

CHRISTOPHER J. RYAN, JR.

PROFESSOR OF LAW
INDIANA UNIVERSITY - MAURER SCHOOL OF LAW

211 SOUTH INDIANA AVENUE, BLOOMINGTON, IN 47405 | 812.856.0694 | CJR3@IU.EDU

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

INDIANA UNIVERSITY, Bloomington, IN
Professor of Law (Maurer School of Law), January 2024 – Present

- Taught courses on Income Tax and Law & Economics.

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE, Louisville, KY
Associate Professor of Law (Brandeis School of Law), July 2021 – December 2023

- Taught courses on Decedents' Estates & Trusts, Law & Economics, and Secured Transactions.

ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY, Bristol, RI
Associate Professor of Law (School of Law), July 2018 – June 2021

- Taught courses on Federal Income Tax, Law & Economics, Property, and Wills & Trusts.

ACADEMIC AFFILIATIONS

INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR LAW & ECONOMICS, Portland, OR
Academic Affiliate, January 2023 – Present

AMERICAN BAR FOUNDATION, Chicago, IL
Affiliated Scholar, July 2018 – Present

EDUCATION

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY, Nashville, TN
Ph.D. in Policy Studies, June 2018

- Provost Graduate Fellow and Experimental Research Training (ExpeRT) Fellow
- Specialties in the economics, politics, and law of higher education, and quantitative research methods
- Dissertation: *Chasing Paper: The Economics of Attending Law School in the 21st Century*

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY, Lexington, KY
J.D., May 2013

- Provost Scholar and U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Kentucky Judicial Fellow
- *Kentucky Law Journal*, Notes Editor
- Latino Law Student Association, President

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME, Notre Dame, IN
M.Ed., May 2010

- Thesis Award for *Roles We Play: Psychosocial Development Stages in Shakespeare's Romeo & Juliet*

DARTMOUTH COLLEGE, Hanover, NH
A.B. in English and Spanish Literature, June 2008

- College Citation Award and Dean's List Recipient

PUBLICATIONS

LAW REVIEW AND PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

- *Confusing Cy Près*, 58 GA. L. REV. ____ (forthcoming 2023).
- *The Hidden Cost of University Patents*, 21 BERKELEY BUS. L. J. ____ (forthcoming 2023) (with W.M. Schuster & B.L. Frye).
- *An Historical and Empirical Examination of the Cy-Près Doctrine*, 48 ACTEC L. J. 289-360 (2023) (Peer Reviewed).
- *The Secret Sauce: Examining Overperforming Law Schools on the Bar Exam*, 75 FLA. L. REV. 65-116 (2023) (with D.T. Muller).
- *Toward Equal Pay in the Legal Academy*, 2023 WOMEN'S RTS. L. REP. 98-119 (2023) (with M. Dawe) (Invited).
- *Student Loans and Financial Distress: A Qualitative Analysis of the Most Common Student Loan Complaints*, 35 LOY. CONSUMER L. REV. 203-247 (2023) (with M.A. Bruckner).
- *Affirmatively in Peril: Predicting Federal Judicial Decision Making in University Admissions Cases*, 16 HARV. L. & POL'Y REV. 1-42 (2022).
- *The Magic of Fintech? Insights for a Regulatory Agenda from Analyzing Student Loan Complaints Filed with the CFPB*, 127 DICK. L. REV. 49-100 (2022) (with M.A. Bruckner).
- *Mind the Gap: Gender Pay Disparities in the Legal Academy*, 34 GEO. J. LEGAL ETHICS 567-612 (2021) (with M. Dawe).
- *Paying for Law School: Law Student Loan Indebtedness and Career Choices*, 2021 U. ILL. L. REV. 97-138 (2021).
- *Of Law School Rankings, Disparity, and Football*, 110 GEO. L. J. 19-37 (2021).
- *Examining the Impact of Fossil Fuel Divestment on University Endowments*, 17 NYU J. L. & BUS. 95-152 (2020) (with C.R. Marsicano).
- *The Next "Big Short": COVID-19, Student Loan Discharge in Bankruptcy Proceedings, and the SLABS Market*, 74 SMU L. REV. 809-49 (2020) (with S.L. Bailey).
- *Analyzing Law School Choice*, 2020 U. ILL. L. REV. 583-620 (2020).
- *Patents and Legal Expenditures*, 52 U. PAC. L. REV. 575-590 (2020) (with B.L. Frye) (Invited).
- *Notetaking Modes and Academic Performance in Two Law School Courses*, 68 J. LEGAL EDUC. 207-229 (2019) (with C.P. Murphy & Y. Warnapala) (Peer Reviewed).
- *A Value-Added Ranking of Law Schools*, 29 U. FLA. J. L. & PUB. POL'Y 285-308 (2019).
- *The 2019 Revealed-Preferences Ranking of Law Schools*, 7 BELMONT L. REV. 86-110 (2019) (with B.L. Frye) (Invited).
- *An Econometric Analysis of North Carolina's Legislative Right to Counsel*, 47 J. L. & EDUC. 489-510 (2018) (with A.R. Nelson) (Peer Refereed).
- *An Empirical Analysis of University Patent Activity*, 7 NYU J. INTELL. PROP. & ENT. L. 51-84 (2017) (with B.L. Frye).
- *A Revealed-Preferences Ranking of Law Schools*, 70 ALA. L. REV. 495-531 (2017) (with B.L. Frye).
- *Fixing Forum Selling*, 25 U. MIAMI BUS. L. REV. 1-27 (2017) (with B.L. Frye).
- *Labor Market Returns for Graduates of Hispanic-Serving Institutions*, 59 RESEARCH IN HIGHER EDUC. 29-53 (2017) (with T.J. Park & S.M. Flores) (Peer Reviewed).
- *Trusting U.: Examining University Endowment Management*, 42 J. C. & U. L. 159-212 (2016) (Peer Reviewed).
- *An Empirical Study of Law Journal Copyright Practices*, 16 J. MARSHALL REV. INTELL. PROP. L. 207-245 (2016) (with B.L. Frye & F.L. Runge).
- *The Dissertation Dilemma and the Challenge of American Graduate Education*, 25 GOOD SOC'Y 313-331 (2016) (with C.P. Loss) (Peer Reviewed).

