

VICTORIA F. PHILLIPS
American University Washington College of Law
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EXPERIENCE

Washington College of Law, American University

Washington, DC

2011-present

Professor of Practice of Law

Director, Glushko-Samuelson Intellectual Property Law Clinic

2009-2011

Associate Director, Glushko-Samuelson Intellectual Property Law Clinic

2001-2009

Practitioner-in-Residence

Assistant Director, Glushko-Samuelson Intellectual Property Law Clinic

Courses Taught: Intellectual Property Law Clinic, Communications and Information Law and Policy, Communications Law and Technology Seminar.

Intellectual Property Law Clinic:

Teach clinic seminar on lawyering skills and values, including interviewing, case theory, fact investigation, strategic planning, counseling, negotiation, trial skills and legislative advocacy. Supervise Intellectual Property Clinic students representing clients seeking representation and counseling on intellectual property and related issues. Lead weekly case rounds for Intellectual Property Clinic students. Co-created clinic seminar curriculum and year-long lawyering skills simulation.

Communications Law and Information Policy:

Teach annual survey course providing general overview of the legal and public policy issues in domestic regulation of the communications industry including, broadcasting, cable, satellite, telephone, wireless and broadband services.

Communications and Technology Law Seminar:

Created and taught externship seminar composed of students placed in externships in the communications and technology field. Focused in small class on shared practice experience and on discussion of substantive law commonly encountered in legal practice in this field.

Law School Service:

Founding faculty member, Program on Information Justice and Intellectual Property (PIJIP) (2002-present)

Faculty Advisory Board, Journal of Gender, Social Policy and the Law (2009-present)

Faculty Advisor, Media and Communications Law Society (2005-present)

Affiliated Faculty, Veloric Center for Entrepreneurship, Kogod School of Business, American University

Faculty Public Interest Committee (2023-present)

Faculty Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee (2021-present)

Faculty DC Engagement Committee (2021-2023)

Faculty Wellness Committee (2022-23)

Faculty Library Committee (Chair 2021-22)

Faculty Art Law Committee (2018-21, Chair 2019-20)

Faculty Career Development Committee (2013-14, 2015-17, Chair 2018-19)

Faculty Technology Committee (2010-12, 2016-17, 2019-20, Chair 2011-12, 2019-20)

Faculty Speakers Committee (2014-16)

Supervise numerous student independent studies, law journal comments and writing requirement projects

Georgetown University Law Center Washington, DC
July 2008 - December 2008
Visiting Associate Professor of Law
Courses Taught: First Amendment and Media Law Clinic

Federal Communications Commission Washington, DC
Fall 2004, Spring 2006
Visiting Lecturer
Taught annual six hour course "Introduction to Communications Law" to agency professional staff.

Washington College of Law, American University Washington, DC
1986-1988
Teaching Assistant, Legal Rhetoric
Co-taught legal writing and research course to first year law students.

EDUCATION

Washington College of Law, American University Washington, DC
J.D., *cum laude*, 1988
American University Law Review, Notes Editor

Smith College Northampton, MA
B.A., 1982
Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Scholar-Athlete Award 1982

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Federal Communications Commission Washington, DC
Mass Media Bureau
1998- 2001
Chief, Legal Branch, Policy and Rules Division
Advised Commission and staff on media policy issues and supervised staff of ten attorneys.

Mass Media Bureau
1997-1998
Senior Counsel
Advised Commission and staff on media policy issues including ownership, public interest obligations, digital television, children's programming, political programming and public broadcasting.

Office of General Counsel
1994-1997
Counsel
Advised Commission and staff on media, wireless communications, and intellectual property issues.

National Endowment for the Humanities Washington, DC
1991-1993
Assistant General Counsel
Advised NEH Chairman and staff on legal issues and served as liaison with Congress for agency programs, appropriations and nominations. Served as General Counsel to Institute for Museum Services.

Wiley, Rein & Fielding

1989-1991

Associate

Advised and represented clients in media, wireless communications and intellectual property practice areas.

