

Inside This Issue:

Lucy Jewel 1-3

Teri McMurtry-Chubb 1, 4-5

Mark Osbeck 1, 6-7

Statement of Selection and Presentation Process 8

Announcement of Summer Suspension 8

Upcoming Legal Writing Events 8

LWI Lives Committee 8

LWI Lives is a regular electronic publication of the “Faces of LWI” Committee, which explores and communicates the emerging identity of LWI and its members. We have in common the commitment to being the best legal writing professors that we can be. But we are multi-dimensional people with different strengths, interests, curiosities, and gifts. By profiling individuals in our community, we hope to expand and develop our understanding of who we are and what we aspire to be.

Passion for Music, Law and Culture; and She Shines in Teaching and Scholarship



By Olympia Duhart

Indie rock will always have a special place in Lucy Jewel’s heart. “When I came of age in the 90s, indie rock totally captured my attention,” said Jewel, 41, an Associate Professor of Law at the University of Tennessee Knoxville. “Music has been my passion for many years.”

For more on Lucy, see page 2.

Mercer’s Master Chef



By Shakira Pleasant

Don’t underestimate her 5-foot stature because Teri McMurtry-Chubb is a powerhouse. Affectionately known to her students as Professor MC, Teri has taught legal research and writing since 2002. But she’s been an educator far longer. She began teaching in 1998 while pursuing her law degree and Ph.D. in history at the University of Iowa.

For more on Teri, see page 4.

Brainy, Bowling, and Baking in Ann Arbor



By Tamara Herrera

Last March, I found myself in a conference presentation unlike any I had heard before. “Bringing Marijuana (Law) into the Legal Writing Class” was the title of that session, and Mark Osbeck was the presenter. I would soon discover that Mark Osbeck is unlike the traditional law professor stereotype: he is a Kentucky Derby fan, a one time graduate student in philosophy, a seasoned bowler, and a promising chef.

For more on Mark, see page 6.

Lucy Jewel, continued

In addition to her love of music, Jewel also loves teaching law. In her classroom at the University of Tennessee, she is often able to blend the two passions. She frequently incorporates music in her Entertainment Law class, and sometimes brings it into her Legal Writing class. She is also starting to think more deeply about the connection between legal writing and music: "I am starting to realize there is a connection between legal research and writing and listening to music. It is kind of like tracing lines of authority through the common law. There is definitely a connection there."

Building connections has been a hallmark of Jewel's scholarship, which is interdisciplinary in nature. Jewel writes about cognitive approaches to legal argumentation and law practice. She also explores the impact of culture on the legal profession.

She has more than 10 years of teaching experience. Before joining Tennessee three years ago, Jewel was at Atlanta's John Marshall Law School, where she served as Director of Legal Skills and Professionalism. At Tennessee, she regularly teaches Legal Writing I & II, Entertainment Law, Torts and Appellate Advocacy. Before joining the academy, Jewel worked as a commercial litigator with the New York City firm of Wachtel, Masyr, & Missry, LLP.

Before law school, Jewel worked at a record store. She even continued at the record store on weekends once she started practicing law. Below, the Memphis native discusses her big leap from practice to teaching, the role her Chinese heritage has had on her critique of the profession's hierarchies and a band called Big Star.



Working at *Rocks in Your Head*



Lucy and her father, Gary

Why did you leave practice to pursue teaching?

In practice, I worked with businesses suing other businesses, either plaintiff or defendant, it didn't matter. It all came down to litigating financial disputes. I was getting burned out. The rat race in New York was on and it kind of just reached a moment when I realized I can't do this anymore. I quit my job and moved to Georgia even though I did not have a job. I felt like I had to make an important life change.

Did your background have any influence on your career decisions?

My [paternal] grandfather immigrated to the United States from China and the rest of my family is white. Somehow my grandfather was able to overcome the Chinese Exclusion Act. He took a train from Alaska all the way down to through Arkansas, Mississippi and ended up in Memphis. I am partially Asian, and just seeing how my dad came to his success deeply influenced me. My dad [Gary Jewel] went to law school so I am kind of following in his footsteps. He's been a huge inspiration to me my whole life. He had a struggle to fit into the rarefied southern legal profession. He's still practicing.

What does he think of his daughter the law professor?

I think he's really proud. He will sometimes come to events with me. It's really great.

What prompted your interest in culture and the law?

