

MEGAN BESS

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EXPERIENCE

University of Illinois Chicago School of Law, Chicago, IL

Assistant Professor of Law and Director, Externship Programs, 2019-Present

Design and teach externship, Professional Responsibility, and leadership courses; oversee externship program operations in accordance with accreditation standards; cultivate and maintain externship site relationships; develop new externship programs and courses; counsel students on externship placement; supervise adjunct faculty; engage in scholarly research related to professional development and ethics.

- *Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee, 2021-2022, 2022-2023, 2023-2024*
- *Ad Hoc Committee to Evaluate Evening and Spring enrollment J.D. Programs, Chair, 2023*
- *Registrar Search Committee, Chair, 2023*
- *Dean Search Committee, 2021-22*
- *Anti-Racist Curriculum Working Group Member, Small Group Leader, 2021*
- *Hybrid J.D. Task Force, 2020-21*
- *Faculty Issues Committee, 2019-20*
- *Remote Teaching Task Force, 2020*

Loyola University Chicago School of Law, Chicago, IL

Executive Director, Academic Administration and Student Services, 2018-2019

Served as member of senior leadership team; coordinated student services and programming; implemented policies to increase diversity and inclusion; redesigned curriculum advising program; oversaw externship program operations, enrollment, and student advising; led website redesign and managed web team and content; contributed to brand development, marketing, and communications; liaised with other departments to provide comprehensive student advising and professional development; incorporated online technology into student services and advising.

Clinical Professor of Law (Faculty), 2017-2019

Instructor, 2010-2017

Developed and taught legal writing and externship courses for students enrolled in Loyola's Master of Laws (LLM) and Master of Jurisprudence (MJ) degree programs.

Beazley Institute for Health Law and Policy and Center for Online Programs

Executive Director, 2017-2018

Associate Director, 2013-2017

Assistant Director, 2007-2013

Oversaw all operations of nationally-ranked health law program and four online degree programs; led strategic planning initiatives; developed and coordinated campus and online curricula; created and implemented business, student, and academic policies for online and campus degree programs; developed and coordinated student externship program; supervised LLM student externships; conducted employer outreach and maintained relationships with externship sites and other program partners; developed and administered program budgets; supervised department staff and adjunct faculty; managed program marketing, website, and recruiting activities; supervised student academic advising staff and student professional development initiatives; created and launched new academic certificate programs; administered student fellowship and scholarship programs; advised students on health law careers, networking, and interviewing; counseled students on curriculum and academic progress; advised student groups and journals; coordinated faculty events and research projects; assisted with alumni outreach and fundraising strategies.

Executive Director, Weekend JD Program, 2016-2017 (Interim)

Directed launch and managed operations of ground-breaking Weekend JD program; prepared program curriculum; managed administrative staff; created student policies and procedures; developed and

managed special events for Weekend program students; adapted and created student resources for distance learning format; hosted student feedback sessions; created and maintained program website; implemented marketing plan; recruited, hired and transitioned new full-time director.

PUBLICATIONS

Reinventing the Externship Rounds Structure: Encouraging Deep and Authentic Reflective Practice, 75 WASH. U. J.L. & POL'Y (forthcoming 2024) (with Nira Geevargis & June Tai)

Helping Students Gain Better Context in their Real-World Lawyering Experiences, University of St. Thomas Holloran Center Professional Identity Formation Blog (Feb. 16, 2023)

Goal Setting Across the Law School Experience: a Simple and Powerful Professional Identity Formation Tool, University of St. Thomas Holloran Center Professional Identity Formation Blog (Jan. 23, 2023)

Transitions Unexplored: A Proposal for Professional Identity Formation Following the First Year, 29 CLINICAL L. REV. 1 (2022)

A Simple Professional Identity Formation Assignment Ideal for Externship and/or Clinical Courses, University of St. Thomas Holloran Center Professional Identity Formation Blog (Sept. 30, 2022)

Transitions, Professional Identity Formation, and the Significance of Summer After 1L Year, University of St. Thomas Holloran Center Professional Identity Formation Blog (Sept. 16, 2022)

Effective Collaboration in Online Courses, in LAW TEACHING STRATEGIES FOR A NEW ERA (Tessa L. Dysart & Tray L.M. Norton eds., Carolina Academic Press 2021) (with Darby Dickerson)

Grit, Growth Mindset, and the Path to Successful Lawyering, 89 UMKC L. REV. 493 (2021)

CAREERS IN HEALTH LAW (American Bar Association 2014) (with Kristin Corrigan and Lawrence Singer)

Health Law Evolves to Encompass Life Sciences, CHI. LAWYER, Mar. 2010, at 32.

Combining Pedagogy & Practice: Creating a 21st Century Health Law Curriculum, 37 J.L. MED. & ETHICS 852 (2009) (with Lawrence Singer).

Taking Back the Trash: Comparing European Extended Producer Responsibility and Take-Back Liability to U.S. Environmental Policy and Attitudes, 37 VAND. J. TRANSNAT'L L. 1217 (2004).