Washington, DC

Hon. Edward S. Northrop, U.S. District Judge

1988-1989

Judicial Clerk

Baltimore, MD

PUBLICATIONS

Sea Change: The Rising Tide of Pro Bono Legal Services for the Creative Community, IP Theory: Vol. 9:Iss. 1, (2020).

Intellectual Property Law Gets Experienced, 59 IDEA: The IP Law Review, 249 (2019).

Innovation and Tradition: A Survey of Intellectual Property and Technology Legal Clinics, 25 Clinical L. Rev. 404 (Fall 2018) with Cynthia Dahl.

Beyond Trademark: The Washington Redskins Case and the Search for Dignity, Chi.-Kent L. Rev. 92 Chi.-Kent L. Rev. 1065 (2017).

The Longstanding Pro Bono Battle Challenging the Washington Football Team's Trademarks, ABA Landslide Mag. (Jan./Feb. 2016) with Ryan Van Olst.

Missing the Point: The Real Impact of Native Mascots and Team Names on American Indian and Alaska Native Youth, Ctr. for Am. Progress (2014) with Erik Stegman.

Gender and Invention: Mapping the Connections, 19 AM. U. J. GENDER SOC. POLICY & L. 767 (2011).

Counsel Amici Curiae, Brief of Law Professors in *Harjo v. Pro-Football, Inc.*, filed in the U.S. Supreme Court in (2009) with Christine Haight Farley.

Clinical Legal Education and the Public Interest in Intellectual Property Law, 52 ST. LOUIS U. L. J. 735 (2008) with Christine Haight Farley, Peter Jaszi, Joshua Sarnoff, and Ann Shalleck.

Summing Up the Public Interest: A Review of "Localism and Diversity: Meaning and Metrics" edited by Philip M. Napoli, 60 FED. COMM. L.J., 157 (2007).

Commodification, Intellectual Property and the Women of Gee's Bend, 15 AM. U. J. GENDER SOC. POLICY & L. 359 (2007).

On Media Consolidation, the Public Interest and Angels Earning Wings, 55 AM. U. L. REV. 613 (2004).

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

“The Social Impact of Intellectual Property” panelist at the Intellectual Property Brief Annual Symposium, Washington DC, April 2025.

“Looking Forward: Data from IP Law Clinics on Their Role in Increasing Access to Justice” panelist at the 2024 IP Mosaic Conference: Looking Forward, Looking Back: IP Social Justice & Promoting Human Ingenuity, Marquette University Law School, Milwaukee, WI, Nov. 2024.

“Redefining Professional Communities Amidst Generational and Technological Change” panelist at 20th Annual Transactional Clinic Conference, St. Louis MO, May 2024.

“Intellectual Property Clinics-Helping to Empower All Creators” speaker at the 9th Annual IP Mosaic Conference-IP Rights and Wrongs: Advancing Social Justice and Ethics, UIC Law, Chicago, IL, Oct. 2023.

“The Continuing Harm of Native Mascots,” speaker at the Center for Environment Community, and Equity (CECE)’s Indigenous Sovereignities & Ecologies Colloquium, American University, Washington DC, Feb. 2023.

“Intellectual Property Law and Native American Traditional Art and Expression,” speaker at Native American Law Students Symposium, American University, Washington DC, Nov. 2022.

“Law School IP Clinical Programs and Pro Bono Assistance,” speaker on *The Inventor Hour*, program of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Alexandria, VA, Oct. 2022.

“Debating the Creation of a New Transactional/IP Clinic” concurrent session speaker at AALS Conference on Clinical Legal Education, Virtual, May 2022.

“Pro Bono Legal Services for the Creative Community” speaker at the Intellectual Property Brief Annual Symposium, Washington DC, April 2022.

“Copyright And Disability” speaker introduction, WCL PIJIP IP Speaker Series, Virtual, Feb. 2022.

“Clinical Attachment: Collaborations Among the Samuelson/Glushko Family of IP Law & Technology Clinics” concurrent session speaker at AALS Conference on Clinical Legal Education, Virtual, April 2021.

