

School of Law

ORATION

Chancellor, by the authority of Senate, I present to you this person on whom the Senate desires you to confer the honorary degree of Doctor of the University.

Professor Rashida Manjoo is one of the world's leading experts in identifying the causes of and in eradicating violence against women. From 2009 to 2015 Rashida Manjoo was the Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women, appointed by the United Nations Commission on Human Rights. As Professor Manjoo reported herself on the twentieth anniversary of the mandate in 2014, she focused on thematic reports drawing attention to issues such as: remedy and reparations for victims of violence; multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and the nexus of violence; gender-related killings of women as part of the continuum of violence; violence against women's disabilities; pathways to, conditions and consequences of incarceration for women; and State responsibility to act with due diligence in eliminating violence against women.

Rashida was born and educated in South Africa and in the US. In 2006, she was the Eleanor Roosevelt Fellow at Harvard Law School, received the inaugural William McKinley Award for Good Governance from Albany Law School in 2013 and the International Human Rights Award from the American Bar Association in 2014.

The path that Rashida Manjoo has followed throughout her life is marked by dedication to improving the life of the less fortunate by promoting social justice by challenging all forms of oppression and discrimination. Initially, Rashida focused on race discrimination but in the late 1980s and early 1990s the focus shifted to gender equality struggles.

Rosa Greaves

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Through her work, she began to reflect on domestic violence in our society. This path naturally led her to become involved in regional and international discussions on justice for women and debating how regional and international human rights instruments can be used to provide access to justice for women.

For five years, she served as a Parliamentary Commissioner in the Commission on Gender Equality in South Africa. In this role she gained experience of government accountability and no doubt this experience underpinned her later focus as a UN Special Rapporteur on State responsibility. Her experience and research led her to adopt in her UN reports an intersectional approach to discrimination and violence against women, namely emphasising the link between such violence and socio-economic conditions, race and historical and cultural contexts. Rashida does not deny that civil and political rights are important but she looks at human rights holistically and rejects the 'one-size-fits-all-approach'. She argues that women's rights to a life free of all forms of violence cannot be achieved without acknowledging that there is an interdependence between violence and its root causes. Rashida sees her contribution as Special Rapporteur to pulling together these threads and highlighting a deeper understanding of the causes and consequences of violence against women.

Currently, Rashida is a Professor at the University of Cape Town. She has stated that it is 'very important for academia to be involved in the lived realities of people and through field research' and describes herself as an activist-academic. It was her work providing legal services to indigent people that stimulated her academic work. The ivory tower idea of an academic was not for her. She has expressed disappointment that it has been US-based Universities that have mainly responded to her call for assistance but she is positive that some UK-based Universities have also understood how important it is to bring theory and practice together whether through teaching, research or advocacy.

This is a belief strongly shared by the University of Glasgow. In 2014, Rashida was invited by the Glasgow Human Rights Network to visit the University and to deliver a public lecture on her work for the UN.

Rashida has been described and I quote: 'a force to be reckoned with, driven by her passion and belief in social justice. One of those truly genuine, thoughtful people who gives generously of her time to others.'

Chancellor, I invite you to confer the honorary degree of Doctor of the University on Rashida Manjoo

Ceremony of Graduation

Friday 23rd June 2017 at 4pm

This listing includes everyone expected to graduate in person at today's Graduation Ceremony. Those who have achieved the particular distinction of an award with Distinction, Merit or, in the case of classified Honours degrees, an award with Honours of the First Class are marked with an *

The Professor of European Commercial Law will present for the honorary degree of:

Doctor of the University

Professor Rashida Manjoo, United Nations' Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women

The Head of the Adam Smith Business School will present for the degree of:

Doctor of Philosophy

Law

Khalid Alghamdi
João Pedro de Sousa Assis
Isla Mairi Fraser Callander
Svetlana Nasibyan
Chi Zhang

The Head of the School of Law will present for the degree of:

Master of Science

Social Statistics

Felipe Fonseca Salerno*

