

## ALWD Visiting Scholars Committee: Interested Scholar Form

Name: Karen J. Sneddon  
School: Mercer University School of Law  
Email address: sneddon\_kj@law.mercer.edu

General background (describe your professional life in a paragraph):

I am a Professor of Law at Mercer University School of Law. After graduating *summa cum laude* from Tulane Law School, I practiced law in New York City in the area of Trusts & Estates. I returned to Tulane Law School as a Forester Fellow where I taught Legal Research & Writing before joining the faculty of Mercer University School of Law in 2006. During my time at Mercer, I have taught the following courses: Legal Writing 1 (predictive writing); Legal Writing 2 (persuasive writing); Legal Letters; Advanced Writing Group, Trusts & Estates Drafting; Introduction to Client Counseling; Introduction to Law Study; Wills, Trusts, & Estates; and Real Estate Transactions. I have twice received the Reynold Kosek Award for Teaching. I have been the author or co-author on a moot court workbook, 17 law review articles, and 12 essays. I have presented at over 48 national and regional conferences including presentations the Annual Meetings of the Association of American Law Schools, the Annual Meetings of the Southeastern Association of Law Schools, the Biennial Conferences of the Legal Writing Institute, and the Biennial Conference of the Association of Legal Writing Directors. I have also presented several CLE Seminars.

Areas of scholarly interest consistent with the purpose of the grant program (“The Legal Communication & Rhetoric Visiting Scholars Grants are intended to further support, strengthen, and encourage scholarship focusing on the study and practice of professional legal writing.”):

My scholarship draws from composition and rhetoric to examine and question standard conventions of legal writing and legal drafting in particular. One of my recent articles was published in LR&C: JALWD. The article, co-authored with Professor Susan Chesler, posited that the transactional lawyer should be seen as a storyteller. I am a current member of the Editorial Board of the Journal of the Legal Writing Institute, and I have served as the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of the Legal Writing Institute.

A representative list of your scholarship; please include any available links to online versions of your publications:

Copies of my law review articles are available on my SSRN page: <http://ssrn.com/author=1237699>. A list of representative law review articles appears

below, but all my publications are listed on my curriculum vitae. Citing references to my articles are also listed on my curriculum vitae.

- *Telling Tales: Transactional Lawyer as Storyteller*, 15 LR&C: JALWD 119 (2018) (with Professor Susan M. Chesler).
- *Not Your Mother's Will: Gender, Language, and Wills*, 98 MARQUETTE L. REV. 1535 (2015).
- *The Will as Personal Narrative*, 20 ELDER L. J. 355 (2013)
- *Beyond Chalk-and-Talk: The Law Classroom of the Future*, 38 OHIO N.U. L. REV. 257 (2011) (with Professor Timothy W. Floyd and Professor Oren R. Griffin).
- *Speaking for the Dead: Voice in Last Wills and Testaments*, 85 ST. JOHN'S L. REV. 683 (2011).

I am also the co-author of the regular column "Writing Matters" in the Georgia Bar Journal. My colleague, Professor David Hricik, and I proposed the regular column and have been co-authoring the regular column since 2007. Every member of the Georgia Bar receives a copy of the Georgia Bar Journal. The column is the second most widely read section of the Georgia Bar Journal. All copies of the Georgia Bar Journal are available <https://www.gabar.org/newsandpublications/georgiabarjournal/archive.cfm>.

Ideas for programming that you might offer a host school, including potential topics and target audiences:

I am happy to develop programming that would most benefit the host school. Below is some examples of potential programming and target audiences. The programming could be presented in the traditional presentation format, lunch-and-learn format, coffee talk format, or writers' workshop.

For Faculty:	Incorporating Writing in Every Law School Course Closing Activities: The Neglected Assessment Tool Dead Men (and Women) Do Tell Tales: Storytelling, Intent, and Wills Carving a Scholarship Niche
Practitioners:	The Characteristics of Good Legal Writing Strategies to Provide Effective Feedback on Writing Drafting With (and Without) Forms How to Write with Power
Law Students:	Drafting Basics and Beyond Workshop on Revision The Art and Science of Demand Letters Constructing Effective Moot Court Briefs with Storytelling Techniques

In no more than 300 words, describe why a host school should consider you as a Visiting Scholar:

I am an experienced writer, teacher, and presenter. The discipline of legal writing is a varied field with scholars bringing varied perspectives and experiences. I bring to the discipline the perspective of a transactional lawyer. My work draws from composition and rhetoric to question standard conventions about legal writing, with a particular emphasis on legal drafting. Peter Elbow has been a major influence in both my scholarship and my teaching. But I also draw from the work done on narrative.

My teaching philosophy of student engagement is replicated in my presentation style. Each presentation is designed to deliver relevant information in an engaging, accessible manner.

As listed above, I would be interested in customizing the programming for the host school. I would welcome the opportunity to work with faculty, students, and practitioners to inspire critical consideration of legal writing and foster new approaches to the study and practice of professional legal writing.

## **Karen J. Sneddon**

Mercer University School of Law  
1021 Georgia Avenue  
Macon, GA 31207  
478-301-5908  
sneddon\_kj@law.mercer.edu  
SSRN: <http://ssrn.com/author=1237699>

### **TEACHING AREAS**

Legal Writing (predictive and persuasive writing); Trusts & Estates Drafting; Will, Trusts, & Estates; Real Estate Transactions; Family Law; Legal Letters

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

#### **Mercer University School of Law, Macon, Georgia**

2014 – present      *Professor of Law*  
2009 – 2014        *Associate Professor of Law* (tenured as of July 2011)  
2006 – 2009        *Assistant Professor of Law*

- Identifying learning objectives and developing relevant assessment mechanisms to foster active learning and retention of course material.
- Coordinator of one week Introduction to Law Program required for all first year students (2014-present) and served as Coordinator for one week Introduction to Counseling Program required for all second year law students (2012).
- Served as Chair or Member of the following law school committees: Assessment (2015-2016 chair), Bar Success (2014-2015, 2012-2013), Admissions (2018-2019; 2017-2018; 2012-2013 chair; 2011-2012); Faculty Development (2010-2011 chair, 2006-2007); External Relations (2014-2015, 2010-2011); Administrative Committee (2010-2011); Appointments (2007-2008, 2008-2009), and Student Mentoring (2006-2007).
- Served as Chair or Member of the following university committees: House of Delegates (2017-2018 immediate past chair, 2016-2017 chair, 2015-2016 chair-elect); University-Wide Communications Task Force (2008-2010 co-chair of National Best Practices Sub-Committee);
- Co-coached the following moot court teams: National First Amendment Moot Court Competition, Vanderbilt Law School (2011); Jerome Prince Memorial Evidence Moot Court Competition, Brooklyn Law School (2008, 2009, 2010).
- Served as Co Faculty Advisor to the Mercer Law Review (2018-2019).

