RYAN W. COPUS

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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law, Kansas City, MO, 2020-present
Associate Professor

Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA, 2017-2020
Climenko Fellow and Lecturer on Law

EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley, Jurisprudence and Social Policy, PhD, 2017
Disciplinary focus: Empirical Law & Economics
Dissertation: Machine Learning and the Reliability of Adjudication
>   Committee: Justin McCrary (Co-Chair)
>   Kevin Quinn (Co-Chair)
>   Sean Farhang
>   Anne Joseph O'Connell

Harvard Law School, JD, 2007, *cum laude*

University of Texas at Austin, BA in Philosophy and Sociology, 2004, Honors

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Civil Procedure; Law & Technology; Law & Economics; Empirical Legal Studies; Legal Analytics.

PUBLICATIONS

Political Appointments and Outcomes in Federal District Courts (with Ryan Hübert). Forthcoming in Journal of Politics (2022).

Machines Finding Injustice (with Hannah Laqueur). 23 SMU SCI. & TECH. L. REV. 151 (2020)

Statistical Precedent: Allocating Judicial Attention. 73 VAND. L. REV. 365 (2020).

Big Data, Machine Learning, and the Credibility Revolution in Empirical Legal Studies (with Ryan Hübert and Hannah Laqueur). MICHAEL LIVERMORE & DAN ROCKMORE, LAW AS DATA: COMPUTATION, TEXT, AND THE FUTURE OF LEGAL ANALYSIS (2019).

Entertainment as Crime Prevention: Evidence from Chicago Sports Games (with Hannah Laqueur). J. SPORTS ECON. 20 (3), 344-370 (2019). DOI : 10.1177/1527002518762551.

WORKING PAPERS

An Algorithmic Assessment of Parole Decisions (with Hannah Laqueur).

Jackpot Justice? Evaluating Inconsistency in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals (with Ryan Hubert)

Race, Gender, and Judging in the Federal District Courts (with Ryan Hubert)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Federal Judicial Center, Washington D.C., Summer 2013
Research on Bell Atlantic v. Twombly and Ashcroft v. Iqbal.

Goodwin Procter L.L.P., Boston, MA, 2008-2009
Associate, Commercial Litigation

Hon. David C. Godbey, United States District Judge, Dallas, TX, 2007-2008
Judicial Clerk

Fulbright & Jaworski, L.L.P., Houston, TX, Summer 2006
Summer Associate

Baker Botts, L.L.P, Houston, TX, Summer 2006
Summer Associate

The Office of the Texas Attorney General, Austin, TX, Summer 2005
Legal Intern to the Solicitor General

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Civil Procedure – Pleadings. University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law, 2021-Present.

Civil Procedure – Jurisdiction. University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law, 2020-Present.

Data, Decisions, & Justice. University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law, 2021-Present.

Law, Technology, and Public Policy. University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law, 2020-Present

Legal Research and Writing. Harvard Law School, 2017-2020.

Evaluating Evidence. Graduate Student Instructor for Daniel Schneider. University of California, Berkeley, 2017.

Immigration and Citizenship. Graduate Student Instructor for Leti Volpp. University of California, Berkeley, 2016.

Law and Economics. Graduate Student Instructor for Bob Cooter, Eric Talley, & Justin McCrary. University of California, Berkeley, 2012, 2014, and 2015.

Law and Psychology. Graduate Student Instructor for Victoria Plaut. University of California, Berkeley, 2013.

The Supreme Court and Public Policy. Graduate Student Instructor for Kevin Quinn. University of California, Berkeley, 2011 and 2013.

Introduction to Statistics for Lawyers. Graduate Student Instructor for Justin McCrary. University of California, Berkeley, 2012.

Algorithms and the Future of Judging. 2021 Judges' In-Court Seminar, United States District Court, District of Minnesota, Brainerd MN.

An Analysis of New York Parole Decisions. 2020 Virtual Workshop on Contemporary Parole Research.

The Hidden Effects of Presidential Appointments on Civil Rights Outcomes in District Courts. 2019 Conference on Data Science and Law, Zürich, Switzerland.

Machines Learning to Find Injustice. Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society, 2019, Cambridge, MA. Video available at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t21LLus-LAU.

Targeted Judging. 2018 Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, Ann Arbor, MI.

Detecting Inconsistency in Governance, with Ryan Hubert. 2018 ComplianceNet Inaugural Conference, Irvine, CA.

Machines Learning Justice: The Case for Judgmental Bootstrapping of Legal Decisions, with Hannah Laqueur. 2015 American Law and Economics Association Annual Meeting, Boston, MA.

The Uses of Predicting Legal Decisions: A Case Study of California Parole Hearings, with Hannah Laqueur. 2015 Law and Society Annual Meeting, Seattle, WA.

Entertainment as Crime Prevention: Evidence from Chicago Sports Games, with Hannah Laqueur. 2014 Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, Berkeley, CA.

The Mass Production of Precedent: The Rise of District Courts as Law Makers. 2014 Annual Law and Society Meeting, Minneapolis, MN.

BAR ADMISSIONS

Admitted to the bars of Texas (2007) and Massachusetts (2008).