“Advancing Inclusion in Copyright and Register Barbara Ringer’s Legacy” panelist at the U.S. Copyright Office, Washington DC, November, 2020.

“Innovation and Tradition: A Survey of Intellectual Property and Technology Legal Clinics” keynote speaker at the IP Clinic Faculty Workshop, Center for Intellectual Property Research, Indiana University Maurer School of Law, Bloomington, IN, September 2019.

“Innovation and Tradition: A Survey of Intellectual Property and Technology Legal Clinics” speaker at 2019 AALS Conference on Clinical Legal Education, San Francisco, CA, May 2019.

“The Many Harms of Racialized Mascots” panelists at The Power of Coalitions: A Forum on Public Interest Intellectual Property Advocacy Honoring Prudence S. Adler, Washington DC, May 2019.

“The State of Children’s Media” panelist at TPRC46: Research Conference on Communications, Information and Internet Policy, Washington DC, September 2018.

“The Role of Law School Clinics in IP and Tech Advocacy” speaker at 5th Global Congress on IP and the Public Interest, Washington DC, Sept 2018.

“Innovation and Tradition: A Survey of Intellectual Property and Technology Legal Clinics” speaker at 2018 Transactional Clinical Conference, Chicago-Kent School of Law, Chicago, IL, April 2018.

“Intellectual Property Law Gets Experienced” speaker at IP Scholarship Redux Conference, University of New Hampshire School of Law, Concord, NH, April 2018.

“Nobody Likes a Trademark Bully” speaker at 16th Annual Transactional Clinical Conference—BUILT FOR IMPACT: Transactional Clinics as Change Agents in our Communities, Institutions and Classrooms, University of Pennsylvania Law School, Philadelphia, PA, June 2017.

“Hidden Figures: Exploring Gender Bias in Intellectual Property” panelist at The Thomson Reuters Legal Executive Institute, Washington, D.C., May 2017.

“Intellectual Property Law and Cultural Appropriation: Maasai to Louis Vuitton” panelist at A Dialogue on the New Dawn in Africa: Innovations in Intellectual Property, Feminism, and Constitutional Law-- Second Annual Africa Legal Conference, Washington College of Law, Washington, D.C., April 2017.

“From the Washington Football Team to In re Tam: Will the Issue of Trademark Social Justice Reach the Supreme Court?” panelist at The Tsai Center for Law, Science and Innovation Symposium on IP and Social Justice, SMU Dedman School of Law, Dallas, TX, Sept. 2016.

“Mapping the Growing Landscape of IP and Technology Clinics” presentation of work in progress at the 2016 NYU Clinical Law Review Workshop, NYU School of Law, NY, NY, Sept. 2016.

“Mapping the Growing Landscape of IP and Technology Clinics” presentation at the 2016 Technology Clinics Conference, Palo Alto, CA, June 2016.

“Pro Bono IP: The Why and the How” panelist at the American Intellectual Property Association (AIPLA) Spring Meeting, Minneapolis, MN, May 18, 2016.

“Exploring Community Engagement through Clinical Education” panelist at the 39th Annual AALS Conference on Clinical Legal Education: Clinics and Communities, Baltimore MD, May 2016.

“The Times They Are A-Changin: Experiential Education in the IP Field,” panelist at the 2015 International Trademark Association (INTA) Annual Conference, San Diego, CA, May 2015.

“The New Normal in Public Interest Lawyering: Small Business and Transactional Clinics at the Forefront of Change” panelist at the 2015 AALS Conference on Clinical Legal Education, Palm Springs, CA, May 2015.

“Intellectual Property and Social Justice: Getting the Point” speaker at the IP and Social Justice Annual Conference, Howard University School of Law, Washington DC, March 2015.

“Community Outreach as Teaching Tool” panelist at the 13th Annual Transactional Clinic Conference, DePaul University College of Law, Chicago, IL, April 2014.