**Themis Bar Review**

2015, 2016, 2017     *Bar Preparation Lecturer*

- Prepared lecture handout and recorded bar preparation lectures for Georgia Wills & Estates.
- Prepared lecture handout and recorded bar preparation lectures for Georgia Trusts.

**William S. Boyd School of Law – University of Nevada, Law Vegas**

Summer 2015     *Visiting Professor of Law*

2013 – 2014     *Visiting Associate Professor of Law*

- Identified learning objectives and developing relevant assessment mechanisms to foster active learning and retention of course material.
- Taught Family Law during the 2015 summer semester.
- Taught Lawyering Process I; Lawyering Process II; and Wills, Trusts, and Estates in the full-time J.D. program and part-time evening J.D. program during the 2013-2014 academic year and 2014 summer semester.

**Tulane Law School, New Orleans, Louisiana**

2004 – 2006     *Forrester Fellow, Legal Research and Writing Instructor*

- Identified learning objectives and developed relevant assessment mechanisms to foster active learning and retention of course material.
- Participated in meetings with the Legal Research & Writing Committee to develop programmatic improvements.

**Schulte, Roth & Zabel LLP, New York City, New York**

2002 – 2004     *Associate, Trusts and Estates Department*

- Drafted over 100 wills, 40 trusts, numerous letter agreements to charitable entities, court petitions, office memos, and client letters.
- Communicated with clients in an advisory fashion regarding the terms of their documents.

## EDUCATION

### **Tulane Law School, New Orleans, Louisiana**

Juris Doctor, *summa cum laude*, May 2002

GPA: 3.813 Rank: 3 of 291

Selected Honors and Activities:

Member of Order of the Coif

Tulane Law Review, Managing Editor

### **Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana**

Bachelor of Arts, Liberal Arts, *summa cum laude*, May 1999

GPA: 4.0

## PUBLICATIONS

### Book

MOOT COURT WORKBOOK: MAXIMIZING THE EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE AND FINDING COMPETITION GLORY (with Professor Suzianne Painter-Thorne) (WoltersKluwer) (2017).

### e-Books

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A LAWYER: PROPERTY MODULE (with Professor Susan M. Chesler and Professor Patrick E. Longan) (Aspen Publishers 2013).

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A LAWYER: CONTRACTS MODULE (with Professor Susan M. Chesler and Professor Patrick E. Longan) (Aspen Publishers 2012).

### Law Review Articles

*The Transactional Reader and Narrative Transportation* (with Professor Susan M. Chesler) (work-in-progress)

*Voice, Strength, and No Contest Clauses*, \_\_\_ WIS. L. REV. \_\_\_ (2019) (forthcoming)

*Happily Ever After: Fostering the Role of Transactional Lawyer as Storyteller*, \_\_\_ TRANSACTIONS: THE TENN. J. OF BUS. LAW \_\_\_ (2019) (with Professor Susan M. Chesler) (forthcoming).

*Telling Tales: Transactional Lawyer as Storyteller*, 15 LC&R: JALWD 119 (2018) (with Professor Susan M. Chesler).

*Tales from a Form Book: Stock Stories and Transactional Documents* 78 MONT. L. REV. 501 (2017) (with Professor Susan M. Chesler).

Citing References:

- Teri A. McMurtry-Chubb, *The Rhetoric of Race, Redemption, and Will Contests: Inheritance as Reparations in John Grisham's Sycamore Row*, 48 U. MEMPHIS L. REV. 889 (2018).
- William E. Foster & Andrew L. Lawson, *When to Practice the Machine: The Promise and Perils of Automated Transactional Drafting*, 69 S.C. L. REV. 597 (2018).
- Lori D. Johnson, *Redefining Roles and Duties of the Transactional Lawyer: A Narrative Approach*, 91 ST. JOHN'S L. REV. 845 (2017).
- Bill Mitchell, *Recent Law Review Articles Concerning the Legal Profession*, 42 J. LEGAL PROF. 135 (2017).

*Once Upon a Transaction: Narrative Techniques in Drafting*, 68 OKLA. L. REV. 263 (2016) (with Professor Susan M. Chesler).

Citing References:

- Scholarship Spotlight, ContractsProfBlog, [http://lawprofessors.typepad.com/contractsprof\\_blog/2016/06/scholarship-spotlight-narrative-techniques-and-drafting-susan-m-chesler-arizona-state-karen-j-sneddo.html](http://lawprofessors.typepad.com/contractsprof_blog/2016/06/scholarship-spotlight-narrative-techniques-and-drafting-susan-m-chesler-arizona-state-karen-j-sneddo.html)
- Kimberly Y.W. Holst, *What Is Legal Writing? The Tale of a Discipline*, 22 LEGAL WRIT. 33 (2018).
- Lori D. Johnson, *Redefining Roles and Duties of the Transactional Lawyer: A Narrative Approach*, 91 ST. JOHN'S L. REV. 845 (2017).

*Not Your Mother's Will: Gender, Language, and Wills*, 98 MARQUETTE L. REV. 1535 (2015).

