

CLANITRA S. NEJDL

131 21st Avenue South, Nashville, TN 37203

Phone: 615-343-5902

Email: clanitra.s.nejdl@vanderbilt.edu

EDUCATION

Master of Library and Information Science, 2013

School of Library and Information Science, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

Juris Doctor, 2000

Mercer University School of Law, Macon, GA

Certificate in Advanced Legal Writing, Research, and Drafting

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, Magna Cum Laude, 1997

South Carolina Honors College, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

LIBRARY EXPERIENCE

Head of Faculty Services and Professional Development (August 2023 – Present)

Head of Professional Development (September 2020 – August 2023)

Research Services Librarian and Lecturer in Law (May 2019 – September 2020)

Alyne Queener Massey Law Library, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN

- Manages services to the law faculty, including the library liaison program and the Law Library RAs.
- Manages Massey Law Library assessment processes and reference and instruction data
- Supports the professional growth and development of the law librarians and law library staff of the Massey Law Library by providing oversight and guidance in the development of their professional goals and scholarship.
- Actively solicits and anticipates training needs of law librarians and law library staff and identifies and deploys opportunities to meet those needs
- Actively solicits and identifies professional development opportunities available for law librarians that build the skills necessary for success within 21st century law librarianship including conferences, volunteer opportunities, memberships, publication or co-authorship opportunities, collaborations, or opportunities to present
- Provides training to newly-hired law librarians, as appropriate
- Tracks trends in law librarian professional development and scholarship
- Develops materials for and teaches legal research skills in the first-year Legal Writing and Research Program to meet the educational needs of first-year law students
- Develops materials for and teaches in upper-division legal research courses, incorporating trends in technology, information availability or delivery, and the evolving nature of law firm and government legal practice
- Provides reference and research services for students, faculty, and other members of the Vanderbilt community, supporting the research needs of the University as well as supporting the University mission in its quest for new knowledge through scholarship

- Creates and updates online research guides, tutorials, and other web content in support of the academic pursuits of students, the quest for new knowledge through scholarship, and the outreach of the Law Library
- Participates in collection development to best serve the research needs of the Vanderbilt Law School faculty, students, and staff
- Engages in scholarly activities and serves actively in professional organizations at the local, regional, and/or national level, enhancing personal and professional growth, as well as providing contributions to the library profession
- Serves actively in campus library system-wide committees and collaborates with colleagues in other campus libraries on programs and policies

Reference & Instructional Services Librarian and Assistant Professor (May 2014 – May 2019)
Shapiro Memorial Law Library, Northern Illinois University College of Law, DeKalb, IL

- Provided basic legal research instruction to first-year law students (in semester-long, standalone courses) and advanced legal research instruction to upper-level law students (in single-semester, standalone courses)
- Supervised Law Library Reference graduate and research assistants
- Coordinated Law Library Reference Desk scheduling, coverage, and statistics
- Staffed the Law Library Reference Desk to assist the College of Law faculty, students, and staff with in-person and virtual reference questions and research requests
- Served as the liaison between the Law Library and the NIU College of Law clinics
- Served as a faculty liaison to NIU College of Law faculty members to provide research and technology instruction
- Coordinated and conducted Law Library education sessions and other outreach events
- Conducted guest lectures on research in doctrinal classes and seminar courses, as requested
- Created and updated LibGuides and other online educational resources
- Served as a Perma.cc registrar and the coordinator of faculty and Law Review usage of Perma.cc within the NIU College of Law
- Participated in collection development decisions, including purchasing and weeding
- Participated in scholarship and professional development activities, including faculty committees and professional associations

Reference Assistant (May 2012 – April 2013)

Coleman Karesh Law Library, University of South Carolina School of Law, Columbia, SC

- Assisted patrons with legal reference questions, including questions about electronic database searches and library catalog searches
- Developed homework assignments for *Legal Research, Analysis, & Writing* classes
- Designed LibGuides and other online educational resources

Graduate Assistant (August 2011 – December 2012)

Thomas Cooper Library, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

- Provided in-person and virtual reference assistance to undergraduates, graduate students, faculty, and staff
- Instructed patrons on the library's catalog and electronic databases
- Cataloged print and electronic items using the Millennium Integrated Library System

