**SUSAN M. CHESLER, ESQ.**

**ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY**

**SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR COLLEGE OF LAW 111 E. Taylor St., Phoenix, Arizona 85004**

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**Susan.Chesler@asu.edu**

**ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE**

**SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR COLLEGE OF LAW, ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY**, Phoenix, Arizona

*Dean’s Inaugural Fellow for Innovation 2023-2024*

*Clinical Professor of Law, July 2011 - Present*

*Associate Clinical Professor of Law, August 2008 – June 2011*

 **Courses:**

Contract Drafting and Negotiating

Legal Method and Writing

Legal Advocacy

Contracts

Intensive Legal Research and Writing

* **Committees:**

Appointments Committee

Assessment Committee

College Personnel Review Committee

Colloquium Committee

Curriculum Committee

Faculty Advisory Council

Graduation Awards Committee

New Building Committee

Writing across the Curriculum

* **University Service:**

Curriculum and Academic Programs Committee

**WIDENER UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW**, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

*Legal Methods Professor, July 2004 – June 2008*

 **Courses Taught:**

Legal Methods I and II

Legal Methods III – Drafting Contracts

Contracts I and II

Intensive Legal Analysis (Academic Support Program)

Advanced Bar Studies: Succeeding on the Multi-State Performance Exam

 **Faculty Advisor,** Moot Court Honor Society

**NEW YORK LAW SCHOOL**, New York, New York

*Adjunct Professor, August 2002 – May 2004*

 **Courses Taught:**

Legal Research, Reasoning and Writing

Written and Oral Advocacy

Drafting Contracts

Principles of Legal Analysis (Academic Support Program)

**AWARDS**

* Recipient of the Tina L. Stark Award for Excellence in the Teaching of Transactional Law and Skills, 2023.
* Recipient of the 2020 Teresa G. Phelps Scholarship Award for Legal Communication.

**PUBLICATIONS**

* Susan M. Chesler and Elizabeth Porter, *Contracting for the Company’s Culture*, 19 Ohio St. Bus. L.J. \_\_\_ (forthcoming Winter 2025).
* Susan M. Chesler and Karen J. Sneddon, *Raising the Bar: The NextGen Bar Exam and Contract Drafting*, 25 Tenn. J. Bus. L. 843 (2024).
* *Preparing Our Legal Writing Students for the NextGen Bar Exam*, micro-essay, Newsletter of the Section on Legal Writing, Reasoning, and Research of the Association of American Law Schools (Fall/Winter 2023).
* *Rewritten Harvey Weinstein Employment Agreement* in FEMINIST JUDGMENTS: REWRITTEN CORPORATE LAW (Cambridge University Press 2023)
* *Using Private Law as a Vehicle for Social Change: A Feminist Approach*, Vol. XV L.J. for Soc. Just. at Ariz. St. Univ. 138 (2022)
* Chesler, Susan M. and Sneddon, Karen J., *The Power of a Good Story: How Narrative Techniques Can Make Transactional Documents More Persuasive,* 22 Nevada L.J. 649 (2022).
* Chesler, Susan M. and Sneddon, Karen J., *Humanizing Transactional Documents: Why and How Transactional Drafters Should Use Narrative Techniques*, 23 Transactions: The Tennessee Journal of Business Law 222 (2022).
* Chesler, Susan M. and Sneddon, Karen J., *From Clause A to Clause Z: Narrative Transportation and the Transactional Reader,* 71 S. C. L. Rev. 247 (2019) (received the 2020 Teresa G. Phelps Scholarship Award for Legal Communication) (selected for inclusion in Vol. 10 of the Legal Writing Institute’s Monograph Series).
* Chesler, Susan M. and Sneddon, Karen J., *Happily Ever After: Fostering the Role of the Transactional Lawyer as Storyteller*, 20 Transactions: The Tennessee Journal of Business Law 491 (2019) (selected for inclusion in Vol. 10 of the Legal Writing Institute’s Monograph Series).
* Chesler, Susan M. and Sneddon, Karen J., *Telling Tales: The Transactional Lawyer as Storyteller*, 15 Legal Communication & Rhetoric: JALWD 119 (2018) (selected for inclusion in Vol. 10 of the Legal Writing Institute’s Monograph Series).
* *Drafting in Tandem: Enhancing Collaboration through a Novel Classroom Set-up,* 31 The Second Draft 7 (No. 2 Fall 2018).
* Chesler, Susan M. and Sneddon, Karen J., *Tales from a Form Book: Stock Stories and Transactional Documents*, 78 Mont. L. Rev. 501 (2017) (selected for inclusion in Vol. 10 of the Legal Writing Institute’s Monograph Series).
* Chesler, Susan M. and Sneddon, Karen J., *Once Upon a Transaction: Narrative Techniques and Drafting,* 68:2 Oklahoma Law Review 263 (Winter 2016).
* Chesler, Susan M. and Stinson, Judith, *Team up for Collaborative Teaching,* 23 Perspectives Teaching Legal Res. & Writing 169-172 (2015)
* *A Day in the Life of a Lawyer: Contracts Module* with Karen Sneddon and Pat Longan (Wolters Kluwer Law and Business, 2012); *A Day in the Life of a Lawyer: Property Module* with Karen Sneddon and Pat Longan (Wolters Kluwer Law and Business, 2013); *A Day in the Life of a Lawyer: Torts Module* with Karen Sneddon and Pat Longan (Wolters Kluwer Law and Business, expected 2015). These modules are part of a series of web-based teaching tools that are comprised of professionally produced vignettes featuring the knowledge, skills, and values critical to practicing lawyers, as well as a comprehensive Teacher's Manual including discussion points, exercises, and assessment tools. Each module is aimed at incorporating interactive discourse and promoting self-reflection on issues of skills, professionalism, and ethics in a particular first-year required course.

