

KAREN SKINNER

Associate Director of Public Services and Assistant Teaching Professor

University of Colorado Boulder, William A. Wise Law Library

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EDUCATION

M.S. in Library Science

Indiana University, Bloomington

M.S. in Sport Management

University of Massachusetts, Amherst

J.D.

Capital University, Columbus, OH

B.A. in Criminology and International Studies

The Ohio State University, Columbus

LIBRARY EXPERIENCE

University of Colorado Boulder, William A. Wise Law Library

2024 – present

Associate Director Public Services

2024 – present

Assistant Teaching Professor

2024 – present

- Manage the law library's daily public services operations, including the supervision of 4 faculty librarians and 1 staff, and the delivery of research services to students and faculty.
- Serve on the law library's administrative team assisting the director with personnel, budget, library systems, strategic planning, and administrative activities.
- Develop and implement the strategic direction for the Reference, Access Services, and Instructional Services departments and ensure effective delivery.
- Provide mentorship to faculty librarians in the areas of librarianship, teaching, scholarship, and service.
- Collaboratively plan and teach legal research, including Foundations of Legal Research, Advanced Legal Research, other for-credit research courses, and instruction sessions for other law school courses or groups of patrons.
- Participate in committee-driven collection development decision-making.

University of Southern California, Gould School of Law	2009 – 2024
Senior Law Librarian and Law Librarian III with continuing appointment	2015 – 2024
• Adjunct Assistant Professor of Law	2013 – 2024
• Law Librarian II	2012 – 2015
• Law Librarian I	2009 – 2012
Indiana University, Maurer School of Law	2007 – 2009
• Reference Assistant • Circulation Desk Attendant • Interlibrary Loan Assistant	
Indiana University, Herman B Wells Library	2007 – 2008
Cataloging Assistant	

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Colorado Boulder, School of Law	2025 – present
Assistant Teaching Professor	
LAWS 5646 – Foundations of Legal Research (JD)	2025 – present
LAWS 6856 – Advanced Legal Research (JD)	2025 – present
University of Southern California, Gould School of Law	2010 – present
Adjunct Assistant Professor	
LAW 515 – Legal Research, Writing & Advocacy I (JD)	2010 – present
LAW 599 – Advanced Legal Research & Writing (JD)	Summer 2020
LAW 516 – Legal Research, Writing & Advocacy I (JD)	2010 – 2017
LAW 510 – Legal Research (LLM)	2010 – 2017
University of Massachusetts, Sport Management Program	1999 – 2000
Teaching Assistant	
SPORTMGT 335 – Introduction to Sports Law	

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Porter, Wright, Morris & Arthur LLP, Columbus	2001 – 2005
Attorney, Litigation Group	
MLB Players Association, New York	2000 – 2001
Legal Intern	

Columbia Gas of Ohio, Inc., Columbus	1998 – 1998
Legal Intern	
City Attorney's Office, Prosecutor Division, Columbus	1997 – 1998
Intake Officer/Night Director	

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

University of Colorado Boulder

Member, University FOLIO Governance Guild	2024 – present
Member, Law School Loan Repayment Assistance Program (LRAP)	2024 – present
Member, Law Library Faculty-Focused Outreach/Communications Committee	2024 – present
Member, Law Library Evening Circulation Supervisor Committee	2025
Member, Strauss Health Sciences Library Reappointment Committee, Christi Piper	2025
Chair, Law Library Assoc. Director of Resource Access & Discovery Committee	2024 – 2025
Member, Law School Reappointment Committee for Jim Kalwara	2024
Member, Law School Reappointment Committee for Michelle Penn	2024
Member, Law School Reappointment Committee for Staci Pratt	2024
Member, Law Library Evening & Weekend Circulation Supervisor Committee	2024

University of Southern California

Member, Law School Judiciary Committee	2023 – 2024
Member, Law Library Social Committee	2022 – 2024
Member, Law Library Social Media Committee	2013 – 2022
Member, Law School Emergency Preparedness Committee	2020 – 2021
Member, Law Library Emergency Preparedness Committee	2017 – 2020
Member, Law School Information Technology Advisory Committee	2012 – 2020
Member, Law Library Director Search Committee	2019
Member, Law School Admissions & Financial Aid Committee	2013 – 2016
Member, University Education Technology Advisory Committee	2013 – 2016

American Association of Law Libraries

Member, Academic Law Libraries – Special Interest Section (SIS)	2009 – present
Member, Research Instruction & Patron Services – SIS	2010 – present
Chair, ALL-SIS Public Relations & Marketing Committee	2026 – 2027
Vice Chair, ALL-SIS Public Relations & Marketing Committee	2025 – 2026
Member, AALL Annual Meeting Poster Session Award Jury	2025 – 2026
Member, RIPS-SIS Programs Committee	2025 – 2026
Coordinator & Moderator, AALL Annual Meeting Program	2024

