

CLANITRA S. NEJDL

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EDUCATION

Master of Library and Information Science, 2013

School of Library and Information Science, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

Juris Doctor, 2000

Mercer University, Walter F. George School of Law, Macon, GA

Certificate in Advanced Legal Writing, Research, and Drafting

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, Magna Cum Laude, 1997

South Carolina Honors College, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

LIBRARY EXPERIENCE

Head of Professional Development (September 2020 – Present)

Research Services Librarian and Lecturer in Law (May 2019 – Present)

Alyne Queener Massey Law Library, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN

- Supports the professional growth and development of the law librarians and law library staff of the Massey Law Library by providing oversight and guidance in the development of their professional goals and/or scholarship agenda
- Actively solicits and anticipates training needs of law librarians and law library staff and identifies and deploys opportunities to meet those needs
- Actively solicits and identifies professional development opportunities available for law librarians that build the skills necessary for success within 21st century law librarianship including conferences, volunteer opportunities, memberships, publication or co-authorship opportunities, collaborations, or opportunities to present
- Provides training to newly-hired law librarians, as appropriate
- Tracks trends in law librarian professional development and scholarship
- Develops materials for and teaches legal research skills in the first-year Legal Writing and Research Program to meet the educational needs of first-year law students
- Develops materials for and teaches in upper-division legal research courses, incorporating trends in technology, information availability or delivery, and the evolving nature of law firm and government legal practice
- Provides reference and research services for students, faculty, and other members of the Vanderbilt community, supporting the research needs of the University as well as supporting the University mission in its quest for new knowledge through scholarship
- Plans and coordinates the *Prepare to Practice* workshop series in support of the Law Library's outreach and community engagement, as well as in support of the law students' educational needs as young professionals incorporating trends in the technology, information availability or delivery, and the evolving nature of law firm and government legal practice

- Creates and updates online research guides, tutorials, and other web content in support of the academic pursuits of students, the quest for new knowledge through scholarship, and the outreach of the Law Library
- Participates in collection development to best serve the research needs of the Vanderbilt Law School faculty, students, and staff
- Engages in scholarly activities and serves actively in professional organizations at the local, regional, and/or national level, enhancing personal and professional growth, as well as providing contributions to the library profession
- Serves actively in campus library system-wide committees and collaborates with colleagues in other campus libraries on programs and policies

Reference & Instructional Services Librarian and Assistant Professor (May 2014 – May 2019)

Shapiro Memorial Law Library, Northern Illinois University College of Law, DeKalb, IL

- Provided basic legal research instruction to first-year law students (in semester-long, standalone courses) and advanced legal research instruction to upper-level law students (in single-semester, standalone courses)
- Supervised Law Library Reference graduate and research assistants
- Coordinated Law Library Reference Desk scheduling, coverage, and statistics
- Staffed the Law Library Reference Desk to assist the College of Law faculty, students, and staff with in-person and virtual reference questions and research requests
- Served as the liaison between the Law Library and the NIU College of Law clinics
- Served as a faculty liaison to NIU College of Law faculty members to provide research and technology instruction
- Coordinated and conducted Law Library education sessions and other outreach events
- Conducted guest lectures on research in doctrinal classes and seminar courses, as requested
- Created and updated LibGuides and other online educational resources
- Served as a Perma.cc registrar and the coordinator of faculty and Law Review usage of Perma.cc within the NIU College of Law
- Participated in collection development decisions, including purchasing and weeding
- Participated in scholarship and professional development activities, including faculty committees and professional associations

Reference Assistant (May 2012 – April 2013)

Coleman Karesh Law Library, University of South Carolina School of Law, Columbia, SC

- Assisted patrons with legal reference questions, including questions about electronic database searches and library catalog searches
- Developed homework assignments for *Legal Research, Analysis, & Writing* classes
- Designed LibGuides and other online educational resources

Graduate Assistant (August 2011 – December 2012)

Thomas Cooper Library, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

- Provided in-person and virtual reference assistance to undergraduates, graduate students, faculty, and staff
- Instructed patrons on the library's catalog and electronic databases
- Cataloged print and electronic items using the Millennium Integrated Library System
- Added metadata to existing library catalog records

- Assisted with the revision of the Thomas Cooper Library collection development policy
- Assisted with the weeding of library materials and other special projects as needed

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Vanderbilt University Law School, Nashville, TN (August 2019 – Present)

- **Advanced Legal Research** (Fall 2020)
- **Legal Writing I - 1L Legal Research Skills Component** (Fall 2019, Fall 2020)
- **Legal Writing II - 1L Legal Research Skills Component** (Spring 2020)

Northern Illinois University College of Law, DeKalb, IL (August 2014 – May 2019)

- **Advanced Legal Research: Prepare to Practice** (Spring 2017, Spring 2018, Spring 2019)
- **Advanced Legal Research: Public Interest Law Research** (Fall 2015)
- **Basic Legal Research I** (Fall 2014, Spring 2016, Spring 2017, Fall 2018)
- **Basic Legal Research II** (Spring 2015, Fall 2016, Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Spring 2019)