- *Something Corporate: The Case for the Treatment of Proprietary Education Institutions as Corporations*, 40 J. C. & U. L. 247-284 (2014) (Peer Reviewed).
- *Old School: A Recommendation for the Treatment of the Disposition of Property Exempt from Local Zoning Ordinances in Kentucky*, 6 KY. J. EQUINE AGRI. & NAT. RES. L. 221-251 (2014).
- *Not-So-Open Access to Legal Scholarship: Balancing Stakeholder Interests with Copyright Principles*, 20 RICH. J. L. & TECH. 1-34 (2013).

BOOK CHAPTERS

- *501(c): The Charitable Corporation Governance Model Meets Modern Business Realities in the U.S.*, in THE OXFORD HANDBOOK OF U.S. HIGHER EDUCATION LAW, ed. P.F. Lake (forthcoming 2024).
- *Technology Transfer and the Public Good*, in THE RESEARCH HANDBOOK ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER, ed. J.H. Rooksby (2020) (with B.L. Frye).
- *The College and Its Trustees and Officers*, in THE LAW OF HIGHER EDUCATION, 6TH ED., ed. W.A. Kaplin, B.A. Lee, N.H. Hutchens, & J.H. Rooksby (2019) (with J.H. Rooksby).
- *Corporate Philanthropy*, in BUSINESS & CORPORATE ENGAGEMENT WITH HIGHER EDUCATION: MODELS, THEORIES, AND BEST PRACTICES, ed. M. Clevenger & C.J. MacGregor (2019) (with M. Clevenger & C.J. MacGregor).
- *How Higher Education Thinks and Behaves*, in BUSINESS & CORPORATE ENGAGEMENT WITH HIGHER EDUCATION: MODELS, THEORIES, AND BEST PRACTICES, ed. M. Clevenger & C.J. MacGregor (2019) (with M. Clevenger & C.J. MacGregor).

BOOK REVIEWS & BIBLIOGRAPHIES

- *Review of The Branding of the American Mind: How Universities Capture, Manage, and Monetize Intellectual Property and Why It Matters*, 43 J. C. & U. L. 231-234 (2018).
- *Historical Evolution of Higher Education in the United States*, in OXFORD BIBLIOGRAPHIES IN EDUCATION, ed. L. Meyer (2016) (with C.P. Loss & S. Hinz).

IN PROGRESS

OTHER PROJECTS IN PROGRESS (AS OF JANUARY 2024)

- Examining over 200,000 eviction cases in the state of Kentucky (with C.C. Armstrong).
- Analyzing 1,600+ cases citing the *cy-près* doctrine to deviate from charitable trusts' purposes.
- Investigating the effect of tax-code changes on the top university endowments (with C.R. Marsicano, R. Martin, and A. Bernhardt).

