Building the Faculty of the Future

LSU LAW CENTER

FACULTY APPOINTMENTS / 2008 - 2009
LSU Law Center Faculty...
Guiding students, creating knowledge, and serving the profession.
In my two years as Chancellor, I have encountered some confusion about the curriculum at LSU Law. It is true that Louisiana is a “mixed jurisdiction” that incorporates in its state law elements of both the civil law and common law (as well as applicable federal law). That said, our curriculum encompasses much the same subject matter as every other law school in the nation plus a demanding civil law curriculum that entails hours of additional study. This added study supports the award, to our graduates, of a second degree in the civil law.

Our students, then, do not immerse themselves in a weird “gumbo” of hybrid civil law/common law principles applicable only in Louisiana; rather, as an increasing number of national employers have discovered, LSU Law graduates are thoroughly grounded in common law and federal law and well qualified to handle sophisticated legal matters outside of Louisiana as well as within. Of course, we are very proud of the additional civil law training our students receive, and we believe that it makes them especially valuable professionals in an increasingly global marketplace. In short, the civil law training we provide is an enhancement to, not a substitute for, the excellent, mainstream American legal education we offer that is familiar to our colleagues at other law schools across the nation.

The national and global dimensions of the Law Center’s educational program are reflected in our outstanding faculty. I am delighted to introduce our newest teacher-scholars who bring impressive and diverse credentials to the Law Center as well as expertise in legal disciplines that will enhance our program.

We have been extraordinarily successful in adding seven talented faculty members to our ranks over the past two years. They are rising stars in the legal academy, with every promise of becoming great teachers in the LSU Law tradition. Our students will benefit greatly from their experience and scholarship.

I look forward to another year of progress at the LSU Law Center and to celebrating with you the achievements of our new colleagues.

Jack M. Weiss
Chancellor

From Chancellor Jack M. Weiss
In addition to our focus on building the LSU Law Center’s faculty of the future, recent academic and programmatic achievements highlight our increasing competitiveness and growing recognition as a law school that is...

“ON THE MOVE”

- Established a new Junior Scholars Fellowship Program to attract future law teachers from throughout the country to the LSU Law Center.

- Received national recognition of the Law Center’s strong student credentials, with Michelle Shamblin, LSU Law ’09, receiving the Scribe Magazine award for best student law review article in the nation (Silencing Chicken Little: Options for School Districts after Parents Involved, 69 Louisiana Law Review 219 (2008)).

- Counted more graduates as partners in Louisiana’s largest 10 law firms than all other Louisiana law schools combined.

- Instituted a greatly expanded Clinical Legal Education program, offering students opportunities to serve clients and the community through a Juvenile Representation Workshop; Immigration Law Clinic; Domestic Violence Protection Clinic; and a Family Mediation Clinic.

- Celebrated the summer 2009 ribbon cutting for the Law Center’s renovated, state-of-the-art Law Clinic space and offices.

- Established a new dual degree program (J.D., M.M.C.) with LSU Mass Communications, one of the leading programs in the nation in political communications.

- Expanded the Law Center’s externship program to include opportunities for student placements with the federal and state judiciary; the Louisiana Attorney General’s office; offices of federal and state prosecutors; the Internal Revenue Service, Office of Chief Counsel; and the Louisiana Department of Revenue, Office of Legal Affairs.

- Ranked #75 in the 2010 U.S. News & World Report rankings of law schools, the highest in LSU Law history, after a 13 place jump marking one of the largest positive moves of any law school.

- Invited as one of the top 16 moot court programs in the country to the National Moot Court Championship in Houston to be held in January 2010, based on our students’ record in moot court competitions in 2008-09. LSU is the only school from Louisiana or the Southeastern Conference to be invited to the competition.

- Completed extensive renovations to the Law Center’s buildings in 2004 at a cost of more than $14 million. The buildings now feature inviting open spaces and state-of-the-art technology, classrooms, and student activity facilities.
Professor Ray Diamond re-joined the faculty at the Law Center in 2009. Previously, he taught at Tulane University, where he held the John Koerner Professorship in Law and was an Adjunct Professor of African Diaspora Studies. Before his entry into law teaching at LSU in 1984, Professor Diamond spent three years with the Federal Trade Commission’s Bureau of Competition, where he litigated a landmark price signaling case; worked for a year on Capitol Hill as a legislative assistant to Rep. Bob Livingston in the 95th Congress; and practiced law in New Orleans.

