

Millennial Leadership in Law Schools: Essays on Disruption, Innovation, and the Future

Edited By: Ashley Krenelka Chase

*Associate Director, Dolly & Homer Hand Law Library
Coordinator for Legal Practice Technology & Instructor of Law; Stetson University College of Law*

Includes contributions from more than 20 professionals!

- **Explores the role Millennials will play** in shaping the future of legal education
- **Gain insight into Millennials' way of thinking** and learn how to mentor and guide them to be successful
- Perfect for law school administrators, faculty, staff members, and **students from all generations**

About This Title

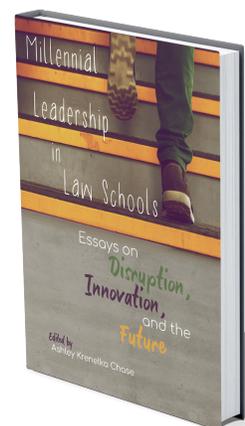
This book explores the role Millennials will play—as faculty, administrators, or staff members—in shaping the future of legal education, and what the academy can do to embrace the millennial generation as colleagues, not students. This book can be used to understand, guide, engage, mentor, and work with Millennials to shape the next generation of excellent law school leaders.

- **Section I:** These chapters focus on the culture of law schools, and the need to embrace a new, forward-thinking and innovative way of defining what law schools are and do and how we educate students.
- **Section II:** In section two, the authors focus on relationships: the relationships Millennials in the academy have with ourselves, our institutions, and the community.
- **Section III:** This section includes chapters that detail how Millennial leaders work in the classroom, how they use things like feedback and assessment to change the dynamic in the classroom and to innovate law school pedagogy to educate well-rounded lawyers.
- **Section IV:** These chapters are an essential read for anyone who spends time thinking about the current legal economy and law schools' roles in educating practice-ready lawyers.
- **Section V:** This section includes chapters on change. Legal education has no choice but to evolve, and the authors present ideas on how to embrace millennial ideology to do just that.



"I strongly recommend that all law firm, library, and school administrators read at least a few essays in this book to learn how to better interact with millennials, whether employees or students, and how to aid them in developing their leadership roles. Hopefully, this will lead to more successful relationships and increase millennials' employment satisfaction and wellbeing."

Kim Clarke | Bennett Jones Law Library, University of Calgary
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Chapters and Authors

Editor's Preface

by **Ashley Krenelka Chase**

Associate Law Library Director, Adjunct Professor of Law, and Coordinator of Legal Practice Technology, Stetson University College of Law

Author Biographies

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by **Ashley Krenelka Chase**

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by **Nyamagaga Gondwe**

Assistant Professor of Tax, NYU School of Law

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by **Haley Moss**

Board Member, University of Miami, Nova Southeastern University Center for Autism and Related Disabilities

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by **Renee Nicole Allen**

Assistant Professor of Legal Writing, St. John's University School of Law

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Professor, Alabama A&M University

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Associate Professor, Arizona State University Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law

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and **Elexus Harris**

Student, California State University San Marcos

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by **Jennifer Cerny**

Assistant Dean of Students, UConn School of Law

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by **Karen DeMeola**

Assistant Dean for Finance, Administration, and Enrollment, UConn School of Law

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Associate Director and Professor of Bar Support, Roger Williams University School of Law

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by **Sandra Williamson-Ashe**

Tenured-Associate Professor, Norfolk State University

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Associate Professor of Legal Process, Touro College, Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center

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by **Kate Cochran**

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Reference Librarian, Boston University School of Law

and **Brian Flaherty**

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by **Catherine J. Cameron**

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by **Ashley Matthews**

Reference Librarian, George Mason University Law Library

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by **Cas Laskowski**

Technology and Research Services Librarian, Duke Law

and **George Taoultides**

Circuit Librarian, First Circuit Court of Appeals

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by **Skylar Reese Croy**

Executive Assistant, Wisconsin Court System

They Got Next: How Xennial (and Millennial) Law Professors Can Prepare

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by **Tiffany D. Atkins**

Assistant Professor of Law, Elon University School of Law

About the Editor

Ashley Krenelka Chase is the Associate Director at the Dolly and Homer Hand Law Library, as well as the Coordinator for Legal Practice Technology and an Instructor of Law at Stetson University College of Law. In addition to her responsibilities as Associate Director for the library, Chase teaches courses in Advanced Legal Research and Technology in Practice. She is a graduate of the 2014 Harvard Leadership Institute for Academic Librarians, recipient of the AALL Emerging Leader Award for Academic Libraries, and a member of the Florida Bar. Chase is notoriously obsessed with Millennials, and her scholarship focuses on the development of leadership and management skills in Millennial librarians and law faculty, and the evolution of student and faculty technology habits in both libraries and legal research. She received her B.A. in English from Bradley University, her J.D. from the University of Dayton School of Law, and her M.L.I.S. from the University of South Florida.

About the Chapter Authors

Renee Nicole Allen is an Assistant Professor of Legal Writing at St. John's University School of Law. She teaches Legal Writing I & II and elective courses. Her research interests include social justice, legal education, generations, and educational psychology. Prior to her academic career, she practiced family law in Metro Atlanta. She received her J.D. degree from the University of Florida Levin College of Law and her B.A. in English Literature from Mercer University. She recently earned a master's degree in educational psychology from the University of Tennessee.