 *Measuring Student Progress: Assessing and Providing Feedback* (with Karen Sneddon), 14

Transactions: The Tennessee Journal of Business Law, 2013 Special Report, at 489.

 *Publication Opportunities Beyond the Traditional Law Review* (with Anna Hemingway and Tamara

Herrera), 27 The Second Draft, Summer 2013, at 8.

 *Developing Students’ Ethical Professional Identity*, 26(1) The Second Draft, Fall 2012, at 8.

 Susan M. Chesler, et al., *New Ways to Teach Drafting and Drafting Ethics: Teaching Drafting Ethics*

*Using Video Vignettes*, Transactions: The Tennessee Journal of Business Law, 2011 Special Report.

 *Training for Tomorrow: Negotiations for Future Transactional Lawyers,* Business Law Today, April

2011.

 *Teaching Students about the Role of Lawyer as Counselor – Winning Isn’t Always Everything*, in

Techniques for Teaching Law II (Steve Friedland et al. eds., Carolina Academic Press, 2012).

 *Effective Contract Drafting: How to Revise, Edit, and Use Form Agreements*, abridged version, GPSOLO (publication of the General Practice, Solo & Small Firm Division of the ABA), “The Best Articles Published by the ABA,” March 2010, at 10.

 *Effective Contract Drafting: How to Revise, Edit, and Use Form Agreements*, Business Law Today, November/December 2009, at 35.

 *Advocating for Teaching Students About the Role of Lawyer as Counselor - Winning Isn’t Always*

*Everything*, The Law Teacher, Fall 2009, at 6.

 Susan M. Chesler, et al., *Teaching Multiple Skills in Drafting & Simulation Courses,* Transactions: The

Tennessee Journal of Business Law, 2009 Special Report, at 221.

 *The Small Group Progress Conference*, 20(1) The Second Draft, August 2005, at 11.

