

MELISSA N. HENKE
LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY
E-mail: melissa.henke@uky.edu
Phone: (859) 257-0481

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

University of Kentucky J. David Rosenberg College of Law
Robert G. Lawson & William H. Fortune Professor of Law
Lexington, Kentucky

Clinical Professor of Law

July 2021-Present

Associate Clinical Professor

July 2015-June 2021

Assistant Clinical Professor

June 2011-June 2015

Director, Legal Research and Writing Program

June 2011-Present

- Teach within and direct the Legal Research and Writing program, which involves first-year students, upper-level student moot court advisors, and full-time research and writing faculty.
- As the first full-time director, researched, created, and implemented curricular changes to first-year Legal Research and Writing courses to respond to increased credits, enhance connections between research and writing course components, and transition from adjunct to full-time faculty model.
- Created and implemented outcome-based assessment tools to compliment curricular changes.
- Courses: Legal Research, Legal Analysis, and Legal Writing; Expanded Legal Research and Introduction to Advocacy; and Advanced Legal Writing
- Teaching awards: Duncan Teaching Award (2014)
- Faculty Advisor: Trial Advocacy Board (2023-24); and Moot Court Board (July 2024-present)
- Faculty Committees (years vary): Academic Status; Appointments; Building Renovation; Curriculum (former chair); Diversity; Executive (elected by faculty); Honor Council; Institutional Compliance; Retention, Promotion & Tenure (*ex officio*); Speakers; Staff Appreciation; Strategic Planning (former chair); Judicial Clerkship Advisory Group; and Ad Hoc Committee on Pro Bono
- University Committees:
 - Dean Search Advisory Committees for College of Law (Spring 2024) and Libraries (Spring 2018)
 - Provisional Faculty Senate Executive Committee (Fall 2024)
- University Leadership Programs (by Dean nomination): Women's Executive Leadership Development (Fall 2019); Chairs' Academy I (Fall 2020); and Chairs' Academy II (Spring 2022)
- Board Member, AppalReD Legal Aid (Fall 2021 to present)
- National Conference of Bar Examiners, Extended Response Drafting Committee (2024 to 2026)

Georgetown University Law Center
Washington, DC

Associate Professor of Legal Research & Writing

July 2009-June 2011

- Courses: Legal Research & Writing; Legal Writing Seminar: Theory and Practice for Law Fellows
- Faculty Committees: Clinics, Externships, and Public Interest; and Student Affairs
- Facilitator, Equal Justice Foundation Public Interest Fellowship Discussion Group

George Washington University Law School
Washington, DC

Adjunct Professor, Legal Research and Writing Program

2004-2007

- Courses: Legal Research and Writing; Introduction to Advocacy

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Hogan Lovells (formerly Hogan & Hartson, L.L.P.)

Washington, DC and McLean, VA

Litigation Associate

Nov. 2002-Apr. 2007 & Jan. 2009-July 2009

Senior Associate, Community Services Department

May 2007-

Dec. 2008

- Represented clients in a wide range of commercial litigation matters, including breach of contract and business torts, and defended against nationwide RICO and state class actions involving the healthcare field.
- Litigated high-impact and individual *pro bono* matters involving civil rights, employment discrimination, wrongful convictions, and immigration.

U.S. District Court for the Central District of California

Los Angeles, CA

Judicial Clerk for the Honorable Gary Allen Feess

2001-2002

PRO BONO REPRESENTATIONS

- *Jose Ramirez v. Tracy Nietzel, et al.*
 - Supreme Court of Kentucky (Court Appointment)
 - Brief for the Appellant (Jan. 2013)
 - Reply Brief for the Appellant (Apr. 2013)
 - Published opinion in client's favor: *Ramirez v. Nietzel*, 424 S.W.3d 911 (Ky. 2014).
 - Kentucky Court of Appeals
 - Brief for the Appellant (Oct. 2014)
 - Oral Argument (Aug. 2015)
 - Published opinion in client's favor: *Ramirez v. Nietzel*, 474 S.W.3d 147 (Ky. App. 2015).

