

**Building Successful Research Collaborations: Multidisciplinary Teams,
Law School Clinic Field Sites, and Partnerships with the Bar,
Government, and Non-Profit Service Providers**

Third A2J Empirical Methods Workshop

**University of Wisconsin Law School
October 28, 2017, Lubar Commons (Room 7200)**

Program

Friday, October 27

7:00 pm **Dinner for speakers and invited guests**
Merchant, 121 South Pinckney Street, Madison

Saturday, October 28

8:30-9:00 am **Welcome & Introductions**
Tonya Brito
University of Wisconsin Law School

9:00-9:45 am **Roundtable Discussion #1: Gaining Access in A2J Empirical Research**
Tonya Brito
University of Wisconsin Law School

9:45-10:00 am **Break**

10:15-11:15 am **Paper Session #1: "Studying the 'New' Civil Judges"**

Anna Carpenter
University of Tulsa College of Law

Alyx Mark
Department of Political Science, North Central College

Colleen Shanahan
Temple University School of Law

Jessica Steinberg
George Washington University Law School

Primary Reviewers:

Susannah Tahk, Rebecca Sandefur, Marsha Mansfield

11:15 am-12:15 pm **Paper Session #2: “Empirical Legal Research and the Urban Core”**

Tonya Brito

University of Wisconsin Law School

Primary Reviewers:

Elizabeth Chambliss, Anna Carpenter, Alyx Mark, Colleen Shanahan, Jessica Steinberg, Catherine Albiston

12:15-12:30 pm **Break**

12:30-2:00 pm **Lunch and Roundtable Discussion #2: Research Collaborations**

Rebecca Sandefur

University of Illinois College of Law

2:00-2:15 pm **Break**

2:15-3:00 pm **Roundtable Discussion #3: Developing and Designing New Research Projects – Judges and Self Litigants**

Jessica Steinberg

George Washington University Law School

3:00-3:30 pm **Closing Remarks**

Tonya Brito

University of Wisconsin Law School

Biographies of Presenters and Reviewers

Catherine Albiston

Catherine Albiston is Jackson H. Ralston Professor of Law and Professor of Sociology at University of California Berkeley. She also holds an affiliate appointment in Gender and Women's Studies. At the law school, Professor Albiston teaches in the J.D. program and in the Ph.D. program in Jurisprudence and Social Policy. Her courses include Employment Discrimination, Sociology of Law, Social Movements and Law, Research Design, and the Advanced Interdisciplinary Writing Workshop on Law. Professor Albiston's research addresses the relationship between law and social change through a variety of empirical projects. Her current study of more than 200 public interest law organizations investigates how variation in strategy, structure and mission among public interest law organizations relate to access to justice.

Her publications appear in peer review journals such as *Law & Society Review*, *Law & Social Inquiry*, the *American Journal of Sociology*, and the *Annual Review of Law & Social Science*, as well as several law reviews. Her book, *Institutional Inequality and the Mobilization of the Family and Medical Leave Act: Rights on Leave* was published by Cambridge University Press in 2010. Her work has won multiple prizes, including the Law & Society Association Article Prize, the Law & Society Association Dissertation Prize, and Honorable Mention for the W. Richard Scott Award for Distinguished Scholarship from the Organizations, Occupations, and Work Section of the American Sociological Association. In 2016, Professor Albiston won the UC campus-wide Carol D. Soc Distinguished Graduate Student Mentoring Award for Senior Faculty, and in 2012-13 she was a Fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University. She also served on the Board of Trustees of the Law & Society Association.

Tonya Brito

Tonya L. Brito is the Jefferson Burrus-Bascom Professor of Law at the University of Wisconsin Law School and a Faculty Affiliate with the Institute for Research on Poverty (IRP) at University of Wisconsin-Madison. She served as Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Development from 2014-2016 and as Director of the Institute for Legal Studies from 2013-2016. During her time as ILS Director, she organized and hosted numerous academic conferences and speaker series, developed and inaugurated the ILS Law and Society Graduate Fellows Program, and launched the Wednesday Workshop series, an internal works-in-progress series for law faculty.

Professor Brito is a recipient of both the University of Wisconsin-Madison's 2012 Outstanding Women of Color in Education Award and the University of Wisconsin System's 2012 Outstanding Women of Color in Education Award for her scholarly research and writing on issues of race and poverty, community service, community building on- and off-campus for an inclusive and respectful environment. She is also the recipient of a 2016 Women in the Law Award, from the Wisconsin Law Journal, and a 2014-2015 Feminist Scholars Fellowship, awarded by the Center for Research on Women and Gender at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. In 2016, the Law and Society Association awarded Professor Brito the John Hope Franklin Prize Honorable Mention, which is given for the best scholarly article on Race, Racism and the Law published within the prior two

years. Professor Brito's work critically examines the intersection of family law and poverty law, focusing on how the welfare state regulates the family relationships of the poor. Professor Brito is the lead PI on a multidisciplinary empirical research project that investigates how attorney representation and more limited forms of legal assistance affect civil court proceedings for low-income litigants. Professor Brito has been awarded several competitive research grants to support her project. Professor Brito received her A.B with honors from Barnard College and her J.D. cum laude from Harvard Law School.

