
Allison Christians Joins Faculty to Teach Tax Law

Allison Christians,

a former New York tax lawyer, is the newest member of the University of Wisconsin Law School faculty. She joins a growing group of business law experts and will teach courses on federal and international income taxation.

Professor Christians received her J.D. from Columbia University School of Law and her LL.M. in Taxation from New York University School of Law. She



Allison Christians

practiced tax law as an associate at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz in New York, where she focused on the taxation of domestic and cross-border mergers and acquisitions, spin-offs, restructurings, and issues and transactions involving private and public companies. She was a visiting assistant professor in the tax program at Northwestern University School of Law from 2003–2005, teaching J.D. and LL.M.–level courses, including Federal Income Taxation, International Taxation, and Tax Treaties.

Christians notes that she was attracted to the UW Law School because of its Law in Action philosophy. “Wisconsin’s approach to teaching and studying the law is

particularly applicable in the area of taxation, where legislative intent and practical outcome are often misaligned.” Christians views the field of taxation as a vital structural component of the law that has economic, social, and political implications. “I am excited to be a part of a supportive academic environment, she says, “and I look forward to teaching Taxation I this semester, as well as International Taxation and related subjects in the coming semesters.”

Professor Christians’s scholarly interests include foreign policy, globalization, and competitive aspects of tax law.

Mullen Dowdal Comes to Writing Program Full Time

Mullen Dowdal has joined the Law School as a full-time faculty member in the Legal Research and Writing program.

An experienced trial lawyer, Dowdal litigated complex product liability and mass tort cases with Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi in Minneapolis before joining the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Madison in 1999.

Dowdal is not new to the Law School’s Legal Research and



Mullen Dowdal

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Writing program. He has taught courses within the program each semester for the last six years. In his full-time position, Dowdal will assist in the development of the first-year legal writing curriculum and be involved in teacher training. He also hopes to offer seminar classes for second- and third-year students.

“We were lucky to persuade Mullen to come with us full time,” said Professor Susan Steingass, director of the Communication and Advocacy Program, of which Legal Research and Writing is a major component. Dowdal will teach three sections of first-year students this semester in addition to his role in training.

He will also lend his trial advocacy skills to the Mock Trial Program this spring.

(For news about the Mock Trial Program, see the article on page 7)

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food for me,” Weston says of her unplanned teaching career. “I could say that teaching is my way of repaying the Law School community for all the opportunities a UW Law School education has provided for me, but the truth is that I enjoy it so much I find myself further in debt.”

The Warren H. Stolper Award recognizes excellence in teaching and commitment to the University of Wisconsin Law School on the part of an adjunct professor.