- Added metadata to existing library catalog records
- Assisted with the revision of the Thomas Cooper Library collection development policy
- Assisted with the weeding of library materials and other special projects as needed

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Vanderbilt University Law School, Nashville, TN (August 2019 – Present)

- **Advanced Legal Research** (Fall 2020, Fall 2021, Fall 2023)
- **Legal Research – Master of Legal Studies Program** (Spring 2023, Fall 2024)
- **Legal Writing I - 1L Legal Research Skills Component** (Fall 2019, Fall 2020, Fall 2021, Fall 2022, Fall 2023, Fall 2024)
- **Legal Writing II - 1L Legal Research Skills Component** (Spring 2020, Spring 2021, Spring 2022, Spring 2023, Spring 2024, Spring 2025)

Northern Illinois University College of Law, DeKalb, IL (August 2014 – May 2019)

- **Advanced Legal Research: Prepare to Practice** (Spring 2017, Spring 2018, Spring 2019)
- **Advanced Legal Research: Public Interest Law Research** (Fall 2015)
- **Basic Legal Research I** (Fall 2014, Spring 2016, Spring 2017, Fall 2018)
- **Basic Legal Research II** (Spring 2015, Fall 2016, Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Spring 2019)

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Hunger, Housing, and Economic Development Attorney (August 2005 – November 2010)

South Carolina Appleseed Legal Justice Center, Columbia, SC

- Created and directed hunger, housing, and economic development projects
- Supervised law student interns on a variety of advocacy projects
- Developed and executed state and local policy advocacy initiatives
- Drafted and promoted state housing legislation
- Developed and coordinated legal trainings for service providers, attorneys, and judges
- Developed manuals and brochures for diverse audiences
- Successfully secured private and government grants

Associate Attorney (February 2004 – June 2005)

Berry, Quackenbush & Stuart, P.A., Columbia, SC

- Provided legal advice and other non-litigation assistance to clients regarding landlord-tenant law, health care law, wills and estate planning, education law, consumer law, family law, and criminal law

Staff Attorney (November 2000 – August 2002)

Georgia Legal Services Program, Macon, GA

- Represented and advised indigent clients in court in various areas of civil law, including health care law, wills and probate, family law, education law, and landlord-tenant law
- Conducted case investigation and negotiation on behalf of clients

HONORS

Fastcase 50 Award	Recipient (2022)
AALL Presidential Certificate of Appreciation	Recipient (2022)
AALL Emerging Leader Award	Recipient (2021)
AALL Spectrum Article of the Year Award	Recipient (2021)
AALL Minority Leadership Development Award	Recipient (2017)
AALL Leadership Academy	Fellow (2016)

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Book Chapters

Better Learning Through Legal Research: Increasing Law Students' Cultural Competency and Awareness of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Using Legal Research Instruction, in *EXPLORING INCLUSIVE & EQUITABLE PEDAGOGIES: CREATING SPACE FOR ALL LEARNERS* (Robin Brown, Elizabeth Foster, Melissa Mallon, Jane Nichols, Ariana Santiago, & Maura Seale eds., 2023).

Policies for Law Reviews on Archiving Internet Sources, in *A MANUAL FOR LAW REVIEW EDITORS* (Brooke Bowman & Darby Dickerson, eds., 2022).

[*Navigating Your Career Goals: Government, Private and Academic Law Librarianship*](#), in [INTRODUCTION TO LAW LIBRARIANSHIP](#) [Open-Access Textbook] (Zanada Joyner & Cas Laskowski eds., 2021) (with Victoria De La Torre and Marcelo Rodriguez).

Property, Ownership, and the "Other:" A Selected Annotated Bibliography of Sources for Addressing Issues of Diversity in the First Year Property Law Course, in *INTEGRATING DOCTRINE AND DIVERSITY: INCLUSION AND EQUITY IN THE LAW SCHOOL CLASSROOM* (Nicole P. Dyszlewski, Raquel J. Gabriel, Suzanne Harrington-Steppen, Anna Russell, & Genevieve B. Tung eds., 2021).

Articles

Legal Research Instruction and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Insights for Classroom Management in Person and Online, 41 *LEGAL REFERENCE SERVS. Q.* 82 (2022) (with Shamika Dalton).

Academic Law Libraries and the Early Days of the COVID-19 Pandemic, *AALL SPECTRUM*, Sept.-Oct. 2020, at 16 (with Edna Lewis).