-“Diverse and Inclusive Recruiting for the Future: Early Recruitment into Law Librarianship”	
-SR-SIS Sponsored Program	
Coordinator & Speaker, AALL Annual Meeting Program	2024
-“Generative AI: Revolutionizing Efficiencies for Law Librarians”	
Team Member, AMPC Teaching & Training Content Area	2023 – 2024
Member, AALL Annual Meeting Poster Session Award Jury	2022 – 2023
Member, RIPS-SIS Scholarship Committee	2022 – 2023
Fellow, AALL Leadership Academy	2020
Team Member, AMPC Research & Analysis Content Area	2019 – 2020
Member at Large, RIPS-SIS Executive Board	2018 – 2020
Member, ALL-SIS Programs Committee	2018 – 2020
Chair, AALL Scholarship Awards Jury	2018 – 2019
-Member	2017 – 2018
Attendee, AALL Management Institute	2017
Member, ALL-SIS Awards Committee	2015 – 2017
Member, RIPS-SIS Patron Services Committee	2015 – 2017
Member, RIPS-SIS Legal Research Competency Committee	2014 – 2016
Chair, AALL Economic Status of Law Librarians Committee	2014 – 2015
-Vice Chair	2013 – 2014
-Member	2012 – 2013
Member, ALL-SIS Legal Research & Sourcebook Committee	2012 – 2014
-Roundtable moderator: “Assessment Tools to See if Students are Really Learning”	
-Roundtable moderator: “Teaching Legal Research to Non-JD Candidates: Foreign LLM, MLS (Master of Legal Studies), and Library (MLIS and MIS) Students”	
Speaker, AALL Annual Meeting Program	2012
-“Diversify Your Teaching Portfolio with Tutorials”	
-RIPS-SIS & ALL-SIS Sponsored Program	
Recipient, LexisNexis Grant, Annual Meeting Registration	2008
Colorado Association of Law Libraries	2024 – present
Chair, Membership Committee	2025 – 2026
Southern California Association of Law Libraries	2009 – present
Board Member, SCALL Executive Board	2023 – 2024
Member, Community Youth Internship Experience	2022 – 2024
Member, Institute Speakers Committee	2022 – 2024
Curator, “AI Showcase: How Does Legal GenAI Stack Up?” Program	2024
Co-Chair, Membership Committee	2013 – 2021
Recipient, SCALL Grant, Annual Meeting registration	2020

Member, Institute Speakers Committee	2019 – 2020
Co-Chair, Institute Bibliography Committee	2013
Member, Newsletter Committee	2010 – 2012

PUBLICATIONS

Membership Column. SCALL Newsletter with Judy K. Davis (2013 – 2021).

The “Shock and Awe” Approach to Legal Research: Helping Students Understand Their Research Deficiencies So That They Are Better Prepared to Learn Legal Research. 23(1) Perspectives: Teaching Legal Research and Writing 47-52 (Fall 2014).

The Effectiveness of Social Media: Does it Measure Up? 19(3) AALL Spectrum 22-23 (December 2014).

Organized Identity Theft Groups and Structure. 41(4) SCALL Newsletter 7 (May/June 2014).

ALL-SIS Sourcebook for Teaching Legal Research. 33(3) ALL-SIS Newsletter 6 (Spring 2014).

Career Management from the Trenches: Some Suggestions from the AALL Economic Status Committee. 18(4) AALL Spectrum 21-24, with Lisa Junghahn, Patricia Scott, Cathleen Cochran, Kate Wilko, Elizabeth Scheibel, Julie Lim, and Melissa Bernstein. (February 2014).

A Law Librarian at the Internet Librarian Conference. *AALL Spectrum Blog* (December 19, 2013), available at <http://www.aallnet.org/Blogs/spectrum-blog/51255.html>.

Gerontology and the Law – A Selected Annotated Bibliography: 2009-2011 Update. 86(6) Southern California Law Review 1389-1462, with Judy K. Davis (September 2013).

Seven Tips for a Successful Flip. AALL Spectrum hybrid article, with Cindy Guyer. (June 2013), available at <http://www.aallnet.org/main-menu/Publications/spectrum/Spectrum-Online/tips-for-flip.html>.

2013 SCALL Institute Bibliography (Further Reading). Co-compiler of the bibliography and author of “Health Care and the Budget” and “The Affordable Care Act” (March 2013), available at <http://scallinstitute.files.wordpress.com/2013/01/scall-institute-bibliography.pdf>.

Book Review of “Cosmic Constitutional Theory: Why Americans are Losing their Inalienable Right to Self-Governance,” by J. Harvie Wilkinson, III. 105 Law Library Journal 105-107 (Winter 2013).

You CAN Handle the Truth: Using Pop Culture to Teach Legal Research. 40(1) SCALL Newsletter 9 (September/October 2012).

AALL Secretary is the Joint Institute Luncheon Speaker. 39(4) SCALL Newsletter 24 (March/April 2012).

Legal Research Class Experiment Showed You Can't Ignore the Basics. 39(3) SCALL Newsletter 7 (January/February 2012).

The Smartphone Tag Project: The Newest Codes in the Library. 39(1) SCALL Newsletter 10 (September/October 2011).

SCALL Profile: Judy K. Davis. 38(5) SCALL Newsletter 10 (May/June 2011).

Elections in California. 38(4) SCALL Newsletter 20-21 (March/April 2011).

A Look at Human Trafficking with Professor Kathleen C. Kim. 38(2) SCALL Newsletter 10 (November/December 2010).

Electronic Government Information in Today's Libraries. 38(1) SCALL Newsletter 17-18 (September/October 2010).

USC Law Library Blog (lawlibraryblog.usc.edu). Ongoing contributor (2010 – 2012).

BAR ADMISSIONS

Ohio (1999)

Illinois (2003)