



DETROIT MERCY LAW

Applied Legal Theory and Analysis Program

JANUARY 2021

The Detroit Mercy Law Legal Writing Program has had quite a busy year in 2020 with new hires, promotions, teaching completely online, and lots more.

We welcomed **Melissa Eckhause** and **Elizabeth Sherowski** to the faculty. Elizabeth and Melissa join **Karen McDonald Henning**, **Cristina Lockwood**, **Deborah Paruch**, and **Michelle Richards** in the US JD Applied Legal Theory & Analysis (ALTA) program. Detroit Mercy also offers a Canadian and American Dual JD Program with the University of Windsor Faculty of Law, where **Catherine Archibald**, **Julie St. John**, and **Cara Cunningham Warren** teach Comparative Legal Writing & Research (CLWR). Detroit Mercy has a unitary tenure track; legal writing professors teach in disciplines outside legal writing, as well as fully participating in committee and university service.

New Faculty Bring Range of Expertise



Elizabeth Sherowski taught previously at The Ohio State University, University of North Carolina, and Mercer University. Elizabeth will teach legal writing and Disability Law and will help develop upper-level writing courses.



Melissa Eckhause (a Detroit Mercy Law alumna) previously taught at the University of Southern California, Golden Gate University, and Texas A&M University. In addition to legal writing, Melissa will teach Copyright and Entertainment Law.

Faculty Highlights

Catherine Archibald was literally all over the place, spending the fall semester abroad while still presenting and publishing here at home. Here's what she's been up to recently:

- Presented "Bostock v. Clayton County and Sex Discrimination Claims under the Equal Protection Clause," as part of the Constitution Day 2020 Faculty Panel
- Presented "Transgender and Intersex Sports Rights" in the Trans and Queer Life in Private and Public panel at the Law & Society Association Annual Meeting
- Co-authored "Feminist Perspectives on Bostock v. Clayton County, Georgia," along with Professors Ann C. McGinley, Nicole Buonocore Porter, Danielle Weatherby, Ryan H. Nelson, and Pamela Wilkins for the Connecticut Law Review Online
- Wrote the opinion for *Etsitty v. Utah Transit Authority* (10th Cir. 2007), in *Feminist Judgments: Employment Discrimination Opinions Rewritten*, which was published in October.

Melissa Eckhause had a side hustle homeschooling a first grader and taught remotely from her home in California. Her Spring Term 2021 project is taking the lessons she learned from first grade workbooks and applying them to 1L writing assignments. She also pivoted to teaching in the Intellectual Property department following the passing of David Berry mid-semester. She looks forward to moving to Detroit when we return to in-person learning.

Karen McDonald Henning co-authored *Mastering Criminal Procedure* (3d ed. Carolina Academic Press 2020) with Ellen Podgor, Peter Henning, Cynthia Jones, & Sanjay Chhablani. She continues to direct Detroit Mercy's Moot Court program with Julie St. John. They've done a remarkable job taking our three internal competitions online while preparing our external teams for virtual competitions.

Cristina Lockwood published *Michigan Legal Research* (4th ed. Carolina Academic Press forthcoming Fall 2021). With Lawrence Durbin, she wrote Chapter 22 in the sixth edition of ICLE's *Michigan Basic Practitioner Handbook*.

Deborah Paruch was elected to the Executive Committee of the Children's Law Council, the governing body for the Children's Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan for the 2020-21 fiscal year. She also serves on the newly organized Committee on Juvenile Justice (part of the State Bar of Michigan) which is tasked with drafting proposed legislative changes to Michigan's juvenile waiver procedures. Deborah has also been busy writing, updating Michigan's ICLE book "Attorney-Client Privilege and the Work Product Doctrine," coauthored with Len Niehoff (forthcoming Spring 2021). Her article *Solitary Confinement of Juveniles* was selected for presentation at the 2021 Idaho Law Review Symposium on "Mass Incarceration" and will be published in the Journal's Symposium Edition.