Citing References:

- Andrea Orwoll, *Pregnant "Persons": The Linguistic Defanging of Women's Issues and the Legal Danger of "Brain-Sex" Language*, 17 NEV. L.J. 667 (2017).
- Alfred L. Brophy & Douglas Thie, *Land, Slaves, and Bonds: Trust and Probate in the Pre-Civil War Shenandoah Valley*, 119 W. VA. L. REV. 345 (2016).
- Elizabeth K. Miller, *Special Report: Review of Reviews*, 155 No. 8 TR & EST. 50 (Aug. 2016).
- Paula Monopoli, *Linguistics Theory, Gender Schemas and Wills*, TR & EST. JOTWELL (The Journal of Things We Like (Lots)), available at <http://trustest.jotwell.com/>.
- *Articles of Interest*, 43 EST. PLAN. 33 (June 2016).
- *Keeping Current Probate*, ABA Prob. & Prop. 14 (Mar./Apr. 2016).
- Naomi Cahn, *Incomplete Dispositions*, 73 WASH. & LEE L. REV. ONLINE 259 (July 16, 2016).
- Thomas E. Simmons, *Wills Above Ground*, 23 ELDER L.J. 343 (2016).

*Memento Mori: Death and Wills*, 14 WYOMING L. REV. 211 (2014).

Citing References:

- Avi Z. Kestenbaum & Amy F. Altman, *Have We Got It All Wrong?: Rethinking the Fabric of Estate Planning*, 155 No. 2 TR. & EST. 29 (Feb. 2016).
- *Articles of Interest*, 42 EST. PLAN. 39 (2015).
- *Keeping Current-Probate*, ABA PROB. & PROP. 14 (Nov./Dec. 2014).
- Avi Z. Kestenbaum, *Special Report: Review of Reviews*, TR. & EST. (Aug. 2014).

*The Will as Personal Narrative*, 20 ELDER L. J. 355 (2013) (received the 2012 Southeastern Association of Law Schools Call for Papers Award).

Citing References:

- Law Review & Journal Commentaries noted in UNIF. PROB. CODE § 1-201, § 2-106.
- Teri A. McMurtry-Chubb, *The Rhetoric of Race, Redemption, and Will Contests: Inheritance as Reparations in John Grisham's Sycamore Row*, 48 U. MEMPHIS L. REV. 889 (2018).
- Stephen R. Alton, *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll's Will: A Tale of Testamentary Capacity*, 52 TULSA L. REV. 263 (2017).
- Andrew Gilden, *IP, R.I.P.*, 95 WASH. U. L. REV. 639 (2017).
- Lori D. Johnson, *Redefining Roles and Duties of the Transactional Lawyer: A Narrative Approach*, 91 ST. JOHN'S L. REV. 845 (2017).
- Shelly Kreiczler-Levy, *Property without Personhood*, 47 SETON HALL L. REV. 771 (2017).
- Sarah E. Ryan, *Increasing Legal Support for End-of-Life Planning in the United States: How Probate and Family Attorneys Can Contribute to a Culture of Dignified Dying*, 30 QUINNIPIAC PROB. L.J. 335 (2017).
- Mark Glover, *A Taxonomy of Testamentary Intent*, 23 GEO. MASON L. REV. 569 (2016).
- Naomi Cahn & Amy Zietlow, *"Making Things Fair": An Empirical Study of How People Approach the Wealth Transmission System*, 22 ELDER L.J. 325 (2015).
- Deborah S. Gordon, *Trusting Trust*, 63 U. KAN. L. REV. 497 (2015).
- J. Christopher Rideout, *Applied Legal Storytelling: A Bibliography*, 12 Leg. Comm. & Rhetoric: JALWD 247 (2015).
- *Keeping Current-Probate*, ABA PROB. & PROP. 14 (July/Aug. 2013).
- *Current Literature*, 40 EST. PLAN. 32 (2013).

*Measuring Student Progress: Assessing and Providing Feedback*, 14 TRANSACTIONS: THE TENN. J. OF BUS. LAW 187 489 (2013) (remarks from the 2012 Teaching and Drafting Skills Conference).

*Trusts and Estates Drafting: Avoiding Rigor Mortis in the Law School Curriculum*, 63 MERCER L. REV. 1071 (2012).

*Beyond Chalk-and-Talk: The Law Classroom of the Future*, 38 OHIO N.U. L. REV. 257 (2011) (with Professor Timothy W. Floyd and Professor Oren R. Griffin).

Citing References:

- Patti Alleva & Jennifer A. Gundlach, *Learning Intentionally and the Metacognitive Task*, 65 J. LEGAL EDUC. 710 (2016).
- Susan D. Landrum, *Drawing Inspiration from the Flipped Classroom Model: An Integrated Approach to Academic Support for the Academically Underprepared Law Student*, 53 DUQ. L. REV. 245 (2015).
- Shailini Jandial George, *The Cure for the Distracted Mind: Why Law Schools Should Teach Mindfulness*, 53 DUQ. L. REV. 215 (2015).
- Jason S. Palmer, *"The Millennials Are Coming!": Improving Self-Efficacy in Law Students through Universal Design in Learning*, 63 CLEV. ST. L. REV. 675 (2015).
- Kelly S. Terry, *Embedding Assessment Principles in Externships*, 20 CLINICAL L. REV. 467 (2014).
- Elizabeth M. Bloom, *Teaching Law Students to Teach Themselves: Using Lessons from Educational Psychology to Shape Self-Regulated Learners*, 59 WAYNE L. REV. 311 (2013).
- Shailini Janial George, *Teaching the Smartphone Generation: How Cognitive Science Can Improve Learning in Law School*, 66 MAINE L. REV. 163 (2013).
- Stephen M. Johnson, *Teaching for Tomorrow: Utilizing Technology to Implement the Reforms of MacCrate, Carnegie, and Best Practices*, 92 NEB. L. REV. 46 (2013).
- Cristina D. Lockwood, *Improving Learning in the Law School Classroom by Encourage Students to Form Communities of Practice*, 20 CLINICAL L. REV. (2013).
- Notice of Article posted on the Legal Skills Blog on May 6, 2012, available at [http://lawprofessors.typepad.com/legal\\_skills/2012/05/new-scholarship-on-law-school-teaching-including-a-practical-skills-writing-component-in-doctrinal-c.html](http://lawprofessors.typepad.com/legal_skills/2012/05/new-scholarship-on-law-school-teaching-including-a-practical-skills-writing-component-in-doctrinal-c.html)

*In the Name of God, Amen: Language in Wills*, 29 QUINNIPIAC L. REV. 665 (2011).