GRANT FUNDING

ACCESSLEX INSTITUTE

Bar Success Research Grant Program, January 2020 – June 2021 (with Prof. Derek Muller, Univ. of Iowa Law School)

- Principal Investigator for a \$125,000 grant to empirically examine which law schools consistently beat their predicted bar passage rates and to qualitatively investigate how they do so, using an original national survey of law school administrators and bar success personnel.

American Bar Foundation / AccessLex Institute Doctoral Fellow Grant Program, August 2017 – May 2018

- Secured a \$35,000 grant to fund an original survey of law students.

PRESENTATIONS

INVITED LECTURES & PANELS

- *A Qualitative Analysis of Student Loan Complaints Filed with the CFPB* (with M.A. Bruckner).
 - Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, Washington, DC – Sept. 28, 2023.
- *Examining Analyses and Commentary of Institutional Bar Exam Performance*.
 - AccessLex Legal Education Research Conference, Nashville, TN – Nov. 8, 2022.
- *Some Thoughts on Being an Interdisciplinary Scholar in Business Law*.
 - Academy of Legal Studies in Business Conference, Louisville, KY – July 29, 2022.
- *The Secret Sauce: Examining Law Schools that Overperform (and Underperform) on the Bar Exam* (with D. Muller).
 - American Association of Law Schools, Virtual Conference – Jan. 7, 2022.
 - AccessLex Legal Education Research Conference, Virtual Conference – Dec. 3, 2020.
- *A Perspective from the Dean's Office* (with D.M. Conway, D. Filler, & R.L. Goluboff).
 - American Association of Law Schools, Virtual Conference – July 7, 2020.
- *U.S. News' New Metric and Its Effect on the Legal Academy* (with R. Moran, R. Morse, J.B. Ruhl, & G. Sisk).
 - American Association of Law Schools, Washington, DC – Jan. 3, 2020.
- *Funding University Research or Patent Litigation?* (with B.L. Frye).
 - Stanford NPE Litigation Conference, Stanford, CA – Nov. 15, 2019.
- *Understanding the Different Ways in Which Prospective Law Students Navigate the Decision of Whether and Where to Go to Law School* (with J.M. Organ).
 - Northeast Association of Pre-Law Advisors Conference, Boston, MA – June 19, 2019.
- *Ranking Law Schools* (with P.L. Caron, R. Morse, and J.C. Shepherd).
 - AccessLex Legal Education Research Conference, Scottsdale, AZ – Nov. 11, 2018.
- *The Perennial Challenge of Cost, Affordability, and Access in Legal Education* (with B. Currier, S. Daniels, R. Van Cleave, & J.W. Wegner).
 - American Bar Association Mid-Year Conference, Vancouver, BC, Canada – Feb. 2, 2018.
- *Analyzing the Effect of Financial Aid on Law School Matriculation*.
 - AccessLex Legal Education Research Conference, Clearwater Beach, FL – Nov. 8, 2017.

ACADEMIC CONFERENCES

- *Nearer to Thee: Cy Près and Religious Discrimination*.
 - American Association of Law Schools, Washington, DC – Jan. 5, 2024.
 - Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, Chicago, IL – Oct. 13, 2023.
- *The Court v. the Dead Hand*.
 - American Association of Law Schools, San Diego, CA – Jan. 7, 2023.
- *Gender and Wage Disparities in the U.S. Legal Academy*.
 - Law & Society Association, Lisbon, Portugal – July 15, 2022.
- *Impact of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) Endowment Tax on Institutional Behavior* (with C.R. Marsicano, R. Martin, and A. Bernhardt).
 - Association for Education Finance and Policy, Denver, CO – March 18, 2022.
- *Determinants of University Patent Litigation* (with B.L. Frye).
 - Southeastern Association of Law Schools, Amelia Island, FL – July 31, 2021.
- *Changes to U.S. News' Law School Rankings Methodology* (with M. Deo, E. Mertz, and B. Shucha).
 - Law & Society Association, Virtual Conference – May 30, 2020.
- *Examining the Impact of Divestment from Fossil Fuels on University Endowments*.
 - Law & Society Association, Virtual Conference – May 29, 2020.
 - American Association of Law Schools, Washington, DC – Jan. 3, 2020.

