

CLAIRE C. ROBINSON MAY

EDUCATION

Northeast Ohio Master of Fine Arts (NEOMFA) Cleveland State University,

M.F.A. in Creative Writing

Graduated with 4.0 GPA

Case Western Reserve University School of Law, J.D. *cum laude*

Case Western Reserve University Law Review

Merit Scholar (full-tuition)

Class rank at graduation: top 11%

Harvard College, A.B. *magna cum laude*, History and Science

Research assistant to Professor Gerald Holton, Mallinckrodt Professor of Physics and Professor of the History of Science

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, Cleveland State University, Aug. 2001 - present

Legal Writing Department Administrative Liaison (Fall 2016-present; Fall 2007-Spring 2008)

- Serve as administrative leader of Legal Writing Department.
- Communicate and coordinate with law school administration regarding legal writing program and department matters.
- Conduct departmental meetings, encourage professional development, and facilitate communication and exchange of ideas among legal writing faculty.
- Lead strategic goal-setting for legal writing program.
- Mentored junior colleague including classroom observation and feedback on teaching materials and techniques.
- Facilitate agreement among legal writing faculty on key areas of concern to ensure effective and comparable learning experience across different sections of first-year course.
- Responsible for various administrative duties relevant to legal writing department and program.

Legal Writing Professor of Law (2003-present); Lecturer in Legal Writing (2001-2002)

- Full-time professor of legal writing, research, and advocacy.
- Full instructional responsibility for 1-2 sections of required first-year legal writing course, including design of syllabus and assignments.
- Conference regularly with students to provide individualized feedback and instruction.
- Incorporate active learning techniques into classroom instruction and assignments.
- Present orientation sessions for first-year law students.
- Serve as advisor for second-year law students undertaking independent scholarly research and writing projects to satisfy upper level writing requirement.
- Teach upper level writing courses, including legal writing and litigation course in which class divides into rival law firms to develop and litigate case.

- Authored first-year legal writing teaching materials with support of summer teaching enhancement grant.
- Designed and team taught integrated estates and trusts course combining doctrinal and skills instruction.

Courses taught:

- *Estates and Trusts: Doctrine and Drafting (co-taught with colleague)*
- *Legal Writing and Research*
- *Legal Writing and Litigation*
- *Legal Drafting (General)*
- *Advanced Legal Writing*
- *Independent Legal Research*

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Thompson Hine LLP, Cleveland, Ohio, July 2000 - July 2001

Litigation Associate

- Represented clients in civil litigation, including contractual disputes, commercial torts, securities, and products liability matters.
- Held full responsibility for client matters under supervision of partner or senior associate. Supervised junior attorneys and paralegals.
- Undertook all aspects of factual investigation of cases, including identifying and interviewing witnesses and collecting and reviewing documents.
- Drafted pleading, motions, and memoranda.
- Prepared jury instructions.
- Conducted discovery and managed document productions.
- Counseled clients.
- Negotiated with opposing counsel.
- Participated in case management conferences. Performed legal research and analysis.
- Represented pro bono clients in connection with Homeless Project.

Porter Wright Morris & Arthur LLP, Washington, D.C., June 1997 - May 2000

Litigation Associate

- Represented clients in complex commercial and civil litigation, including civil RICO and antitrust matters, in state and federal courts.
- Part of six member litigation team for four month jury trial resulting in \$25 million verdict for client.
- Drafted pleadings, motions, memoranda, jury interrogatories, jury instructions, and trial briefs.
- Preparation and second chair duties for depositions of experts and other witnesses.
- Second chair responsibilities at numerous hearings and trial.
- Day to day management of federal district court litigation, including coordination with local counsel.
- Performed complex legal research and analysis.
- Assisted in development of legal theories for litigation.
- Investigated and analyzed complex factual issues.

- Worked with expert witnesses in preparing reports.
- Negotiated with opposing counsel.
- Managed document production and preparation of voluminous appellate record.
- Supervised junior attorneys and paralegals.
- Represented clients in civil litigation in Superior Court of the District of Columbia.
- Conducted discovery, including taking and defending depositions.
- Participated in pretrial conferences.
- Counseled clients and negotiated settlements.
- Represented pro-bono clients in landlord-tenant and collection cases.
- Represented client in NASD broker-dealer reporting matter.

Jones Day Reavis & Pogue, Washington, D.C., Nov. 1996 - June 1997

Contract Attorney (Employed through Law Clerk Temporaries, Inc.)

- Worked directly with partner on complex products liability litigation.
- Assisted in preparation of appellate brief.
- Prepared partner for federal appellate argument involving complicated jurisdictional issues.
- Managed voluminous appellate record.
- Drafted legal memoranda analyzing issues for motions practice in related products liability litigation.
- Researched substantive products liability law in numerous jurisdictions.