Tiffany D. Atkins is a first-generation college graduate and lawyer, proud Xennial, and an Assistant Professor of Law at Elon University School of Law, located in Greensboro, North Carolina. Atkins teaches first-year legal writing, upper-level writing courses, and race law/critical race theory; she is one of the youngest permanent faculty members at the law school. Prior to teaching, Atkins was a public interest attorney with Legal Aid of North Carolina, where she litigated family law, public housing, unemployment, and public education cases throughout the Piedmont Triad. Through her current scholarly writing and service, she strives to amplify the experiences of minority law students and professors, advocating for institutional policies and inclusive practices which will lead to better outcomes and a stronger sense of belonging on law school campuses.

Catherine Cameron teaches and researches in the areas of legal writing and media law. During her time at Stetson, Professor Cameron has been a faculty advisor for student moot court and ADR teams as well as judicial externships. She earned a bachelor's degree in journalism, a master's degree in mass communications, and a law degree from the University of Florida. Before joining Stetson's faculty, Professor Cameron worked for the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, a non-profit organization that specializes in media law issues in Washington, D.C., where she filed amicus briefs in high-profile cases affecting the media, including two cases before the U.S. Supreme Court. She also spent several years working as a staff attorney for the Eighteenth Judicial Circuit.

Jennifer Cerny is the Assistant Dean of Students and oversees Student Affairs, which houses the departments of Student Services, Center for Career Development, Disability Services and Wellness. Cerny joined UConn Law in 2011, after several years at private firms, where she focused her practice on commercial transactions, ADA compliance and insurance defense litigation. At the Law School, she develops a wide range of programs and initiatives, in addition to managing the daily and strategic operations for Student Affairs. Under her leadership, the departments place heavy emphasis on providing holistic services that complement the exceptional education provided in the classrooms at the Law School.

Laura Coordes is an Associate Professor at Arizona State University Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law. Her research focuses on bankruptcy and financial distress, and she teaches Contracts, Secured Transactions, and several bankruptcy courses. Professor Coordes is an active member of the American Bankruptcy Institute, where she holds a leadership role on the Young & New Members Committee. She serves as a volunteer editor for the Volo project, which summarizes and disseminates bankruptcy-related circuit court opinions. Professor Coordes has served as a peer reviewer for the American Bankruptcy Law Journal and is an Honorary Master of the Arizona Bankruptcy American Inn of Court.

Skylar Reese Croy is the executive assistant to the Honorable Patience Drake Roggensack, Chief Justice of the Wisconsin Supreme Court. He graduated second in his class from the University of Wisconsin Law School in 2019. Croy also served as Editor-in-Chief of the Wisconsin Law Review. He has published in several journals, including the *Marquette Law Review* and *Georgetown Journal of Legal Ethics*. Before law school, he earned a Bachelor of Science in Electrical and Computer Engineering from Norwich University, the Military College of Vermont. He currently serves in the Wisconsin National Guard as a Signal Corps officer.

Karen DeMeola is the Assistant Dean for Finance, Administration, and Enrollment at UConn School of Law and is a past president of the Connecticut Bar Association. She received her undergraduate degree in psychology from UConn and her J.D. from UConn Law. After graduation from law school, DeMeola was a civil rights litigator whose practice focused primarily on employment discrimination, police brutality, and housing discrimination. While at UConn Law, she served as an adjunct professor teaching Critical Identity Theory and Diversity & Inclusion in the Legal Profession and for a short time, her collection of female super heroes was on display in the Law Library. DeMeola presents and trains on diversity, inclusion and belonging, as well as implicit bias, intersectionality, and inclusive leadership. She has created numerous pipeline programs, including the CBA Pathways to Legal Careers Pipeline.

Jenna Fegreus is a reference librarian at Boston University School of Law, where she also teaches legal research classes. Prior to joining the Boston University staff, Fegreus had experience working and interning at the Social Law Library, the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, the Land Court, the Office of the Reporter of Decisions, and in former Governor Deval Patrick's office, among others. She holds a master's degree in Library and Information Science and a J.D. Fegreus is an active member of the American Association of Law Libraries (AALL), the Law Librarians of New England (LLNE), and the Association of Boston Law Librarians (ABLL). She is also the co-author of the book [Sources of Compiled Legislative Histories](#).

Brian Flaherty is the Instructional Services Librarian at Boston University Law School. Flaherty has worked in libraries for 30 years, starting as an Acquisitions Clerk at the New England School of Law in 1990. He has held numerous positions in libraries, including Government Documents Librarian, Acquisitions Librarian, and Legal Reference Librarian. Flaherty has given a number of presentations over the years, most recently "Research Shows ... Integrating Pedagogical Science into Curriculum Design" at TeachX in 2019, and a poster session, "Legal Research Exercising: Getting Legal Research Up and Running" at AALL in 2019. He received an MLS from Simmons College in 1995.

Gaga Gondwe is a visiting Assistant Professor of Tax at NYU School of Law. In her first semester, she taught the Tax Policy Seminar with an emphasis on Critical Tax scholarship and she served as an Assistant Editor on the *Tax Law Review*. