Oklahoma City University School of Law

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Introduction to Symposium, "Sex" in the Classroom: Teaching Gender as a Core Value

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INTRODUCTION

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This Symposium is a collection of written work submitted by the panelists to coincide with the panel discussion at the Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting. These submissions are both timely and informative to those contemplating gender as a core value in legal education.

Incorporating discussions and lessons about gender into core law school courses is important to excellent classroom teaching, and it helps ensure that discussions include a diversity of viewpoints. Yet meeting this pedagogical goal can be both controversial and challenging. This program began with speakers addressing the reasons for incorporating gender into the curriculum. The program then turned to a panel of faculty who explained how they incorporate lessons about gender in their courses, including contracts, criminal law, constitutional law, property, and legal writing. Undoubtedly, participants left the session with a new understanding of why gender is a core value in law school teaching, along with ideas and materials for teaching gender as part of their courses. As chair-elect of the Section on Women in Legal Education, I had the honor of serving as moderator.

The AALS Section on Women in Legal Education was proud to present this panel. The Section expressed deep gratitude to the panel planning committee: Kirsten K. Davis, (Stetson University College of Law); Zanita Fenton, (University of Miami School of Law); Lolita Inniss, (Cleveland-Marshall College of Law); Danné L. Johnson (Section Chair-Elect, Oklahoma City University School of Law); Melissa Marlow, (Southern Illinois University School of Law); and Lisa R. Pruitt, (Section Chair, University of California Davis School of Law). Their hard work brought this important topic to the AALS, and now to the readers of the Oklahoma City University Law Review.

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