

Nicole Downing
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EDUCATION

University of North Carolina School of Information and Library Science, Chapel Hill, NC
MSLS, May 2014

University of North Carolina School of Law, Chapel Hill, NC
JD, May 2012

Emerson College, Boston, MA
BS in Communication Studies, May 2009
Concentrations: Marketing Communications and Writing, Literature, & Publishing

LIBRARY EXPERIENCE

Kathrine R. Everett Law Library, Chapel Hill, NC

Assistant Director for Public Services

June 2021 – Present

Head of Reference Services

July 2018 – May 2021

Interim Head of Access Services

June 2020 – May 2021

- Manage the law library's reference department, including research and reference services, reference personnel, and reference desk operations and policies
- Manage the law library's access services department, including borrowing and lending services, access services personnel, and circulation desk operations and policies
- Manage the law library space by overseeing room reservations, furniture, and other building issues while liaising with facilities and housekeeping departments as needed
- Serve on the law library management team by contributing ideas and feedback on library operations and services
- Prepare annual statistics reports of reference and access services departments for accreditation and reporting purposes
- Oversee all research instruction and development of the Advanced Legal Research curriculum, including mentoring of teaching librarians and support of new teaching pedagogies
- Oversee the faculty research service and coordinate the faculty liaison program to provide service to approximately 60 law faculty members
- Coordinate requests for research appointments and legal research class instruction from student and faculty members of the UNC-CH campus community
- Serve as administrator to the LibGuides platform, including maintaining over 30 legal research guides and managing the creation of new guides
- Serve as the vendor liaison to Westlaw Precision, Lexis+, and Bloomberg Law
- Facilitate and edit Carolina Blog posts to spread awareness of library news to the UNC Law community and professional librarianship communities
- Planned, coordinated, and advertised an annual Halloween-themed research scavenger hunt for law students to increase student involvement with library resources

Kathrine R. Everett Law Library, Chapel Hill, NC

Reference Librarian

July 2016 – June 2018

- Planned, coordinated, and advertised the Prep for Practice workshop series
- Provided reference services to students, faculty, attorneys, and public patrons
- Served as the library liaison to designated law faculty, the North Carolina Journal of Law & Technology, and major legal research vendors Westlaw Next, Lexis Advance, and Bloomberg Law
- Served as the law library's LibGuides liaison while maintaining assigned guides and creating new research guides for the UNC Pro Bono Program and Moot Court
- Provided introductory research training in classes across the UNC-CH campus
- Conducted collection review of the library's periodical collection
- Regular contributor to the Carolina Blawg

University of Miami School of Law Library, Coral Gables, FL

Reference and Instructional Services Librarian

June 2014 – June 2016

- Planned, coordinated, and advertised the Library Workshop Series each semester including conducting student needs assessments and monitoring workshop attendance statistics; implemented new Practice Skills Certification
- Provided reference services to students, faculty, attorneys, and public patrons
- Created instructional screencasting presentations and assessments on research topics
- Conducted one-on-one reference meetings with students on database training, research guidance, and clinic projects
- Conducted faculty research projects on United States and international law topics
- Completed library outreach by updating research guides, creating promotional materials for library, and utilizing social media to promote library events

Kathrine R. Everett Law Library, Chapel Hill, NC

Graduate Assistant

July 2013 – May 2014

Library Research Assistant

August 2012 – June 2013

- Answered student, faculty, and pro se patron questions at the reference desk
- Completed legal and interdisciplinary research projects for UNC School of Law faculty using a wide variety of legal and non-legal databases
- Created and edited research and library guides
- Updated law faculty web profiles
- Digitally redacted NC Supreme Court briefs

UNC School of Law, Chapel Hill, NC

February – May 2012; May – June 2013

Research Assistant, Professor Anne Klinefelter at Kathrine R. Everett Law Library

- Researched reader privacy concerns raised by the use of new technologies and current instances of library censorship through Internet filtering and removing books from shelves

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC

Clinical Associate Professor of Law, UNC School of Law

October 2020 - Present

Clinical Assistant Professor of Law, UNC School of Law

July 2017 – October 2020

Advanced Legal Research (3 credit, experiential)