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- Mark Glover, *A Taxonomy of Testamentary Intent*, 23 GEO. MASON L. REV. 569 (2016).

- Jeff Todd, *Genre Theory for Product Instructions and Warnings*, 54 WASHBURN L.J. 303 (2015).
- Bret Rappaport, *A Lawyer's Hidden Persuader: Genre Bias and How It Shapes Legal Texts by Constraining Writers' Choices and Influencing Readers' Perceptions*, 22 J.L. & POL'Y 197 (2013).
- *Keeping Current-Probate*, ABA PROB. & PROP. 32 (May/June 2012).
- *Current Literature*, 39 EST. PLAN. 38 (2012).
- Notice of Article posted on Gerry W. Beyer's Wills, Trusts & Estates Prof, Blog on December 24, 2011, available at [http://lawprofessors.typepad.com/trusts\\_estates\\_prof/religion/](http://lawprofessors.typepad.com/trusts_estates_prof/religion/).

*Speaking for the Dead: Voice in Last Wills and Testaments*, 85 ST. JOHN'S L. REV. 683 (2011).

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- JESSE DUKEMINIER & ROBERT H. SITKOFF, *WILLS, TRUSTS, AND ESTATES* (9th ed. 2013).
- Jacob Arthur Bradley, *Antemortem Probate Is a Bad Idea: Why Antemortem Probate Will Not Work and Should Not Work*, 85 MISS. L.J. 1431 (2017).
- Mark Glover, *Freedom of Inheritance*, 2017 UTAH L. REV. 283.
- Naomi Cahn, *Incomplete Dispositions*, 73 WASH. & LEE L. REV. ONLINE 259 (July 16, 2016).
- Alfred L. Brophy & Douglas Thie, *Land, Slaves, and Bonds: Trust and Probate in the Pre-Civil War Shenandoah Valley*, 119 W. VA. L. REV. 345 (2016).
- Richard F. Storrow, *Wills and Survival*, 34 QUINNIPIAC L. REV. 447 (2016).
- Nancy Cook, *The Call to Witness: Historical Divides, Literary Narrative, and the Power of Oath*, 98 MARQ. L. REV. 1585 (2015).
- Mark Glover, *Minimizing Probate Error Risk*, 49 U. MICH. J.L. REFORM 335 (2016).
- David Horton, *In Partial Defense of Probate: Evidence from Alameda County, California*, 103 GEO. L.J. 605 (2015).
- Susan G. Thatch, *Ante-Mortem Probate in New Jersey: An Idea Resurrected?*, 39 SETON HALL LEGIS. J. 331 (2015).
- Ashley F. Watkins, *Digital Properties and Death: What Will Your Heirs Have Access to After You Die?*, 62 BUFF. L. REV. 193 (2014).
- Deborah Gordon, *Letters Non-Testamentary*, 62 U. KAN. L. REV. 585 (2014).
- Bret Rappaport, *A Lawyer's Hidden Persuader: Genre Bias and How It Shapes Legal Texts by Constraining Writers' Choices and Influencing Readers' Perceptions*, 22 J.L. & POL'Y 197 (2013).
- David Horton, *Testation and Speech*, 101 GEO. L.J. 61 (2012).
- Deborah S. Gordon, *Reflecting on the Language of Death*, 34 SEATTLE U.L. REV. 379 (2011).
- *Articles of Interest*, 39 EST. PLAN. 42 (2012).
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- Notice of Article posted on Gerry W. Beyer’s Wills, Trusts & Estates Prof. Blog on April 7, 2012, available at [http://lawprofessors.tyepad.com/trusts\\_estates\\_prof/2012/04/article-on-voice-in-law-wills-and-testaments.html](http://lawprofessors.tyepad.com/trusts_estates_prof/2012/04/article-on-voice-in-law-wills-and-testaments.html).

*New Ways to Teach Drafting and Drafting Ethics*, 12 TRANSACTIONS: THE TENN. J. OF BUS. LAW 187 (2011) (remarks from the 2010 Teaching and Drafting Skills Conference).

*Beyond the Personal Representative: The Potential of Succession without Administration*, 50 S. TEX. L. REV. 449 (2009).

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- JESSE DUKEMINIER & ROBERT H. SITKOFF, WILLS, TRUSTS, AND ESTATES (9th ed. 2013).
- STEWART E. STERK, MELANIE B. LESLIE, & JOEL C. DOBRIS, CASE MATERIALS: ESTATES AND TRUSTS 1010 (4th ed. 2011).
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- Matt Borden, *Covering Your Digital Assets: Why the Stored Communications Act Stands in the Way of Digital Inheritance*, 75 OHIO ST. L.J. 405 (2014).
- Nancy Levit, *Bibliography: Marital Property Annotated Bibliography*, 25 J. AM. ACAD. MATRIMONIAL LAW. 209 (2012).
- John H. Martin, *Non-Judicial Estate Settlement*, 45 U. MICH. J.L. REFORM 965 (2012).
- Haider Ala Hamoudi, *The American Commercial Religion*, 10 DEPAUL BUS. & COM. L.J. 107 (2012).
- Elizabeth R. Kopecki, *Removal of Independent Executors: Examining the Standard in Texas after the Addition of “Material Conflict of Interest” to Section 149 C of the Texas Probate Code*, 44 ST. MARY’S L.J. 281 (2012).
- Nadav Zamir, *Notes & Comments: Problem-Solving Litigation for the Elderly: An Eventual Shift with Cautionary Approach*, 25 J. CIV. RTS. & ECON. DEV. 1023 (2011).
- Peter T. Wendel, *The Succession Rights of Adopted Adults: Trying to Fit a Square Peg in a Round Hole*, 43 CREIGHTON L. REV. 815 (2010).
- *Article of Interest*, 37 EST. PLAN. 44 (2010).
- Heather K. Way, *Property Ownership and Economic Stability: A Necessary Relationship?* 29 ST. LOUIS U. PUB. L. REV. 113 (2009).
- John H. Martin, *Reconfiguring Estate Settlement*, 94 MINN. L. REV. 42 (2009).
- *Keeping Current – Probate*, 23 NO. 6 ABA PROB. & PROP. 14 (Nov./Dec. 2009).