Professor Diamond has written widely in the area of constitutional law, race relations, and legal history. His scholarship on the Second Amendment and the right to bear arms has been cited in Supreme Court jurisprudence. His latest scholarship, a chapter in the second edition of The Bill of Rights in Modern America, is Public Safety and the Right to Bear Arms, published in Fall 2008. In connection with the issues he has explored in his Second Amendment scholarship, he was co-counsel on the amicus brief presented by the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) to the Supreme Court in District of Columbia v. Heller, decided in 2008. He is the co-author of Brown v. Board of Education: Caste, Culture, and the Constitution, which was awarded the 2003 David J. Langum, Sr. Prize by the Langum Project for Historical Literature.

Professor Diamond is a former member of the Board of Editors of the Journal of Southern Legal History and of the Board of Directors of the Louisiana Supreme Court Historical Society, and is a former chair of the section on Legal History of the Association of American Law Schools.

COURSES
Antitrust; Administrative Law; Criminal Law; Constitutional Law I; Constitutional History & Race Relations

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


Professor Ken Levy joined the LSU Law Center faculty as an Assistant Professor of Law beginning Fall 2009. Prior to his appointment, he was a Visiting Teaching Fellow at Columbia Law School and a Climenko Fellow at Harvard Law School. Professor Levy previously practiced for more than four years with several New York City law firms, including White & Case, where he focused on commercial litigation.

Professor Levy also previously served at Rutgers University as an Excellence Fellow and teaching assistant for courses in metaphysics, history of modern philosophy, ethics, and English composition. He holds a Ph.D. in Philosophy. He was a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar at Columbia Law School.

Professor Levy continues to publish in criminal theory. His interests include free will and moral responsibility, criminal psychology, the act-omissions distinction, the relation between morality and criminal law, and theories of punishment. He also serves as a referee for the journals SYNTHESIS and LAW & PHILOSOPHY.

**COURSES**
Criminal Law; Tort Law; Criminal Theory

**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**


The Solution to the Real Blackmail Paradox: The Common Link Between Blackmail and Other Criminal Threats, 39 CONNECTICUT LAW REVIEW 1051 (2007).

The Solution to the Problem of Outcome Luck: Why Harm Is Just as Punishable as the Wrongful Action that Causes It, 24 LAW AND PHILOSOPHY 263 (2005).

Professor Scott Sullivan joined the LSU Law Center faculty in 2009 after serving as a Visiting Assistant Professor at the University of Texas School of Law from 2006-09. Professor Sullivan teaches and writes in international law, national security law, and U.S. foreign relations law.

During his time at the University of Texas Law School, Sullivan co-founded the National Security & Human Rights Program and Clinic and remains a fellow of the Robert S. Strauss Center for International Security and Law. In connection with his representation of several individuals detained at Guantanamo Bay, Sullivan drafted the international law argument for petitions in the landmark Supreme Court case Boumediene v. Bush. Sullivan has also acted as an international humanitarian law expert amicus signatory in the U.S. Supreme Court case Al-Marri v. Spagnone and the D.C. Circuit case Saleh v. Titan. In 2008, Sullivan joined Priv-War, an EU-commissioned research consortium assessing the impact of the increasing use of private military companies and security companies in armed conflict. He holds “Secret” level National Security Clearance.

Professor Sullivan received his J.D. from the University of Chicago and his B.A. in History from the University of Kansas. He studied at the European University Institute in Italy on a Fulbright Scholarship in 2002, where he worked with former ICTY president Antonio Cassese and received an LL.M. in Comparative, European and International Law. Before he entered the legal academy, Professor Sullivan practiced law in Chicago and New York at Latham & Watkins LLP and Allen & Overy LLP, where he advised foreign and domestic companies on UN, EU and US sanctions compliance.

COURSES
Public International Law; U.S. Foreign Affairs Law; National Security Law; International Law in U.S. Courts (seminar)

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


Changing the Premise of International Legal Remedies: The Unfounded Adoption of Assurances and Guarantees of Non-Repetition, 7 UCLA Journal of International Law & Foreign Affairs 265 (2003).


The American Way: Private Military Contractors and U.S. Law after 9/11, commissioned by Priv-War, a European Union-funded research consortium under the direction of the European University Institute (with Kristine Huskey) (available to the public 2009).
Professor Robert Lancaster joined the LSU faculty and was appointed director of LSU Law’s Clinical Legal Education Program in Fall 2008. He received his B.A. in Philosophy magna cum laude from Millsaps College in 1989 and his J.D. from Tulane Law School cum laude in 1993. From 1997 to 2000, Professor Lancaster was a Robert M. Cover Clinical Teaching Fellow at Yale Law School. He was a Practitioner-in-Residence at the Washington College of Law of American University in Washington, DC from 2000-01. He was a Clinical Associate Professor of Law at Indiana University School of Law - Indianapolis from 2001-07 and was named Clinical Professor of Law there in July 2007.

