

KATHERINE BUTLER BREM

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON LAW CENTER, Houston, Texas

Clinical Associate Professor, August 2019 – current

Clinical Assistant Professor, August 2000 – August 2005; August 2016 – August 2019

Lecturer, Lawyering Skills and Strategies, August 2014 – August 2016

Courses Taught: Evidence; Lawyering Skills and Strategies in the JD and Foreign LL.M. programs; Federal Pretrial Drafting; Transactional Drafting

- Teach Evidence to second and third-year law students. This includes creating course materials to prepare students for a multi-state litigation practice as well as the evidence portions of the Uniform Bar Exam.
- Teach legal research and writing to first-year law students and foreign-trained attorneys in the LL.M. program. This includes creating assignments and drafting rubrics, commenting on students' written work product, and regularly meeting with students to provide feedback and guidance.
- Teach Federal Pretrial Drafting, an experiential writing course for third-year law students preparing for litigation practice. This includes preparing course materials mimicking a diversity suit in the Southern District of Texas; teaching students about the intersection of substantive law, procedure, evidence, and professional responsibility in a lawsuit setting; organizing guest speakers; and commenting on and reviewing drafts of removal proceedings, an answer, written discovery, motions for summary judgment and supporting replies, and a mediation memorandum.
- Teach Transactional Drafting, an experiential writing course for second and third-year law students preparing for transactional practice. This includes preparing course materials mimicking a large commercial transaction; organizing guest speakers; and commenting on and reviewing drafts of various deal documents.
- Work with faculty on instruction of advanced legal writing assignments in upper-level courses.
- Work with Executive Director of Global and Graduate Studies to design English as an Other Language Course targeted to foreign-trained LL.M. applicants, and to create content for Global and Graduate Studies' website.
- Support students seeking legal employment and judicial clerkships. This includes reviewing resumes, cover letters, and writing samples; writing letters of recommendation; and acting as a reference.
- Work with undergraduate students who are members of underrepresented groups in the Pre-Law Pipeline Program. This includes teaching classes on preparing personal and diversity statements for law school applications, commenting on those statements, and meeting with students to provide feedback and guidance.

Research Interests: The intersection of substantive law, procedure, evidence, and professional responsibility; legal pedagogy; technology in law practice

Grants: Summer Research Grant (2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020)

Selected Law Center Service: Admissions Committee; Curriculum Committee; Executive Committee; Graduate Admissions Committee; Graduate Advisor to Candidates for an LL.M. in U.S. Law; Chair, Gus A. Schill Scholarship Selection Committee; mentor to first-year law students; bar mentor; summer instructor for Pre-law Pipeline Program; faculty advisor to Board of Advocates

Selected University of Houston Service: Faculty Senate, Senator (member of the Graduate and Professional Studies Committee and the Academic Program Evaluation Subcommittee); Equal Opportunity Services Appellate Board; Friends of Women's Studies Liaison; A.D. Bruce Religion Center Policy Board; University of Houston International Student Advisory Committee

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

BAKER BOTTS LLP, Houston, Texas, *Associate, Trial Department*, 1994 – 2000.

EDWARDS & GEORGE LLP, Houston, Texas, *Contract Briefing Attorney*, 2003 – 2005.

Practice Description: represented clients in the trial and appeal of products liability, complex commercial, oil and gas, government contracts, and general business matters; drafted and argued jury charges and various dispositive and non-dispositive motions, both pretrial and post-verdict; formulated critical aspects of litigation and appellate strategy

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS (2017 –2021)

Planning Forward: Lessons Learned from Emergency and Planned Distance Education, Discussant, 2021 SEALS Conference, July 2021 (virtual).

Dinosaurs Get Schooled: Tips and Tricks to Improve Online Teaching and Ensure Equity in the Online Classroom, Panelist, 2021 ALWD Biennial Conference, June 2021 (virtual).

Growing Pains: Grades and the First Semester Legal Writing Course, with Irene Ten Cate, 2021 Biennial Empire State Conference, May 2021 (virtual).

Developing Content: Online and HyFlex Courses, Panelist, 2020 SEALS Conference, July 2020 (virtual).

Doing the Splits: Designing and Teaching a Circuit Split Appellate Advocacy Problem, with D'Andra Millsap Shu, 2020 LWI Biennial Conference, July 2020 (Washington, D.C.) (selected to present, but conference canceled due to COVID-19).

Opportunity Knocks: Providing Foreign-Trained LL.M. Candidates with Necessary Skills to Become Licensed in the United States, with Megan Davis, 2020 Global Legal Skills Conference, May 2020 (Bari, Italy) (selected to present, but conference canceled due to COVID-19).

Catching the Court's Eye: Effective Writing and Editing Techniques to Elevate Your Advocacy, Panelist, 2019 Fifth Circuit Appellate Advocacy Seminar, October 2019 (New Orleans, Louisiana).

If a Lawyer Isn't Happy, What's the Point?, Panelist, Western Regional Legal Writing Conference, September 2019 (Santa Clara, California).

Equal Education for All, Panelist, Association of Legal Writing Directors 2019 Biennial Conference, July 2019 (Boston, Massachusetts).

Best Practices in Designing Curricula and Teaching LLM Students, Panelist, Legal Writing Institute 2018 Biennial Conference, July 2018 (Milwaukee, Wisconsin).

Interactive Grammar and Editing, Panelist, Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association's Winning Writing for Trial Lawyers Seminar, April 2018 (Houston, Texas).

Effective Legal Writing, Air Liquide US Cluster Writing Seminar, April 2018 (Houston, Texas).