- Fall 2017, Fall 2018, Spring 2019, Spring 2020, Summer 2020, Spring 2021, Summer 2021, Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2023, Fall 2024; Fall 2025 (*expected*)
Advanced Legal Research (2 credit, experiential)
- Summer 2022, Summer 2023, Summer 2025 (*expected*)
Transactional Law Research (1 credit, experiential)
- Fall 2022, Spring 2025

Guest Lecturer on Legal Research

Advanced Legal Research, UNC School of Law	Spring 2017
Advanced Legal Research: IP & Technology, UNC School of Law	Spring 2017
Animal Law, UNC School of Law	Fall 2021
International Human Rights, UNC School of Law	Fall 2018
Legal Issues in Collegiate Sports, UNC College of Arts and Sciences	Fall 2019 & Fall 2020
Legal Response to the Financial Crisis, UNC School of Law	Spring 2020, 2023, & 2025
Media Law, UNC School of Media and Journalism	Fall 2016, Fall 2019, & Fall 2020
North Carolina Legal Research	Spring 2024
Privacy Law, UNC School of Law	Fall 2016, Spring 2018, & Spring 2019
School Law & Public Policy, UNC School of Education	Fall 2016
Race and the Law, UNC School of Law	Spring 2020

Prep for Practice Series, Kathrine R. Everett Law Library

Advanced Online Searching	Fall 2016
Artificial Intelligence & the Law	Spring 2018
Depositions Research	Spring 2014
eFiling & Dockets	Spring 2018
Is it Good Law? Using Citators	Spring 2017
Mastering Research for RWEs	Fall 2024
Search Algorithms	Fall 2017

University of Miami School of Law, Coral Gables, FL

Library Workshop Series

Advanced Online Searching	Fall 2014 & Fall 2015
Advanced Word Skills for Academic Writing	Spring 2016
Introduction to a Legal Tech Audit	Spring 2015 & Spring 2016
Introduction to Metadata for Lawyers	Fall 2015
Legal Research Apps	Spring 2015

Summer 2015 Externship Course

Criminal Law Research Module	Summer 2015
Working with Documents Research Module	Summer 2015

PUBLICATIONS

Forthcoming Book Chapter, *Ready or Not, Here They Come! Using Games in Legal Education to Engage Next-Gen Students* (Hein, co-edited by Tanya Johnson and Jessica de Perio Wittman).

Using Content and Tone to Deliver Effective Feedback on Legal Research, 116 LAW. LIB. J. 159 (2024).

The Five-Minute Exercise: A Method of Using Modified Lectures in the Legal Research Classroom, 38 LEGAL REFERENCE SERVICES QUARTERLY 1 (2019).

Book Review, Stories from Trailblazing Women Lawyers by Jill Norgren, 111 LAW LIB. J. 451 (2019).

Designing and Implementing Research Competency Assessment with Anu Pal and Theresa Tarves, AALL SPECTRUM 15 (March/April 2019).

Program Review, Reference Analytics for Data-Driven Decision Making, 38(1) ALL-SIS NEWSLETTER 28 (2018).

Contributing Blogger, RIPS Law Librarian Blog, Research, Instruction, and Patron Services Special Interest Section of the American Association of Law Libraries (Fall 2017 – Spring 2018).

Book Review, The Copyright Book: A Practical Guide, Sixth Edition by William S. Strong, 107 LAW LIB. J. 460 (2015).

Program Review, International Attorneys and LLM Students: Filling Research Gaps, 35(1) ALL-SIS NEWSLETTER 10 (2015).

The UNC Law Library's Redaction of Its Digitized Collection of North Carolina Supreme Court Briefs: A Case Study, AALL/LexisNexis Call for Papers Winner 2014, available at: <https://www.aallnet.org/community/recognition/awards-program/aalllexisnexis-call-for-papers-awards/>.

Using Fair Use to Stop a Copyright Troll from Threatening Hyperlinkers, 12 N.C. J.L. & TECH. ON. 119 (2011).

PRESENTATIONS

Teaching Workshops for Law Librarians with Andrew Wisniewsky, Southeastern Association of Law Libraries Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, March 2025.

Demystifying GenAI: The Future of Law and Technology 79West Innovation Hub, Pittsboro, NC, November 2024.

Legal Generative AI Brownbag, UNC School of Law Faculty, March 2025.

Getting Published: Edits and the Publication, Panelist, AALL Coffee Chat, February 2024.

Generative AI in Legal Education & Practice with Pete Nemerovski, Festival of Legal Learning, Chapel Hill, NC, February 2024.