Anna Carpenter

Anna E. Carpenter is Associate Clinical Professor of Law and Director of the Lobeck Taylor Community Advocacy Clinic at University of Tulsa College of Law. Her scholarship includes empirical and theoretical work on access to justice and the role of lawyers, non-lawyers, and judges in the civil justice system. For her empirical research on access to justice, she was named a Bellow Scholar. Her papers have been selected for the Junior Scholars Public Law Workshop and the New Voices in Civil Justice Workshop. She also writes on clinical legal education. She is an appointed member of the Oklahoma Access to Justice Commission. Professor Carpenter previously held a Clinical Teaching Fellowship at Georgetown University Law Center in the Community Justice Project. She was also a Georgetown Women's Law and Public Policy Fellow. Prior to her academic career, Professor Carpenter was a staff attorney at the San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program and a federal policy advocate for Futures Without Violence. She earned a J.D. and an LL.M in Advocacy from Georgetown University Law Center. In the Community Advocacy Clinic, Professor Carpenter's students engage in civil litigation and trial advocacy, as well as community development and systemic advocacy.

Elizabeth Chambliss

Elizabeth Chambliss is professor of law at University of South Carolina and is the Director of the NMRS Center on Professionalism. She studies the organization and regulation of the legal profession and the effects of globalization and information technology on the U. S. legal services market. Much of her research has focused on the management and regulation of large law firms, with a particular focus on the professionalization of law firm general counsel. She also has written about the challenges facing U.S. legal education and continues to be active in debates about legal education reform. Her current research focuses on new models for legal services delivery, and the law and politics of "evidence based" approaches to lawyer regulation. Professor Chambliss serves on the South Carolina Access to Justice Commission, the Board of Directors of the Institute for Inclusion in the Legal Profession, and the Editorial Advisory Board of Law & Society Review. She received her B.S. from the College of Charleston and her J.D. and Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Prior to joining the faculty at the University of South Carolina, she taught at the University of Texas, the University of Denver, Harvard University, and New York University Law School.

Emily Frank

Emily Frank is a first-year Master's candidate in Public Affairs at UW-Madison. She is currently serving as a project assistant to Tonya Brito, studying access to justice for child support obligors. She is especially interested in poverty and welfare. After completing her undergraduate work at New York University, she spent two years serving as a legal advocate for people facing issues with their food stamps and public assistance.

Marsha Mansfield

Marsha M. Mansfield is Distinguished Clinical Professor of Law and Director of the Economic Justice Institute (EJI), at University of Wisconsin Law School. Professor Mansfield directly supervises students in the Family Court Clinic. Through her clinical work, she guides law students as they develop their lawyering skills through representation of and assistance to the underserved in Dane County while learning about the challenges faced by their clients and considering how they, as lawyers, might be most effective in their role as the lawyer. She also teaches Professional Responsibility.

Professor Mansfield currently serves on Wisconsin's Access to Justice Commission. She was President of the Dane County Bar Association in 2005 as well as Chair of the DCBA Delivery of Legal Services Committee. She has presented seminars on both ethics and family law topics and trained attorneys for Legal Action's Volunteer Lawyer's Project. She served for two terms on the State Bar's Board of Governors and associated committees. She is a member of the Family Law and Litigation Sections, WATL, the ABA Litigation Section, and served three terms on the Office of Lawyer Regulation District 9 Committee. She has been on the Advisory Board of the Consumer Law Litigation Clinic at the U.W. Law School for several years. Professor Mansfield helped create the U.W. Law School's Pro Bono Project and is a member of its steering committee. She is also of-counsel to the Hawks Quindel Law Firm in Madison, WI.

Alyx Mark

Alyx Mark is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at North Central College, Naperville, Illinois. Professor Mark's work focuses on the American civil legal system, the ways in which individuals interact with legal institutions, and the relationship between the federal courts and Congress. Her current research, which examines the civic and political effects of interacting with legal services offices, has received the support of the National Science Foundation and the Economic Club of Washington, D.C. Her work appears in, or is forthcoming at, *Denver University Law Review*, *Hastings Law Review*, *Law and Society Review*, and the *Journal of Law and Courts*. She has previously worked at the Brookings Institution as a Research Consultant in Governance Studies. She completed her Ph.D. and M.A. in Political Science at the George Washington University in Washington, D.C. and her B.A. in Political Science and Environmental Studies at Southern Illinois University - Edwardsville.