PRESENTATIONS

Presenter, *Empirical Perspectives of Professional Identity in the Legal Academy*, Section on the Empirical Study of Legal Education & the Legal Profession, AALS 2024 Annual Meeting (forthcoming January 2024)

Presenter, *Everybody Hurts and Heals: Training Law Students to Acknowledge, Embrace, and Strategically Use Their Emotions to be Better Learners and Lawyers*, AALS 2023 Conference on Clinical Legal Education (April 2023)

Moderator, *Addressing the New ABA Standard 303: Strategies for Implementing Professional Identity Formation Initiatives*, Section on Balance and Well-Being in Legal Education, AALS 2023 Annual Meeting (January 2023)

Presenter, *You Spin Me Right Round: Externship Case Rounds*, Externships 11 Conference (October 2022)

Panelist, *Transitions Unexplored: Professional Identity Formation and Mentoring*, National Legal Mentoring Consortium Conference (October 2022)

Presenter, *Key Transitions*, Holloran Center Workshop on Professional Identity Formation (May 2022)

Facilitator, AALS Workshop for New Clinical Law School Teachers (May 2022)

Panelist, *Designing the Law Courses of the Future*, Law Teaching Strategies for a New Era: Beyond the Physical Classroom (July 2021)

“*Grit, Mindset, and Legal Education*,” Section on Balance in Legal Education, AALS 2021 Annual Meeting (January 2021)

“*Shaping Professional Identities Through Transitions: Externships as Tools for Internalizing Values*,” 2020 SEALS Conference (July 2020)

“*Grit, Growth Mindset, and the Path to Successful Lawyering*,” Chicagoland Junior Scholars Conference (September 2019)

AALS Section on Balance in Legal Education, *Ideas Lab Presentation* (May 2019)

“*Health Law Program Assessment: Are We Achieving our Goals*,” Loyola University Chicago Assessment Certificate Program (July 2016)

“*The New Kids on the Block: Are You Equipped to Take Them on? Integrating Non-Traditional Populations into Law Schools*,” AALS 2016 Annual Meeting (January 2016)

Panelist, *Navigating Work/Life Balance*, Loyola University Chicago School of Law Women in Litigation Conference (October 2012)

SERVICE

AALS Section on Balance in Legal Education, *Executive Committee Member, 2020-Present*

- *Chair, 2023*
- *Chair-Elect, 2022*
- *Scholarship Committee Co-Chair, 2021*

AALS Clinical Section, *Teaching Methodologies Committee, Externship Teaching Rounds*

- *Co-Facilitator, 2021-23*
- *Participant, 2020*

AALS Clinical Section, *Externship Committee*

- *Co-Chair, 2023-25*
- *Scholarship Subcommittee Co-Chair, 2022-23*
- *Externship Think Tank Subcommittee to Address Anti-Racism, Member 2021*
- *Externship Communications Sub-Committee, Member 2021*

Clinical Legal Education Association, *Best Practices Committee Member, 2021-Present*

AALS Section on Professional Responsibility, *Member*

AALS Section on Leadership, *Member*

Association of Professional Responsibility Lawyers, *Member*

National Association of Law Student Affairs Professionals, *Mentorship Committee Member, 2019*

Association for Continuing Higher Education, *Emerging Leaders Institute, 2017*

Loyola University Chicago, *Assessment Certificate Program, 2016*

American Health Lawyers Association, *Health Law Curriculum Project Contributor, 2014*

Center for Conflict Resolution, *Mediation Skills Training Certification, 2013*

American Constitution Society Chicago Lawyer Chapter, *Director of Programming, 2006-2008*

EDUCATION

Vanderbilt University Law School, Nashville, TN

Juris Doctor, May 2005

Honors and Activities: Dean's List; Honor Scholar; *Vanderbilt Journal of Transnational Law* – Executive Managing Editor; Legal Writing Teaching Assistant; Moot Court Board; Law School Ambassadors – President, Visitation Day Chair; Faculty Appointments Committee.

University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

BS in Marketing and Business Management, *magna cum laude*, May 2002

Honors and Activities: Academic Scholar; Dean's List; FBLA-PBL Business Organization – National Secretary, National Vice-President, Greek Judicial Board.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Winston & Strawn, LLP, Chicago, IL

Associate Attorney, 2005-2007

Researched and drafted memoranda, motions, and briefs in civil and criminal matters; assisted in all aspects of discovery in trials and arbitrations; argued motions; assisted in appellate argument preparation; recruited and mentored associates.

CIVIC ACTIVITIES

Willard Elementary School, *Fundraising Committee, 2018-2020*

Covenant Nursery School, *Board of Directors, 2016-2019*

Resilience (formerly Rape Victim Advocates), *Certified Rape Crisis Counselor, 2010-11*

Chicago Youth Guidance Metro Board, *Marketing Chair, 2006-2008*