

Lauren Jansen Simpson
University of Houston Law Center
4604 Calhoun Road, Houston, Texas 77204-6054
713.743.2159 • ljsimpso@central.uh.edu

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT

University of Houston Law Center, Houston, TX

- Title: Clinical Assistant Professor, 2010-present
- Classes: Legal Research & Writing: 2010-2012; Lawyering Skills & Strategies: 2012-present

TEACHING AWARDS

- UH Teaching Excellence Award, Instructional/Clinical category, 2016
- SBA Professor of the Year for the part-time program, 2016-2017

LAW CENTER TEACHING COLLABORATIONS

- Courses: Health Regulatory Process, with Professor Jessica Mantel (spring 2014, spring 2016); Consumer Credit Law and Policy, with Professor Jim Hawkins (fall 2014)
- Content: collaborated in doctrinal professors' upper-level writing courses to improve students' writing skills in the substantive area, including giving input on text selection, commenting on student papers, presenting lectures on writing, assisting with assignment creation, planning assignment timeline, and conferencing with students as requested

ADDITIONAL LAW CENTER TEACHING

- "Introduction to Law" and "Legal Writing" instructor: Law Center Pre-Law Pipeline Program, summer 2015 (co-instructor), 2016 (instructor), 2017 (instructor)
- Adjunct Professor: Law Center Judicial Process and Internship Course, summer 2007

EXTERNAL PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS

- SEALS: panelist, "Adapting to New Realities in Legal Education," August 2016
- AALS: panelist, "Experiential Learning in Legal Writing Programs" (Legal Writing, Reasoning, and Research Section), January 2017
- HYLA lunch CLE: "Tips & Tricks for Briefs & Motions," February 2017
- CILA training: co-presenter and facilitator. Conduct training and workshop on effective legal writing for attorneys served by the American Bar Association's Children's Immigration Law Academy (CILA) in Houston, May 2017 (scheduled)
- TDCLA/HCPDO appellate CLE: presenter. Present on effective editing techniques for CLE sponsored by the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyer's Association and the Harris County Public Defender's Office, May 2017 (scheduled)
- Western Regional Legal Writing Conference: panelist, "Connecting the Dots," discussing collaborations at UHLC between clinical, doctrinal, and legal-writing faculty, August 2017

LAW CENTER PRESENTATIONS AND WORKSHOPS

- “Finding the Law,” co-presenter: People’s Law School, fall 2010, spring 2011, fall 2011, spring 2012, fall 2012, spring 2013
- “Fundamentals of Editing” for technical writing, presenter: Fort Bend Gifted and Talented Mentorship Program, fall of 2010-2016, fall 2017 (scheduled)
- “Writing for Internships: Tips and Tricks of the Trade,” guest lecturer: Public Interest Workplace class, summer 2011, spring 2013
- “Tips on How to Write for a Court,” guest lecturer: Judicial Process class, summer 2009, fall 2011, spring 2012, fall 2015
- “How to Write for a Court of Appeals,” guest lecturer: spring 2014, spring 2015
- “How to Do an Effective Appellate Oral Argument,” presenter: spring of 2011-2017 (as guest lecturer or presenter for Saturday session). Created and compiled reference materials for students’ use in moot-court argument preparation.
- Legal Research and Writing panel, panel member: “Getting the Edge in Your First Year”—Law Center Diversity and Inclusion Initiative: 1L Boot Camp, August 2014
- “Tips for Improving Your Persuasive Writing,” guest lecturer, Immigration Law Clinic: gave presentation tailored to students’ writing weaknesses (determined in consultation with Clinic director), summer 2014
- Discussion of upper-level writing collaboration, co-presenter: presented with Professor Jessica Mantel to Law Center faculty on the structure, experience, and results of writing collaboration in spring 2014 for Health Regulatory Process seminar, fall 2014
- “Tips for Improving Your Persuasive Writing,” mini-workshop creator and coordinator, Civil Practice Clinic: presented in-class workshops tailored to students’ writing weaknesses (determined in consultation with Clinic director), fall 2014, spring 2015, fall 2015, spring 2016, fall 2016, spring 2017, fall 2017
- “Tips to Improve Your Memoranda to the Case File,” mini-workshop creator and coordinator, Transactional Law Clinic: presented in-class workshops tailored to students’ writing weaknesses (determined in consultation with Clinic director), summer 2014, fall 2014, spring 2015, fall 2015
- “Corresponding with the Opposing Side,” guest lecturer: fall 2015, fall 2016, fall 2017
- Persuasive-writing mini-workshop for another Lawyering Skills & Strategies class, spring 2017

LAW CENTER SERVICE

- Organizer and faculty liaison: For First Court of Appeals of Texas to hold court on campus for benefit of students, spring 2013
- Faculty sponsor: Public Interest Law Organization, 2011-present; Evening Law Students Association, 2012-present
- 1L Faculty Mentor: 2011- present

