the effects of the Land Restitution Program (LRP).
- Completed over 150 semi-structured interviews with individuals and families who were dispossessed of land under apartheid and received some form of compensation through the LRP during 8 months of fieldwork in South Africa.
- Submitted report of findings to all the Regional Land Claims Commissioners.

ILLINOIS STATE SENATOR JACQUELINE COLLINS

Legal Consultant, 2007

- Recruited by Illinois State Senator Jacqueline Collins to assist in redrafting the Illinois Act to End Atrocities and Terrorism in Sudan to survive constitutional muster.

CLEARY, GOTTLIEB, STEEN & HAMILTON

Associate, New York and Hong Kong Offices, 2004-2005

- Specialized in sovereign debt issuances and restructurings, as well as real estate financing transactions.
- Participated in drafting offering circular and led due diligence meeting with the Minister of Finance and other top officials for El Salvador's bond offering in US capital markets.
- Took part in the international legal coordination for the Argentine debt restructuring.
- Worked on debt issuance for the Mexican state owned oil company [PEMEX].
- Managed real estate components in M&A transactions.

CONSTITUTIONAL COURT OF SOUTH AFRICA

Judicial Clerk/Fulbright Scholar, Chambers of Justice T.H. Madala and Justice Sandile Ngcobo, 2002-2003

- Assisted with writing of judicial opinions and research on cases challenging the constitutionality of government statutes and policies regarding freedom of expression, labor rights, political structure of national and provincial legislatures, criminal extradition and freedom of information.
- Wrote pre-hearing legal memoranda involving statutory interpretation and comparative constitutional research from India, Australia, England, Canada and the US.

WORLD BANK

Legal Consultant, Legal Department, 2000 & 2002

- Compiled studies on legal and judicial reform in Ghana done both in-country and by donor agencies and academics abroad for distribution on the World Bank public access website.
- Produced report, “Woman, Law, and Development: Resources in East Asia,” in preparation for the World Bank’s Women, Law and Development conference.
- Completed international law research related to Nile Basin Initiative.

CENTER FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RIGHTS

Human Rights Investigator, 1999

- Designed and implemented a qualitative project on how South American organizations promote and protect economic, social and cultural rights.
- Interviewed activists from NGOs, unions, and cultural organizations working on economic, social, and cultural rights in Ecuador, Colombia, Venezuela, Peru, Brazil, and Chile.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Editor, SSRN Journal on Transitional Justice (2009-present)

Associate Editor, Law & Social Inquiry (2010-2014)

Trustee, Law & Society Association (2010-2013)

PUBLICATIONS

Bernadette Atuahene, *“Our Taxes are too Damn High”: Institutional Racism, Property Tax Assessments, and the Fair Housing Act*, 112 NORTHWESTERN L. REV. 1501 (2018)

Bernadette Atuahene & Timothy Hodge, *Stategraft*, 91 S. CAL. L. REV. 263 (2018)

Bernadette Atuahene, *Takings as a Socio-Legal Concept: An Interdisciplinary Examination of Involuntary Property Loss*, 12 ANNUAL REVIEW OF LAW & SOCIAL SCIENCES 171 (2016)

Bernadette Atuahene, *Dignity Takings and Dignity Restoration: Creating a New Theoretical Framework for Understanding Involuntary Property Loss and the Remedies Required*, 41 LAW & SOCIAL INQUIRY 796 (2016)

Bernadette Atuahene, *WE WANT WHAT’S OURS: LEARNING FROM SOUTH AFRICA’S LAND RESTITUTION PROGRAM* (Oxford University Press, 2014)

Bernadette Atuahene, *The Importance of Conversation in Transitional Justice: A Study of Land Restitution in South Africa*, 39 LAW & SOCIAL INQUIRY 902 (2014).

Bernadette Atuahene, *Paying for the Past: Redressing the Legacy of Land Dispossession in South Africa*, 45 LAW & SOCIETY REVIEW 955 (2011).

Bernadette Atuahene, *South Africa’s Land Reform Crisis: Eliminating the Legacy of Apartheid* 90 FOREIGN AFFAIRS 121 (2011).

