

Vita

Joan PolICASTRI
Collection Services & Research Librarian
Head of Acquisitions
Assistant Teaching Professor
2025

Library Experience

William A. Wise Law Library, University of Colorado School of Law, (March 2014 – Present)

Acquisitions

- Manage library Books & Materials budget
- Select, Order, and timely pay invoices for all monograph titles purchased. (January 2022 to Present)
- Serve as liaison with publishers and vendors for the library
- Manage license renewals and selected usage statistics
- Manage electronic resources subscriptions
- Coordinate trials of new electronic resources
- Monitor approval plans, subscriptions and standing orders
- Supervise acquisitions assistant (2013 – 2022)
- Advise Director and Librarians on issues with, and new developments in, library resources
- Provide cancellation analysis and procedures (2013-2022)
- Review all price increases and negotiate with vendors
- Represent the Law Library at regional meetings of the University of Colorado Libraries (CLERT).

Reference

- Serve at Reference Desk (2013 – 2022)
- Assist students, faculty and others with Indigenous and International Law research

Administration

Orientation, Participate in creation of American Indian Treaty History exhibit in the Rare Book room and present to new students (Fall 2023)
Chair, Collection Development Committee (2023- Present),
Chair, Reappointment Committee (2025/26)

As part of the American Indian Law Faculty:

- Provide in-class research instruction
- Work with students and faculty on research projects
- Train student researchers on areas of international law

- Assist the American Indian Law Clinic with specialized research for the UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- Assist with the joint CU Law/Native American Rights Fund project (TIP) on implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

William A. Wise Law Library, University of Colorado School of Law, Visiting Law Librarian, (Jan. 2013 – February 2014) – Provide reference services, participate in collection development, create and work with first-year students on research exercises, provide in-class instruction (Media law, Indigenous Peoples Law, Federal Indian Law, Legal Research), create research guides; work with vendors and with staff accountant, provide cancellation analysis and procedures, supervise acquisitions assistant, oversee contract renewals and new purchases.

University of the Rockies (Oct. 2012 – March 2013, Temporary) – Provide reference/research services for online Masters and PhD students; research information literacy standards for graduate psychology students; create and present instructional materials for on-site student orientations; provide in-class instruction for students; participate in the development of the Denver library collection.

Westminster Law Library, University of Denver, Sturm College of Law, February 2005– Sept. 2012

Foreign, Comparative & International Law Librarian

Research and Instruction Responsibilities (2008-2012):

- Provide research assistance to students, faculty, alumni, attorneys, and *pro se* patrons in the areas of foreign and international law.
- Provide research instruction to students in the form of in-class instruction, lunch talks, one-on-one meetings.
- Create research materials and bibliographic resources for print and electronic materials.
- Provide coverage of the reference desk.
- Make recommendations concerning foreign, comparative, and international materials.
- Outreach to other Colleges on campus to provide research assistance.
- Community outreach.

Instructional Materials created:

- Nanda Center Research Portfolio
- Co-author (with Sergio Stone, Stanford Law Library) American Society of International Law's Electronic Research Guide to International Humanitarian Law
- Publications: The View From Above, Nanda Center blog, Westminster Law Library Hearsay Blog.

Acquisitions (2005-2008)

- Post all materials invoices to III and non-purchase order materials to Banner System. Coordinate and balance the two systems.
- Do month-end and annual close-out in III

- Review reports to maintain budget parameters, report issues to library Director
- Provide collection analysis as requested
- Maintain vendor contracts / oversee the renewal process
- Catalog electronic materials - Import records from OCLC for HeinOnline libraries, assign call numbers and subject headings
- Maintain cancellations spreadsheet
- Receive monographs / maintain monograph order record files for follow-up
- Work with Vendors to resolve problems/issues
- Work claims
- Receive and inventory gifts

Education

University of Denver, Denver, Colorado. Master of Library and Information Science, August 2007. Concentrations in Archives and Records and Library, and Information Resources and Technologies.

Additional for credit/non-degree course work at the Joseph Korbel School of International Studies, University of Denver, includes Ethics and International Affairs (Spring 2005), and audit of International Law and Human Rights (Spring 2008).

DENVER PARALEGAL INSTITUTE Denver, Colorado. Graduated with Honors, July, 1994.

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO, Denver, Colorado. Master of Arts (1991) and Bachelor of Arts (1986), Political Science. Areas of specialization: Indigenous Law and Politics, Utopian Studies, Women's Studies; coursework included Indigenous Law and Politics, Environmental Law, and Constitutional Law.

West Los Angeles Community College, Culver City, California. Associate Arts Degree (1978). Major: French.

