

FEAR- LESS INQU- IRY.

OUR RESEARCH IS DRIVEN BY RELENTLESS EXAMINATION AND ENGAGEMENT.



Today's
unprecedented
legal landscape
demands
innovators and
visionaries.

University of Wisconsin Law
School rises to this challenge
through a dynamic faculty
dedicated to the uncompromising
pursuit of truth.

Carrying forward UW Law's
long history of fearless inquiry,
we ask hard questions, expand
perspectives and design
solutions with staying power. This
commitment to leaving nothing
unexamined ensures that our
work not only speaks to today's
most urgent needs, but also
endures through engagement
with the law's most fundamental
commitments.



Our
faculty's
fearless
inquiry
makes
them
society's
truth
tellers.

Accelerating our growth to meet the challenges of AI and innovation.

UW Law School continues to evolve and build our faculty so that we not only meet today's challenges, but also anticipate tomorrow's. Three of our 2025 hires focus on emerging issues of technology. Overall, the University of Wisconsin's investment in AI faculty hiring is one of the largest in public higher education.



Paul **CONNELL**

Professor Paul Connell combines economic models with AI-enabled empirical tools to study law and the deployment of capital. Drawing on his practice experience in capital markets and Ph.D. in economics, he tackles structural questions that cut across doctrine from jurisprudence to foreign investment. His work pairs substantive analysis with the development of rigorous methodologies for integrating AI into empirical research.



Jason **REINECKE**

Professor Jason Reinecke focuses on theoretical and empirical questions in IP and innovation law and policy, with an emphasis on patents. He draws on his experience as a patent litigator and clerk for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, alongside his training as a mechanical engineer, to address pressing law-and-policy issues using new data. His findings have garnered extensive citations in high-profile amicus briefs and a leading patent law casebook.

Benjamin **SOBEL**

Professor Benjamin Sobel studies how law and technology regulate information across IP, privacy and legal theory. His latest study of deep fakes won the award for best paper at the 2024 Privacy Law Scholars Conference, and his trailblazing article on AI and copyright fair use has become canonical to generative-AI debates since its publication in 2017. Beyond law reviews, recent citations to his work appear in federal court opinions, U.S. Supreme Court briefs, a leading copyright treatise and the 2024 Economic Report of the President.



LEADING THE CONVERSATION ON DEMOCRACY.



Our faculty are sought-after experts in their fields and have appeared in hundreds of media outlets including American Antitrust Institute, The Associated Press, The Atlantic, Bloomberg Law, C-SPAN, CNN, Daily Free Press, The Fulcrum, The Guardian, The Hill, HuffPost, Law.com, National Association for Public Defense, the National Law Review, NBC News, News Break, News from the States, The New York Times, Public News Service, San Francisco Chronicle, Snopes, Spectrum News, Texas Observer, USA Today, WalletHub, Washington Post and Wisconsin State Journal.

State Democracy Research Initiative (SDRI)

In just four years, SDRI has established itself as the leading nonpartisan resource for legal scholars, judges, legislators and the public for state-level democracy. Its rapid ascent reflects the work of its founders, Professors Miriam Seifter and Robert Yablon, whose scholarship in administrative, election and state constitutional law anchors the project. In 2024-25, SDRI hosted 12 panels and book talks and produced six amicus briefs, six law review articles and 18 white papers and explainers.

Our media appearances help people understand law's impact in their daily lives.

Lawyers and Democratic Decline (LADD)

LADD is a new international collaboration studying the role of lawyers and judges in countries facing democratic decline and authoritarian rule. Through comparative research and public-facing events, LADD analyzes how professionals navigate repression, uphold democratic norms and negotiate their professional identity in times of political crisis. Spearheaded by Director Kathryn Hendley, the Roman Z. Livshits & Theodore W. Brazeau Professor of Law and Political Science, LADD maintains an online repository of resources, news and documentation and will host the *Wisconsin International Law Journal* symposium, "The Role of Lawyers in Backsliding Democracies and Authoritarian Regimes," with attention to the U.S., Brazil, China, Hungary, Israel, Poland and Russia.

Center for the Study of Liberal Democracy (CSLD)

Professor Cecelia Klingele has been appointed director of CSLD, bringing this established UW Center to the Law School. CSLD's mission is to probe the principles, practices and institutions fundamental to liberal democracy, with particular attention to conservative and libertarian political thought. In 2024-25, CSLD convened a reading group, a Constitution Day Celebration and several events featuring legal scholars and lawyers.

SOLIDIFYING UW LAW AS A HUB FOR SCIENCE AND TECH- NOLOGY LAW.

Our new faculty hires focused on AI and innovation join a core group of faculty leaders already at the forefront of IP, science and technology law. Together, they push disciplinary boundaries to tackle legal challenges cutting across AI, bioethics and technological change.



Pilar
OSSORIO

Pilar Ossorio, professor of law and bioethics, is a powerhouse in the world of law and science. As an expert in patents and health law with a Ph.D. in microbiology, she has provided policy expertise to significant NIH initiatives while writing extensively on scientific ethics and innovation. Her interdisciplinary scholarship has garnered over 8,300 citations across academic journals.