My dad and my own experience. I think about all of the things you have to do to make it as a lawyer when you are not from that world. I kind of saw that in my dad's experiences. I felt it when I was up in New York. I came from a very normal middle class background, but once I got into law school and I started interviewing at

Lucy Jewel, conclusion



white-shoe firms in New York City I came quickly to realize that my culture was not quite aligned with white-shoe big law corporate culture. It has to do with class. I wasn't sure how to behave at restaurants with more than one fork. When I started teaching at John Marshall I started thinking deeply about hierarchy of legal education -- from the level of law school to the level of prestige. Some of that is pretty toxic. Everything is about ranking. Everything is about what number your LSAT is. I think that it goes against what we are supposed to do as a legal profession.

Were you also surprised about ranking between the disciplines? The distinction that is drawn between legal writing and "doctrinal" classes?

Yes, that was very surprising. I couldn't believe there was this big distinction between doctrine and skills. I have to say that also influenced my scholarship because I was really angry about that.

Do you think this hierarchy will ever change?

I think people are talking about it more. The schools that are most committed to dismantling within the discipline hierarchies are those that are opportunity schools and those that are dedicated to practice ready students. Those are the schools that say we are really going to value our professors that teach legal writing. Schools at the top don't have much incentive to change. I am not sure they will move unless they are forced by the ABA."

How did you get interested in rhetoric and cognitive science?

I just started reading some stuff on how the brain responds to persuasion. I would say that Kathryn Stanchi at Temple wrote a series of articles on the topic and I read those and I was hooked. I got interested in the idea that when we interact with an argument, the pathways in our brains change. The more we see a word, the more we create the pathway in our brain. The idea that rhetoric is embodied in our brains blew my mind. Just figuring out how to harness that was fascinating.

What do you do when you are not at work?

I love music. Punk rock music. Indie rock music. I have a huge collection of vinyl records, I worked at a record store before law school and even after practice. I was a lawyer during the week and a record store clerk at a store called Rocks in Your Head during the weekends. That passion has stayed with me.

What is your favorite group?

That is hard to say. One that is very close to my heart is this band called Big Star. They are your classic cult band that no one has ever heard of. I like them quite a bit. Part of this is the Memphis connection. And they didn't quite mesh with anything. They were before their time, so to speak.

What is the hardest part of teaching legal writing?

Knowing that you can't know everything. You are never going to be 100 percent knowledgeable about the law. There are going to be many times when your students are looking for answers or guidance and there are really aren't clear answers. I like to have certainty about what the answer is. And sometimes the answer is 'I don't know.'

Any other thoughts?

The one kind of concluding point is that my whole approach is to bring more creativity and more love of the law into the classroom. It is not just IRAC and objective, cold analysis. There is a deep amount of creativity into what we do as lawyers. I try to get my students to see how fun legal writing and the law are.

ljewel@utk.edu



Teri McMurtry-Chubb, continued

With almost twenty years in academia, Teri is a prolific scholar, provocative storyteller, and has authored numerous articles, books and chapters, and other literary works that stimulate her passions. Some of her passions include reading, history, gardening, cooking, and baking, to name a few. She's been shaping the hearts and minds of her students almost as long as she's been married to her love, Mr. Mark Chubb. In July 2016, they will celebrate their 20th wedding anniversary.

When you read Teri's work, you'll note that she always thanks and acknowledges her husband. Teri's and Mark's love story began during college, when they attended Spelman College and Morehouse College, respectively. Located in Atlanta, Spelman and Morehouse are two of the oldest and most prestigious historically black colleges in the country. According to Teri, "they met during their freshman year when she was 18 and he was 19. They were members of the glee club and had their first date after performing during the annual Morehouse College Christmas Carol concert. Following their third date, Mark asked her to marry him." Annually, Teri and Mark attend the Christmas Carol concert that sparked their love story and fostered their union that has thrived for almost two decades.

I've been fortunate to observe Teri and Mark together and their support for one another is undeniable. Mark has a bachelor's degree in music, a master's degree in music composition, and has written and produced musical scores for film, cable, and network television stations. He has his own IMDb page, a Cannes Coup de Coeur award for one of his film scores, and currently has music featured on a host of network and cable television shows. Teri is currently the President of the Association of Legal Writing Directors and is writing her second book. Through all of their travels since their first meeting – Georgia, Iowa, Washington State, California, and now back to Georgia - there's no question that they are each other's biggest supporters. In fact, their encouragement of one another began in college when Mark purchased all of Teri's school books for her because he believed in her and was willing to invest in her.



Teri and Mark celebrate at the baptism of Teri's niece.

When you talk to Teri, you'll also realize that she's humble. When I asked about her passion for cooking, I learned more about her family and specifically her relationship with her father.