**PRESENTATIONS AND CONFERENCES**

* Co-organizer and Moderator, *Making AI Work for You (the Law Professor)*, virtual webinar hosted by the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, October 2024.
* *Contracting for the Company’s Culture*, presented at the 17th Annual International Conference on Contracts (KCON XVII), Bristol, UK, June 2024.
* *What Every Law Student (and Professor) Needs to Know about Transactional Lawyering* (with Karen Sneddon), presented at the 21st LWI Biennial Conference, Indianapolis, Indiana, July 2024.
* Discussant, *AI & Legal Writing: How It Started, How It’s Going*, presented at the 21st LWI Biennial Conference, Indianapolis, Indiana, July 2024.
* Discussant, *Get Lit – The Discipline Building Working Group’s Scholarship Reading Session,* presented at the 21st LWI Biennial Conference, Indianapolis, Indiana, July 2024.
* *AI in the Legal Writing Classroom* (with Kim Holst), presented at the 2024 Rocky Mountain Regional Legal Writing Conference, Loyola Law School, Los Angeles, CA, March 2024.
* *Raising the Bar: The NextGen Bar Exam and Contract Drafting* (with Karen Sneddon), presented at the Eighth Biennial Teaching Transactional Law and Skills Conference, Emory Law School, October 2023.
* Co-organizer and Presenter, *Practical Considerations for AI in the Legal Writing Classroom*, virtual webinar hosted by the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, May 2023.
* *Conflict Resolution Essentials: The Fundamentals of Contract Drafting*, Lodestar Dispute Resolution Center, Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, Arizona State University, presented annually 2020 through 2024.
* Moderator and Panelist, *ASU Legal Method and Writing Innovative Ideas for Advanced Legal Writing Workshops*, virtual workshop series hosted by the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, Fall 2022.
* *Top 10 Tips and Techniques for Crafting Effective Contracts*, presented to Environmental Professionals of Arizona, Tempe, AZ, November 2022.
* *Top 10 Ideas for the Transactional Drafter’s New and Improved Guidebook* (with Karen Sneddon), presented at the 20th LWI Biennial Conference, Washington D.C., July 2022.
* *Leveraging Mistakes in the Legal Writing Classroom*, presented at the 2022 Rocky Mountain Regional Legal Writing Conference, Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, Arizona State University, March 2022.
* *Giving and Getting Feedback at All Stages of the Writing Process* (with Mary Bowman), presented at the ALWD Scholarship Forum, 2022 Rocky Mountain Regional Legal Writing Conference, Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, Arizona State University, March 2022.
* *Narrative Techniques: Not Just for Litigators* (with Karen Sneddon), presented at the Eighth Applied Legal Storytelling Conference, virtual conference hosted by Mercer Law School, July 2021.
* *From Clause A to Clause Z: Transactional Storytelling and the Transactional Reader* (with Karen Sneddon)*,* presented at the Seventh Biennial Conference of Applied Legal Storytelling, University of Colorado School of Law, Boulder, July 2019.
* *Transactional Storytelling,* presented at the 2019 Rocky Mountain Regional Legal Writing Conference, UNLV Law School, Las Vegas, Nevada, March 2019.
* *Conflict Resolution Essentials: The Fundamentals of Contract Drafting*, Lodestar Dispute Resolution Center, Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, Arizona State University, April 2019.
* *Breaking Up with Individualized Feedback is (Not So) Hard to Do* (with Alyssa Dragnich and Kim Holst), presented at the 18th LWI Biennial Conference, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, July 2018.
* *Happily Ever After: Fostering the Role of the Transactional Drafter as Storyteller* (with Karen Sneddon), presented at the Sixth Biennial Teaching Transactional Law and Skills Conference, Emory Law School, June 2018.
* *Tales from a Form Book: Stock Stories and Transactional Documents* (with Karen Sneddon), presented at the Sixth Biennial Conference on Applied Legal Storytelling, American University Washington College of Law, July 2017.
* *Teaching the Teachers: Developing a Legal Writing Curriculum for Pakistani Law Schools* (with Kim Holst), presented at the 2017 Rocky Mountain Regional Legal Writing Conference, Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, March 2017.
* Panelist, *Scholars’ Forum Panel*, Association of Legal Writing Directors Scholars’ Forum, hosted by the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, March 2017.
* *Teaching Workshop: Challenges and Strategies for Changing Times* (with LWI Teaching Resources Committee) presented at the Legal Writing Institute 17th Biennial Conference, Portland, Oregon, July 2016.
* *Legal Drafting for an International Practice* (with Kim Holst), presented at the Global Legal Skills Conference, University of Verona Department of Law, Verona, Italy, May 2016.
* *The 1L On-Ramp: Orientation Sessions and Legal Writing Faculty* (with Amy Langenfeld), presented at the Association of Legal Writing Directors 2015 Biennial Conference, University of Memphis School of Law, June 2015.
* *Team Up for Collaborative Teaching* (with Judy Stinson), presented at the 2015 Rocky Mountain Regional Legal Writing Conference, University of New Mexico School of Law, March 2015.
* *Incorporating Professionalism and Ethics into a Hybrid Contract Drafting & Negotiating Class,* LWI One-Day Workshop: The Evolving Legal Writing Classroom, hosted by Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, December 6, 2013.