- *An Empirical Look: How Well Are We Preparing Law Students to Become Ethical Leaders Who Serve Others?*
 - American Association of Law Schools, Washington, DC – Jan. 2, 2020.
- *Analyzing Law School Choice.*
 - Law & Society Association, Washington, DC – June 1, 2019.
- *Analyzing the Effect of Financial Aid on Law School Matriculation.*
 - Association for Education Finance and Policy, Washington, DC – March 15, 2018.
 - Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, Chicago, IL – Nov. 2, 2017.
- *BYOA: An Econometric Analysis of North Carolina's Right-to-Counsel Law* (with A.R. Nelson).
 - Education Law Association, San Diego, CA – Nov. 10, 2017.
- *Labor Market Returns for Hispanic Serving Institution Graduates* (with T.J. Park & S.M. Flores).
 - American Educational Research Association, Washington, DC – April 8, 2016.
- *A Comparative Law & Economic Analysis of Faculty Compensation in the U.S. and Mexico.*
 - Comparative & International Education Society, Washington, DC – March 12, 2015.
- *Whom Do U. Trust?: An Examination of Endowment Management During the Recession.*
 - National Education Finance Association, Indianapolis, IN – May 2, 2013.
- *The Case for Fiduciary Duties in Proprietary Postsecondary Education.*
 - Education Law Association, Hilton Head, SC – Nov. 8, 2012.

SYMPOSIA & ROUNDTABLES

- *Corporate and Coasean Landlords: Evidence from Kentucky* (with C.C. Armstrong).
 - Notre Dame Law & Economics Forum, Notre Dame, IN – Nov. 9, 2023.
 - University of Cincinnati School of Law Speaker Series, Cincinnati, OH – Nov. 6, 2023.
- *Cy Près, Religion, and Remedy.*
 - International Remedies Forum, Aix-en-Provence, FR – June 15, 2023.
- *Toward Pay Parity in the Legal Academy* (with M. Dawe).
 - Rutgers Women's Rights Law Reporter Symposium, Newark, NJ – March 23, 2023.
- *Nearer to Thee: Religion and Cy Près.*
 - ABF Post-Doctoral Fellows Conference, Chicago, IL – Aug. 12, 2022.
- *In Perpetuity?: Modification of Irrevocable Trusts.*
 - University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law Estate Planning Institute, Louisville, KY – June 28, 2022.
- *The Court and the Dead Hand: An Historical and Empirical Examination of the Cy-Près Doctrine.*
 - University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law Faculty Forum, Louisville, KY – Nov. 12, 2021.
- *Predicting Federal Judicial Decision Making in College Admissions Cases.*
 - Penn State/University of Houston Law & Governance in Higher Education Roundtable, University Park, PA – May 19, 2021.
- *Gender Pay Disparities in the Legal Academy* (with M. Dawe).
 - Center for Empirical Research on the Legal Profession Roundtable, Irvine, CA – July 17, 2020.
- *University Patents and Legal Expenditures* (with B.L. Frye).
 - Intellectual Property, Trade, and Ethics Symposium, Sacramento, CA – April 5, 2019.
- *An Empirical Study of University Patent Activity* (with B.L. Frye).
 - Searle Center Research Roundtable on Patent & Technology, Chicago, IL – May 5, 2017.
- *An Empirical Study of Law Journals' Copyright Practices* (with B.L. Frye & F.L. Runge).
 - Conference on Empirical Research on Copyright Issues, Chicago, IL – Nov. 20, 2015.

LAW SCHOOL SERVICE

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE BRANDEIS SCHOOL OF LAW

Member, Curriculum Committee, August 2022 – December 2023

Member, Appointments Committee, August 2022 – December 2023

Advisor, Brandeis Law Review, May 2022 – May 2023

Member, Economic Welfare Committee, August 2021 – May 2022

Member, Dean's Search Committee, September 2021 – March 2022

- Appointed by the Dean to vet candidates for faculty positions and for the law school's next dean.
- Advised the editorial board of the Brandeis Law Review and advised on and graded student notes.
- Appointed by the Dean to evaluate the law school curriculum.

ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

Member, Public Interest Loan Repayment Assistance Program Committee, August 2019 – May 2021

Member, Curriculum Committee, August 2018 – May 2021

Member, Dean's Search Committee, September 2019 – May 2020

- Elected by my colleagues and appointed by the University President to vet candidates for the law school's next dean and to coordinate with the various stakeholders of the law school.
- Appointed by the Dean to evaluate curricular offerings, bar passage success, and loan repayment.

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE

Member, Graduate Council, August 2021 – May 2023

- Advised on guidelines for graduate education set by the University and its units.

ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY

Board Member, Human Subjects Review Board, July 2020 – June 2021

- Reviewed research proposals, dealing with human subjects, conducted by members of the university.