“Becoming a Better Clinician” working group leader, AALS Conference on Clinical Legal Education, Chicago, IL, April 2014.

“Clinical Perspectives on Intellectual Property” plenary panelist at the Annual IP Scholars Conference, Cardozo Law School, NY, NY, August 2013.

“Balancing Substantive and Practical Skills in Clinical Education” panel moderator at Technology and IP Clinics Annual Conference, Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA, July, 2013.

“Adding Variety to Clinical Legal Education Through Service Learning” panelist at AALS Conference on Clinical Legal Education, San Juan, PR, May 2013.

“Is It Really Just a Toaster? Is the Public Interest Standard Toast? A Look Back” panel moderator at Lessons from Broadcast Regulation for the 21st Century, Washington College of Law, Washington DC, April 2013.

“Technology as a Tool for or Barrier to Universal Access” panel moderator at the Cherry Blossom Symposium on Intellectual Property and Federal Policy, Washington College of Law, Washington DC, April 2013.

“Intellectual Property Clinics in the U.S.” speaker at Negotiating Intellectual Property Licenses Workshop sponsored by the U.S. Dept. of Commerce Commercial Law Development Program, Washington DC, July 2012.

“Pedagogical Challenges: Clinical Education in IP” speaker at the 2012 AALS Midyear Meeting Workshop, “When Technology Disrupts Law: How Do IP, Internet and Bio Law Adapt,” Berkeley, CA, June 2012.

“Teaching Takeaways: Teaching Identity in Non-Litigation Clinics” panelist at 2012 AALS Annual Clinical Education Conference, Los Angeles, CA, May 2012.

“Cross Cultural Lawyering in Transactional Clinics” panelist at the 2012 Transactional Clinicians Conference, Los Angeles, CA, April 2012.

“Social Networking: The Electronic Frontier” panelist at the ALI-ABA Advanced Employment Law and Litigation Conference, Washington DC, March 2012.

“IP Clinics and Law Firm IP Pro Bono Programs in Underserved Communities” panelist at the National IP Empowerment Summit, Howard University School of Law, Washington DC, Nov. 2010.

“Client Intake Decisions: Beyond Eligibility” panelist at the 9th Annual Transactional Clinical Conference & Workshop, Arizona State University, Scottsdale, AZ, April 2010.

“Gender and Invention” closing remarks at annual conference sponsored by Program on Information Justice and Intellectual Property, Program on Women and the Law and Journal of Gender, Social Policy and the Law, Washington College of Law, Washington DC, April 2010.

“The Net Effect: Net Neutrality and Other Access to Technology Issues” at Keeping Faith With the Constitution, 2009 American Constitution Society National Convention, Washington DC, June 2009.

“Full Disclosure: What You Need to Know About Regulation of Product Placement and Integration” panelist at program sponsored by the ABA Forum on Communications Law, Washington DC, April 2009.

“Intellectual Property and Small Business Clinics and Social Justice” presentation at 8th Annual Transactional Law Clinic Conference and Workshop, George Washington University Law School, Washington DC, April 2009.

“Cross-Clinic Collaborations: Looking Forward/Looking Back” presenter at Reflecting on Our Work and Vision: Risks, Mistakes and Opportunities, AALS Conference on Clinical Legal Education, Tucson, AZ, May 2008.

“Does Red Lion Still Roar? Exploring Public Interest Regulation of Media in Commemoration of the Fortieth Anniversary of Red Lion Broadcasting v. FCC” panel moderator at symposium sponsored by the American University Administrative Law Review, American University Washington College of Law, Washington DC, April 2008.

“IP/Gender: Mapping the Connections” closing remarks at annual conference sponsored by Program on IP and the Public Interest, Program on Women and the Law and Journal of Gender, Social Policy and the Law, American University Washington College of Law, Washington DC, April 2008.

“Cracks in Intellectual Property Laws: Top Internet Video Copyright Issues” panelist at The Internet Video Policy Symposium: The Future of a New TV Medium sponsored by Reed Business Information and Emerging Media Dynamics, Inc., Washington DC, March 2008.

