The Daynard Public Interest Visiting Fellows Program brings distinguished public interest practitioners to campus each academic year for a three-day visit. The fellows serve as role models for students, demonstrating how legal skills can be used effectively and creatively to make the world a better place. This vibrant program was established in 2004 through the generosity of Professor Richard A. Daynard, president of the law school’s Public Health Advocacy Institute, and his wife, Carol Iskols Daynard.

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Winter 2023 Daynard Public Interest Visiting Fellow

DERECKA PURNELL
Lawyer, Activist and Author of Becoming Abolitionists: Police, Protests, and the Pursuit of Freedom

COMMUNITY CONVERSATION
Monday, February 6, 2023
12:45 – 2:10 PM • 240 Dockser
Lawyering and Organizing Toward Abolition

ROUNDTABLE
Wednesday, February 8, 2023
12:45 – 2:10 PM • 240 Dockser
Abolition and the Future We Create Together

DERECKA PURNELL is a human rights lawyer, researcher and author of Becoming Abolitionists: Police, Protests, and the Pursuit of Freedom. She works to end police and prison violence by providing legal assistance, research and training in community-based organizations through an abolitionist framework. As a Skadden Fellow, Purnell helped to build the Justice Project at the Advancement Project. She also co-created the COVID-19 Policing Project at the Community Resource Hub for Safety and Accountability.

Purnell received her JD from Harvard Law School, her BA from the University of Missouri-Kansas City and served as a Public Policy and International Affairs Law Fellow at the University of California, Berkeley. She is a columnist for The Guardian and regular contributor to leading scholarly journals and major media outlets. She has lectured, studied and strategized around social movements across the globe and is a scholar-in-residence at Columbia Law School.

Co-sponsored by the Center for Public Interest Advocacy and Collaboration
Winter 2023 Daynard Public Interest Visiting Fellow

DERECKA PURNELL

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February 6–8, 2023