

BROOKE ELLINWOOD McDONOUGH

109 Pommander Walk, Alexandria, Virginia 22314

202.288.2376 • bellinwood@law.gwu.edu

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

The George Washington University Law School

Associate Professor, Fundamentals of Lawyering

Visiting Associate Professor, Fundamentals of Lawyering

Coordinator of Scholarly Writing

Washington, D.C.

July 2022– Present

July 2019 – June 2023

July 2021 – Present

- Member of the inaugural faculty team hired to implement GW's full-time Fundamentals of Lawyering program.
- Work with program leadership to design curriculum to help advance the goals of the FL program, including giving first-year law students a strong, practice-based foundation in legal writing and analysis, research, and problem solving across legal domains.
- Serve as leader in the development and design of interim and capstone assignments, including as the primary architect of several spring semester appellate problems.
- Assist in the design of rubrics to assess student achievement of learning benchmarks and outcomes; invited by the faculty teaching committee to present to the faculty on the use of rubrics to assess student outcomes and provide both formative and summative assessments to students.
- Work closely with GW's Inns of Court program to mentor and assist students in developing career goals, forming professional identities, and becoming self-directed learners.
- Design and implement weekly lessons on client-centered lawyering for one or two sections of the first year Fundamentals of Lawyering course.
- As \Coordinator of Scholarly Writing, manage over 40 adjunct professors in implementing the required curriculum for second-year students working on scholarly notes; coordinate with journal editorial boards to ensure smooth administration of the note-writing process.

Professorial Lecturer in Law—Legal Research & Writing

July 2008 – July 2019

- Instructed students on the foundations of legal writing, research, and oral advocacy.
- Conducted weekly lessons and class exercises, as well as individual meetings with students to review drafts of work product and provide appropriate feedback.
- Coordinated with other faculty members and school administrators on various topics, including teaching techniques and student evaluations.
- As a member of the Scholarly Writing program, instructed students on all aspects of writing scholarly articles for publication in *The George Washington University Law Review*, including topic selection, legal research, and drafting.

- Evaluated student work throughout the scholarly writing process, including assessing legal analysis, organization, and writing style.

PRACTICE EXPERIENCE

Pro Bono

Washington, D.C.

Special Education Attorney

May 2021 – present

- Represent clients in the negotiation and administration of Individualized Education Plans.
- Successfully negotiated a significant increase in special education services and added transportation services for a student in D.C. Public Schools.

Goodwin Procter LLP

Washington, D.C.

Associate

Aug. 2006 – Oct.

2008

- Assisted clients in all stages of civil litigation before federal and state courts; wrote a full range of litigation materials, including dispositive court motions, written discovery, took depositions.
- Directly engaged with clients, including advising on litigation strategy.
- Appeared in cases before the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals, U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, D.C. Superior Court, and served as sole trial counsel before a Virginia state court.
- Supervised work of junior attorneys in drafting legal memoranda and responding to discovery requests.
- Served as a mentor to junior attorneys, acting as first-line defense in working with associates having difficulty in private practice.

Faegre Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP

(formerly Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP)

Washington, D.C.

Associate

Sep. 2004 – July 2006

Summer Associate

May 2002 – Aug. 2002

- Wrote varied legal documents in connection with civil litigation at both the trial and appellate levels, including dispositive court motions, motions in limine, proposed jury instructions, a petition for certiorari for the Supreme Court of the United States, and appellate briefs.
- Appeared and argued orally before federal and state courts, including motion arguments at the federal trial court level and appellate argument before the Maryland Court of Special Appeals.

United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Columbia

Washington, D.C.

Law Clerk to the Honorable S. Martin Teel, Jr.

Sep. 2003 – Aug. 2004

- Assisted a federal bankruptcy judge in drafting legal memoranda and opinions, and in preparing for court proceedings.
- Collaborated with staff of the Clerk of Court to ensure smooth administration of court proceedings.

EDUCATION

The George Washington University Law School

Washington, D.C.

Juris Doctor *with high honors*

May 2003

- 3.766 (Top 5%); Order of the Coif
- *The George Washington Law Review*, Senior Notes Editor
- Dean's Fellow
- Member, The George Washington University Domestic Violence Emergency Department Clinic

The George Washington University

Washington, D.C.

Bachelor of Arts *cum laude*

May 1998

- Major: English
- Recipient of the Maud E. McPherson Scholarship in English and English Literature, which supports outstanding female students

PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- Case Note, *T-Shirts to Spread the Word? Religious Exercise and the Religious Freedom Restoration Act*, 70 GEO. WASH. L. REV. 336 (2002)
- Presenter, "Incorporating Practitioners into the Classroom: Providing Students Guidance on Professionalism and Practice," LWI One-Day Workshop, University of Baltimore School of Law, December 13, 2013
- Co-Presenter with Natalia Blinkova, "Innovating Assessment: The Short (Thus Far) History of GW's Fundamentals of Lawyering Program," LWI One-Day Workshop, Stetson University College of Law, December 3, 2021
- Co-Presenter with Iselin Gambert, Erika Pont, Natalia Blinkova, and Robin Juni, "All that Jazz: A New Approach to Content and Coordination in the First Year Lawyering Class," Rocky Mountain Legal Writing Conference, March 5, 2022
- Panelist, "LWI Lives," 20th Annual Biennial LWI Conference, July 22, 2022
- Panelist, "Research, Writing and First-Generation Students," Southeastern Association of Law Schools Annual Conference, August 1, 2022
- Panel Moderator, Implementing ABA 303(c) in the Legal Writing Classroom, Southeastern Association of Law Schools Annual Conference, July 28, 2023
- Presenter, "Leveraging the Student Note Writing Process to Foster Skills Maintenance and Professional Identify Formation," LWI One-Day Workshop, Vermont Law & Graduate School, December 8, 2023

- Co-Presenter with Natalia Blinkova, “Reality Meets the Classroom: Building on This American Life to Teach 1Ls Legal Writing and Analysis,” Rocky Mountain Legal Writing Conference, March 8, 2024

BAR ADMISSIONS AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

- Member of the Legal Writing Institute; Former Co-Chair, LWI Lives Committee
- Member of the Outreach Committee of the AALS Section on Legal Writing, Reasoning, and Research
- Member of the Virginia and District of Columbia Bars
- Admitted to practice before Supreme Court of the United States, U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Columbia, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, and U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Eastern District of Virginia