* Co-facilitator, *Innovative Teaching Workshop*, Association of Legal Writing Directors 2013 Biennial Conference, Marquette University Law School, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, June 2013.

 *Old Faces, New Places: Assimilating Lateral Hires into Successful Legal Writing Programs* (with Professors Kimberly Holst, Andrew Carter, and Janet Dickson), presented at the Association of Legal Writing Directors / 2013 Biennial Conference, Marquette University Law School, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, June 2013.

 *Developing Cohesive Outcomes for Upper-Level Writing Courses*, presented at the 2013 Rocky

Mountain Regional Legal Writing Conference, Colorado Law School, Boulder, Colorado, March 2013.

 *It's About Time: Assessing Transactional Skills in Thirty Minutes or Less,* presented at Emory

Law's Third Biennial Conference on Transactional Education, Atlanta, Georgia, November 2012.

 Panelist, *Commercial Law Forms: One Size Does Not Fit All,* CLE Program presented at the 2012

Annual Meeting of the ABA Section of Business Law, Chicago, Illinois, August 2012.

 *Exploring Scholarship Ideas beyond the Traditional Law Review*, presented at the Fifteenth Biennial

Conference of the Legal Writing Institute, Palm Desert, California, May 2012.

 *Developing Students’ Professional Identity through Legal Writing Pedagogy,* presented at the Twelfth Annual Rocky Mountain Legal Writing Conference, hosted by Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, Tempe, Arizona, March 2012.

 Chair and Panelist, *Negotiation Skills for Transactional Lawyers*, CLE Teleconference Program sponsored by the ABA Section of Business Law, June 2011.

* *A Day-in-the-Life of a Transactional Lawyer: Negotiation, Ethics, and Professionalism*, presented at the Institute for Law Teaching and Learning’s 2011 Conference: Engaging and Assessing Our Students, hosted by New York Law School, New York, New York, June 2011.

 *The Ultimate Crash Course in Real Life Lawyering*, presented at the Eleventh Annual Rocky Mountain

Legal Writing Conference, hosted by UNLV Law School, Las Vegas, Nevada, March 2011.

 *Beyond the Boilerplate: Learning Effective Drafting Techniques for Contracts and Wills*, presented at the Fourteenth Biennial Conference of the Legal Writing Institute, Marco Island, Florida, June 2010.

 *New Ways to Teach Drafting and Drafting Ethics: Teaching Drafting Ethics Using Video Vignettes,* presented at the Transactional Education: What’s Next? Conference, hosted by Emory University School of Law, Atlanta, Georgia, June 2010.

* Moderator, *Roundtable Discussion: Challenges of Legal Writing Professors Who Teach Contract Drafting and How to Meet Them,* Transactional Education: What’s Next? Conference, hosted by Emory University School of Law, Atlanta, Georgia, June 2010.
* Chair and Panelist, *How to Revise, Edit, and Use Form Agreements*, CLE Program sponsored by the Editorial Board of Business Law Today, 2010 Annual Meeting of the ABA Section of Business Law, Denver, Colorado, April 2010.

 *How to Effectively Draft Settlement Agreements*, presented to the Civil Justice Clinic, Sandra Day

O’Connor College of Law, Tempe, Arizona, March 2010, October 2009, and April 2009.

 *Practical Writing Seminar (co-presenter with Judge Patricia Norris, Arizona Court of Appeals, and Paula Bickett, Esq., Attorney General’s Office)*, CLE presented at the Arizona Attorney General’s Office, May 2009.

 *Monkey See, Monkey Do: Using Guided Editing Exercises to Maximize Student Learning,* presented at the Ninth Annual Rocky Mountain Legal Writing Conference, hosted by Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, Tempe, Arizona, March 2009.

 *Practical Writing Seminar (co-presenter with Judge Patricia Norris, Arizona Court of Appeals, and Paula Bickett, Esq., Attorney General’s Office)*, CLE presented at the 2009 Minority Bar Convention, State Bar of Arizona, March 2009.