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Hunger, Housing, and Economic Development Attorney (August 2005 – November 2010)

South Carolina Applesseed Legal Justice Center, Columbia, SC

- Created and directed hunger, housing, and economic development projects
- Developed and executed state and local policy advocacy initiatives
- Developed and coordinated legal trainings for service providers, attorneys, and judges
- Supervised law student interns on a variety of advocacy projects
- Drafted and promoted state housing legislation
- Presented at statewide and regional conferences
- Developed manuals and brochures for diverse audiences
- Successfully secured private and government grants

Associate Attorney (February 2004 – June 2005)

Berry, Quackenbush & Stuart, P.A., Columbia, SC

- Provided legal advice and other non-litigation assistance to clients regarding landlord-tenant law, health care law, wills and estate planning, education law, consumer law, family law, and criminal law
- Conducted trainings for attorneys on government resources available to lower-income clients

Staff Attorney (November 2000 – August 2002)

Georgia Legal Services Program, Macon, GA

- Represented indigent clients in court in various areas of civil law, including health care law, wills and probate, family law, education law, and landlord-tenant law
- Conducted case investigation and negotiation on behalf of clients
- Drafted legal documents
- Advised clients on legal matters

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Academic Law Libraries and the Early Days of the COVID-19 Pandemic, AALL SPECTRUM, Sept.-Oct. 2020, at 16 (with Edna Lewis).

Building Strategic Partnerships Through Collaboration Between Law Libraries, AALL SPECTRUM, Mar.-Apr. 2020, at 16 (with Lindsey Carpino and Annie Mentkowski).

Program Report: The Search Committee: An Effective Approach to Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity in Library Recruiting, ALL-SIS NEWSL., Fall 2019, at 17.

Developing a Culturally Competent Legal Research Curriculum, AALL SPECTRUM, Mar.-Apr. 2019, at 18 (with Shamika Dalton).

The Minority Leadership Development Award Effect: Catching Up with the First 10 Years of Winners, AALL SPECTRUM, Jan.-Feb. 2019, at 16 (with Alex Berrio Matamoros).

Race, Poverty, and Bail: An Annotated Bibliography, 38 N. ILL. U. L. REV. 487 (2018).

Program Report: Advance Toward Experiential -- Create or Retool Your Advanced Legal Research Course to Meet the ABA Experiential Learning Standards, ALL-SIS NEWSL., Fall 2017, at 11.

Program Report: Minority Teachers: Expectations, Experiences, and Exultations, ALL-SIS NEWSL., Fall 2017, at 9.

This Really Happened: Incorporating Legal News Items and Current Events into Legal Research Courses, SECOND DRAFT, Fall 2017, at 45.

Wrongful Convictions and Their Causes: An Annotated Bibliography, 37 N. ILL. U. L. REV. 401 (2017) (with Karl Pettitt).

AALL Annual Meeting and Conference 2015: A Newbie's Journey. CALL BULL., Fall 2015, at 15.

First Year Teaching: How I Got Here from There. MAALL MARKINGS, Sept. 2015, at 14.

Program Report: Designers' Workshop: Subject Guides That Create the Effect You Want, ALL-SIS NEWSL., Fall 2015, at 9.

Program Report: Transitioning to the Revised ABA Law School Accreditation Standards, ALL-SIS NEWSL., Fall 2015, at 25.

ProQuest Congressional and Legislative Insight, SE. L. LIBR., Summer 2012, at 3, reprinted in THE CRIV SHEET, Feb. 2013, at 4.

Protecting Tenants at Foreclosure Act: Keeping Tenants in the Loop and in Their Homes, S.C. LAW., May 2010, at 20.

Public Interest Issues for the Private Practitioner, S.C. LAW., July 2007, at 26 (with Susan B. Berkowitz).

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Co-Moderator, *AALL Virtual Coffee Chat: Continuing the Conversation on Inclusion in the Profession*, American Association of Law Libraries, June 30, 2020.

Panelist, *Backward Design: A Handy Tool for Remote Teaching*, William & Mary Conference for Excellence in Teaching Legal Research & Writing Online, June 18, 2020.

Moderator, *AALL Virtual Coffee Chat: Strategic Partnerships*, American Association of Law Libraries, April 21, 2020.

Panelist, *Law Librarian Leadership Opportunities in the Wake of COVID-19*, American Association of Law Libraries Webinar, March 27, 2020.

Presenter, *From the First Day Forward: Integrating Legal Research into Law School Doctrinal Courses*, Dismantling the Separate but Equal Paradigm: Integrating Legal Research into the Law School Curriculum (Legal Writing Institute), Penn State Dickinson Law, Carlisle, PA, December 6, 2019.

Co-Presenter, *Building Strategic Partnerships: Using Outreach Between Academic, Government, and Law Firm Libraries to Maximize Value*, 2019 American Association of Law Libraries Annual Meeting and Conference, Washington, D.C., July 16, 2019.

Co-Presenter, *Diverse Interactions: Addressing Race and Implicit Bias in Legal Research Instruction*, 2019 Teaching the Teachers Conference, Atlanta, GA, May 31, 2019.