Publications

PBWorks pages to support the Land Grabbing presentation:

Ukraine (Tatars) -

<http://landgrabbing.pbworks.com/w/page/80057021/2%3A%20Ukraine%20focusing%20on%20the%20Tatar%20people>

Rapa Nui (Easter Island) -

[http://landgrabbing.pbworks.com/w/page/82873522/2A%3A%20Rapa%20Nui%20\(Easter%20Island\)](http://landgrabbing.pbworks.com/w/page/82873522/2A%3A%20Rapa%20Nui%20(Easter%20Island))

General Resources on Indigenous Peoples -

<http://landgrabbing.pbworks.com/w/page/82873537/2B%3A%20General%20Resources>

2015 American Society of International Law, Electronic Resource Guide on International Humanitarian Law https://www.asil.org/sites/default/files/ERG_HUMANIT_LAW.pdf

2017 FCIL Newsletter, February 2017, Standing Rock and International Law

2017 FCIL Newsletter, February 2017, Book Reviews

2018 FCIL, Diplomatic Dialogues, IALL Recap 2018: Traditional Cultural Expressions and International Intellectual Property Law <https://fcilsis.wordpress.com/2018/11/01/iall-2018-recap-traditional-cultural-expressions-and-international-intellectual-property-law/>

Buddhism and Mindfulness (2019) Presentation to the Uberoi Foundation Meeting of the Experts
Buddhism and Human Rights (2018) Presentation to the Uberoi Foundation Meeting of the Experts

Awards

2015 – “Spirit of FCIL-SIS” awarded by the FCIL-SIS of the American Association of Law Libraries.

Courses Taught at CU Law –

Co-Instructor for course on International Legal Research (Spring 2019)

Co-Instructor for course on International Legal Research (Fall 2021)

Presentations

Researching Canadian Aboriginal Law, (Moderator, Fall, 2024, for AALL)

International Human Rights Research (Spring 2024, Professor Anaya)

Maya Project Research – (Spring and Fall 2019)

International Commercial Arbitration (Prof. Wells, Oct. 2019)

Buddhism and Mindfulness (Uberoi Foundation, Oct. 2019)

International Commercial Arbitration (Prof. Wells, Oct. 2018)

Buddhism and Human Rights (Uberoi Foundation, Oct. 2018)

Awakening Awareness of International Law – Doman Society (Fall 2016)

Indigenous Peoples Legal Research (Prof. Carpenter, 2013, 2015, 2016)

American Indian Law (Prof. Krakoff, 2015, 2016)

Advanced Legal Research - Researching Foreign Law - Mexican Law (Prof. Linz) (2014)

American Association of Law Libraries – San Antonio, 2014 – Land Grabbing: Accessing Information to Protect Property Rights of Indigenous Peoples (July 14, 2014)

Innovative Annual Meeting - Using JTacq for Acquisitions – Minneapolis, MN, March 2015

Colorado Bar Association – Using Google for Legal Research-Denver, June 2013

Professional Memberships

American Association of Law Libraries – (2006- Present) Foreign, Comparative and International Law section and Technical Services (2013 - present)

Chair, Indigenous Peoples Interest Group (2010-2015) Co-Chair, 2016-present.

American Society of International Law – (2007 – present)

Co-Chair, Rights of Indigenous Peoples Interest Group (2012-2014)

International Association of Law Libraries, member (2009- present)

Colorado Association of Law Librarians – (2005- Present) Chair, Archives (2007 to 2008)

American Indian Library Association (2022 – present)

Professional Development

Conferences Attended

American Society of International Law – Washington, D.C.,

2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2014, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021

American Association of Law Libraries –

Washington, D.C. 2009, Denver 2010, Philadelphia 2011,

San Antonio 2014, Philadelphia 2015.

International Association of Law Libraries –

Annual Course on legal information and the law, The Hague, 2010.

Annual Course on legal information and the law, Oxford, England, July/August 2016.

Annual Course on legal information and the law, Atlanta, Georgia, 2017

Annual Course on legal information and the law, Luxembourg, 2018

Annual Course on legal information and the law, remote from Toulouse, France, 2021

Annual Course on legal information and the law, Palo Alto, CA 2022

Annual Course on legal information and the law, Oslo, Norway, 2024

Center for China – United States Cooperation –

Conference, Philadelphia, May 2010.

Chinese and American Forum on Legal Information and Law Libraries,

Philadelphia 2011.

Indigenous Peoples Day – CU Denver October 13, 2014

"Sweet Medicine: The Waters Still Flow" – Nov. 10, 2014 CU Denver

Innovative Users Group – Minneapolis, MN March 2015

Attend quarterly webinars for ProQuest, Summon, and Innovative Interfaces, Inc., and other webinars as appropriate (vendors, products and training).

Workshops Attended

Spanish Language Primer for Legal Practitioners – Sept. 19-20, 2008.

