



# THE **Scrivener**

Spring/Summer 2020

Scribes—The American Society of Legal Writers

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**Submissions**—Please send items for upcoming issues of *The Scrivener* to Phillip Johnson at [scribeslegalwriters@gmail.com](mailto:scribeslegalwriters@gmail.com).

## Former Scribes President Installed as AALS President

Darby Dickerson, a Past President of Scribes and the Inaugural Dean of the UIC John Marshall Law School, was installed in January 2020 as President of the Association of American Law Schools ("AALS"). She is the first AALS President to come from the field of legal writing.



Dean Dickerson was the author of the first edition of the ALWD Citation Manual, a book widely acclaimed for its ease of use by students and practitioners who often struggled with legal citation. In recognition of that accomplishment, she received the prestigious Burton Award in 2005 for Outstanding Contributions to Legal Writing Education. In 2013, she was the inaugural recipient of the Darby Dickerson Award for Revolutionary Change in Legal Writing. The Dickerson Award was created by the Association of Legal Writing Directors (ALWD) to honor her contributions to legal writing. In 2016 the National Jurist magazine named Dean Dickerson as one of the "most influential people in legal education." In 2018 she received the Section Award for Lifetime Contributions to Legal Writing from the AALS Section on Legal Writing, Reasoning.

Dean Dickerson became President of the AALS during the Association's annual conference in Washington, D.C. She follows Professor Vicki Jackson of the Harvard Law School who finished her term as AALS President. Dean Dickerson will serve a one-year term until the AALS holds its next Annual Meeting in San Francisco in January 2021. She has announced that the theme of the 2021 AALS Annual Meeting will be "The Power of Words."

The AALS is an association of 179 member and 18 fee-paid law schools. AALS member schools enroll most of the nation's law students and produce the majority of the country's lawyers and

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judges, as well as many of its lawmakers. Founded in 1900, the mission of AALS is to uphold and advance excellence in legal education. In support of this mission, AALS promotes the core values of excellence in teaching and scholarship, academic freedom, and diversity, including diversity of backgrounds and viewpoints, while seeking to improve the legal profession, to foster justice, and to serve its many communities—local, national and international.

From 2011-2016, Darby Dickerson served as Dean and the W. Frank Newton Professor of Law at Texas Tech University School of Law. Before that, she was Interim Dean and Dean at Stetson University College of Law in Florida from 2003-2011. She started her full-time academic career at Stetson, joining the faculty in 1995. At Stetson, she also served in a wide variety of other administrative roles, including Vice Dean, Associate Dean, Director of Legal Research and

Writing, Moot Court Board Director, and Law Review Advisor.

Dean Dickerson received her B.A. and M.A. from the College of William & Mary, and her J.D. from Vanderbilt University Law School. She clerked for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit and practiced commercial litigation with the firm now known as Locke Lord in Dallas, Texas.

As Dean of The John Marshall Law School, Dean Dickerson brought about a successful merger of the law school with the University of Illinois Chicago (UIC), creating the first public law school in Chicago. She is the Inaugural Dean of the UIC John Marshall Law School, which remains the institutional home of Scribes.

We congratulate Dean Darby Dickerson on her many accomplishments in the field of legal writing and in legal education.

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## **Scribes Establishes Liaison Relationship with the ABA Standing Committee on the Law Library of Congress**

Scribes has established a formal liaison relationship with the American Bar Association's Standing Committee on the Law Library of Congress. The ABA Standing Committee advocates on behalf of the Law Library of Congress, the largest law library in the world. The ABA Standing Committee also informs ABA members about library resources available to the practitioners, law students, and members of the public.

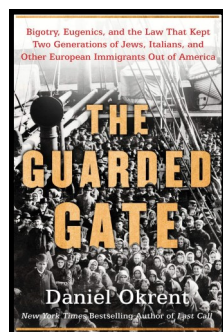
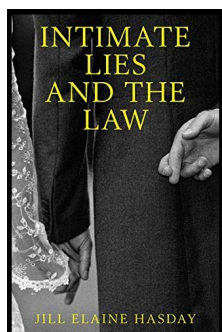
The Law Library of Congress was the host site of the 2019 Scribes Annual CLE and Award Program. That event featured a roundtable discussion among former Assistant Solicitor Generals of the United States and a presentation on legal research resources

available through the Law Library of Congress.

The highlight of that event was the presentation of the Scribes Lifetime Achievement Award to U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Stephen Breyer, who was interviewed by Scribes Past President Darby Dickerson.



In establishing a formal liaison relationship with the ABA Standing Committee on the Law Library of Congress, Scribes joins the Legal Writing Institute, the American Association of Law Libraries, and other professional groups that have similar liaison relationships.



## 2020 Awards Recognition

- **2020 Book Award Winner:** Jill Elaine Hasday, *Intimate Lies and the Law*
- **2020 Book Award Honorable Mention:** Daniel Okrent, *The Guarded Gate: Bigotry, Eugenics, and the Law That Kept Two Generations of Jews, Italians, and Other European Immigrants Out of America*

### 2020 Brief-Writing Awards:

- **Winner:** Allyson E. Lynch, Paul T. Madden and Sarah L. Martin. Belmont University College of Law ([Click here to read the brief](#))
- **Second Place:** Meredith J. Clark, David V. Dorris, and Sandra M. Guillen. South Texas College of Law
- **Third Place:** William N. Haacker, John Wooldridge, and Greg A. Urbach. South Texas College of Law

Students from Belmont University College of Law and South Texas College of Law Win 2020 Brief-Writing Awards

Scribes announced the winners of the 2020 Brief-Writing Awards. The award winners were selected from moot-court briefs that won a national or regional moot-court competition during the 2019-2020 academic year.

