The Wolfe Institute

The Ethyle R. Wolfe Institute for the Humanities,
in cooperation with The Department of Political Science's Film Series, ERIS,
The Africana Studies Program, and the Graduate Investment Program,
presents

Courting Justice

Courting Justice takes viewers behind the gowns and gavels to reveal the women who make up 18 percent of South Africa’s male-dominated judiciary. Hailing from diverse backgrounds and entrusted with enormous responsibilities, these pioneering women share with candor, and unexpected humor, accounts of their country’s transformation since apartheid, and the evolving demands of balancing their courts, country, and families.

Ruth B. Cowan is a political scientist focusing on the rule of law in the New Democracy of South Africa. Her particular interests are the transformation of the judiciary regarding race and gender and the creation of a human rights jurisprudence. Her articles about the transformation of the judiciary appear in law journals in South Africa and the United States and are the focus of her presentations at law conferences in South Africa, the United States and Canada. She is the Founding President of Pro Mujer - a microfinance organization which lends funds to poor women in five Latin American countries. She serves on the Board of Directors of Pro Mujer, The Global Partnership for Afghanistan, and the Council of Women World Leaders. She has a record of advancing women’s rights, serving as chair of the NYC Commission on the Status of Women during two mayoral administrations. She is a senior fellow at the Ralph Bunche Institute for International Studies. She holds degrees from Cornell University, the University of Illinois and New York University and a certificate in management from Harvard University.

Monday, March 8th, 2010
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Woody Tanger Auditorium
Brooklyn College Library

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