

MELANIE OBERLIN KNAPP

George Mason University Law Library
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EDUCATION

MSIS, University of Texas School of Information - Tarlton Fellowship, 2005-2007	2007
JD, University of Texas School of Law - Texas Environmental Law Journal - Environmental Law Society - Carl W. Wilson Novice Mock Trial Competition	2002
B.S. (Botany), University of Texas at Austin - Graduated with honors	1998

LIBRARY WORK

George Mason University Law Library

Associate Dean, Library & Technology Assistant Professor	August 2022-present
Interim Assistant Dean, Library & Technology	March 2022 – August 2022
Associate Director	January 2020 – February 2022
Part-time Legal Research Instructor	August 2018 – October 2019
Head of Reference and Instructional Services	June 2012 – June 2017
Instructional Services Librarian	June 2010 – June 2012

Direct all facets of Library & Technology Services, including ultimate responsibility for a staff of 16 people, the budget, and the facilities. Serve as Associate Dean on the Law School's senior leadership team; attend faculty meetings and serve as resident information and technology expert to the law school faculty. Provide liaison support to law school faculty, teach legal research as part of the two-year LRWA program and Scholarly Writing courses, teach Legal Fundamentals (SP 24), and serve on the Law Library Collection Development Committee.

Moritz Law Library, The Ohio State University

Reference Librarian	June 2007 – May 2010
Legal Writing Instructor	August 2009 – May 2010

Served faculty, staff, student, and public patrons using print and electronic resources; provided in-depth research to faculty; taught legal research and writing courses within the College of Law; served on College of Law and University Libraries' committees; decided on materials for the collection in the area of American law and United States government documents; and participated in professional conferences and committees.

Tarlton Law Library, University of Texas at Austin

Tarlton Fellow

August 2005 – May 2007

Served faculty, student, and public patrons using print and electronic resources, provided research to faculty, taught a one-hour, graded legal research course, wrote and published legal bibliographies, educated student and public users in the use of electronic and print materials, and assisted development of educational outreach programs, library publications, and on-line legal resources.

Perry Castaneda Library, University of Texas at Austin

Reference Desk Graduate Student Volunteer

January 2005 – May 2005

Provided reference services under the supervision of a reference librarian at the Information and Research Help Desk of the University's main library, where the collection embraces every subject area.

Law Offices of Phillip Poplin, Austin, Texas

Legal Researcher

August 2018 – November 2019

Provide legal research in support of state court appeal involving Texas groundwater law, civil procedure, and administrative law using Lexis Nexis and publicly available materials.

Law Offices of Henry & Poplin, Austin, Texas

Associate

May 2004 – August 2005

Litigated civil cases with emphasis on administrative and environmental cases in federal district, state district, and state administrative courts.

Save Our Springs Alliance, Austin, Texas

Staff Attorney

August 2002 – May 2004

Student Intern

September 2001 – May 2002

Aided in litigation of environmental lawsuits in state and federal court and advocated orally and in writing at local, state, and federal agencies. Legal focus areas: federal environmental laws, Freedom of Information Act, municipal and county law, state and local land use regulation, civil procedure, Texas Open Meetings Act, and Texas Public Information Act.

American Association of Law Libraries (AALL)	2005-present
- Government Relations Committee: Chair, July 2012 to July 2013; Vice Chair, July 2011 to July 2012; member, July 2010 to July 2011	
Ohio Regional Association of Law Libraries	2007-2010
Law Librarians' Society of Washington, D.C.	2010-present
- Law Library Lights: Editor, July 2012 to July 2013; Assistant Editor July 2011 to July 2013.	
- Government Relations Committee, 2012-2017	
OASIS Legal Citation Markup (LegalCiteM) Technical Committee	2014-2017
- Co-chair, June 2015 to 2017; Secretary, February 2014-June 2015	
State Bar of Texas	2002-present
- Active 2002-2006	
- Inactive 2007-present	

Victoria Szymczak & Melanie Knapp, *Status of Law Library Directors in 2023*, (manuscript), available at [SSRN](#). (Forthcoming in *Law Library Journal* in 2025, with a revised title TBD).