Michelle Richards was promoted to Associate Professor of Law in August, which was no surprise given her prolific publishing this year. Her articles and presentations include:

- Pills, Public Nuisance, and Parens Patriae: Questioning the Propriety of the Posture of the Opioid Litigation, 54 U. Rich. L. Rev. 405 (2020).
- The Law of Contagion: How the Historical Role of the Legal System in Responding to Infectious Disease Can Guide an Effective Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, University of New Hampshire Law Review Symposium - October 2020 - "Rights & Responsibilities: Judicial and Legislative Responses to the COVID-19 Pandemic."
- Going Viral?: Discouraging the Premature Use of Civil Liability Strategies as a Response to COVID-19 and other Public Health Crises (forthcoming, University of New Hampshire Law Review Symposium Edition - April 2021).

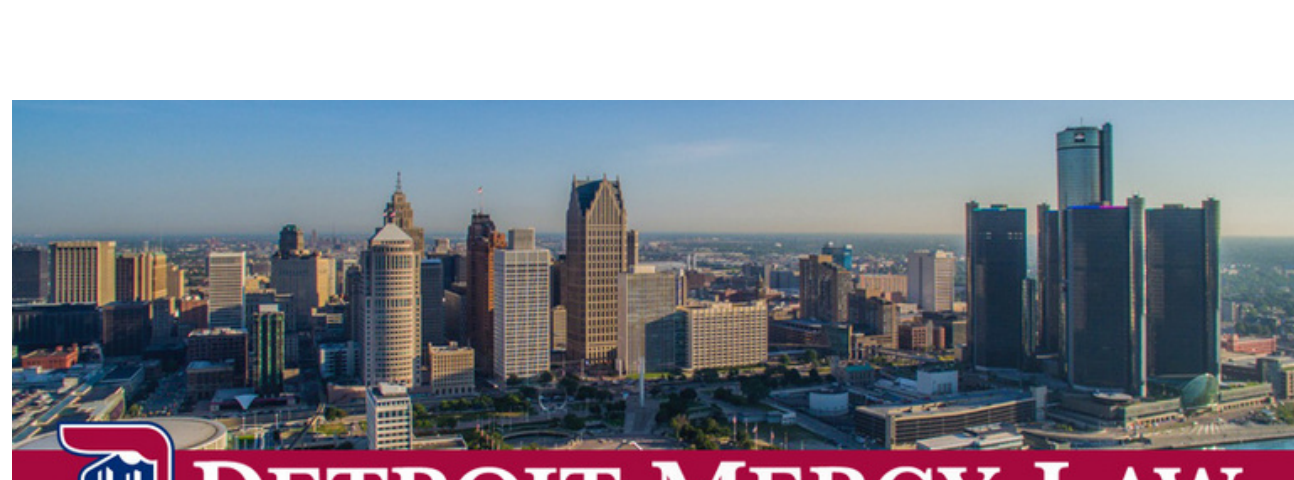
Julie St. John when not homeschooling her children or training a rambunctious new puppy, put all her remaining energy into the Moot Court program. In addition to working with Karen to bring the entire program online, she helped the Moot Court Board run a new Junior Member Competition and start a Moot Court alumni mentoring program.

Elizabeth Sherowski published *A New Way to Teach Secondary Source Research: Source Discovery*, 28 Persps. 32 (2020) (peer reviewed) and reviewed *Narrative and Metaphor in the Law* for volume 17 of *JALWD: Legal Communication & Rhetoric*. She presented her syllabus-transforming workshops "Change Your Syllabus, Change Your Life" at conferences for new legal writing professors, law librarians, and agricultural education departments across the country. She is also the chair of the ALWD Innovative Teaching Workshop Committee (call for proposals coming soon).

Cara Cunningham Warren was unanimously awarded tenure this year! She is writing the textbook *International Law in Context*, which will be published by Carolina Academic Press in 2021. She holds numerous leadership positions with AALS, including chairing the Section on North American Cooperation, and she is a member of the LWI Discipline Building Committee. At Detroit Mercy she chairs the Professional Development Committee and co-chairs the Curriculum Committee, where she is leading efforts to implement the school's anti-racism statement.

Upcoming From Detroit Mercy Law Legal Writing

Soon the faculty will have even more legal writing courses to teach: the Curriculum Committee is developing a third semester of legal writing for the 2L year, where students will have a choice between upper-level drafting, litigation, and advocacy courses (if you teach one of those courses and would like to share a syllabus, you can send it to Elizabeth at sherowel@udmercy.edu).



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