American Indian Tribal Law –

AALL, Pre-Conference Workshop, Denver, July 2010.

Researching European Union Law –

AALL, Pre-Conference Workshop, Philadelphia, July 2011.

United States/ China Legal Exchange –
Sturm College of Law, October 19, 2011.
University of Colorado Diversity Summit – Oct. 24, 2014
Posters for law school and law library's efforts in diversity
Conference on Diversity and Inclusion in Libraries –
University of Denver - July 2019
University of Colorado Libraries Summit – August 2019
Auraria Library
FOLIO – University of Denver, June 2019
Change Leadership Workshop – CU Boulder, July 2019

Service

Member, Board of Directors, Indigenous Rights Assistance Group (non-profit)
Testify before Colorado State Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs in support of the Repeal
Columbus Day Bill (March 2019)
Evaluate Educational Grant Proposals for the Uberoi Foundation for the Promotion of the
Dharmic Religions. (2018, 2019)
University of Colorado – Member, Boulder Faculty Assembly,
Library Committee (2019)
University of Colorado School of Law
Public Services Committee member 2013- Sp 2017
LLM Committee member (2017, 2018)
International Programs Committee (2019, 2020)
American Indian Law Program Committee (2019-present)
Adjunct Committee (2022-2023)
Law Library Representative to CLERT and CLAD (2013 – present)
Design, select, and create book table displays for the entrance of the
Law Library featuring public service-related books. (2013 – 2016)
Constitution Day presentations (3) to local high schools (Sept. 2016)
Provide research support to the Jessup Cup Team (2016, 2017)
Provide research support to the Water Protector Legal Collective (2017)
Volunteer, Colorado Horse Rescue, Longmont, CO (2017 – 2019, 2021-2022)

Additional library experience

Denver Public Library (Denver, CO Central Branch) Docent – 1998

- Trained customers on use of the Internet and provided reference services.

Westminster Public Library /College Hill Branch (Westminster, Colorado) Volunteer –
2004/2006

- Assisted with processing of interlibrary loans by searching for requested materials online and packing for shipment; send notification to clients of receipt of requests and maintain associated paperwork.
- Update catalog through use of Library of Congress Subject Headings lists.

National Indian Law Library (Boulder, CO) Practicum, – May 2007 – August 2007

- Researched and replied to virtual reference questions, researched instructional materials products for possible new training environment, edited website, attended staff meetings and trainings.

Computer Skills

FOLIO, Innovative Interfaces, Inc. (Millennium), Summon, Boopsie, JTacq, PeopleSoft, Westlaw, LexisNexis, Bloomberg, OCLC, Banner, Windows XP, Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint) Dreamweaver, and other legal and specialty programs and databases.

Other Relevant Experience

Paralegal (July 1994 – December 2004) experience in many areas of law including family law, contracts, real estate, oil & gas, litigation, and tax. Practicum was in the Compliance Department of a nationwide security firm.

Tutoring Coordinator – University of Colorado, Denver, Center for Learning Assistance – (Spring 1989 to Summer 1991)

- Interviewed and trained tutors for all subject areas (10-15 subjects, 25-35 tutors, 600-700 students)
- Maintained all statistics and records to support grant funding
- Tutored students in Political Science and English as a Second Language
- Developed and taught introductory class on social science vocabulary and concepts for ESL students.

Accounting – 3 years of accounting courses

Purchasing – 1 year of inventory control, 2 years as assistant to Purchasing Agents in the cable television industry

Customer Service – 1 year, Customer Service Manager at Dart Drug (Chain Bridge, VA). Hired, scheduled, trained, and supervised 45 cashiers/clerks.

Library Instruction 2008 – 2012 – University of Denver

Courses for Credit

Foreign and International Legal Research – Sturm College of Law - Summer 2010, 2 Credits

Transnational Legal Research for Law Librarians – Co-taught (with Sergio Stone) - Morgridge College of Education, University of Denver (Summer 2010) 3 credits

Classroom Instruction, unless otherwise noted, approximately one hour presentations.

International Law

Sturm College of Law – each term 2008-2012 – Professor Ved Nanda

Korbel School – 2 quarters each year, 2008, 2009, and 2010- Professor Claude d’Estrée

International Human Rights Law

Sturm College of Law – annually –2008-2011, Professor Ved Nanda

Korbel School – Winter Quarter 2011, Prof. Claude d’Estree

International Law and Human Rights

Korbel School – 2 quarters each year, 2008 and 2009, and in 2010, 2 presentations in Spring Quarter, Professor Claude d’Estrée

International Humanitarian Law

Korbel School – 2 quarters each year, 2008-2010, Professor Claude d’Estrée

International Law, International Human Rights Law, and International Humanitarian Law,