- Co-coach: each spring 2011-2014, co-coached two teams in Judge John R. Brown Admiralty Moot Court Competition. Assisted in securing judges for competition rounds hosted by Law Center (2011). Team awards include the following:
 - Champion (2012)
 - Finalist (2011)
 - Quarter-finalist (2011, 2012, 2013, 2014)
 - Best brief (2012)
 - Best speaker (2012, 2013)
 - Third-best speaker (2012)
- Practice judge:
 - Texas Young Lawyers Association Moot Court Competition, summer 2011 and 2013
 - Moot Court National Championship Competition, spring 2013
- Brief judge: Moot Court National Championship, winter 2011
- Competition judge:
 - Interscholastic Moot Court Intra-Team Competition (finals), fall 2010 and 2011
 - Blakely-Butler Moot Court Competition (preliminary), spring 2011
 - Moot Court National Championship, winter 2012
 - Intra-Team Moot Court (finals), fall 2015
 - Blakely-Butler Moot Court Competition (semi-finals), fall 2016
- Service to Houston Journal of Health Law & Policy:
 - Co-presenter and reviewer: gave talk on developing comment topics, co-drafted reference materials for candidates in developing comment topics, reviewed first drafts of candidates' comments, and provided in-person feedback on first drafts, 2014-2015
 - Co-presenter and reviewer: gave talk on developing comment topics, revised reference materials, fall 2015
- Committee member:
 - Ad Hoc Non-Tenure-Track Faculty Committee, fall 2013-present
 - Evening Law Program Committee, fall 2014-present
 - Entry Level Hiring Committee, fall 2015-spring 2016
 - Clinical Hiring Committee, fall 2016-present
- 1L Best-Brief Competition coordinator: coordinate various aspects of Lawyering Skills & Strategies' competition for the best appellate brief among first-year students, spring of 2013-2016
- Contributor & volunteer: Public Interest Law Organization Silent Auction, 2011-present
- Fundraising leader:
 - Captain: Law Center 100% Challenge, spring 2016 and 2017
 - Co-ambassador for Law Center: UH Faculty & Staff Campaign, spring 2017
- Volunteer:
 - Law Center Community Service Day, summer 2014-2017
 - Networking in Practice Lunch for the Passport to Success Diversity & Inclusion Initiative, "Getting the Job": volunteer for mock interviews, fall 2014
 - Law Center Admitted Students Days: participate in multiple functions for admitted students
 - Bar exam lunch volunteer: served lunch to Law Center students taking the Bar Exam, summer 2014, 2015, 2017
 - Law Center Street Law High School program: taught mock law-school class to a group of high school students, spring 2016; judged semi-final round of student mock trial, spring 2017

- Community butterfly garden proposal: co-authored proposal with second-year student for butterfly and pollinator garden at Law Center, fall 2014

PREVIOUS EMPLOYMENT

First District Court of Appeals of Texas

- Chamber staff attorney:
 - Chief Justice Sherry Radack (summer 2009-July 2010), Justice Timothy G. Taft (summer 2002-summer 2009), Justice Murry B. Cohen (fall 1998-summer 2002)
 - Each month, wrote on average two to four pre-submission memoranda, in format of proposed opinions; prepared recommendations on original proceedings; and, depending on Justice, advised on motions, assisted in docket preparation, and supervised law clerk
- Research Attorney: February 1997-fall 1998
- Interim intern coordinator: coordinated all aspects of court's program and revised orientation curriculum and intern manual, summer 2009-winter 2009
- Assistant to intern coordinator: assisted Justice Taft with various aspects of court's intern program, including instruction and creating of curricula for orientations, summer 2002-summer 2008 (approximate)
- Presenter: orientations for new law clerks (topics for training: writing pre-submission memoranda and conducting citation checks)

Meyer, Orlando & Evans, P.C. Associate, August 1994 - February 1997

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES AND ADMISSIONS

- Admissions: Texas Bar, 1994
- Presenter and co-organizer: Law Center brief-writing workshop, summer 2007 and 2008
- Volunteer speaker (pre-faculty status): Law Center judicial internship and legal research and writing classes
- Contributor: Thurgood Marshall School of Law advocacy publication, fall 2007, on tips for writing moot-court briefs
- Moot-court volunteer (pre-faculty status): former assistant coach (Law Center and Thurgood Marshall School of Law); former volunteer competition judge (all three local law schools)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- AALS: Legal Writing, Reasoning, and Research Section (member)
- Legal Writing Institute (member)
- Houston Bar Association (member)
- HBA Appellate Practice Section (member)

EDUCATION

University of Houston Law Center. Juris Doctorate, May 1994

- Graduate cum laude
- John Black Moot Court Competition, best speaker, spring 1992
- National Moot Court Competition, 1992 and 1993
- Craven Moot Court Competition, quarter-finalist, February 1993
- ABA Moot Court Competition, March 1993

- Advanced Civil Advocacy Workshop (NITA), fall 1993
- Excellence in Advocacy Award, 1992-93

Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri. Bachelor of Arts, May 1988. Majors: French, International Studies. Graduate cum laude, Dean’s list, Phi Beta Kappa

CONSERVATION ACTIVITIES & COMMUNITY SERVICE

I continue to devote significant personal time to education about and conservation of pollinators and other wildlife, my passion outside of legal writing.