 *Guidelines for Effective Contract Drafting*, presented to the Technology Ventures Services Group

Clinic, Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, Tempe, Arizona, February 2009.

 *Engaging, Entertaining, and Effective: Using Handheld Response Pads in the Legal Methods Classroom*, presented at the Thirteenth Biennial Conference of the Legal Writing Institute, Indianapolis, Indiana, July 2008.

 *Why and How to Incorporate Skills Beyond Drafting into a Transactional Drafting Course*, presented at the Conference on Teaching Drafting and Transactional Skills: The Basics and Beyond, hosted by Emory Law School, Atlanta, Georgia, May 2008.

 *Using Small Group Progress Conferences to Incorporate Collaborative Learning into the Legal Writing Classroom,* presented at the Seventh Annual Rocky Mountain Legal Writing Conference, hosted by William S. Boyd School of Law at UNLV, Las Vegas, Nevada, March 2007.

**PROFESSIONAL COMMITTEES AND MEMBERSHIPS**

* Member, Teresa G. Phelps Scholarship Award Selection Committee, Legal Writing Institute, 2022 – present.
* Member, Discipline-Building Working Group, Legal Writing Institute, 2022 – present.
* Member, Scholarship Grants Committee, joint committee of Association of Legal Writing Directors and Legal Writing Institute, 2022 - present.
* Co-chair, Scholarship Grants Committee, joint committee of Association of Legal Writing Directors and Legal Writing Institute, 2020 - 2022.
* Co-chair, Program Committee for the Nineteenth Biennial of the Legal Writing Institute to be held in Washington, D.C. in 2020.
* Member and Mentor, Scholarship Grants Committee, joint committee of Association of Legal Writing Directors and Legal Writing Institute, 2016 – 2020.
* Co-chair, Teaching Resources Committee, Legal Writing Institute, 2012 – 2016.

 Member, Teaching Workshops Committee, Association of Legal Writing Directors, 2012 – 2016.

 Member, Scholarship Development and Outreach Committee, Legal Writing Institute, 2010 – 2012.

 Member, Professional Development Committee, Legal Writing Institute, 2009 - 2010.

 Member, Poster Committee, AALS Section of Legal Writing, Reasoning, and Research, 2010.

 Program Chair, CLE Program sponsored by the Editorial Board of Business Law Today, for the 2010

Annual Meeting of the ABA Section of Business Law, Denver, Colorado, April 2010.

 Chair, Planning Committee, Ninth Annual Rocky Mountain Legal Writing Conference, hosted by

Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law, Arizona State University, Tempe, Arizona, March 2009.

 Legal Writing Institute, Member since 2004.

* Association of Legal Writing Directors, Member since 2011.

**OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**BROOKWOOD CHILD CARE**, Brooklyn, New York

*Director of Human Resources and Employee Relations, January 2001 – December 2003*

Managed Human Resources department of non-profit child welfare agency with staff of 125 employees. Provided legal counsel on all employment related issues, including union negotiations, employee grievances, arbitrations, regulatory compliance, and insurance matters. Conducted training and presentations to Board of Directors and staff.

**MELITO & ADOLFSEN P.C. f/k/a SIFF ROSEN P.C.**, New York, New York

 *Associate, September 1990 – October 2000*

Litigated complex commercial actions, including insurance coverage, environmental, reinsurance, and breach of contract cases, from initial pleadings through appeals throughout the United States. Participated in extensive motion practice, including researching, drafting, and making court appearances relating to discovery disputes, case management, and dispositive motions. Drafted pleadings, discovery demands and responses, and conducted and defended depositions. Negotiated and drafted settlement agreements in multi-million dollar lawsuits. Supervised and directed junior associates on issues involving case administration, legal analysis, and strategy.

**EDUCATION**

**BROOKLYN LAW SCHOOL**

*Juris Doctor, 1990*

 **Rank:** Top 13%

 **Honors:** Richardson Scholar

Chairperson of Moot Court Honor Society

American Jurisprudence Award in Legal Writing

**STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT ALBANY**

*Bachelor of Arts, Political Science and Business, 1987*

 **Honors:** Dean’s List

**BAR ADMISSIONS**

 New York State

 United States District Court for the Southern and Eastern Districts