ACTIVE BAR MEMBERSHIPS

- Kentucky (admitted Sept. 2013)
- District of Columbia (admitted Oct. 2003)

EDUCATION

George Washington University Law School

Washington, DC

Juris Doctor, *with highest honors*

May 2001

Class Rank: 1/427

- Order of the Coif
- John Bell Lerner Award for Distinguished Accomplishment (highest cumulative GPA)
- John Ordonaux Award for Overall Academic Excellence (highest average GPA in first year)
- *The George Washington Law Review*, Member and Senior Notes Editor
- The Legal Research & Writing Program, Dean's Fellow

University of Kentucky

Lexington, KY

B.A. Political Science, *Summa Cum Laude*

May 1998

- Phi Beta Kappa, Omicron Delta Kappa, and Golden Key National Honor Societies
- Vandebosch Award for Outstanding Political Science Senior
- Edith Schwab Memorial Scholarship (academic excellence and public service)

PUBLICATIONS

When Your Plate is Already Full: Efficient and Meaningful Outcomes Assessment for Busy Law Schools, 71 MERCER L. REV. 529 (Winter 2020).

Kentucky Bar Association Bench & Bar Magazine, Effective Legal Writing Columns

- *Persuasion Through Citation: Four Ways to Enhance Your Legal Arguments with Proper Legal Citations*, Nov./Dec. 2023
- *Is That What I Meant to Say?: Using Reverse Outlines to Enhance the Revising Process*, Nov./Dec. 2021
- *Explain It to Me: Tips for Effective Rule Explanation in Legal Analysis*, Nov./Dec. 2019
- *Polishing Makes Perfect . . . Or Maybe Not*, Nov./Dec. 2016
- *Effective Writing is Organized Writing*, May 2015
- *Take a P.A.S.S. on Your Next Legal Document*, Nov. 2013
- *Give Outlines Another Chance*, May 2012

SELECT PRESENTATIONS

Collaborations Between Legal Writing Professors and the Bench & Bar, Legal Writing Institute Biennial Conference, Indianapolis, IN (July 2024).

Should Writing An Appellate Brief Be Included in the 1L LRW Curriculum?, Association of Legal Writing Directors Biennial Conference, Irvine, CA (July 2023).

Effective Legal Writing Training, Kentucky Workers' Compensation Administrative Law Judges, Lexington, KY (May 2021) and Frankfort, KY (Apr. 2018).

Using Visual, Digital, and Oral Communication Skills in the Legal Writing Classroom, Legal Writing Institute Biennial Conference, Milwaukee, WI (July 2018).

Legal Ethics in Legal Writing, UK/CLE Health Law Institute (Sept. 2018) and UK/CLE Employment Law Institute (June 2014, 2016, and 2018), Lexington, KY.

Putting the "Form" in "Formative Assessment": The Pedagogical Value of Outcomes-Based Rubric Forms As Learning & Teaching Tools in Law Schools, 2017 Assessment Institute, Indianapolis, IN (Oct. 2017).

When Worlds Collide: Bringing a Professor's Pro Bono Practice Into the Legal Writing Classroom, Association of Legal Writing Directors Biennial Conference, Memphis, TN (June 2015).

Assessment Inside and Outside the Classroom, Legal Writing Institute One-Day Workshop at the University of Kentucky College of Law, Lexington, KY (Dec. 2013).

We Are Family: Effective Ways to Integrate the Legal Research & Legal Writing Components of a First-Year LRW Course Even When Taught Separately, Association of Legal Writing Directors Biennial Conference, Milwaukee, WI (June 2013).

Going Pro: Helping Students Transition from Social to Professional Correspondence, Legal Writing Institute One-Day Workshop, Chapel Hill, NC (Dec. 2012).

Reports from the Early Years, AALS New Teacher Workshop, Washington DC (June 2011).

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- American Association of Law Schools
 - Section on Leadership
 - Section on Legal Writing, Reasoning, and Research
- Association of Legal Writing Directors
 - Leadership and Development Committee
- Legal Writing Institute
- American Bar Association
- District of Columbia Bar Association
- Kentucky Bar Association

INTERESTS AND HOBBIES

- Reading historical fiction novels
- Running