- Notice of Article posted on Gerry W. Beyer's Wills, Trusts & Estates Prof Blog on June 28, 2009, available at [http://lawprofessors.typepad.com/trusts\\_estates\\_prof/2009/06/article-examines-succession-without-administration.html](http://lawprofessors.typepad.com/trusts_estates_prof/2009/06/article-examines-succession-without-administration.html).

*Teaching Multiple Skills in Drafting and Simulation Courses*, 10 TRANSACTIONS: THE TENN. J. OF BUS. LAW 222 (2009) (remarks from the 2008 Teaching and Drafting Skills Conference).

*Should Cain's Children Inherit Abel's Property?: Wading into the Extended Slayer Rule* Quagmire, 76 UMKC L. REV. 101 (2007).

#### Citing References:

- *Swain v. Estate of Tyre*, 57 A.3d 283, 290 (R.I. 2012).
- RESTATEMENT (THIRD) OF RESTITUTION § 45 *Homicide: The Slayer Rule* (2011).
- 37 AM. JUR. PROOF OF FACTS 3d 149, *Insurer's Liability For Improper Issuance or Maintenance of Life Insurance Policy, Prompting Murder or Attempted Murder of Insured* (2011).
- JESSE DUKEMINIER & ROBERT H. SITKOFF, WILLS, TRUSTS, AND ESTATES (9th ed. 2013).
- THOMAS P. GALLANIS, FAMILY PROPERTY LAW: CASES AND MATERIALS ON WILLS, TRUSTS, AND FUTURE INTERESTS 347 (Foundation Press 2011).
- JESSE DUKEMINIER, JAMES LINDGREN, & ROBERT H. SITKOFF, WILLS, TRUSTS, AND ESTATES 150 (8th ed. 2009).
- 37 AM. JUR. PROOF OF FACTS 3d § 149 *Insurer's Liability for Improper Issuance or Maintenance of Life Insurance Policy, Prompting Murder or Attempted Murder of Insured* (2011).
- Thomas E. Simmons, *A Chinese Inheritance*, 30 QUINNIPIAC PROB. L.J. 124 (2017).
- Kevin Bennardo, *Slaying Contingent Beneficiaries*, 24 U. MIAMI BUS. L. REV. 31 (2015).
- Eike G. Hoseman, *Protecting Freedom of Testation: A Proposal for Law Reform*, 47 U. MICH. J.L. REFORM 419 (2014).
- Travis Hunt, *Disincentivizing Elder Abuse through Disinheritance: Revamping California Probate Code § 259 and Using It as a Model*, 2014 B.Y.U. L. REV. 445.
- Minia E. Bremenstul, *Victims in Life, Victims in Death—Keeping Burial Rights Out of the Hands of Slayers*, 74 LA. L. REV. 213 (2013).
- Daniel B. Kelly, *Restricting Testamentary Freedom: Ex Ante Versus Ex Post Justifications*, 82 FORDHAM L. REV. 1125 (2013).
- Carla Spivack, *Kills Shouldn't Inherit from their Victims—Or Should They?*, 48 GA. L. REV. 145 (2013).
- Nili Cohen, *The Slayer Rule*, 92 BOSTON UNIV. L. REV. 793 (2012).
- Andrew R. Fischer, *Elder Abuse: A Private Problem that Requires Private Solutions*, 8 J. HEALTH & BIOMEDICAL L. 81 (2012).
- Carla Spivack, *Let's Get Serious: Spouse Abuse Should Bar Inheritance*, 90 OR. L.

- REV. 247 (2011).
- Mark Adam Silver, *Vesting Title in a Murderer: Where is the Equity in the Georgia Supreme Court's Interpretation of the Slayer Statute in Levenson?*, 45 GA. L. REV. 877 (2011).
  - *Keeping Current – Property*, 22 NO. 4 ABA PROB. & PROP. 17 (July/Aug. 2008).
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  - Notice of Article posted on Gerry W. Beyer's Wills, Trusts & Estates Prof Blog on April 2, 2008, available at [http://lawprofessors.typepad.com/trusts\\_estates\\_prof/2008/04/killer-should-n.html](http://lawprofessors.typepad.com/trusts_estates_prof/2008/04/killer-should-n.html).

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- Lucy A. Marsh, *The Demise of Dynasty Trusts: Returning the Wealth to the Family*, 5 EST. PLAN. & COMMUNITY PROP. L.J. 23 (2012).
- John K. Eason, *Motive, Duty, and Management of Restricted Charitable Gifts*, 45 WAKE FOREST L. REV. 123 (2010).
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*Fast and Fun Formative Assessments in Big Classes*, AALS Teaching Methods Section Newsletter (Fall 2017), available at <http://mailchi.mp/7cfc51b2918e/aals-section-on-teaching-methods-spring-2017-1627777?e=34de6e2b24>.

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Co-Authored with Professor David Hricik