Rebecca Sandefur

Rebecca L. Sandefur is Associate Professor of Sociology and Law at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She is also Faculty Fellow at the American Bar Foundation, where she founded and leads the Foundation's access to justice research initiative. In 2013, she was The Hague Visiting Chair in the Rule of Law, affiliated with the Hague Institute for the Internationalization of Law. In 2015, she was named Champion of Justice by the National Center for Access to Justice. Professor Sandefur's research focuses on inequality, particularly as it relates to law. Her scholarship includes investigations of work and inequality in the legal profession and other professional occupations, lawyers' pro bono service and its contributions to legal aid, and studies of ordinary people's experiences with common problems that could bring them into contact with the civil justice system.

Her current research on the public includes the Community Needs and Services Study (CNSS), a community-sited, multi-method study of ordinary people's experiences with civil justice problems and the resources available to assist them in handling those problems. The CNSS is funded by the National Science Foundation (SES-1123507) and the American Bar Foundation. Her current research on lawyers and legal services provision includes the Roles Beyond Lawyers project, a

study of emerging models that use trained non-lawyers to provide services traditionally available only from lawyers. The Roles Beyond Lawyers project is conducted in collaboration with Thomas Clarke of the National Center for State Courts funded by the Public Welfare Foundation. A native of Oklahoma and an enrolled member of the Chickasaw Nation, Professor Sandefur received her BA from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and her PhD from the University of Chicago. Before joining the faculty at UIUC, she served for nine years on the sociology faculty at Stanford University.

Colleen Shanahan

Colleen F. Shanahan is Associate Clinical Professor of Law at Temple University Beasley School of Law. She teaches Justice Lab, a law clinic at the Sheller Center for Social Justice. Her research focuses on empirical studies of civil courts, access to justice, and the intersection of civil and criminal law. She also writes about topics in clinical legal education. Professor Shanahan was named a Bellow Scholar for her empirical access to justice scholarship. Before joining the Temple faculty, Professor Shanahan was a Visiting Associate Professor of Law at Georgetown University Law Center, where she directed the Community Justice Project, a clinic that focused on both poverty law litigation and systemic advocacy projects. Professor Shanahan was also previously a Lecturer in Law at Columbia University School of Law.

Before entering academia, Professor Shanahan was a civil and criminal litigator in private practice with Williams & Connolly in Washington, DC and Hangley Aronchick Segal & Pudlin in Philadelphia. She received her AB in politics with honors from Princeton University, her J.D. from Columbia University School of Law, where she was a Harlan Fiske Stone scholar, and her LL.M. with distinction from Georgetown University Law Center. She clerked for Judge Michael Baylson for the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania and Judge Jane Roth for the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

Jessica Steinberg

Jessica Steinberg is Associate Professor of Clinical Law at George Washington University Law School which she joined in 2011. She directs the Prisoner & Reentry Clinic (formerly known as Neighborhood Law & Policy Clinic). Professor Steinberg's scholarship centers on access to justice with a focus on new models of court reform, judging, and the delivery of legal services. She is a former Chair of the Association of American Law Schools' Section on Poverty Law, and has received the California State Bar Foundation's Public Interest Award in recognition of her achievements and commitment to public service work. Professor Steinberg earned her B.A., *magna cum laude*, from Barnard College and her J.D. from Stanford Law School. Prior to joining the law faculty, she served as the Jay M. Spears Fellow at Stanford Law School. Before entering academia, she served as a deputy city attorney for the City of Salinas, California, and an Equal Justice Works Fellow for the Legal Aid Society of San Mateo County.

Susannah Tahk

Susannah Camic Tahk serves as the Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Development at University of Wisconsin Law School. She also researches and teaches tax law and policy and supervises UW Law School's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program. She is currently the Rowe Faculty Fellow in Regulatory Law as well as an affiliate of UW-Madison's Institute for Research on Poverty. Before coming to UW Law, Professor Tahk practiced in the tax group in the Washington, DC office of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, where she focused on controversy and policy matters.

Professor Tahk received her B.A. magna cum laude in economics and ethics, politics and economics from Yale University, where she also received an M.A. in political science as a Sterling Prize Fellow. She received her J.D. from Yale Law School, where she was executive editor of the Yale Journal on Regulation and a student director of the Landlord-Tenant Clinic. Professor Tahk's articles have been published in the *Tax Law Review*, the *Columbia Journal of Tax Law*, the *Arizona Law Review*, the *Brooklyn Law Review*, the *Penn State Law Review*, the *Fordham Law Review*, the *Harvard Journal on Legislation*, the *Pittsburgh Tax Review* and the *Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics*. Professor Tahk is currently writing a book tentatively titled *The Tax War on Poverty* that explores the reasons for and consequences of tax policies that address poverty in the US. In 2015, Tahk received the Vilas Early Career Investigator Award from UW-Madison and was named an Up and Coming Lawyer by the Wisconsin Law Journal. She is the faculty adviser to UW Law's *Journal of Law, Gender & Society* and is admitted to practice in the District of Columbia and in Wisconsin.