The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland, Cleveland, Ohio, May 1995 - May 1996

Law Clerk, Law Reform Office

- Obtained cancellation of proprietary school loans for low-income clients.
- Investigated facts and analyzed data for landmark class action involving public utilities rates in subsidized housing.
- Assisted in editing 1996 edition of *Ohio Consumer Law* practice manual for publication.
- Prepared research memoranda on a variety of topics.

Judge Ann Williams, U.S. District Court, Chicago, Illinois, May 1994 – Aug. 1994

Judicial Extern

- Researched and drafted opinions covering a broad range of issues including attorneys' fees, jurisdiction, Social Security benefits, and summary judgment.

PROFESSIONAL HONORS AND ACTIVITIES

Law Faculty Merit Recognition Award, Spring 2006, Spring 2008

Cleveland-Marshall Teaching Enhancement Grant recipient

Member, Legal Writing Institute; served as Assistant Editor, Journal of the Legal Writing Institute

Member and Delegate, Association of Legal Writing Directors (ALWD)

Bar Associations: Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association, American Bar Association

Current Bar Membership: Ohio

PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

Panelist: “The Role of Legal Writing Faculty in Encouraging Doctrinal Faculty to Incorporate Legal Writing into Curricula,” with Rebecca Rich, Harold Lloyd, Sara Wolff, and Craig Smith, *Beyond the First Year*, April 21, 2018, DePaul University College of Law.

“Designing and Teaching an Integrated Doctrine and Drafting Course,” presentation to Law Faculty with Professor April Cherry, April 25, 2017, Cleveland-Marshall College of Law.

“The Holy Grail? Designing and Teaching an Integrated Doctrine and Drafting Course,” presentation with Professor April Cherry, *Southeastern Regional Legal Writing Conference*, April 22, 2017, Stetson University College of Law.

“Together in the Struggle: Hands On Learning Through Research Labs,” presentation with law librarians Amy Burchfield and Brian Cassidy, *Legal Writing Institute 1-Day Workshop: Collaboration Inside and Outside of the Legal Writing Classroom*, December 11, 2015, The Ohio State University, Moritz College of Law.

“Evaluate Everything: Instilling the Critical Reader in the Novice Legal Writer,” presentation, *Western Regional Legal Writing Conference*, September 20, 2014, Stanford Law School.

“Enhancing Understanding by Inviting Student Creativity into the Legal Writing Classroom,” presentation, *Southeastern Regional Legal Writing Conference*, April 26, 2014, Stetson University College of Law.

“Copyright, Fair Use, and Parody: A ‘Pretty Woman’ 20 Years Later,” presentation with Brian Glassman, *Entertainment and Sports Law Association*, April 16, 2014, Cleveland-Marshall College of Law.

Teaching Persuasion and Critical Thinking Using the State of the Union Address, in *TECHNIQUES FOR TEACHING LAW II* (Steve Friedland, Gerry Hess, Michael Schwartz, and Sophie Sparrow, Eds., 2011).

“Academic Freedom and the Staffing Structure of Legal Writing Programs,” presentation, *Biennial Conference of the Legal Writing Institute*, June 28, 2010.

“Fresh Air in the Academy: Why Legal Writing Professors Need Law Practice Sabbaticals,” presentation, *Southeastern Regional Legal Writing Conference: Remixing the Classics*, Sept. 11, 2009, Stetson University College of Law.

"The Self-Evaluated Draft: Teaching Students How to Evaluate Their Own Work," presentation, *Southeastern Regional Legal Writing Conference: Teaching the Basics*, Sept. 8, 2007, Nova Southeastern University School of Law.

Teaching Persuasion and Critical Thinking Using the State of the Union Address, 13 *THE LAW TEACHER* 6, Spring 2006.

Cleveland-Marshall Teaching Enhancement Grant Project Presentation to Law Faculty, *What Are You Trying to Say? A Guide to First-Year Legal Writing*, April 4, 2006, Cleveland-Marshall College of Law.

UNIVERSITY AND LAW SCHOOL SERVICE

Cleveland-Marshall Women's Committee. *Founding Chair.* Work to create a more inclusive and supportive environment for women students, faculty, staff, alumni, and prospective students and increase the representation of women as leaders and honorees at the law school. (Fall 2017-present)

Cleveland State University Faculty Senate. *(elected)* Serve on faculty governance body for University as representative of the College of Law; serve as member of College of Law Caucus to consult with Provost on law school matters. (Fall 2013-present)

Faculty Senate Steering Committee. *(elected by Law School Senators)* Served on Steering Committee that sets agenda for Faculty Senate. (Fall 2013-Spring 2015; Fall 2017-present)

University Faculty Affairs Committee. *(elected by Faculty Senate)* Address faculty policies and concerns at the university level. (Fall 2014-present)

Dean's Cabinet. As Legal Writing Department Administrative Liaison, serve as member of advisory body for Dean Fisher. (2016-present)

Student Bar Advisor. Maintain ongoing advisor relationship with several upper level students to assist in their preparation and success on the Ohio Bar Examination. (Fall 2015 - present)

Annual Presentation for Black Law Student Association (BLSA). "Preparing for the Timed Writing Test for the CMBA Minority Clerkship Program," annually, 2014-present.