Teri grew up in New Jersey, in a very close-knit family that always had Sunday dinners. Her mom cooked southern cuisine; a tradition passed down from Teri's maternal great-grandmother. Her father's culinary palate was diverse. He spent time in Germany and Morocco, and in his youth, he learned how to make Italian cuisine while serving as a numbers runner for mafia families living in his New Jersey neighborhood. Teri's father also spoke fluent Italian, German and Spanish. He later learned Japanese while she was in college because he wanted to make sure they could converse with each other while she was studying the language.

Teri developed her culinary skills while helping her dad prepare for those Sunday dinners. She said "my dad had a keen sense of smell and taste," and she learned from him and her paternal grandfather (who loved baking) how to modify recipes and appreciate how ingredients worked together. Teri also fondly recalls when her dad taught her to make his special, tomato-based pasta sauce. It is a home-made recipe, from scratch, that she still makes to this day. She's developed a knack for preparing home-made pasta and has shared some of her best Italian dishes with her students. They now make requests, not only for certain dishes but also to observe her making the pasta. Until recently, Teri used a hand crank to make her ravioli, lasagna

Teri McMurtry-Chubb, conclusion

noodles, and tagliatelle pasta. But now she has a Kitchen Aid with pasta attachments that make her Italian cuisine preparation less time-consuming.

Despite her New Jersey roots, the place that has always felt like “home” to Teri has been Georgia. She said she knew it the moment she arrived at Spelman. And now she’s returned home to teach at Mercer.



Teri’s ravioli with her homemade sauce.

At Mercer, Professor MC is respected and loved by her students. Not only does she feed them her delectable culinary dishes, but she stimulates them to appreciate their role as advocates and able-bodied drum majors for social justice. She loves teaching legal re-

search and writing, but her favorite course is Critical Race Theory/Critical Race Feminism. Teri’s students have likewise recognized the importance of their critical race theory (CRT) class and recently surprised her with an award expressing their “appreciation for her outstanding commitment to the formation of social justice lawyers.”

When I asked her what would be a take away that she believes her students get from the CRT class, she said, “there are a lot of problems in the world, but they are more than capable and up to the task to tackle them.”

Being back in Georgia has allowed Teri to cultivate another passion – gardening. She and Mark purchased a century-old home in Macon that has an enclosed sun porch deck off the front. There, the two of them have enjoyed a mint mojito or mint julep made with fresh mint from their garden. Teri also incorporates fresh herbs from the garden when making her pasta, shrimp and grits, or lavender shortbread cookies.

I wish I could convince Teri to try out for Chef Gordon Ramsey’s show, Master Chef, because she truly has a gift. Fortunately, for me and others who live close enough to Macon to enjoy her cuisine, we are blessed to benefit from that gift.

To reach Teri and possibly get some of her recipes, not the secret family one though, please contact her at chubb_tm@law.mercer.edu.



Teri and her students, taken at the Legal Aid Volunteer Association reception, February 2016



LegalWriting
INSTITUTE

Mark Osbeck, continued

Why did you go to law school? How did you choose?

As an undergrad, I was torn between law school and grad school in philosophy, which was my major. So I got admitted to a philosophy Ph.D. program (Johns Hopkins), stayed for two years, decided that it wasn't what I wanted to do the rest of my days (a bit too impractical), and left with a Master's Degree. The next fall I enrolled in law school (Michigan), and the rest is history.

What did you always want to be when you grew up?

Since the age of about 13, I really only considered three options: doctor, lawyer, or professor. I guess I wasn't very imaginative. I've done two of the three. Maybe there is still time to practice a bit of medicine?

What did you do after going to law school?

I clerked for a justice on the Michigan Supreme Court (fun job), then moved to Washington D.C. to work for Big Law. I stayed there five years, then transferred to the Denver office of Patton Boggs.

How did you find your way to legal writing and Michigan? And what are your main responsibilities?

Oddly enough, I just saw a job ad one day from Michigan, my alma mater, looking for an experienced lawyer to teach in the Legal Practice Program there, and I was intrigued, since, as noted above, being a professor was always on my career short list. My decision to take a big pay cut and pursue that option was primarily due to: (1) that life ambition; (2) my long-time loyalty to the University of Michigan (my parents met there, I grew up cheering for the football team, and I am a two-time grad); and (3) the undeniable charm of the program's then-director, Grace Tonner.

What is the best part of your current job/role?

I guess the classroom, though I also really like getting to know all the bright young students each year. The flexible hours and freedom to write about things that interest me don't hurt, either.

What are your hobbies outside of work?

I like to ride my bike and hike. I also enjoy travel and music.

I hear you are working on a book project. What can you tell us about it? How did you get interested in the topic?