- Presentations and interviews:
 - *Texas Pollinator Powwow (an annual pollinator-conservation conference)*.
 - “How I Came to Love the Syrphid Fly—from the Journal of a Citizen Scientist,” introducing this family of pollinating fly, explaining its importance in pollination and garden health, and showcasing its species’ beauty through photographs from my own home wildlife-habitat gardens, April 2016, May 2017
 - Presentation on beneficial flies (specific topic TBD), spring 2018 (scheduled)
 - *18th annual Wildscapes Workshop (Houston Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas, co-sponsored by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department)*. “From Wasteland to Wildscape: How We Transformed a Traditional Urban Landscape into a Pollinator Paradise,” discussing the need for home wildscapes, describing the pollinators that benefit from them, and giving tips on how to wildscape effectively at home, September 2016 (recording at <https://youtu.be/pI5zCrSrmco>)
 - *Texas Gulf Coast Master Naturalist Chapter meeting*. “How I Came to Love the Syrphid Fly—from the Journal of a Citizen Scientist,” August 2016.
 - *North Shepherd Community Alliance meeting*. “Wildscaping for Your Home or Business,” discussing the need for wildscapes, describing the pollinators that benefit from them, and giving tips on how to wildscape effectively, November 2016
 - *Presentation sponsored by the Oak Forest Homeowners’ Association and Oak Forest Community of Gardeners*. “Easy Tips for Gardening for Wildlife in your Own Backyard,” on transforming a home landscape into a wildscape supporting pollinators and other wildlife, March 2017
 - *Interview with Houston Audubon Society’s Bird-Friendly Communities program*, resulting in four videos: (1) story of my wildlife-habitat gardens, (2) tips for wildscaping in residential neighborhoods, (3) maintaining wildscapes at home, and (4) providing wildlife-friendly water features, summer 2017 (recorded at <http://www.birdfriendlyhouston.org/st-julians-crossing/>).
 - *Presentation sponsored by Keep Friendswood Beautiful*. “Easy Tips for Gardening for Wildlife in your Own Backyard,” on transforming a home landscape into a wildscape supporting pollinators and other wildlife, October 2017 (scheduled)
- Committee service: Native Plant Society of Texas—Houston Chapter, 2017 Wildscapes Workshop working group member, 2017
- Educational community: Creator and administrator of Facebook educational community entitled “St. Julian’s Crossing-wildlife habitat,” which is devoted to education about pollinators, their conservation, and the habitats that support them, summer 2015-present

- Wildlife support: Maintain our home gardens as a Certified Wildlife Habitat (National Wildlife Federation), Monarch Waystation (Monarch Watch, Waystation No. 10925), and Certified Butterfly Garden (North American Butterfly Association), for benefit of pollinators and other wildlife. Gardens have welcomed 43 species of butterfly, at least 20 species of syrphid fly, and well over 25 species each of bee and wasp—among other pollinators.
- Educational events:
 - *Cub Scouts*. Hosted educational activity on composting and on planting herbs, 2016
 - *Forest West Garden Club*. Hosted educational visit for club at home gardens, April 2017
 - *Garden Oaks’ “Spring Fling on Sue Barnett” Event*. Hosted educational table introducing attendees to native bees and explaining how to attract and benefit them through home gardens, April 2017
 - *Girl Scout Troop 1220088*. Hosted education event for nature-related badge, focusing on butterflies and how to support them, April 2017
 - *Texas Campaign for the Environment*. Introductory presentation on wildscaping and community outreach for pollinators, May 2017
 - *Garden Oaks Gardening Club*. Host educational visit for club at home gardens, June 2017
- Data compilation:
 - *iNaturalist*. Catalog and identify invertebrate species in home gardens to develop baseline, sharing data on iNaturalist for scientific use, 2016
 - *Monarch study participant*. Collect data on Monarch activity at home gardens as part of Sam Houston State University study on *Ophryocystis elektroscirrha* parasite in Monarch populations in Texas east of the Brazos River, 2016-present
 - *BioBlitz volunteer (Big Thicket National Preserve)*. Participated in data-collection event sponsored by the National Park Service and National Geographic Society to record biodiversity in national parks, October 2016
- Volunteer:
 - Participate in community activities through Oak Forest Community of Gardeners
 - Share seeds, seedlings, and gardening knowledge with local residents
- Naturalist memberships: Native Plant Society of Texas—Houston Chapter, North American Butterfly Association (Butterfly Enthusiasts of Southeast Texas chapter)