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*What Tin Foil Can Teach You About Legal Writing*, 24 No. 1 GA B.J. 84 (Aug. 2018).  
*Creativity Can Help You Write What Your Client Needs*, 23 No. 7 GA B.J. 75 (June 2018).  
*What e-Filing May Mean to Your Writing*, 23 No. 6 GA B.J. 79 (April 2018).  
*Reflecting on Writing*, 23 No. 5 GA B.J. 61 (Feb. 2018).  
*Augmenting Your Research, Writing and Editing with Artificial Intelligence* 23 No. 4 58 (Dec. 2017).  
*Organizing the Facts*, 22 No. 7 GA. B.J. 68 (June 2017).  
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*Our 10-Year Anniversary Characteristics of Good Legal Writing*, 22 No. 5 GA. B.J. 72 (Feb. 2017).  
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*He, She, They: Strategies to Incorporate Gender-Inclusive Writing*, 20 No. 2 GA. B.J. 54 (Oct. 2014).  
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*Improving Routine Documents Part 4: Disengagement Letters*, 19 No. 6 GA. B.J. 66 (Apr. 2014).  
*Disarming Your Opponent: Effective Use of Adverse Authority*, 19 No. 1 GA. B.J. 80 (Aug. 2013).  
*Sometimes You Need to Blame Zombies*, 18 No. 7 GA. B.J. 64 (June 2013).  
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*Improving Routine Documents Part I: Engagement Letters*, 18 No. 2 GA. B.J. 54 (Oct. 2012).  
*Stopping the Insanity: Ten Tricks to Overcome Writer's Block*, 17 No. 7 GA. B.J. 72 (June 2012).  
*To Fee for Services Rendered*, 17 No. 5 GA. B.J. 54 (Feb. 2012).  
*What's On the Well-Read Legal Writer's Bookshelf*, 17 No. 2 GA. B.J. 62 (Oct. 2011).  
*Back to Basics: Subject-Verb Agreement*, 17 No. 1 GA. B.J. 86 (Aug. 2011).  
*Be Inelegant*, 16 No. 7 GA. B.J. 76 (June 2011).  
*FWIW: Why Writing Well Matters, Even in Email*, 16 No. 6 GA. B.J. 62 (Apr. 2011).  
*Citation Manual Updates*, 16 No. 4 GA. B.J. 62 (Dec. 2010).  
*Three Principles of Good Drafting*, 16 No. 2 GA. B.J. 62 (Oct. 2010).  
*A Picture Can be Worth 1,000 Words and a Chart, Even More*, 16 No. 1 GA. B.J. 90 (Aug. 2010).  
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*Sounds Like Greek to Me*, 15 No. 6 GA. B.J. 68 (Apr. 2010).  
*Don't Misquote Me*, 15 No. 5 GA. B.J. 60 (Feb. 2010).  
*Fifteen Frequent Flaws*, 15 No. 4 GA. B.J. 64 (Dec. 2009).  
*Effective Transitions*, 15 No. 2 GA. B.J. 64 (Oct. 2009).  
*Summer Beach Reading*, 15 No. 1 GA. B.J. 74 (Aug. 2009).  
*Pondering Passive Voice*, 14 No. 7 GA. B.J. 70 (June 2009).  
*Prewriting and the Two Pile Technique*, 14 No. 6 GA. B.J. 68 (Apr. 2009).  
*Improve Your Prose through Poetic Devices*, 14 No. 5 GA. B.J. 58 (Feb. 2009).  
*That Other Citation Manual*, 14 No. 4 GA. B.J. 70 (Dec. 2008).  
*The Road to Heaven Is Paved with Good Adverbs*, 14 No. 2 GA. B.J. 64 (Oct. 2008).  
*Good, Bad, and Ugly Legalese*, 14 No. 1 GA. B.J. 86 (Aug. 2008).  
*Avoiding Doe Snot While on the Trail of Statues*, 13 No. 7 GA. B.J. 80 (June 2008).  
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*Writing Myth Busters*, 13 No. 4 GA. B.J. 84 (Dec. 2007).  
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*Using Citations Effectively*, 13 No. 1 GA. B.J. 84 (Aug. 2007).  
*Reducing Citation Clutter*, 12 No. 7 GA. B.J. 60 (June 2007).  
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## PRESENTATIONS

Speaker: *Brain Breaks for the Legal Writing Classroom*, Biennial Conference of the Association of Legal Writing Directors, Boston, Massachusetts, to be held May 29-31, 2019.

Speaker: *Transactional Storytelling*, 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Rocky Mountain Conference, Boyd School of Law, University of Nevada-Las Vegas, Las Vegas, Nevada, to be held March 15-15, 2019 (with Professors Susan M. Chesler and Lori Johnson)

Speaker: *Voice, Strength, and No Contest Clauses*, Wills, Trusts & Estates Meets Race Gender and Class Symposium, Madison, Wisconsin, Oct.12, 2018.

Speaker: *Effective Motion and Brief Writing*, Workers' Compensation Law Institute, Jekyll Island, Georgia, Oct. 5, 2018.

Discussion Group Participant and Moderator: *Beyond Stiffs and Gifts: Course Coverage in a Modern Trusts & Estates Classroom*, SEALS Discussion Group, For Lauderdale, Florida August 10, 2018.

Speaker: *Where Are They Now?: Articles that Shaped the Legal Writing Discipline*, Biennial Conference of the Legal Writing Institute, Marquette Law School, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, July 14, 2018.

Speaker: *Brain Breaks for the Legal Writing Classroom*, Southeast Regional Legal Writing Conference, Georgia State University College of Law, Atlanta Georgia, April 21, 2018.

Speaker: *Happily Ever After: Fostering the Role of the Transactional Lawyer as Storyteller*, Biennial Conference for Teaching Drafting and Transactional Skills, Emory Center for Transactional Drafting, Emory Law School, Atlanta, Georgia, June 1, 2018 (with Professor Susan Chesler).

Speaker: *Fun and Fast Formative Assessment in Big Classes*, AALS Teaching Methods Conference Call, September 15, 2017.

Speaker: *Tales from a Form Book: Stock Stories and Transactional Documents*, Sixth Biennial Applied Legal Storytelling Conference, Washington, D.C., July 12, 2017 (with Professor Susan M. Chesler).

Speaker: *Breaking Bad Legal Writing Habits and Addictions*, 2016 National Association of Bar Executive Communication Section Meeting, Savannah, Georgia, October 20, 2016 (with Professor David Hricik).

Speaker: *Tales from a Form Book: Stock Stories and Estate Planning Forms, Wills, Trusts & Estates Meets Gender, Race & Class Part II*, Oklahoma City University School of Law, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, September 10, 2016.

Discussion Group Participant and Moderator: *Teaching Trusts and Estates in the Age of Assessment*, SEALS Discussion Group, Amelia Island, Florida, August 6, 2016.

Moderator: *Trusts and Estates: Latest Scholarship*, SEALS Panel, Amelia Island, Florida, August 6, 2016.

Speaker: *Teaching Workshop: Challenges and Strategies for Changing Times*, Biennial Conference of the Legal Writing Institute, Portland, Oregon, July 12, 2016 (with Professors Susan M. Chesler, Heather Baxter, and Kelley Mauerman).

Speaker: *Not Your Mother's Will: Gender, Language, and Wills*, Sex and Death: Gender and Sexuality Matters in Trusts & Estates, Joint Program of Trusts & Estates Section and Women in Legal Education Section, 2016 AALS Annual Meeting, New York, New York, Jan. 8, 2016.