Yes, I am working on the Marijuana Law Nutshell (West Publishing) with my friend and colleague, Howard Bromberg. I guess the topic piqued my interest because my wife and I live part of the year in Colorado, which has pioneered legalization efforts the past few years. I just started reading articles on those efforts and thought it was a fascinating area of law because it touches on so many things, from constitutional issues to practical concerns such as how states with legalized marijuana can accurately test for "high" driving. Also, the history of drug laws and the rapidity with which the social consensus regarding marijuana is changing is very interesting to me. Howard and I taught a 1-credit seminar on marijuana law last year at Michigan, which was a lot of fun.

"I really like getting to know all the bright young students each year"

(Apparently it's mutual)





LegalWriting
INSTITUTE

Mark Osbeck, conclusion

Do you have any (hidden or otherwise) talents?

Well, “talent” might be an exaggeration, but I do throw a pretty strong bowling ball. I also prepare a pretty tasty piece of fish.

Where do you see yourself in five years? Ten? Twenty?

My hope is to keep teaching at Michigan until my retirement in 10-15 years. I’ll figure out something interesting to do after that — maybe go to medical school or join the Pro Bowlers Tour. :)

What is your dream vacation?

My dream vacation is wherever I’m going next! This year, that is the Kentucky Derby in early May, and Ireland in late August.

What are the last three books you read, and what do they mean to you?

Not counting books on marijuana, I guess the last three are: (1) Predictive Analytics (Eric Siegel); (2) Cat and Mouse (Gunter Grass); and (3) Civilization and Its Discontents (Sigmund Freud).

Do you have any advice for new legal writing professors? For law students? For old legal writing professors?

Hmm, well, one important thing I’ve learned over



“I enjoy travel.”

Mark in Vail



At Sun Studios in Memphis.

the years is not to underestimate the potential for making lemons into lemonade.

Is there anything about you/your passions/your work that we would be surprised to know?

My interests in marijuana law are strictly academic.

Is there anything else you would like to share with the community?

I really enjoy being a part of the legal-writing community. I’ve made friends with a lot of great people over the years from law schools all over the country (and beyond!).

And now for some odds-and-ends:

Favorite type of music?

Cool jazz (1950’s and 60’s)

Favorite band?

Notwithstanding my previous answer, The Rolling Stones

Favorite song?

Tumbling Dice

Favorite movie?

Some Like it Hot

Favorite book?

Confederacy of Dunces (John Kennedy Toole)

mosbeck@umich.edu

UPCOMING LEGAL WRITING EVENTS

July 10-13, 2016
2016 LWI Biennial
Conference
Portland Hilton and
Executive Tower

August 5-6 2016
Sixth Western
Regional Legal Writing
Conference
University of the Pacific,
McGeorge School of Law



*LWI Lives Profiles will resume
on October 1, 2016.*

Have a wonderful summer.

Selection and Presentation Process: We believe it is important for the members of LWI to know our process for creating the newsletter. The Committee is organized into three teams, and each is responsible for selecting, proposing, and writing the three profiles for a particular issue of the newsletter. To ensure a diverse newsletter, the teams propose the names of the selected individuals to the Co-Chairs to ensure that there is a breadth of coverage for each issue. Additionally, the Co-Chairs are keeping a master list of all the profiles, so that we can ensure a wide range of coverage over time.

The Faces of the LWI Committee exists to allow us to learn about the interesting lives of our colleagues. For that to happen, we want and need a diverse selection of legal writing professors to profile. If you have someone in mind that we should put on the list for a future newsletter, please feel free to contact any of our members at the email addresses below. If you could include a note on why you think the individual's profile would be particularly interesting, it will help us in developing priorities.

Committee Members



Bob Brain, Co-Chair
Loyola, Los Angeles
bob.brain@lils.edu



Linda Edwards
Co-Chair, UNLV
linda.edwards@unlv.edu



Grace Hum, Co-Chair
Univ. San Francisco
ghum@usfca.edu



Sha-Shana Crichton
Howard
srichton@law.howard.edu



Olympia Duhart
Nova
oduharto@nsu.law.nova.edu



Tamara Herrera
Arizona State
tamara.herrera@asu.edu



Greg Johnson
Vermont
gjohnson@vermontlaw.edu



Karin Mika
Cleveland-Marshall
kairn.mika@law.csuohio.edu



Shakira Pleasant
Savannah
spleaant@savannahlawschool.org



Jennifer Romig
Emory
jromig@emory.edu



Nancy Soonpaa
Texas Tech
nancy.soonpaa@ttu.edu



Danielle Weatherby
Univ. of Arkansas
dweath@uark.edu

Check out these websites for more information on what's happening!

<http://www.aals.org/aals-events/>
<http://www.lwionline.org/>
<http://www.alwd.org/>