In Indiana, Professor Lancaster primarily taught the Civil Practice Clinic, as well as the Judicial Externship Program, Lawyering Practice, and a course on wrongful convictions titled Convicting the Innocent. He was recognized as a Dean's Fellow for 2004-05 and awarded the Trustee’s Teaching Award in 2006. He also served as director of the Chinese Law Summer Program at Renmin University of China School of Law in Beijing and was the faculty director of the China Trial Advocacy Institute based in Beijing— a rule of law and human rights project funded by the Bureau of Democracy, Rights and Labor Section of the United States Department of State. Before he began his teaching career, Professor Lancaster represented inmates on death row in state postconviction and federal habeas corpus proceedings.

Professor Lancaster is an officer and serves on the Board of Governors of the Society of American Law Teachers (SALT). He also currently serves on the Access to Justice Committee of the Louisiana State Bar Association, the Baton Rouge Bar Association Pro Bono Committee, and the Board of the Louisiana Mental Health Advocacy Service. He is licensed to practice in Indiana and Connecticut.

**COURSES**

Judicial Externship; Immigration Clinic; Domestic Violence Clinic

**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**


Professor Christina Sautter joined the faculty as an Assistant Professor of Law in 2008. Professor Sautter received her bachelor’s degree from Florida State University in 1999, graduating summa cum laude. She earned her J.D. from Villanova University School of Law, graduating summa cum laude in 2002. While in law school, Professor Sautter was a managing editor of the Villanova Law Review and was selected as a member of The Order of the Coif. After finishing law school, she was a law clerk for the late Judge H. Emory Widener, Jr. of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit.

Following her clerkship, Professor Sautter joined the New York City offices of Shearman & Sterling LLP where she practiced in the Mergers & Acquisitions Group for three years. From 2006 to 2008, she taught as a Westerfield Fellow at Loyola University New Orleans College of Law.

**COURSES**

Business Associations I & II; Mergers & Acquisitions; Securities Regulation

**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**


Contractual Limitations on Merger Recommendation Fiduciary Outs (work in progress).
Professor Melissa Lonegrass joined the Law Center faculty as an Assistant Professor of Law in Fall 2008. Professor Lonegrass earned her B.S. in Psychology from Millsaps College in 2000, where she graduated magna cum laude, and her J.D. from Tulane University Law School in 2005, where she finished first in her class and graduated summa cum laude. While in law school, Professor Lonegrass was the senior notes and comments editor of the TULANE LAW REVIEW, Volume 79, and was selected as a member of The Order of the Coif. Upon graduation, Professor Lonegrass earned the Dean’s Medal, the Faculty Medal, and the Civil Law Studies Award.

After earning her law degree, Professor Lonegrass worked for three years as an associate at the law firm of Irwin Fritchie Urquhart & Moore LLC in New Orleans, where she was engaged in general civil litigation with a concentration on products liability and pharmaceutical and medical device litigation. Her teaching and research interests are in civil law and comparative law.

**COURSES**

- Successions, Donations & Trusts;
- Obligations;
- Sales and Real Estate Transactions;
- Western Legal Traditions and Systems

**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**

Convergence in Contort: Landlord Liability for Defective Premises in Comparative Perspective (work in progress).
Associate Vice Chancellor Dragomir Cosanici oversees the operations of the LSU Law Center’s Library and Information Technology, including budgeting, hiring and supervision, strategic planning for future growth, and initiating and monitoring all information services. He comes to the LSU Law Center with 14 years of library experience, most recently serving as the Acting Assistant Dean for Library and Research Services at the Pacific McGeorge School of Law in Sacramento, California. Before Pacific McGeorge, he held library positions at Indiana University, Michigan State University, Hofstra, and the University of Michigan. He practiced in the areas of historic preservation and labor law, and speaks Romanian, Serbo-Croatian and Russian. He is a member of the bars of Michigan and the District of Columbia. Professor Cosanici is also a member of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL), Southeastern Association of Law Libraries (AALL chapter), American Research Libraries, and the Baton Rouge Association of Law Libraries (BRALL). He was named to the Scribes Society for Legal Writers in 2005.

COURSES

Advanced Legal Research

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS


Bibliometric Study in the Heartland: Comparative and Electronic Citation Practices of the Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan and Ohio Supreme Courts, 7 LEGAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT 207 (2007).

Understanding the Role of Public Libraries under Indiana’s Open Door Law, 26 INDIANA LIBRARIES 36 (2007).

Recent Citation Practices of the Indiana Court of Appeals and the Indiana Supreme Court, 24 LEGAL REFERENCE SERVICES QUARTERLY 103 (2005).