Building Strategic Partnerships Through Collaboration Between Law Libraries, *AALL SPECTRUM*, Mar.-Apr. 2020, at 16 (with Lindsey Carpino and Annie Mentkowski).

Developing a Culturally Competent Legal Research Curriculum, AALL SPECTRUM, Mar.-Apr. 2019, at 18 (with Shamika Dalton).

The Minority Leadership Development Award Effect: Catching Up with the First 10 Years of Winners, AALL SPECTRUM, Jan.-Feb. 2019, at 16 (with Alex Berrio Matamoros).

Race, Poverty, and Bail: An Annotated Bibliography, 38 N. ILL. U. L. REV. 487 (2018).

This Really Happened: Incorporating Legal News Items and Current Events into Legal Research Courses, SECOND DRAFT, Fall 2017, at 45.

Wrongful Convictions and Their Causes: An Annotated Bibliography, 37 N. ILL. U. L. REV. 401 (2017) (with Karl Pettitt).

Protecting Tenants at Foreclosure Act: Keeping Tenants in the Loop and in Their Homes, S.C. LAW., May 2010, at 20.

Public Interest Issues for the Private Practitioner, S.C. LAW., July 2007, at 26 (with Susan B. Berkowitz).

Program Reports and Newsletter Columns

Program Report: The Search Committee: An Effective Approach to Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity in Library Recruiting, ALL-SIS NEWSL., Fall 2019, at 17.

Program Report: Advance Toward Experiential -- Create or Retool Your Advanced Legal Research Course to Meet the ABA Experiential Learning Standards, ALL-SIS NEWSL., Fall 2017, at 11.

Program Report: Minority Teachers: Expectations, Experiences, and Exultations, ALL-SIS NEWSL., Fall 2017, at 9.

AALL Annual Meeting and Conference 2015: A Newbie's Journey. CALL BULL., Fall 2015, at 15.

First Year Teaching: How I Got Here from There. MAALL MARKINGS, Sept. 2015, at 14.

Program Report: Designers' Workshop: Subject Guides That Create the Effect You Want, ALL-SIS NEWSL., Fall 2015, at 9.

Program Report: Transitioning to the Revised ABA Law School Accreditation Standards, ALL-SIS NEWSL., Fall 2015, at 25.

ProQuest Congressional and Legislative Insight, SE. L. LIBR., Summer 2012, at 3, reprinted in THE CRIV SHEET, Feb. 2013, at 4.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Panelist, *The Promotion Proposal: Advice for Composing An Effective Promotion Statement and Dossier*, American Association of Law Libraries 2024 Conference, July 22, 2024.

Panelist, *Law Librarianship Career Panel*, Virtual panel for the Northeastern University School of Law, April 8, 2024.

Moderator, *Developing and Online Legal Research Course for Non-JDs*, American Association of Law Libraries 2023 Conference, July 17, 2023.

Panelist, *Words Matter: Incorporation of WISE techniques in Critical Feedback for Better Learning Outcomes in the Legal Research Curriculum*, American Association of Law Libraries 2023 Conference, July 17, 2023.

Panelist, *Inclusive Pedagogies in Practice*, Association of College & Research Libraries webinar, April 27, 2022.

Moderator, *Getting Published: Tips for Article Drafting and Submission*, American Association of Law Libraries webinar, April 19, 2022.

Moderator, *Introduction to Law Librarianship*, Virtual panel for the University of Arizona Daniel F. Cracchiolo Law Library, March 18, 2022.

Panelist, *The Wayfinders Among Us: First-Gen Professionals in AALL*, Virtual panel for the American Association of Law Libraries, January 19, 2022.

Panelist, *LIS Publishing Panel: Working with Editors and Reviewers*, Virtual panel for the Jean & Alexander Heard Libraries at Vanderbilt University, November 17, 2021.

Presenter, *Cultural Competence and Legal Research Instruction*, Virtual presentation for the Law Librarians at the Temple University Beasley School of Law Library, October 6, 2021.

Panelist, *Integrating Doctrine & Diversity Speaker Series: Book Release Kick Off Celebration*, Roger Williams University School of Law and CUNY Law Virtual Event, September 15, 2021.

