Sujatha Baliga’s legal career is characterized by an equal dedication to victims and persons accused of crime. Ms. Baliga has worked with survivors of domestic violence and child sexual abuse as an advocate, and as a board member for rape crisis centers and domestic violence shelters. Her personal and research interests include victims’ voices in restorative processes, the forgiveness of seemingly unforgivable acts and Tibetan notions of justice.

The convergence of Ms. Baliga’s interest in Tibetan ideals of justice, and her work with women accused of killing their abusers, drew her to criminal defense and capital appellate representation. Ms. Baliga has taught restorative justice at both the college and law school levels and has served as a consultant to the Stanford University Criminal Justice Center. In 2008, Ms. Baliga was awarded a Soros Justice Fellowship, which she has used to implement a diversion program in which young people accused of crimes, their families, victims and communities collectively resolve conflicts and root out the causes of youthful offending.

Ms. Baliga earned her AB from Harvard and Radcliffe Colleges, her JD from the University of Pennsylvania and has held two federal clerkships.

The Daynard Public Interest Visiting Fellows Program brings two 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.

Community Lecture
Tuesday, January 12, 2010, noon
“Beyond the Binary: Restorative Justice as Liberatory Practice”

Roundtable Discussion
Wednesday, January 13, 2010, noon
“Restorative Justice Practice in Courts and Communities”

Sujatha Baliga
Soros Justice Fellow
Restorative Justice for Oakland Youth