Rob Willey, Melanie Knapp & Ashley Matthews, *A New Inclusive Scholar Rank*, ____ WOMEN'S RIGHTS L. REP. ____ (forthcoming 2024), available at [SSRN](#).

Rob Willey & Melanie Knapp, *SSRN's Impact on Citations to Legal Scholarship and How to Maximize It*, 45 U. Ark. Little Rock L. Rev. 475 (2023).

Symposium Panel, *Breaking Down Barriers for Women in Legal Academia*, 44 WOMEN'S RIGHTS L. REP. 211 (2023).

Rob Willey, Melanie Knapp & Ashley Matthews, *Constructing Inclusive & Current Scholarship Impact Rankings*, 44 WOMEN'S RIGHTS L. REP. 1 (2022).

Rob Willey & Melanie Knapp, *How to Increase Citations to Legal Scholarship*, 18(3) OHIO ST. TECH. L.J. 157 (2021).

Melanie Knapp & Rob Willey, *Comparison of Research Speed and Accuracy Using WestlawNext and Lexis Advance*, 35(2) LEGAL REFERENCE SERVICES QUARTERLY 124-34 (2016).

Melanie Knapp, *Student Outreach by Providing and Advertising West Online Study Aids and ExpressO*, 57(2) LAW LIBRARY LIGHTS, 8-9 (2014).

Melanie Knapp & Rob Willey, *Comparison of Research Speed and Accuracy Using Westlaw Classic and WestlawNext*, 32(1-2) LEGAL REFERENCE SERVICES QUARTERLY, 126-41 (2013).

Melanie Oberlin, Book Review, 104 LAW LIBRARY JOURNAL 173 (2012) (reviewing SCOTT D. DEATHERAGE, CARBON TRADING LAW AND PRACTICE (2011)).

Melanie Oberlin and Lucas Meyers, *Developing Effective Fact-Based Legal Research Skills for New Associates, or "You Want Me to Research What?"*, 53(5) LAW LIBRARY LIGHTS, 6-9 (2010).

Melanie Oberlin, *Book Talk*, ON CAMPUS, Jan. 7, 2010, at 19.

Melissa Guy & Melanie Oberlin, *Assessing the Health of FOIA After 2000 Through the Lens of the National Security Archive and Federal Government Audits*, 101 LAW LIBRARY JOURNAL 331 (2009).

H. Kumar Percy Jayasuriya & Melanie Oberlin, *Admiralty and Maritime Law Articles Published in Non-Maritime Law Journals (2008)*, 40 J. OF MARIT. L. AND COMMERCE 149 (2009).

H. Kumar Percy Jayasuriya & Melanie Oberlin, *Admiralty and Maritime Law Articles Published in Non-Maritime Law Journals (2007)*, 39 J. OF MARIT. L. AND COMMERCE 229 (2008).

Melanie Oberlin, *Tips from Moritz Librarians: Stay Current on the New Rules of Federal Civil Procedure*, ALL RISE, Spring 2008, at 27.

H. Kumar Percy Jayasuriya & Melanie Oberlin, *Admiralty and Maritime Law Articles Published in Non-Maritime Law Journals (2006)*, 38 J. OF MARIT. L. AND COMMERCE 229 (2007).

H. Kumar Percy & Melanie Oberlin, *Admiralty and Maritime Law Articles Published in Non-Maritime Law Journals (2005)*, 37 J. OF MARIT. L. AND COMMERCE 589 (2006).

Mark Holman with the assistance of Melanie Oberlin, *DNA Evidence in Criminal Law: A Selected Bibliography*, NOTER UP, December 2005, at 6-12.

Melanie Oberlin, Note, *A Sea Change in Natural Resource Damage Assessments: Moving from Contingent Valuation to Habitat Equivalency Analysis*, 33 TEXAS ENVTL. L.J. 143 (2003).