Co-Presenter, *Diverse Interactions: Addressing Race and Implicit Bias in Legal Research Instruction*, 2018 American Association of Law Libraries Annual Meeting and Conference, Baltimore, MD, July 15, 2018.

Panelist, *Preserving Our Histories, Telling Our Stories: What's in Your Chapter Archives?*, 2017 MAALL, LLAW, MichALL, MALL, and CALL Joint Annual Meeting, Milwaukee, WI, October 21, 2017.

Co-Presenter, *Staying Current -- Together!*, 2017 MAALL, LLAW, MichALL, MALL, and CALL Joint Annual Meeting, Milwaukee, WI, October 19, 2017.

Co-Presenter, *Research Instruction I: Innovating Your Legal Research Classes*, Teaching Today's Students with Today's Tools for Tomorrow's Practice (Legal Writing Institute), IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law, Chicago, IL, December 11, 2015.

Presenter, *Issues and Trends in Federal Education Law*, NIU College of Education's TLEE 461 Professional Development Day, DeKalb, IL, October 16, 2015.

HONORS

AALL Minority Leadership Development Award

Recipient (2017)

AALL Leadership Academy

Fellow (2016)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND SERVICE

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| American Association of Law Libraries | Member (2014 – Present) |
| AALL Spectrum Editorial Board | Member (2020 – 2022) |
| Academic Law Libraries SIS | Member (2014 – Present) |
| ALL-SIS Legal Research and Sourcebook Committee | Chair (2020 – 2021) Vice-Chair (2019 – 2020) Member (2017 – Present) |
| Annual Meeting Program Committee: Marketing & Outreach Team | Member (2020 – 2021) |
| Black Caucus of AALL | Member (2014 – 2020) |
| Black Law Librarians SIS | Member (2020 – 2021) |
| BLL-SIS Bylaws Committee | Member (2020 – 2021) |
| Diversity and Inclusion Committee | Member (2017 – 2018) |
| Excellence in Community Engagement Award Jury | Chair (2019 – 2020) Vice-Chair (2018 – 2019) |
| Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity Awareness Special Committee | Member (2020 – 2021) |
| Private Law Librarians & Information Professionals SIS | Member (2020 – 2021) |
| PLLIP-SIS Education and Professional Development Committee | Member (2020 – 2021) |
| Research Instruction & Patron Services SIS | Secretary/Treasurer (2019 – 2021) Member (2014 – Present) |
| RIPS-SIS Online Training Committee | Member (2020 – 2021) |
| RIPS-SIS Patron Services Committee | Member (2020 – 2021) |
| RIPS-SIS Research Instruction Committee | Chair (2019 – 2020) Vice-Chair (2018 – 2019) Member (2017 – 2020) |
| Beta Phi Mu International LIS Honor Society | Member (2013 – Present) |
| Chicago Association of Law Libraries | Member (2014 – Present) |
| Archives Committee | Member (2015 – 2019) Co-Chair (2016 – 2017) |

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| Bulletin Committee | Co-Editor (2018 – 2019) Member (2015 – 2019) |
| Community Service Committee | Member (2019 – 2020) |
| Grants and Chapter Awards Committee | Member (2015 – 2017) |
| Mid-America Association of Law Libraries | Member (2014 – Present) |
| Grants Committee | Member (2017 – 2018) |
| Membership Committee | Co-Chair (2018 – 2019) |
| Northern Illinois University | |
| Black Faculty and Staff Association | Vice-President (2018 – 2019) Historian (2017 – 2018) Secretary (2014 – 2017) |
| College of Law 1L Mentorship Program | Mentor (2014 – 2019) |
| College of Law Academic Standing Committee | Member (2018 – 2019) |
| College of Law Admissions Committee | Member (2016 – 2019) |
| College of Law Curriculum Committee | Member (2014 – 2017) |
| College of Law Director of Admissions Search Committee | Member and Diversity Advocate (Fall 2016) |
| College of Law Librarian Search Committee | Member (Fall 2016) |
| College of Law Library Committee | Member (2014 – 2016) |
| Faculty Senate | Member (2016 – 2019) |
| Faculty Senate Academic Affairs Committee | Chair (2017 – 2018) |
| Southeastern Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries | Member (2019 – Present) |
| Scholarship Committee | Member (2020 – 2021) |
| State Bar Memberships | |
| Georgia Bar (Active) | (2000 – Present) |

South Carolina Bar (Inactive)

(2003 – Present)

Vanderbilt University

Association of Vanderbilt Black Faculty and Staff

Member (2020– 2021)

Vanderbilt Law School Staff Racial Injustice & Inequality Taskforce

Member (2020)

Vanderbilt Libraries Advisory Council

Elected Member (2020 – 2021)

Vanderbilt Libraries Assessment Advisory Group

Member (2020 – 2021)

Vanderbilt Libraries Skills Development Committee

Member (2019 – 2021)

Vanderbilt Libraries Staff Life Committee

Member (2019 – 2021)

Vanderbilt Libraries Teaching and Learning Committee

Member (2020 – 2021)