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Foreword

Jullian Sekona

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Foreword

Reflecting upon the last year, one thing is certain—2019 has been a momentous year for the *Hastings Women's Law Journal*. Now more than ever, women and other marginalized persons are at the forefront of legal and political issues. Women all over the world are breaking barriers, including several who are currently running for President of the United States—one of whom, until very recently, was Hastings' very own Senator Kamala Harris (D-Calif.).

We address both legal and political issues prevalent to women and other marginalized persons throughout the publication of our Winter Issue. The authors in this issue did not disappoint, addressing topics from issues faced by #MeToo victims to microaggressions perpetuated in law schools today. Similarly, our student notes mirror our author's topics, ranging from a comparative analysis of grassroots activists in Ferguson, a proposal on how to resolve implicit bias in the jury system, and a constitutional analysis of socioeconomic affirmative action. This issue features an article by Nantiya Ruan, Professor of the Practice of Law at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law, entitled *Papercuts: Hierarchical Microaggressions in Law Schools*. Professor Ruan's article provided the framework for this issue, which is to reflect on how the world is evolving to better serve underprivileged and marginalized persons, in addition to looking within our own communities and remembering that we have an inherent duty to effectuate the policies we so proudly argue and fight for—to practice what we preach. We are proud to announce that Professor Ruan will be discussing this article at length at our Annual Symposium next semester. Stay tuned.

In this Winter Issue, we as a *Journal* hope to continue the legacy our forefathers set forth before us—a legacy known for its role in expanding legal scholarship beyond that of the traditional scope and status quo. Now, for over thirty years the *Journal* has published groundbreaking scholarship. As the Editors-in-Chief, Katelyn Dembowski and I hope to take this a step further by raising our voices, speaking up, and fighting for those who cannot do it for themselves—to practice what we preach.

Thank you to all of the Executive Editors and Staff Editors who worked tirelessly throughout Volume 31, Issue 1 production. Special thanks to Executive Editor Anona Su—this publication would not have been possible without your leadership and grace. We would also like to extend our gratitude to all of the authors who have contributed throughout the years. Your scholarship and research allows our *Journal* to continue its mission to serve as voice for those who are outside the conventional margins of legal discussion. Last and certainly not least, the *Hastings Women's Law Journal* would like to thank Tom McCarthy, we would not be able to do the work we do without your help and guidance.

Julian Sekona
Co-Editor-in-Chief, Volume 31