- Bernadette Atuahene, *Property and Transitional Justice*, 58 UCLA L. REV. DISC. 65 (2010)
- Bernadette Atuahene, *Property and the Demands of Transformation*, 31 MICH. INT'L L. J. 765 (2010)
- Bernadette Atuahene, *Things Fall Apart: The Illegitimacy of Property Rights in the Context of Past Theft*, 51 ARIZ. L. REV. 829 (2009)
- Bernadette Atuahene, *From Reparation to Restoration: Moving Beyond Restoring Property Rights to Restoring Political and Economic Visibility*, 60 SMU L. REV. 1419 (2007).
- Bernadette Atuahene, *Land Titling: A Mode of Privatization with the Potential to Deepen Democracy*, 50 ST. LOUIS U. L.J. 761 (2006)
- Bernadette Atuahene, *Legal Title to Land as an Intervention against Urban Poverty in Developing Nations*, 36 GEO. WASH. INT'L L. REV. 5 (2004)
- Bernadette Atuahene, *The Effectiveness of International Legislative Responses to the Helms Burton Act*, 69 REV. JUR. UPR 3 (2000)

EDITORIALS

- Bernadette Atuahene, *Compensate Detroiters Who Illegally Lost Their Homes*, DETROIT NEWS (Jun. 13, 2018)
- Bernadette Atuahene, *Don't Let Detroit's Revival Rest on an Injustice*, NY TIMES (Jul. 22, 2017)
- Bernadette Atuahene, *Detroit Homeowners Deserve Better*, DETROIT NEWS (Jan. 31, 2017)
- Bernadette Atuahene, *Detroit Tax Foreclosures Indefensible*, DETROIT FREE PRESS (Sept. 1, 2016)
- Bernadette Atuahene & Alfred Brophy, *In South Africa, Land Apartheid Lives On*, NY TIMES (Jan. 15, 2015)
- Bernadette Atuahene, *Evaluating Mandela's Legacy One Year Later*, HUFFINGTON POST (Dec. 8, 2014)
- Bernadette Atuahene, *Nelson Mandela's Uneven Legacy*, LA TIMES (Dec. 5, 2014)
- Bernadette Atuahene, *We Must Learn from the Mistakes Made in Land Restitution Process*, CAPE TIMES (Aug. 12, 2014)
- Bernadette Atuahene, *Doing it Better Second Time Around*, THE TIMES (Jul. 22, 2014)
- Bernadette Atuahene, *Lack of Communication is an Injustice in Land Restitution*, MAIL AND GUARDIAN (Jul. 18, 2014)
- Bernadette Atuahene, *Land Restitution Has Some Success*, CITY PRESS (Jul. 25, 2012)
- Bernadette Atuahene, *Land Claims Cash Was Not Frittered Away*, BUSINESS DAY (Jul. 25, 2012)
- Bernadette Atuahene, *Land is Not a Utopia for the Dispossessed*, MAIL AND GUARDIAN (Jul. 20, 2012)

Bernadette Atuahene, *Happy Birthday Madiba*, HUFFINGTON POST (Jul. 19, 2010)

Bernadette Atuahene, *If We Do Not Act, South Africa Will Fall Apart Just as Zimbabwe Has!*, HUFFINGTON POST (Apr. 17, 2010)

Bernadette Atuahene, *Haiti: Has God Turned His Back on the Country*, HUFFINGTON POST (Jan. 28, 2010)

Bernadette Atuahene, *We Need to Anticipate Terrorist Not React to Them*, HUFFINGTON POST (Jan. 4, 2010)

Bernadette Atuahene, *Congress Must Do More for Those Evicted*, CONNECTICUT POST (Oct. 15, 2009)

Bernadette Atuahene, *No Way to Deal with Slums*, BUSINESS DAY (Oct. 4, 2005)

Bernadette Atuahene, *Thwart a Tyrant by Resolving Land Crisis*, BUSINESS DAY (Jul. 19, 2005)

LANGUAGES

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| English: | Native tongue |
| Spanish: | Advanced |

BAR ADMISSION

New York, 2004

(Last updated: June 2018)