Speaker: *From Form Book to Story Book: Tales of Transactional Drafting*, Applied Legal Storytelling Conference, Seattle University School of Law, Seattle, Washington, July 22, 2015 (with Professor Lori Johnson).

Panelist: *Becoming a Productive and Fulfilled Scholar*, Southeastern Association of Law Schools, Amelia Island, Florida, August 4, 2014.

Speaker: *Once Upon a Transaction: Narrative and Transactional Drafting*, Biennial Conference of the Legal Writing Institute, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, July 2, 2014.

Speaker: *Who I Will Become: Legal Writing's Role in the Formation of Professional Identity*, Rocky Mountain Legal Writing Conference, Boyd School of Law-University of Las Vegas, Nevada, Las Vegas, Nevada, March 29, 2014.

Speaker: *"You Get What You Get and You Don't Get Upset": Priming and Wills*, The Next Generation of Trusts and Estates Scholarship, Trusts and Estates Section, 2014 AALS Annual Meeting, New York, New York, January 3, 2014.

Participant: *Not Your Mother's Will: Gender, Language, and Wills*, West Coast Rhetoric Scholarship Workshop, William S. Boyd School of Law, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, November 15, 2013.

Speaker: *Gender, Language, and Wills*, Symposium: Wills, Trusts and Estates Meets Gender, Race and Class, Oklahoma City University School of Law, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, September 28, 2013.

Speaker: *Concurrent Pedagogy Session*, AALS Workshop for Beginning Legal Writing Teachers, Washington, DC, June 20, 2013.

Speaker: *It's a Matter of Character: Using Dahl's "Lamb to the Slaughter" in the Legal Writing Classroom*, Southeast Regional Legal Writing Conference, Savannah Law School, Savannah, Georgia, April 27, 2013.

Speaker: *It's About Time: Assessing Transactional Skills in Thirty Minutes or Less*, Third Biennial Conference on Teaching Transactional Law and Skills, Emory Law School, Atlanta, Georgia, November 3, 2012 (with Professor Susan M. Chesler).

Speaker: *Do Now's: 25 Invigorating Classroom Warm Up Exercises*, Fifteenth Biennial Conference of the Legal Writing Institute, Desert Springs, California, June 1, 2012.

Speaker: *Stunning Sentences, Spectacular Paragraphs*, Continuing Legal Education Seminar, Assorted Updates for Georgia Lawyers, Columbus, Georgia, March 23, 2012.

Speaker: *In-Class Legal Drafting Exercises*, One-Day Legal Writing Institute Workshop, Atlanta's John Marshall Law School, Atlanta, Georgia, December 2, 2011.

Speaker: *The Will as Personal Narrative*, Centerville Chapter of the National Associate of Insurance and Financial Advisors, Centerville, Georgia, November 10, 2011.

Speaker: *Storytelling in Last Wills and Testaments*, Third Applied Storytelling Conference, University of Denver, Sturm College of Law, Denver, Colorado, July 9, 2011.

Speaker: *Bottom Drawer: Exploration of Scholarship Topics*, Biennial Meeting of the Association of Legal Writing Directors, University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law, June 25, 2011 (with Professor Kirsten Davis and Professor Cassandra Hill).

Speaker: *A Day-in-the-Life of a Transactional Lawyer: Negotiation, Ethics, and Professionalism*, Institute of Law Teaching and Learning, New York Law School, New York, New York, June 3, 2011 (with Professor Susan M. Chesler and Professor Patrick E. Longan).

Speaker: *Are You Looking At Me?: Strategies for Effective Communication*, Magistrates of Gwinnet County, Atlanta, Georgia, April 20, 2011.

Speaker: *A Rose Is a Rose: An Examination of Genre*, Southeast Regional Legal Writing Conference, Mercer Law School, Macon, Georgia, April 16, 2011.

Speaker: *Language in Last Wills and Testaments*, Elon University School of Law, Greensboro, North Carolina, March 14, 2011 (Faculty Exchange Program).

Speaker: *Beyond Chalk-and-Talk: The Law Classroom of the Future*, Society of American Law Teachers Bi-Annual Teaching Conference "Teaching in the Transformative Age: The Law

School of the Future,” Honolulu, Hawaii, December 11, 2010 (with Professor Oren R. Griffin and Professor Timothy W. Floyd).

Speaker: *In the Name of God, Amen: Language in Last Wills and Testaments*, Third Annual Colloquium “How Legal Rhetoric Shapes the World,” Washington College of Law, American University, Washington, D.C., October 15, 2010.

Speaker: *Beyond the Boilerplate: Contract and Will Drafting*, Fourteenth Biennial Conference of the Legal Writing Institute, Marco Island, Florida, June 30, 2010 (with Professor Susan M. Chesler and Professor Susan Payne).

Speaker: *Not Your Mother’s Rhetoric: Teaching Rhetorically Across the Curriculum*, 2010 Summer Conference of the Institute of Law Teaching and Learning, Washburn University School of Law, Topeka, Kansas, June 18, 2010 (with Professor Linda Berger and Professor Suzianne Painter-Thorne).

Speaker: *New Ways to Teach Drafting and Drafting Ethics*, Biennial Teaching Drafting and Transactional Skills, Emory Center for Transactional Drafting, Emory Law School, Atlanta, Georgia, June 5, 2010 (with Professor Susan Chesler).

Speaker: *Game On!: Active Learning with Classic Childhood Games*, Tenth Annual Rocky Mountain Legal Writing Conference, University of Arizona Rogers College of Law, Tucson, Arizona, March 19, 2010 (with Professor Suzianne Painter-Thorne).

Speaker: *In the Name of God, Amen: Evolution of Language in Last Wills and Testaments*, Stetson University College of Law, Gulfport, Florida, January 28, 2010 (Faculty Exchange Program).

Speaker: *Group Writing*, 2009 Southeast Regional Legal Writing Conference, Stetson University College of Law, Gulfport, Florida, September 12, 2009.

Speaker: *Speaking for the Dead: Voice in Last Wills and Testaments*, New Scholars’ Panel, Southeastern Association of Law Schools Annual Meeting, Palm Beach, Florida, August 7, 2009.