“FCC Outlook: Who Will Be the Winners and Losers in 2007” panelist at Fourth Annual Digital Media Conference, sponsored by Digital Media Wire Inc., Silver Spring, MD, June 2007.

“Net Neutrality and Media Ownership” panelist at Music and Intellectual Property Policy Day, sponsored by the American Constitution Society and the Future of Music Coalition, Washington DC, May 2007.

“Copyright Challenges in User-Generated Content: A Confidential Convening” discussant at Ford Foundation sponsored event hosted by The Center for Social Media, in the School of Communication, and the Program on Information Justice and Intellectual Property, Washington College of Law, Washington DC, April 2007.

“IP/Gender: Mapping The Connections” closing remarks at annual conference sponsored by Program on Information Justice and Intellectual Property, Program on Women and the Law and Journal of Gender, Social Policy and the Law, Washington College of Law, Washington DC, March 2007.

“Intellectual Property and Communications Technology” lecturer at Washington Seminar on Intellectual Property for SungKyun Kwan University, Seoul, Korea, sponsored by Office of Grants and Programs, Washington College of Law, Washington DC, February 2007.

“Clinical Teaching Methods and Materials” presenter at National Conference on Intellectual Property and Technology Clinics, Washington College of Law, Washington DC, September 2006.

“Collaboration in Clinical Legal Education,” working group leader at AALS Conference on Clinical Legal Education, NY, NY, May 2006.

“How to Commodify an American Quilt: The Women of Gee’s Bend” paper presenter at IP/Gender: The Unmapped Connections, sponsored by Program on IP and the Public Interest, Program on Women and the Law and Journal of Gender, Social Policy and the Law, Washington College of Law, Washington DC, March 2006.

“Media Consolidation and Copyright Ownership” moderator at panel sponsored by the Intellectual Property Law Society and Communications Law Society, Washington College of Law, Washington DC, November 2005.

“Intellectual Property Clinics—Theory and Practice” presenter to Gender and Law Association (GALA) of India, sponsored by Program on Women and International Law, Washington College of Law, Washington DC, October 2005.

“Debating the Broadcast Flag,” moderator at panel sponsored by the Communications Law Society, Washington College of Law, Washington DC, April 2005.

“Broadcast Media Censorship and Indecency” moderator at panel sponsored by the Law and Government Society, Washington College of Law, Washington DC, March 2005.

“If We Build It They Will Come: Creating the Foundation for an Effective Clinical Structure” presenter at Back to the Basics/Back to the Future, AALS Conference on Clinical Legal Education, San Diego, CA, May 2004.

“Few Gatekeepers, Many Views” panel moderator at Regulating Media Competition: The Development and Implications of the FCC’s New Broadcast Ownership Rules, sponsored by the American University Law Review, Washington College of Law, Washington DC, November 2003, published in 55 AM. U. L. REV 547 (2004).

Multiple presentations made to government and academic delegations from various countries regarding U.S. communications and intellectual property law, 2001-present.

APPOINTMENTS AND AWARDS

D.C. Bar, 2024 Champion of Intellectual Property Award
2015 WCL Innovation in Teaching Award (American University Washington College of Law)
Board of Directors, Washington Area Lawyers for the Arts (WALA), Washington DC
Advisory Board, Veloric Center for Entrepreneurship - Kogod School of Business, American University
Chair, Advisory Board, WCL Program on International Communications Regulation and Policy (2010-2019)
Consumer Advisory Commission, Federal Communications Commission, Washington DC (2016-2018)
Co-Chair, Transactional Clinics Committee, AALS Section on Clinical Legal Education (2015-2017)

BAR MEMBERSHIPS

D.C. Bar
Federal Communications Bar Association
American Bar Association, Section on Mass Communications Law

BAR ADMISSIONS

Maryland (1989)
District of Columbia (1990)
Massachusetts (1990) (inactive)
Supreme Court of the United States (2008)
U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit (1989)
U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia (2003)
U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland (1989)