Board Member, Latino Policy Institute, January 2019 – June 2021

- Met with lawmakers and community members to discern issues impacting the state's Latino population.
- Reviewed research proposals and recommended policy initiatives for this statewide institute.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF LAW SCHOOLS

Chair, Section on the Empirical Study of Legal Education & the Legal Profession, January 2023 – Present

Chair-Elect, Section on the Empirical Study of Legal Education & the Legal Profession, January 2021 – January 2022

- Elected to serve on the leadership team for this Section of the AALS.

PEER REVIEW

Peer Reviewer, JOURNAL OF EMPIRICAL LEGAL STUDIES, March 2022 – Present

Peer Reviewer, RESEARCH IN HIGHER EDUCATION, June 2019 – Present

Peer Reviewer, LAW & SOCIAL INQUIRY, July 2018 – Present

- Reviewed 11 submissions for publication at these peer-reviewed journals in the last 6 years.

PUBLIC SERVICE

UNITED STATES ARMY

Captain, Judge Advocate General's Corps (Kentucky National Guard), May 2022 – Present

First Lieutenant, Judge Advocate General's Corps (Rhode Island National Guard), December 2020 – April 2022

- Litigated administrative separation board cases, advised commanding officers on a variety of civil and military legal matters, and provided general legal services to military servicemembers and their families.
- Received Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Ribbon, and Army Service Ribbon.

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

Council Member, Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education, July 2012 – June 2013

- Appointed by Governor Steve Beshear to serve on Kentucky's higher education regulatory board.
- Implemented the lowest statewide, public university tuition increase in decades.

RECENT PRESS

FIDUCIARY DUTIES & INVESTMENT

- Lilah Burke, *What's the Outlook for College Fossil Fuel Divestment?*, HIGHER ED DIVE, August 15, 2022.
- Nathan Greenfield, *Pros and Cons of University Divestment from Fossil Fuels*, UNIVERSITY WORLD NEWS, September 18, 2021.
- Emma Whitford, *Fossil Fuel Fight Escalates to Attorney General*, INSIDE HIGHER ED, December 16, 2020.
- Brian Roewe, *How the University of Dayton Divested from Fossil Fuels—and What Happened to Its Bottom Line*, NATIONAL CATHOLIC REPORTER, July 14, 2020.
- Adam Aton, *Warren Climate Adviser Seeks Yale Seat to Urge Divestment*, E&E NEWS, April 29, 2020.
- Michael Katz, *Fossil Fuel Divestment Yields 'No Discernible Effect' on Endowments, but Study Also Finds Divestment Has No Adverse Effects on University Portfolios*, CHIEF INVESTMENT OFFICER, January 27, 2020.
- Rick Seltzer, *Does Fiduciary Duty Prevent Fossil Fuel Divestment?*, INSIDE HIGHER ED, January 3, 2020.
- Leanna Orr, *The Cost of Divestment for Endowments*, INSTITUTIONAL INVESTOR, December 30, 2019.

MISCELLANY

- Stacy Zaretsky, *Which Law Schools Are 'Overperforming' on Their Bar Exam Passage Rates?*, ABOVE THE LAW, July 10, 2023.
- Deborah Cassens Weiss, *Which Law Schools Overperformed on the Bar Exam? Some Are Unranked by US News*, ABA J., February 8, 2022.
- Karen Sloan, *These Law School's Grads Crush the Bar Exam. It's Not Who You Think*, REUTERS, February 8, 2022.
- Rachel Brennan, *Cheap Renters Insurance*, MONEY GEEK, August 4, 2021.
- Pat Murphy, *Terms Make PPP Loan Program 'No Brainer' for Firms, Experts Say*, LAWYERS WEEKLY, April 16, 2020.
- Laura Damon, *Newport Gallery Owner Sued for Alleged Copyright Infringement*, NEWPORT DAILY NEWS, February 16, 2020.
- Jennifer McDermott, *The Buddy Cianci Play Is Popular with Audiences. But His Charity? Not So Much*, BOSTON GLOBE, October 22, 2019.
- Scott Jaschik, *Law Schools and Their Many Markets*, INSIDE HIGHER ED, March 4, 2019.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- American Bar Association; American Association of Law Schools; Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management; Kentucky Bar Association; Law & Society Association (appointed to the Presidential Task Force on Sociolegal Metrics); and Society for Empirical Legal Studies.

ACTIVE BAR ADMISSION

- Commonwealth of Kentucky.

PERSONAL INTERESTS

INTERESTS

- Art; college sports; half marathons; hot yoga; live music; maps; midcentury design; skiing; and travel.

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