The first-place winning brief in 2020 was authored by students Allyson E. Lynch, Paul T. Madden, and Sarah L. Martin of **Belmont University College of Law**. The second- and third

-place brief awards were won by students at **South Texas College of Law**. The students who won the second-place award were Meredith J. Clark, David V. Dorris, and Sandra M. Guillen. South Texas College of Law. The winners of the third-place award were William N. Haacker, John Wooldridge, and Greg A. Urbach.

In 2019, the first-place winners were Caitlin Messinger and Keriann Smith of the Florida State University College of Law in Tallahassee. Their award was presented in April during a Scribes CLE and Award Ceremony at the Law Library of Congress in Washington D.C. The second-place winners for 2019 were Cesar Escalante and Jonathan Peña of the South Texas College of Law in Houston, Texas. Two schools tied for third place: Jacob Cunningham, Jessica Finley, and Sara Kuebel won from the Louisiana State University Paul M. Herbert Law Center in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and Gabriella Gallego and Alyxandra N. Vernon won from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law in San Francisco, California.

### 2019-2020 Brief-Writing Award Screening

#### Committee:

- Brooke Bowman (Stetson University College of Law)
- Megan E. Boyd (Georgia State University College of Law)
- Kathryn Campbell (Southwestern Law School)
- Anna M. Chan (St. Thomas University School of Law)
- Elizabeth De Armond (IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law)
- Tessa Dysart (University of Arizona College of Law)
- Lara Freed (Cornell School of Law)
- Ardath Hamann (University of Illinois Chicago School of Law) (Ret.)

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- Amanda Harmon (Cooley / South Texas College of Law)
  - Kimberly Holst (Arizona State University College of Law)
  - Michelle Johnson (University of Oklahoma)
  - Kerrin Kowach (St. Louis University School of Law)
  - Gail Mullins (University of Oklahoma College of Law)
  - Joe Regalia (University of Nevada Las Vegas School of Law)
  - Jim Sowerby (U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois)
  - Mary Rose Strubbe (IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law) (Ret.)
  - Bobbie Thyfault (California Western School of Law)

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## Meet Scribes' New Treasurer and Board Member

**New Treasurer Jamie J. Baker**, a former Executive Director of Scribes, was elected Scribes treasurer in April 2020. She is the Associate Dean and Director of the Law Library and Dean's Distinguished Service Professor of Law at Texas Tech University School of Law in Lubbock, Texas. In addition to overseeing Law Library operations, Professor Baker teaches Civil Trial: Practice & Litigation Materials, Academic Legal Writing, and Introduction to the Study of Law. She also instructs in the Legal Practice research workshops for first-year students and teaches in the Law Library's Excellence in Legal Research Program.

Professor Baker's scholarship focuses primarily on cognitive computing in the legal research realm. She also speaks and writes about legal research pedagogy and the law librarian profession. Her blog, *The Ginger Law Librarian*, has been named an ABA Blawg 100, as well as a Top-Ten Blog for Information Professionals, and Best of the Legal Blogs by the Internet Legal Researcher.

Professor Baker holds a B.S. in Political Science & Public Administration from Central Michigan University, a M.L.I.S. from Wayne State University's School of Library & Information Science, and a J.D. from Western Michigan University Cooley Law School, where she was recognized as the most outstanding editor of the *Cooley Law Review*. In law school, Professor Baker worked at the Michigan Supreme Court's Friend of the Court Bureau, where she focused on family law. Before joining the faculty at Texas Tech, Professor Baker was a Law Librarian and an Adjunct Professor of Scholarly Writing at Western Michigan University Cooley Law School.

**New Board Member Katrina Lee** missing text.

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## New Members

Richard Brooks, Phoenix AZ

Angela Brown, Dallas TX

Carmichael Carrick\*\*, Chicago IL

Quintessa Davis\*\*, Wilmington DE

Michael Dean, Peoria IL

Johnathan Franklin, Miami FL

Debra Gass\*, Roseville CA

Cherish Keller, Chicago IL

Connor Kurtz\*\*, Charlottesville VA

Joel Lennihan, Santa Fe NM

R. Chris Lim\*, Los Angeles CA

Heather Long, Dallas TX

Alex Mili, Wilmington DE

Benjamin Reese, Springfield VA

Matthew Topic, Downers Grove IL

Gary Traynor\*, Georgetown DE

Bryan Weber, Delray Beach FL

William Wright, Mount Laurel NJ

\* Sustaining Member

\*\* Student Member

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- **2020 Lifetime Achievement Award:** Professor Bryan A. Garner, Author of *Garner's Modern English Usage* and Editor of *Black's Law Dictionary*

*The lifetime achievement award for Bryan Garner should be its own page with a photograph of Bryan. We do not have a story written for that yet (Philip, can we start a basic story and have Joe Kimble fill it out?)*