Combined two hour presentation

Korbel School – 2010, 2011, 2012, Professor Claude d’Estrée

Contemporary Slavery and Human Trafficking

Korbel School - Annually 2008-2011, Professor Claude d’Estrée

LLM Orientation

Sturm College of Law – Fall and Spring terms, 2008-2011

Comparative Environmental Law

Sturm College of Law- Spring 2008, 2009, 2010, Professor Don Smith

Sturm College of Law- Spring 2011 and in Spring 2012- participated in/co-taught the class as “our librarian”– Professor Don Smith

European Union

Sturm College of Law- Fall 2008, 2009 – Professor Don Smith

Sturm College of Law- Fall 2010 participated in/co-taught the class as “our librarian”– Professor Don Smith

Petroleum Law

Sturm College of Law - Fall 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, Professors Steven Bain and Carol Harmon

Sustainable Development Series – three levels - International, National, Domestic

Sturm College of Law – 2010, 2011 - (30 minute presentations), Professors Luke Danielson and Cecilia Dalupan

Russian for Lawyers – (with follow-up assignments)

Sturm College of Law – Fall, 2008 -2012, Spring 2009-2011, Professor Victoria Martysh

Climate Change and Sustainable Trade Law

Sturm College of Law – Fall 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, Professor Anita Halvorssen

Global Climate Change Law and Policy

Sturm College of Law – Spring 2009, 2010, 2011, Professor Anita Halvorssen

International Water Law

Sturm College of Law- Spring Quarter 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, Professor George Pring

Energy Law – (with library tour of relevant resources)

Sturm College of Law – Spring, 2009-2011, Professor K.K. DuVivier

Mining Law – (with library tour of relevant resources)

Sturm College of Law – Spring, 2009-2011, Professor K.K. DuVivier

Latin American Comparative Mining Law

Sturm College of Law – Summer 2009 – Professors Heredia, Rodrigo & Smith

International Commercial Arbitration

Sturm College of Law - Fall Term, 2009, Professor Todd Wells

International Organizations – Professor Paula Rhodes

Sturm College of Law, Fall, 2009, Professor Paula Rhodes

Comparative Law

Sturm College of Law - Spring 2009 – Presentation of custom designed research guide, Professor Paula Rhodes

Jessup Team (International moot court competition preparation)

Sturm College of Law- Fall 2011, Coach Megan Matthews

Advanced Legal Writing – Provide general introduction to Foreign and International Legal Research – also provide follow-up assignments (30 minute presentations) – Spring 2010, 2011, Professor Theresa Bruce

Introduction to Foreign & International Legal Research – presentation for LIS program, Morgridge College of Education, University of Denver, Professor Madeline Cohen

Denver Urban Debate League (Denver High School competition)
Sturm College of Law - Spring 2011

Human Trafficking Clinic, University of Denver, Josef Korbel School of International Studies, for Professor Claude d'Estrée (with Chris Brown, DU Government Documents Librarian) Fall 2010: included;

- 1) Word usage and creating a specialized taxonomy
- 2) Detailed instruction on human trafficking resources

Online legal research instruction provided for Master of Science, Legal Administration program, Sturm College of Law, Professors Hewitt and McKenna Spring 2008 to Fall 2011: Comparative Law, Comparative Legal Systems, Comparative Court Systems, World Judicial Systems.

Online course recordings include: library catalog instruction on the topics, databases instruction, writing an annotated bibliography, website use and analysis, locating and using secondary materials, introduction to foreign case law research online, comparative law research online, International Courts, and Special Courts – Business/Trade, regional organizations. (Camtasia Relay)

Through Blackboard, serve as “Our Librarian” for these online courses – answer Student questions, evaluate viability of projects proposed by students.

Work with faculty to develop syllabus for the Comparative Court Systems and World Judicial Systems courses.

Instruction open to entire University of Denver campus:

Researching Islamic Law –1 hour, Fall 2008

Research Skills in Islamic Law for Librarians, Fall 2009

Spring 2012 Databases Series- Nine (9) weeks of lunch and evening sessions, co-sponsored with the Josef Korbel School of International Studies; Certificate of Completion awarded to students or staff who attend all 9 sessions. Also open to members of the International Law section of the Colorado Bar Association. Sessions included: HeinOnline databases including the Law Journal Collection, United Nations Law Collection, World Constitutions, Treaties and Agreements Library, Foreign and International Law database; Oxford Reports on International Law; Oxford Scholarship Online; International Encyclopedia of Law; Foreign Law Guide; Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals; Max Planck Encyclopedia of Public International Law; and, Using Social Science resources at the Penrose Library.

Other:

Presentation to the International Law Section of the Denver Bar Association-Topic “Now You’re in the Know: Great Reference Materials for International Business Lawyers in Denver – A Librarian Can Bring You Back the Right Answer.” 1 Ethics credit. December 13, 2011.