

University of Delaware Legal Studies Program Presents:

***Uncovering the Legal and Extralegal  
Sources of Racial Disparity in the  
Delaware Justice System***

**Dr. Ellen Donnelly, Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice**



**Tuesday, April 23, 2019 – 12:30-1:30pm**  
**Purnell Hall Room #116**

**About Dr. Donnelly's Talk:** Reducing racial disparity in criminal processing is a priority in the Delaware justice system. Neighborhood conditions may have important, yet underexplored influences on sentencing decisions. This study evaluates whether social conditions in areas where defendants live and where they offend affect racial differences in sentencing. Doing so allows us to estimate whether sentencing disparities are differentially affected by neighborhood type. Findings underscore the roles of advantage/disadvantage in neighborhoods on sentencing disparities beyond variation in a case's legal circumstances and a defendant's criminal history. This work is supported by the Delaware State Administrative Office of Courts.

Please direct any questions to Dr. Wayne Batchis, Director of Legal Studies  
([batchisw@udel.edu](mailto:batchisw@udel.edu))