For Immediate Release
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NYU’s Furman Center Convenes Leading Researchers, Policymakers, and Practitioners to Launch New Research Initiative on Racial and Economic Inequality and Integration

NEW YORK CITY -- NYU's Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy has launched a new research initiative focused on racial and economic inequality and integration. To kick off the initiative, the Furman Center convened 60 of the nation's leading researchers, policymakers and practitioners for a roundtable discussion on racial and economic integration.

The roundtable, which took place September 16 and 17 at NYU School of Law, marked the start of the Furman Center's Integration Research Initiative, a yearlong series of programs that will involve scholars from around the world and across disciplines. The goal of the Initiative is to develop a body of research that will address issues of racial and economic inequality and integration in neighborhoods and schools that are raised by profound changes in the demographics, housing markets, and current challenges of metropolitan areas across the United States.

Roundtable participants included the NYU School of Law's Straus Institute for the Advanced Study of Law and Justice's 2013-14 Fellows. These scholars will spend a year in residence at NYU School of Law to conduct path-breaking research and scholarship on racial, ethnic, and economic integration. [LIST OF STRAUSS FELLOWS AVAILABLE BELOW]

The roundtable featured a keynote address by Henry Cisneros, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development from 1993-1997 under President Clinton and current chairman of CityView, an institutional investment firm focused on urban real estate and metropolitan infrastructure. Secretary Cisneros delivered a keynote on the need to better integrate neighborhoods across the country in order to develop the next generation workforce the United States needs to compete in a global economy. It also featured a talk with playwright Bruce Norris, who was awarded the 2011 Pulitzer Prize for Drama for Clybourne Park, which addressed neighborhood racial change.
"Given our nation's history of residential segregation by race and class, integration remains a critical conversation and research topic," said Vicki Been, director of the Furman Center and the Boxer Family Professor of Law at NYU School of Law. But, she noted, "the issues have changed dramatically as the population has become more diverse, growth has been driven by immigration, suburbs have become poorer as central cities have become more attractive places to live, and economic inequality has increased."

"We were thrilled to bring together some of the brightest minds researching economic and racial segregation to better understand the current state of research, identify important gaps, and prioritize the most crucial areas for future research," said Ingrid Gould Ellen, co-director of the Furman Center and Professor of Urban Planning and Public Policy at NYU's Wagner Graduate School of Public Service.

Please direct all media inquiries and interview requests to Shannon Moriarty at sm4901@nyu.edu or 212-998-6492.

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Straus Fellows 2013-2014

To learn more about the Straus Institute, including expanded biographies of the 2013-2014 Straus Fellows, please visit www.nyustraus.org.

- Roger Andersson is a Professor in Social and Economic Geography in the Institute for Housing and Urban research (IBF) at Uppsala University, Sweden.

- Leah Boustan is an Associate Professor of Economics at UCLA and a Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research.

- Camille Z. Charles is Edmund J. and Louise W. Kahn Term Professor in the Social Sciences, Professor of Sociology, Africana Studies and Education, Chair of the Department of Africana Studies, and Director of the Center for Africana Studies at the University of Pennsylvania.

- Charles Clotfelter is Z. Smith Reynolds Professor of Public Policy Studies and Professor of Economics and Law at Duke University, where he has taught since 1979.

- Jennifer Hochschild is a professor at Harvard University and holds lecturerships in the Harvard Kennedy School and Harvard Graduate School of Education.

- Jerry Kang is Professor of Law and Asian American Studies (by courtesy) at UCLA. He is also the inaugural Korea Times -- Hankook Ilbo Chair in Korean American Studies.
- **Desmond King** has held the Andrew W Mellon Professor of American Government at the University of Oxford since 2002 where is also a Fellow of Nuffield College.

- **Mary Pattillo** is the Harold Washington Professor of Sociology and African American Studies at Northwestern University.

- **Robert J. Sampson** is Henry Ford II Professor of the Social Sciences at Harvard University and Director of the Social Sciences Program at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study.

- **Patrick Sharkey** is Associate Professor of Sociology at New York University, with an affiliation at NYU’s Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service.

**Straus Fellows-At-Large**

- **Steven E. Aschheim** is Emeritus Professor of History at the Hebrew University, Jerusalem where he taught Cultural and Intellectual History in the Department of History since 1982 and held the Vigevani Chair of European Studies.

- **Christopher McCrudden** is Professor of Human Rights and Equality Law, Queen’s University Belfast, and William W. Cook Global Law Professor at the University of Michigan Law School.

- **Wojciech Sadurski** is Challis Professor of Jurisprudence at the University of Sydney and Professor of the Centre for Europe at Warsaw University.

- **Jonathan Yovel** is a professor of law and humanities at the University of Haifa, Israel. He has studied law, philosophy and linguistics at Tel Aviv, Oxford, Northwestern and Chicago.

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*The Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy* is a joint center of the New York University School of Law and the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service. The Furman Center launched the Moelis Institute for Affordable Housing Policy to improve the effectiveness of affordable housing policies and programs by providing housing practitioners and policymakers with information about what is and is not working, and about promising new ideas and innovative practices. More information on the Furman Center can be found at [www.furmancenter.org](http://www.furmancenter.org) or [@FurmanCenterNYU](http://@FurmanCenterNYU).