

LEGAL THEORY WORKSHOP SERIES presents

Bernadette Atuahene IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law

We Want What's Ours Learning from South Africa's Land Restitution Program

12:30 – 2:00 Friday, March 6, 2015 Solarium (room FA2) – Falconer Hall 84 Queen's Park

J.D. 2002, Yale Law School; M.P.A. 2002, Harvard University, John F. Kennedy School of Government; B.A. 1997 (magna cum laude), University of California, Los Angeles.

Professor Atuahene has varied experiences in the field of law and international development. During law school, she worked as a legal consultant for the World Bank and as a human rights investigator for the Center for Economic and Social Rights, where she received Amnesty International's Patrick Stewart Human Rights Award for her work with human rights organizations throughout South America. After law school, Professor Atuahene was in South Africa as a Fulbright Scholar. She served as a judicial clerk at the Constitutional Court of South Africa, working for Justices Madala and Ngcobo. She then practiced as an associate at Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton in New York, where she focused on sovereign debt and real estate transactions. Professor Atuahene joined the IIT Chicago-Kent faculty in 2005. She teaches Law, Policy and International Development; Property; and International Business Transactions. In 2007 she was selected to become a Faculty Fellow at the American Bar Foundation, which is a socio-legal think tank based in Chicago. Broadly, Professor Atuahene's research deals with the confiscation and restitution of property. In 2008 she won the Council on Foreign Relations International Affairs Fellowship and worked with the South African Director General of Land Affairs and his staff. She is presently writing a book about the Land Restitution Program, which is based on 150 interviews she conducted of program beneficiaries. She is also directing and producing a documentary film about one family's struggle to reclaim their land. Professor Atuahene won the Law and Public Affairs Fellowship and was a visiting assistant professor at Princeton University for the 2011-12 academic year.

A light lunch will be served.