Panelist, *Mountains to Molehills: How Generational Differences Can Actually Bring Us Together* [On-Demand Session with Live Q&A], American Association of Law Libraries 2021 Virtual Conference, July 2021.

Presenter, *Integrating Diversity into Legal Research Instruction in the COVID-19 Era: Tips and Techniques for Classroom Management*, Southeastern Chapter of the American Association of Law Libraries 2021 Virtual Annual Meeting, March 18, 2021.

Presenter, *Cultural Competence and Legal Research Training*, Virtual presentation to the Kansas City Association of Law Libraries, March 17, 2021.

Presenter, *Integrating Diversity into Legal Research Instruction in the COVID-19 Era: Tips and Techniques for Classroom Management*, Project 20/20: From Transition to Transformation Webinar, February 24, 2021.

Panelist, *So You Wanna Practice Cultural Competence?*, PEGA- SIS/AALL Continuing Professional

Education Committee Virtual Interview Series, February 10, 2021.

Presenter, *Integrating Diversity into Legal Research Instruction in the COVID-19 Era: Tips and Techniques for Classroom Management*, Teaching the Teachers 2020 Virtual Conference, December 7, 2020.

Presenter, *Reworking Academic Law Librarianship in the Time of COVID-19*, Virtual presentation for the Northern California Association of Law Libraries, November 17, 2020.

Presenter, *Tips for Incorporating Cultural Competence into the Legal Research Classroom*, Virtual presentation for the Law Librarians at the Robert Crown Law Library at Stanford Law School, November 3, 2020.

Presenter, *Setting the Pace: Cultural Competence in the Legal Research Classroom*, Mid-America Association of Law Libraries 2020 Virtual Annual Meeting, October 16, 2020.

Presenter, *Tips for Incorporating Cultural Competence into the Legal Research Classroom*, Virtual training for the Law Librarians at the Maloney Library at Fordham University School of Law, July 22, 2020.

Moderator, *Continuing the Conversation on Inclusion in the Profession*, American Association of Law Libraries webinar, June 30, 2020.

Panelist, *Backward Design: A Handy Tool for Remote Teaching*, William & Mary Conference for Excellence in Teaching Legal Research & Writing Online, June 18, 2020.

Moderator, *Strategic Partnerships*, American Association of Law Libraries, April 21, 2020.

Panelist, *Law Librarian Leadership Opportunities in the Wake of COVID-19*, American Association of Law Libraries webinar, March 27, 2020.

Presenter, *From the First Day Forward: Integrating Legal Research into Law School Doctrinal Courses*, Dismantling the Separate but Equal Paradigm: Integrating Legal Research into the Law School Curriculum (Legal Writing Institute), Penn State Dickinson Law, Carlisle, PA, December 6, 2019.

Presenter, *Building Strategic Partnerships: Using Outreach Between Academic, Government, and Law Firm Libraries to Maximize Value*, 2019 American Association of Law Libraries Annual Meeting and Conference, Washington, D.C., July 16, 2019.

Presenter, *Diverse Interactions: Addressing Race and Implicit Bias in Legal Research Instruction*, 2019 Teaching the Teachers Conference, Atlanta, GA, May 31, 2019.

Presenter, *Diverse Interactions: Addressing Race and Implicit Bias in Legal Research Instruction*, 2018 American Association of Law Libraries Annual Meeting and Conference, Baltimore, MD, July 15, 2018.

Panelist, *Preserving Our Histories, Telling Our Stories: What's in Your Chapter Archives?*, 2017 MAALL, LLAW, MichALL, MALL, and CALL Joint Annual Meeting, Milwaukee, WI, October 21, 2017.

Presenter, *Staying Current -- Together!*, 2017 MAALL, LLAW, MichALL, MALL, and CALL Joint Annual Meeting, Milwaukee, WI, October 19, 2017.

