



LegalWriting
institute

Dear colleagues,

The Board of Directors of the Legal Writing Institute is delighted to announce that **Teri A. McMurtry-Chubb** is the 2018 recipient of the Teresa Godwin Phelps Award for Scholarship in Legal Communication.



Professor McMurtry-Chubb is a Professor of Law at Mercer University, Walter F. George School of Law where she researches, teaches, and writes in the areas of discourse analysis, genre analysis, and legal history. She has lectured nationally on structural workplace discrimination, disproportionate sentencing for African Americans, racial and gender inequalities in post-secondary education, and African diasporic cultural forms. She is the author of *LEGAL WRITING IN THE DISCIPLINES: A GUIDE TO LEGAL WRITING MASTERY* (Carolina Academic Press 2012) and contributed to *FEMINIST JUDGMENTS: REWRITTEN OPINIONS OF THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT* (Cambridge University Press 2016). Next academic year, Professor McMurtry-Chubb will be a Visiting Distinguished Professor of Law at John Marshall Law School, teaching legal writing and a seminar on Critical Race Feminism.

The Phelps Award honors and draws attention to individual works of outstanding scholarship specific to the legal writing discipline that are published in any given calendar year. The award is meant to set aspirational standards for others writing in the field. In making the award, the Selection Committee and the LWI Board focus solely on whether an individual work is specific to the discipline of legal writing and on whether it makes an outstanding contribution to the discipline.

The Selection Committee unanimously recommended Professor McMurtry-Chubb for her article titled, *The Rhetoric of Race, Redemption, and Will Contests: Inheritance as Reparations in John Grisham's Sycamore Row*, 48 *Memphis L. Rev.* 889 (2018). One nominator wrote that this article successfully “juxtapose[s] will contests, property, and inheritance rights against the complex and often ‘difficult to have’ discussion about race in America.” The nominator also

noted that “Teri’s unique style of mixing genres in her legal communication disrupts potential perceptions of legal writing professors, while preserving our discipline as a recognized field of study.”

The award will be presented on **Thursday, July 11, 2019, during the Gala Dinner at the Seventh Applied Legal Storytelling Conference in Boulder, Colorado.** Please join us to help celebrate Teri’s achievement.

The LWI Board is grateful for the work of the selection committee in identifying nominees and making recommendations to the Board. The Committee includes Chair Lisa A. Eichhorn, Mary Beth Beazley, Sha-Shana Crichton, Linda Edwards, Elizabeth Fajans, and Lucy Jewel.

Please join me in sending your congratulations directly to Professor McMurtry-Chubb at chubb_tm@law.mercer.edu. Congratulations, Teri!

Sincerely,
Kris

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President, Legal Writing Institute (2018-20)



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