

Jay A. Mitchell

Stanford Law School
559 Nathan Abbott Way
Stanford, CA 94305
jmittell@law.stanford.edu
650.724.0014

Professional experience

Stanford Law School

Professor of Law (2013 – present)
Associate Professor of Law (2010 – 2013)
Lecturer in Law (2007 – 2010)
Director, Organizations and Transactions Clinic (2007 – present)

Founded clinic designed to help prepare students for corporate practice. Responsible for curriculum development, client development, legal services delivery, student supervision, and class leadership. Clinic represents established Northern California nonprofit corporations of varied size, policy focus, operating model, funding source, and location. Projects include governance, structural, and programmatic matters. Research interests include application of information, document, and graphic design principles to legal documents, clinical and transactional skills teaching, and sustainable agriculture and food systems.

Levi Strauss & Co.

Global Finance and Governance Counsel, 2006 - 2007
Chief Counsel, Corporate and Commercial, 2000 - 2006
Associate General Counsel, 1992 - 1999

Responsible for stockholder, finance, corporate governance, disclosure and commercial transaction matters for San Francisco-based marketer of Levi's® jeans and Dockers® apparel. Projects included bank and bond financings, recapitalizations, exchange offers, acquisitions, stockholder and voting agreements, stock valuations, logistics outsourcing agreements, trademark licenses, raw material supply and contract manufacturing agreements, equipment procurements, product technology agreements, joint ventures, design and construction contracts, retail policy development, manufacturing facility closures, and compliance program development in United States and Europe. Member of multiple senior management teams. Regularly interacted with stockholders, directors, senior executives, and individuals at all levels of the company.

Alza Corporation

Senior Corporate Counsel (1999)

Advised on corporate governance, product commercialization, raw materials supply, and manufacturing matters for publicly-held drug delivery device and pharmaceutical corporation based in Mountain View, California.

Heller, Ehrman, White & McAuliffe

Partner (1990-1992)
Associate (1986-1990)

Represented public and private companies in merger, acquisition, securities offering, financing, debt restructuring, joint venture, and commercial matters at San Francisco-based law firm. Member of Opinions Committee.

Arnold & Porter

Associate (1984-1985)

Represented public and private companies on merger and acquisition, securities offering, and regulatory matters at Washington, D.C.-based law firm.

Honorable John Lewis Smith, Senior Judge
United States District Court for the District of Columbia
Law Clerk (1983-1984)

Education

University of Virginia School of Law

J.D. (1983)

Law School Alumni Association Award for Academic Excellence

Z Society Shannon Award

Edwin S. Cohen Tax Prize

Order of the Coif

Stanford University

A.B., Political Science (1980)

Phi Beta Kappa

University of Kansas

Freshman year (1976-1977)

**Publications and
working papers**

Sketch Pad as Legal Pad: Picturing Corporate Practice (2015), available at:
http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2593308

offers ways of thinking about core professional tasks of advice development and deal planning, and about products corporate lawyers make for those purposes; suggests practical technique – sketching – for gaining traction on analysis and communication at core of corporate practice; draws on cognitive science, psychology, engineering, architecture, and design literature about sketching, cognition, and collaboration; makes extensive use of graphics; designed as resource for law students and new corporate lawyers

Food Banks to Investment Banks: Clinic Design for Corporate Practice, forthcoming, 18 Lewis & Clark L. Rev. (2015), available at:
http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2528196

discussion of design of transactional clinic at Stanford Law School; describes how institutional and community setting and learning goals influenced clinic design; discusses client and project selection, project execution, and classroom approaches; reviews potential criticisms of the model

Document appreciation: some characteristics of legal documents (and talking with students about them) (2014), available at:
http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2406047

discussion of characteristics of contracts, governance and disclosure materials, closing documents, and other legal documents; includes observations about useful habits of mind for working with them; encourages law teachers to talk generally about characteristics as vehicle for deepening student understanding and appreciation of legal products

Putting some product into work-product: corporate lawyers learning from designers (2013), forthcoming, 12 Berkeley Bus. L.J. (2014), available at:
http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=2325683

discussion, drawing on design and legal literatures, of how corporate lawyers can learn from information design and graphic design disciplines in creating governance materials, contracts, and other legal documents for clients; uses corporate governance documents as vehicle for exploration and experimentation; offers observations about ongoing innovation in legal document design and ideas for further research and development

Reading (in the Clinic) is Fundamental, 19 Clinical L. Rev. 297 (2012)

discussion, drawing on reading comprehension literature, of reading as core professional activity of lawyers; describes lawyer reading generally, discusses challenges faced by novice readers in encountering legal materials; encourages clinical teachers to bring reading development sensibility to everyday work of clinic

Getting into the Field, 7 J. Food Law & Policy 69 (2011)

discussion of why food system is unusually attractive source of projects for transactional clinics and other non-litigation law school experiential education programs

Academic presentations

Food Banks to Investment Banks (2014)

presentation at Lewis & Clark Law School Annual Business Law Fall Forum, October 2014; discussion of transactional clinic design

Document Appreciation (2014)

presentation at Western Regional Legal Research and Writing Conference, September 2014, Stanford Law School; discussion of teaching ideas for engaging students with contracts, governance materials, and other legal documents

Experiential Programming and Food System Clients (2014)

presentation at stakeholder program hosted by Resnick Program for Food Law and Policy, UCLA School of Law, Los Angeles, March 2014; discussion of law school experiential program engagement with participants in food system

Food in the Clinic (2012)

plenary presentation at Annual Transactional Clinical Conference, Los Angeles, April 2012; discussion of opportunities for transactional clinics in representing participants in food system

Reading Documents (2011)

presentation at Berkeley-Stanford Clinicians' Writing Workshop, Stanford Law School, October 2011; discussion of reading as professional skill and clinic focus area

Teaching Problem Solving in the Representation of Institutional Clients (2011)

concurrent session presentation and panel discussion at AALS 2011 Conference on Clinical Education, Seattle, June 2011; discussion of practical techniques for assessing situations encountered in corporate practice

Non-profit, Microenterprise, High Growth: Are All Acceptable Clinic Clients? (2010)

presentation and panel discussion at Annual Transactional Clinical Conference, Arizona State University, Tempe, April 2010; discussion of representation of larger clients in transactional clinics

Corporate in the Clinic (2009)

presentation at Berkeley-Stanford Clinicians' Writing Workshop, Stanford Law School, October 2009; discussion of guiding principles for corporate clinic design

Awards

ABA Outstanding Nonprofit Lawyer Academic Award (2013)

awarded by American Bar Association, Section of Business Law, Nonprofit Corporations Committee

Service

Faculty Senate, Stanford University

Steering Committee member (2012 - 2013)

Committee on Committees member (2013 - 2014)

Faculty Senate member (2011 - present)

elected member of leadership groups for Faculty Senate; one of two law school representatives to Senate

Committee on Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation, Stanford University (2014 - present)

appointed member of university committee

Faculty College appointment, Stanford University (2012 - 2013)

member of group of faculty members from medical, earth sciences, design, and law schools appointed by Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education to examine university's approach to food systems study in undergraduate curriculum; developed detailed curricular, governance, and evaluation recommendations reflecting principles set out in 2012 study of undergraduate education at Stanford

Member, California Working Group on Hybrid Structures (2010 - 2011)

invited member of group of senior California corporate and nonprofit law practitioners that drafted legislation to create new form of corporate entity; flexible purpose corporation legislation enacted in 2012 as new division of California Corporations Code