Presenter, *Research Instruction I: Innovating Your Legal Research Classes*, Teaching Today's Students with Today's Tools for Tomorrow's Practice (Legal Writing Institute), IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law, Chicago, IL, December 11, 2015.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND SERVICE

American Association of Law Libraries	Member (2014 – Present)
AALL/LexisNexis Call for Papers Committee	Chair (2023 – 2024) Vice-Chair (2022 – 2023)
AALL Spectrum Editorial Board	Member (2020 – 2022)
Academic Law Libraries SIS	Member (2014 – Present)
Legal Research and Sourcebook Committee	Chair (2020 – 2021) Vice-Chair (2019 – 2020) Member (2017 – 2021)
Annual Meeting Program Committee	Member (2020 – 2022)
Marketing & Outreach Team	Team Member (2020 – 2021)
Professionalism & Leadership at Every Level Team	Team Leader (2021 – 2022)
Black Caucus of AALL	Member (2014 – 2020)
Black Law Librarians SIS	Member (2020 – Present)
Bylaws Committee	Member (2020 – 2021)
Diversity and Inclusion Committee	Member (2017 – 2018)
Emerging Leader Award Jury	Vice-Chair (2024-2025)
Excellence in Community Engagement Award Jury	Chair (2019 – 2020) Vice-Chair (2018 – 2019)
First-Generation Professionals Caucus	Member (2021 – Present) Member-at-Large (Elected) (2021 – 2022)
Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity Awareness Special Committee	Member (2020 – 2022)

Law Library Journal Editorial Board	Member (2022 – 2023)
Private Law Librarians & Information Professionals SIS	Member (2020 – Present)
Education and Professional Development Committee	Member (2020 – 2021)
Research Instruction & Patron Services SIS	Secretary/Treasurer (2019 – 2021) Member (2014 – Present)
Grants Committee	Member (2021 – 2022)
Online Training Committee	Member (2020 – 2021)
Research Instruction Committee	Chair (2019 – 2020) Vice-Chair (2018 – 2019) Member (2017 – 2020)
Beta Phi Mu International LIS Honor Society	Member (2013 – Present)
Chicago Association of Law Libraries	Member (2014 – Present)
Archives Committee	Member (2015 – 2019) Co-Chair (2016 – 2017)
Bulletin Committee	Co-Editor (2018 – 2019) Member (2015 – 2019)
Community Service Committee	Member (2019 – 2020)
Grants and Chapter Awards Committee	Member (2015 – 2017)
Strategic Planning Special Committee	Member (2021 – 2022)
Mid-America Association of Law Libraries	Member (2014 – Present)
Bylaws Committee	Member (2019 – 2021)
Grants Committee	Member (2017 – 2018)
Membership Committee	Co-Chair (2018 – 2019)
Northern Illinois University	
Black Faculty and Staff Association	Vice-President (2018 – 2019) Historian (2017 – 2018) Secretary (2014 – 2017)

College of Law 1L Mentorship Program	Mentor (2014 – 2019)
College of Law Academic Standing Committee	Member (2018 – 2019)
College of Law Admissions Committee	Member (2016 – 2019)
College of Law Curriculum Committee	Member (2014 – 2017)
College of Law Director of Admissions Search Committee	Member and Diversity Advocate (Fall 2016)
College of Law Librarian Search Committee	Member (Fall 2016)
College of Law Library Committee	Member (2014 – 2016)
Faculty Senate	Member (2016 – 2019)
Faculty Senate Academic Affairs Committee	Chair (2017 – 2018)
Southeastern Chapter of AALL	Secretary (2022 – 2024) Member (2019 – Present) (2021 – 2022)
Chapter Handbook Editor	
Scholarship Committee	Member (2020 – 2021)
State Bar Memberships	
Georgia Bar (Active)	Member in Good Standing (2000 – Present)
South Carolina Bar (Inactive)	Member in Good Standing (2003 – Present)
Vanderbilt University	
Association of Vanderbilt Black Faculty and Staff	Member (2020 – Present)
Law School Staff Racial Injustice & Inequality Taskforce	Member (2020)
Vanderbilt Libraries Advisory Council	Elected Member (2020 – 2022)
Vanderbilt Libraries Assessment Advisory Group	Member (2020 – 2021)
Vanderbilt Libraries Librarian for Economics Search Committee	Member (2021 – 2022)
Vanderbilt Libraries Promotion Review Committee	Member (2022 – Present) Chair (2024 – 2025) Vice-Chair (2023 – 2024)

Vanderbilt Libraries Skills Development Committee	Member (2019 – 2022)
Vanderbilt Libraries Staff Life Committee	Member (2019 – 2022)
Vanderbilt Libraries Teaching and Learning Committee	Member (2020 – 2022)