Cleveland-Marshall Chapter, American Association of University Professors. Chapter President and member of CSU-AAUP Executive Committee (Spring 2017-present); Vice-President (Spring 2014-Spring 2017); Bargaining Council Member (Spring 2014-present); Nominations Committee Member.

Interim Dean Search Committee. Served as one of four faculty senators charged with planning and conducting expedited search for Interim Dean of the College of Law. (Spring 2016)

Admissions Committee. Participate in full file review and admissions decisions for applicants to Legal Career Opportunities Program (LCOP). (Fall 2011 – Spring 2013; Fall 2014-Spring 2016)

Recreation Center Advisory Committee. Provided advisory input regarding programs and facilities of CSU student recreation center. (Fall 2012-Spring 2014)

Strategic Priorities Committee. *(elected Fall 2012) Co-Chair.* Examined recent law school initiatives and processes; considered effects of smaller admitted 1L class; fostered discussion between law faculty and administration about strategic priorities for the law school; recommended strategic priorities for law school moving forward. (2012-2013)

Academic Standards Committee. *Committee Chair.* Ruled on student petitions; reviewed and revised academic regulations; addressed other academic and procedural issues as needed. As Chair: Led committee meetings; facilitated committee business; conducted student petition hearings; prepared annual committee report. Chairperson (Fall 2007-Summer 2011); member (Spring 2005 – Summer 2011, Fall 2013-Summer 2014)

Clerkship Committee. Promoted judicial clerkship opportunities for students. (Fall 2012-Spring 2013)

Contract Renewal PAC Sub-committee. Advised administration on renewal of individual Legal Writing Professors' 5-year contracts. (Spring 2009; Fall 2010; Spring 2014)

Legal Writing Search Committee. Conducted faculty candidate search. (2008-2009 academic year)

Faculty Affairs Committee. (*elected 2004, 2006*) Addressed law faculty and decanal concerns as needed. (2004-Spring 2008)

Legal Writing Hiring Committee. Served as member of 3-person committee to review applications, conduct interviews, and make hiring recommendation for legal writing faculty member. (Summer 2005)

Curriculum Committee. Reviewed law school course proposals; addressed other curricular concerns. (2005-2006)

Awards and Competitions Committee. Selected best scholarly papers by Cleveland-Marshall students for annual awards. (2001-2003)

Graduate Studies Committee. Served as member of admissions committee for Cleveland-Marshall College of Law L.L.M. program. (2003-2004; Spring 2005)

Library Committee. Advised administration on library-related issues. (2003-2004)

COMMUNITY AND CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

Women in Law and Leadership Initiative. January 2018-present.

Board Member, Talespinner Children's Theatre. Board Member for Cleveland's non-profit professional theater for young audiences. August 2014-present.

Donor, The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland. Inducted into Ten-Year Giving Society. April 2017.

Official Precinct Observer (D). 2016, 2012, and 2008 U.S. Presidential Elections.

Volunteer, Citizens for Our Heights Schools. Cleveland Heights-University Heights City School District. Provide assistance with school levy and bond campaigns. Fall 2013 – Spring 2015.

Precinct Committee Member (D). Cleveland Heights, Precinct 3F (*elected*) May 2006-2010; Precinct 3C (redistricted precinct, *elected*) May 2010 – 2014.

Camp Counselor and Playwriting Assistant, Talespinner Children's Theatre. Summer 2014.

Graduate Intern, Talespinner Children's Theatre. Summer 2013.

Panelist, Ohio City Writers. Write to Assemble speaker series for writers and readers (with playwrights Eric Coble and Michael Oatman), Nov. 13, 2012.

Guest Teaching Artist, Lake Erie Ink. "Write It! Act It! A Summer Camp for Dramatic Writers," June 20-24, 2011.

Cuyahoga County Democratic Party Executive Committee Member. (*elected*) Aug. 2006-July 2010.

Cleveland State University Volunteer Ambassador. The Democratic Presidential Debate at Cleveland State, Feb. 26, 2008 (media filing room volunteer).

Observer (D), Presidential Election Provisional Ballot Review. Cuyahoga County Board of Elections, Nov. 2004.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Select Productions and Staged Readings (Playwright): *The Bremontown Musicians* (Talespinner Children's Theatre); *The Silent Princess* (TCT); *River Sky* (*Soapocalypse Now*) (convergence-continuum); *Puppet Party* (con-con); *The World's Largest Axe* (Cleveland Public Theatre); *Standardized Child™* (Playwrights Local 4181; CPT); *Mother/Tongue* (CPT); *A Salted Tale* (CSU); *Panda Play* (Manhattan Project Cleveland Lab); *The Trinity Project* (Oddy Theater Lab).