The Civil Rights Project at UCLA

Invites You to Attend a Federal Policy Briefing

*Informing the Debate: Bringing Civil Rights Research to Bear on the Reauthorization of the ESEA*

**DATE:** Thursday, April 21, 2011 from 10:00 am to 12:00 am  
**LOCATION:** Rm. 209, Senate Visitors Center (north side-Capitol Visitors Center)

**Presenters:**  
Gary Orfield and Patricia Gándara, Co-Directors, The Civil Rights Project  
Christopher Swanson, Research Director, Editorial Projects in Education  
Daniel Losen, Director, The Center for Civil Rights Remedies at The Civil Rights Project  
Erica Frankenberg, Assistant Professor, Pennsylvania State University

**Respondents:**  
Bethany Little, Senior Education Advisor, Senate HELP Committee, Sen. Tom Harkin  
Republican Staffer TBD  
Damon Hewitt, Director of the Education Practice, NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund  
Jim Ferg-Cadima, Regional Counsel, Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund  
Barbara Arnwine, Executive Director, Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law

At this event, leading scholars present research findings on the civil rights implications of education policies and discuss them in terms of the reauthorization of the ESEA. Civil rights advocates and Congressional staffers open the discussion to explore what lessons can be learned on the following:

- **Improving graduation rates and reducing suspension rates:** School accountability and the need to address early warning indicators of dropping out; special attention to issues of school climate and use of disciplinary exclusion.
- **School accountability:** effective turnarounds and the need for an entirely separate response to ensure robust yet reasonable accountability for low-performing subgroups.
- **Meeting the needs of English learners:** accountability, appropriate test use and inadequate support of ELs
- **Promoting diversity:** mechanisms of school choice, inter-district transfers, magnet schools; the promise/pitfalls of increasing the numbers of charter schools

Seating is limited. Please RSVP to crp@ucla.edu and put “DC BRIEF” as the subject