

# SYLVIA J. LETT

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Teaching Experience

**The University of Arizona, James E. Rogers College of Law**, Tucson, Arizona  
*Associate Professor of Legal Writing & Assistant Clinical Professor of Law* Aug. 2017-Present

- Courses (In-person): Criminal Procedure, Law and Humanities, Legal Research, Analysis and Communication (1L), Legal Analysis, Writing, and Research (LL.M.), Introduction to U.S. Law
- Online Course Development (created and taught):
  - Foreign Diplomat Training Program (Module One – Intro to U.S. Legal Systems) (2018-present)
- Online Course Development (created):
  - Introduction to U.S. Law (2018)
  - Legal English (2020)
- Ocean University “January in Tucson” (lectures on U.S. Law) (2017-2019)

*Adjunct Assistant Professor* Jan. 2008-May 2016

- Courses taught: Legal Analysis, Writing, and Research (1L); Persuasive Communication

### Law Practice Experience

**Office of the Federal Public Defender, District of Arizona**, Tucson, Arizona May 2000-May 2012  
*Assistant Federal Public Defender (Capital Habeas Unit)*

**Mariscal, Weeks, McIntyre & Friedlander, P.A.**, Tucson, Arizona Aug. 1997-May 1998;  
*Litigation Associate* Aug. 1999-May 2000

**United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit**, Phoenix, Arizona May 1998-Aug. 1999  
*Judicial Clerk to Hon. Barry G. Silverman*

**Arizona State Court of Appeals**, Phoenix, Arizona May 1996-Aug. 1997  
*Judicial Clerk to Hon. Susan A. Ehrlich*

**Anderson, Kill, Olick & Oshinsky, P.C.**, New York, New York Aug. 1994-May 1996  
*Litigation Associate*

*Law Clerk* Aug. 1993-May 1994

*Summer Associate* 1993

**Bar Admissions:** Supreme Court (2001), District of Arizona (2000), Arizona (1996), Ninth Circuit (1998), New York (1994)

## EDUCATION

**New York University School of Law**, New York, New York

*Juris Doctor*

1994

- *Law Review*: Staff (1992-93); Note and Comment Editor (1993-94)

**Harvard University**, Cambridge, Massachusetts

*Bachelor of Arts, Social Anthropology*

1990

- Harvard/Radcliffe Achievement Scholar; Dean's List

## PUBLICATIONS AND EDITORIAL POSITIONS

- Author, "Five Minutes of Gratitude," *Equipoise* (Association of American Law Schools Section on Balance in Legal Education Newsletter) (Fall 2020)
- Editor, *Journal of Appellate Practice and Process* (2020-present)
- Peer Reviewer, *ALWD Guide to Legal Citation* (Seventh Edition) (Fall 2020)
- Peer Reviewer, Beazley and Smith, *Briefs and Beyond* (Wolters Kluwer 2021)

## PRESENTATIONS

- *Co-Presenter* (with Prof. Cas Laskowski), *Making Learning Sticky: Increasing Retention with Thoughtful Collaboration and Digital Sticky Notes* (20th Annual Rocky Mountain Legal Writing Conference, Arizona State University School of Law, Phoenix AZ, March 2022)
- *Co-Presenter* (with Prof. Shefali Milcarek-Desai), *Flipping the Script: Two BIPOC Law Professors Embrace and Enunciate Difference to Further Equality in Legal Academia* AALS Women in Legal Education primary program, Equality, Intersectionality, and Status in the Legal Academy at AALS's 2022 Annual Meeting, via Zoom; and again at University of Arizona's 2022 Diversity and Inclusion Symposium, "Harnessing the Power of Diversity," Tucson, AZ, via Zoom December 2021
- *Speaker*, *U.S. Fascination with Guns* (Arizona Law's Foreign Diplomat Training Program (Concluding Workshop), Mexico City, MX, Dec. 2021)
- *Co-Presenter* (with Prof. Cas Laskowski), "Making Learning Sticky: Increasing Retention with Thoughtful Collaboration and Digital Sticky Notes," (LWI One Day Workshop, University of Nevada Boyd School of Law, Dec. 2021)
- *Speaker* (with Prof. Susan Salmon), *Softening the Learning Curve: Supplemental Legal Writing Support for EAL Students in U.S. J.D. Programs* (Global Legal Skills Conference, Phoenix, AZ, December 2019)
- *Speaker*, *My Favorite Law School Class – The Wellness Perks of a Short Story Reading Group* (Rocky Mountain Legal Writing Conference, University of Denver, Sturm College of Law, Denver CO, Mar. 2018)
- *Speaker* (with Prof. Susan Salmon), *Best Practices for Addressing ESL Challenges in Law School Teaching*, "Creating a New Program for JD Students with English as an Additional Language" (AALS Section on Teaching Methods, via Zoom, September 2018)

### **SERVICE TO INSTITUTION**

- Non-JD Programs (MLS and LL.M.), *Admissions Reviewer* (2018-present)
- Journal of Appellate Practice and Process, *Co-Editor* (2020-present)
- Black Law Students Association, *Faculty Advisor* (2020-present)
- Sankofa Black Faculty & Staff Affinity Group, *Member* (2021-present)
- 1L Orientation, *Speaker* (2019, 2020)
- Non-JD Admissions Committee, *Chair* (2020-present); *Member* (2019-2020)
- Clerkship Committee, *Member* (2020-present)
- Online Committee, *Member* (2020-present)
- Legal Skills Committee, *Member* (2019-2020)
- Short Story Club, *Founder* (2018-present)

### **SERVICE TO PROFESSION**

- Arizona Supreme Court Task Force on Issuing Search Warrants (2021)
- Legal Writing Institute: Diversity and Inclusion Committee, *Member* (2021-22); Program Committee, *Member* (2021-22)
- Association of Legal Writing Directors: Blackwell Award Committee (2020-21); Diversity and Inclusion Committee (2019-2020)
- Arizona Women Lawyers Association: State Board of Directors (2019-present); Southern Arizona Steering Committee (2018-present); Law School Liaison (2018-present); *Member* (2017-present)
- Arizona Minority Bar Association, *Member* (2015-present)

### **SERVICE TO COMMUNITY**

- Arizona State Supreme Court Task Force on Issuing Search Warrants, (established to review the process for issuing no-knock and nighttime search warrants in Arizona) (2021)
- Arizona Public Media, *Community Advisory Board Member, Governance Committee* (2018-present)
- American Civil Liberties Union of Arizona, *Legal Panel* (2015-present), *Board Member* (2015-2018); *Diversity and Inclusion Officer* (2016-2018)
- Arizona Capital Representation Project, *Board Member* (2014-17)
- University of Arizona Poetry Center, *Board Member* (2013-2015)
- Imago Dei Middle School, *Foundational Board Member* (2005-2010) (tuition-free private school in downtown Tucson for children from low-income families)
- Arizona Court Appointed Special Advocate (2001-2018)
  - “Rookie of the Year” (2002)

### **AWARDS**

- Step Up to Justice’s “Step Up-Stand Out Award” for Winter 2022
- Association of American Law Schools Teacher of the Year Award (2019)
- Student Bar Association’s 2013-2014 “Adjunct/Visiting Faculty Member of the Year”

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

- Writing As Resistance (WAR) (July 19-20, 2021)  
Member, Collective for Legal Writing Professors of Color  
Advancing legal writing as a discipline within the legal academy through substantive and practical scholarship support. Participating in writing workshops, scholarship retreats, and Works in Progress presentations.