

DATE: September 23, 2004

TO: Associate Dean Andrew Klein

FROM: Robert A. Williams, Jr.  
E. Thomas Sullivan Professor of Law and American Indian Studies

RE: Evaluation of William Bradford for Promotion to Associate Professor

Thank you for the opportunity to review two articles by William Bradford, "*With a Very Great Blame on our Hearts:...*" and "*Beyond Reparations.*"

I have met Professor Bradford once, very briefly at a Federal Indian Bar Conference two years ago where I was giving the opening talk. He introduced himself to me at the Harvard alumni breakfast, and I told him how much I thought of his article in the *American Indian Law Review* (*With a Very Great Blame on Our Hearts*) which I have now been asked to review.

I have one other indirect connection to him. I was asked by a peer refereed journal to give a read to Bradford's *Beyond Reparations* article, which I also have now been asked to review.

I have reread both articles for purposes of this review and they are outstanding works of scholarship, erudition, insight and analysis. If you asked me who was the best young scholar in the country writing on Indian law at a very high level of achievement already in his or her career, I would have to say it was Professor Bradford. No other scholar in the field, senior or junior, approaches what he's done in these two articles on this topic, and in other works which I've read of his before. His academic credentials are the best of any young scholar writing in the field today, and he brings a command of the best and most important interdisciplinary skills to the topic. No one whose work I've read in the last ten years writing on Indian law can match his knowledge of sources and his effort to develop an American Indian theory of justice. He is the first legal scholar who has really taken on the challenge of crafting a legal history and genealogy of reparations theory as it applies to Native Americans. They both represent leading contributions to the literature on reparations and justice theory, and establish him as one of the leading authorities on reparations theory in the field of federal Indian law. Please feel free to share this evaluation with him.

Sincerely,

Signed:

  
Robert A. Williams, Jr.