Incorporating Real-Life Skills for Wellness into the Legal Research and Writing Curriculum, Panelist, Eighteenth Annual Rocky Mountain Legal Writing Conference, March 2018 (Denver, Colorado).

Reports on the Real World: How Focus on Practice Can Re-Focus 1Ls Burned Out by the Day-to-Day Grind of the 1L Curriculum, Legal Writing Institute One-Day Workshop, December 2017 (Houston, Texas).

Legal Writing for Immigration Practitioners, Panelist, ABA Children's Immigration Law Academy CLE, May 2017, (Houston, Texas).

COMPLETED WORKS

"From Ground to Cloud: Tips and Tricks to Improve Your Teaching No Matter the Mode of Delivery" in *LAW TEACHING STRATEGIES FOR A NEW ERA: BEYOND THE PHYSICAL CLASSROOM* (Tessa Dysart & Tracy L.M. Norton, eds.) (forthcoming 2021).

Katherine Brem, *Grading Without Grades*, 68 *PERSPS.* 65 (2020).

Ass'n of Legal Writing Dirs. Online & Distance Educ. Comm., *TEACHING LEGAL RES. & WRITING IN A HY-FLEX CLASSROOM* (Katherine Brem, ed. 2020).

"What did you learn? It depends." *Using the Six-Word Story to Teach the Power of Brevity in Expression*, Ass'n Am. L. Sch. Legal Writing, Reasoning and Rsch. Newsl., Summer 2020, at 8.

Lael Lockhart, Individually and as Executor of the Estate of Logan Lockhart, and Tiffany Lockhart v. Strickland Petrochemicals, Inc. and Mirador Oil & Gas Company (complete practice file for Federal Pretrial Drafting course; diversity case involving a question of right of control in the borrowed employee context, to determine applicability of the exclusive remedy provision of the Texas Workers' Compensation Act).

Sean M. Flaharty v. Digital Design Group (complete practice file for Federal Pretrial Drafting course; age discrimination lawsuit).

Franciscan Products L.P. v. Keller Hydrocarbons, Inc. (complete practice file for Federal Pretrial Drafting course; contract dispute involving a question of force majeure arising out of Hurricane Harvey, questioning the applicability of the parole evidence rule to interpret a Liquid Hydrocarbons Exchange Agreement between the parties).

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Civility and Practice: Reconciling the Two in the Written Word (proposing best writing practices for a judiciary committed to improving civility in practice).

Introductions to Practice in a Common Law System (discussing federalism, *stare decisis*, and introductory legal analysis concepts in a series of podcasts targeted to novice students and foreign-trained LL.M. candidates trained in civil law).

Until Death Do Us Part: The Propriety of Classifying Pre-Death Damages as Actual Damages in Workers' Compensation Litigation (addressing concerns that the exclusive remedy provision of the Texas Workers' Compensation Act prevents plaintiffs from including medical expenses in exemplary damages calculations for claims brought under the Texas Wrongful Death statute).

ACADEMIC PROFESSIONAL SERVICE & AWARDS

AALS Section on Legal Writing, Reasoning, and Research Secretary (2021)

AALS Section on Legal Writing, Reasoning, and Research Executive Committee (2020)

AALS Section on Legal Writing, Reasoning, and Research Nominations Committee (2018 – 2020)

ABA Section of International Law, International Law Year in Review (deputy editor, 2018 – current)

ALWD Outstanding Service Award (2020)

ALWD Online/Distance-Learning Committee (co-chair, 2020 – current)

ALWD Teaching Grants Committee (chair, 2018 – 2020; committee member 2017 – 2018)

ALWD Delegate (2017 – 2019)

ALWD-LWI LexisNexis Scholarship Grants Committee (2020 – current)

LWI Global Legal Writing Skills Committee (2017 – 2020)

OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

State Bar of Texas Pattern Jury Charge Subcommittee IV (Business, Consumer, Insurance & Employment)
State Bar of Texas Law Practice Management Committee
Supreme Court of Texas Unauthorized Practice of Law Committee

SELECTED COMMUNITY SERVICE

Board Member, The Children’s Museum of Houston (September 2018 – current)
Chair, Charter Review Committee, City of West University Place (2018 – 2019)
Board Member, Baylor College of Medicine Teen Clinic at Ben Taub Hospital (2016 – 2018)
Volunteer, Baylor College of Medicine Teen Pregnancy Clinic (2010 – 2012)
Volunteer, Texas Children’s Hospital (2008 – 2010; 2012 – current)
Houston Livestock Show & Rodeo International, Rodeo Run, Speakers Committees (1996 – current)
Parent Ambassador, St. Agnes Academy, Houston, Texas (2014 – 2018)

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SCHOOL OF LAW, Austin, Texas

J.D., with honors, 1994

- *Texas Law Review*
- Visited University of London, Queen Mary and Westfield College; completed course work in European Community/European Union law
- Research Assistant for Professors Alex Wilson Albright (Civil Procedure) and John T. Ratliff, Jr. (Civil Trial Advocacy)

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN, Austin, Texas

B.J. (Bachelor of Journalism), with highest honors, 1991

- Blanche Prejean Endowed Presidential Scholarship
 - Frank J. Morrow Endowed Presidential Scholarship
 - Frank Denius Normandy Scholar; completed course work in history and philosophy in Caen, France, in association with the Caen Mémorial and the Université de Caen Normandie
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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Bar Admissions: Texas (1994 – current)

Languages: Conversant in Spanish and French

Personal: Married. Mother to twin girls, now college juniors at Duke University and The Georgia Institute of Technology. College sports fan. Pilates enthusiast.