Preparing Law Students for the Use of AI in Legal Practice, Dan K. Moore Program in Ethics: Generative AI for Lawyers, Chapel Hill, NC, November 2023.

Librarian as Author, Panelist, AALL Coffee Chat, July 2023

Quick Tips: Delivering Meaningful Feedback, Teaching the Teachers Conference, Houston, TX, May 2023.

Teaching Students to Use Free and Low Cost Legal Resources, with Aaron Kirschenfeld, Southeastern Association of Law Libraries Annual Meeting, Richmond, VA, March 2023.

Working with Law Librarians, with Annalee Hickman Pierson, Benjamin Keele, and Andy Lang, Scribes Second Sunday Webinar Series, September 11, 2022.

Librarian as Author, Moderator, AALL Virtual Program, July 2022.

Delivering Effective Student Feedback, Teaching the Teachers Conference, Portland, OR, May 2022.

Winning the AALL/LexisNexis Call for Papers, Moderator, AALL Coffee Chat, December 2021.

Brief Analyzers: Using Artificial Intelligence to Improve your Legal Research with Melissa Hyland, Festival of Legal Learning, Chapel Hill, NC, February 2020.

Assessing Legal Research Competency: Bridging the Gap Between Law School and Practice with Jennifer Davitt, Taryn Rucinski, and Kelly McGlynn, American Association of Law Libraries Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., July 2019.

Encouraging the Librarian Author with Workshops, Poster Presentation at American Association of Law Libraries Annual Meeting, Washington, D.C., July 2019.

Encouraging the Librarian Author with Workshops with Anne Klinefelter and Aaron Kirschenfeld, Southeastern Association of Law Libraries Annual Meeting, Hot Springs, VA, March 2019.

Algorithms and the Impact on Legal Research with Melissa Hyland, Festival of Legal Learning, Chapel Hill, NC, February 2019.

Wikipedia in the Legal Research Classroom, CALICon 2018, Washington, D.C., June 2018.

Comparing Case Results Across Databases with Melissa Hyland, Festival of Legal Learning, Chapel Hill, NC, February 2018.

Docket Research: Online Access to Court Filings with Allison Symulevich, Festival of Legal Learning, Chapel Hill, NC, February 2017.

The Librarian as Author, Panel at American Association of Law Libraries Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX, July 2014.

SOPA: Is it Really Dead? And What Does it Mean to You? with Lolly Gasaway and David Levine, sponsored by the Carolina Intellectual Property Law Organization, Chapel Hill, NC, Spring 2012.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS, COMMITTEES & AWARDS

Perspectives: Teaching Legal Research and Writing

Editor in Chief	2024 – Present
Assistant Editor in Chief	2022 – 2024
Editorial Board Member	2021 – 2022

American Association of Law Libraries	2013 – Present
Council of SIS Chairs	
Chair	2024 – 2025
Member	2022 - 2024
RIPS Executive Board	
Past Chair	2024 – 2025
Chair	2023 – 2024
Vice Chair	2022 – 2023
Member at Large	2020 – 2022
Vice-Chair, RIPS PR & Recruitment Committee	2024 – 2025
Chair, RIPS Program Committee	2022 – 2023
Chair, AALL/LexisNexis Call for Papers Committee	2021 – 2022
Member, ALL-SIS Research and Scholarship Committee	2019 – 2022
Member, RIPS-SIS Mentorship and Outreach Committee	2021 – 2022
Member, RIPS-SIS Legal Research Competencies Committee	2017 – 2019
Vice-Chair, ALL-SIS Student Services Committee	2018 – 2019
Member, ALL-SIS Student Services Committee	2015 – 2016, 2017 – 2018
Jurist, Law Library Journal Article of the Year Award Jury	2017 – 2018
Member, Southeastern Chapter	2016 – Present
University of North Carolina	
School of Law - Admissions Committee	2018 – Present
Law Library – KRELL Scholarship Workshop Committee	2018 – Present
Digital and Lifelong Learning Committee	2022 – 2024
Kathrine R. Everett Award of Merit	2018 & 2024
Teaching the Teachers Conference Teaching Mentor	2023
AALL/LexisNexis Call for Papers Award: Open Division	2023
AALL Leadership Academy Fellow	2020
AALL/LexisNexis Call for Papers Award: Student Division	2014
North Carolina State Bar (<i>inactive</i>)	