Speaker: *Rhetorical Stepping Stones*, Biennial Conference of the Association of Legal Writing Directors, University of Kansas City-Missouri School of Law, Kansas City, Missouri, July 18, 2009 (with Professor Linda Berger and Professor Suzianne Painter-Thorne).

Speaker: *Integrating Writing into Casebook Courses without Significantly Increasing Grading*, 2009 Summer Conference of the Institute of Law Teaching and Learning, Gonzaga University School of Law, Spokane, Washington, June 23, 2009.

Speaker: *Easy Extras: Strategies for Maximizing Unexpected, Unplanned Minutes of Class Time*, Ninth Annual Rocky Mountain Legal Writing Conference, Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law – Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona, March 14, 2009.

Speaker: *Beyond Chalk and Talk: Active Learning Activities for the Classroom*, Thirteenth Biennial Conference of the Legal Writing Institute, Indiana University School of Law – Indianapolis, Indianapolis, Indiana, July 15, 2008.

Speaker: *Teaching Multiple Skills in Drafting and Simulation Courses*, Inaugural Teaching Drafting and Transactional Skills: The Basics and Beyond, Emory Law Center for Transactional Law and Practice, Atlanta, Georgia, May 31, 2008.

Speaker: *Four Active Learning Strategies to Address the Statement of Facts*, Georgia Legal Writing Consortium, Walter F. George School of Law, Mercer University, Macon, Georgia, December 5, 2007.

Speaker: *M & Ms, Highlighting, and Freewriting, Oh My!: Active Learning Techniques to Teach the Statement of Facts*, Southeast Legal Writing Conference, Nova Southeastern Law School, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, September 8, 2007.

Speaker: *Just the Facts, Ma'm: Using the Presentation of Facts to Enhance Students' Analysis*, Biennial Conference of the Association of Legal Writing Directors, University of Denver, Sturm College of Law, Denver, Colorado, June 15, 2007.

Speaker: *Revision in the Classroom: An Alternative to Peer Review*, Rocky Mountain Conference, The William S. Boyd School of Law, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Nevada, March 10, 2007.

## **PROFESSIONAL SERVICE**

### LEGAL WRITING INSTITUTE

#### *LEGAL WRITING: JOURNAL OF THE LEGAL WRITING INSTITUTE*

- Co Editor-in-Chief of Volume 23 of *LEGAL WRITING: THE JOURNAL OF THE LEGAL WRITING INSTITUTE*.
- Editor-in-Chief of Volume 22 of *LEGAL WRITING: THE JOURNAL OF THE LEGAL WRITING INSTITUTE*.
- Assistant Editor-in-Chief of Volume 21 of *LEGAL WRITING: THE JOURNAL OF THE LEGAL WRITING INSTITUTE*.
- Co-Managing Editor of Volume 20 and Volume 19 of *LEGAL WRITING: THE JOURNAL OF THE LEGAL WRITING INSTITUTE*.
- Member of the Editorial Board of *LEGAL WRITING: THE JOURNAL OF THE LEGAL WRITING INSTITUTE* (2012 - present).

- Assistant Editor in Volume 14, Volume 15, Volume 16, and Volume 17 of *LEGAL WRITING: THE JOURNAL OF THE LEGAL WRITING INSTITUTE*.

#### *COMMITTEE SERVICE*

- Co-Chair of the 2020 Legal Writing Institute Conference Program Committee.
- Co-Chair of the Legal Writing Institute Teaching Resources and Development Committee (2014-2016).
- Co-Chair of the Legal Writing Institute Scholarship Development and Outreach Committee (2012-2014, 2010-2012).
- Co-Chair of the Legal Writing Institute Professional Development Committee (2008-2010).

#### ASSOCIATION OF LEGAL WRITING DIRECTORS

- Co-Chair of the Scholarship Committee (2010-2011).
- 2010 Coordinator of the J. ALWD Visiting Scholars in Rhetoric & Writing Grant.
- Provided external reviews for J.ALWD in Fall 2008 and Fall 2009.

#### ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN LAW SCHOOLS

- Member of the 2014 Committee on Committees for the AALS Section on Legal Writing, Legal Research, and Legal Reasoning.
- Member of the 2010 Awards and Recognition Committee for the AALS Section on Teaching Methods.
- Member of the 2010 Awards and Recognition Committee for the AALS Section on Legal Writing, Legal Research, and Legal Reasoning.
- Executive Committee Member of AALS Section on New Law Professors (2007, 2008, 2009, 2010).
- Chair of the 2009 Poster Committee for the AALS Section on Legal Writing, Reasoning, and Research.
- Member of the 2008 Poster Committee for the AALS Section on Legal Writing, Reasoning, and Research.

#### SOUTHEASTERN ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN LAW SCHOOLS

- Member of the New Scholars Committee (2018-2019, 2017-2018, 2016-2017, 2015-2016, 2014-2015, 2013-2014, 2012-2013, 2011-2012).
- Member of Trusts & Estates Resource Group (2016-2017).

#### AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

- Regional Technical Appellate Brief Grader for the 2010 National Appellate Advocacy Competition hosted by the ABA Law Student Division.
- Regional and National Technical Appellate Brief Grader for 2009 National Appellate Advocacy Competition hosted by the ABA Law Student Division.

## AWARDS

- ❖ Reynold J. Kosek, Jr. Excellence in Teaching Award 2017-Mercer Law School.
- ❖ William S. Boyd School of Law—University of Nevada, Las Vegas  
Adjunct/Visiting Faculty of the Year Award 2013-2014.
- ❖ Reynold J. Kosek, Jr. Excellence in Teaching Award 2012-2013 – Mercer Law School.
- ❖ 2012 Southeastern Association of Law Schools Call for Papers Award.
- ❖ Selected by graduating Mercer Law School students to hood the following classes: Class of 2018, Class of 2013, Class of 2011, and Class of 2010.
- ❖ Georgia Association for Women Lawyers 2009 Mercer Professor of the Year.
- ❖ George Dewey Nelson Memorial Award in recognition of highest cumulative GPA of common law students within the Tulane Law School Class of 2002.
- ❖ Robert E. Friedman Law Review Award for best Tulane Law Review Comment of 2001-2002.