BJ
ARD

Leveraging his expertise in copyright and technology law, Professor BJ Ard has centered his recent efforts on AI law and policy. His work includes extensive revision to the fair use chapter alongside authoring a new section on generative AI for the leading copyright treatise “Nimmer on Copyright,” and his latest articles have appeared in *Cornell Law Review*, *Emory Law Journal*, *Harvard Journal of Law & Technology*, *Maryland Law Review*, *Texas A&M Law Review* and *Washington & Lee Law Review*. This year, he was appointed associate dean for research and faculty development at UW Law.



Anuj
DESAI

Volkman-Bascom Professor of Law Anuj Desai is an esteemed scholar and expert in cyberlaw, First Amendment, intellectual freedom, and the legislative and administrative process. He serves as chair of the Administrative Law section of AALS and has published in *Stanford Law Review*, *Northwestern University Law Review*, *Law and Social Inquiry*, *Federal Communications Law Journal*, *Journal of Institutional Studies* and *University of Pennsylvania Journal of Constitutional Law*.

UW is where law lives.

UW Law faculty are the linchpins of scholarship and dialogue on the major legal issues facing our nation and world. From constitutional law to corporate law, family law and taxation, they bring depth and rigor to important conversation – developing innovative solutions that advance legal theory and practice.

Lisa WASHINGTON

Emerging as a leader at the intersections of family regulation and the criminal and immigration law systems, Professor Lisa Washington's work has appeared in *Yale Law Journal*, *Columbia Law Review*, *Northwestern University Law Review*, *Boston University Law Review*, *Chicago Law Review Online* and the *Yale Law Journal Forum*. In Spring 2025, she was voted UW Law Teacher of the Year. Her work also earned the 2024 Dukeminier Award from the Williams Institute and 2025 Emerging Scholar Award from the AALS Family and Juvenile Law Section.

Nathan ATKINSON

Professor Nathan Atkinson is a scholar whose research focuses on corporate governance, contract theory and voting procedures. His corporate-misconduct research explores the ways that corporations can profitably break the law and what can be done to stop them. He also investigates how electoral reform could help reduce political polarization. In addition to publishing in flagship law reviews, he has also placed articles in leading economics and management journals.



Mitra SHARAFI

Evjue-Bascom Professor of Law Mitra Sharafi is a renowned legal historian whose work focuses on South Asia. She is the president-elect of the American Society of Legal History and was recently awarded the Best Article Prize by the *Indian Law Review*.

David SCHWARTZ

Fredrick W. & Vi Miller Professor of Law and Vilas Distinguished Achievement Professor David Schwartz is a prolific constitutional law scholar. His extensive list of scholarly publications and papers, along with his role as the founder and editor-in-chief of the *Journal of American Constitutional History*, have made him a beacon of authority on the Constitution and its history. His work has been cited this year by the U.S. Supreme Court, The New York Times and top legal podcasts.

Joshua BRAVER

Professor Joshua Braver has built his reputation on work that analyzes past constitutional conflicts to construct principles for moments when law's boundaries are pushed, stretched or violated. Alongside his scholarship, he brought his current research on military deployment and military disobedience to bear on high-profile debates through opinion essays in *The Atlantic* and *The New York Times*.

Emily CAUBLE

Emily Cauble, associate dean for Academic Affairs and the Thomas G. Ragatz chair in Tax Law, is a leading scholar in tax policy and administration. Her co-authored treatise "Understanding Corporate Taxation" has emerged as an essential resource, and her recent articles have explored the way misinformation and misunderstanding impact American taxpayers in surprising areas, from purchasing homes to managing student debt.

Renagh O'LEARY

Professor Renagh O'Leary explores the frontiers of criminal law and procedure, with a focus on sentencing, decarceration and compassionate release. Drawing on years of experience as a public defender and clinical professor, she bridges theory with grounded insights in scholarship that has appeared in *Iowa Law Review*, *UC Davis Law Review*, *North Carolina Law Review* and *Wisconsin Law Review* and has twice earned recognition in the AALS Criminal Justice Section's Junior Scholars Paper Competition.

Franciska COLEMAN

Professor Franciska Coleman integrates political theory, critical discourse analysis and First Amendment law to analyze contemporary speech controversies. She chairs the AALS section on Constitutional Law and serves as chair-elect for the AALS section on Election Law, and her scholarship exploring "cancel culture" has garnered significant recognition.

Mark SIDEL

Doyle-Bascom Professor of Law and Public Affairs Mark Sidel is a leader for his expertise in nonprofit and philanthropic organizations, social policy and legal reform. His deep experience and focus on Asia have made him a highly sought-after expert, with over 20 presentations and speaking engagements in the last year. Sidel was recently elected to the board of directors of Give2Asia, the primary intermediary organization working with U.S. entities seeking to do philanthropic work in China.

Nina VARSAVA

Professor Nina Varsava's scholarship on adjudication, procedure, legal ethics and jurisprudence probes deep questions of precedent and interpretation. Recently, her work has appeared in *Legal Theory*, *Harvard Law Review*, *University of Chicago Law Review*, *Notre Dame Law Review* and the *Yale Journal of Law and Humanities*. Her scholarship has been covered by The New York Times and the *American Bar Association Journal* and has been cited by both federal and state courts.



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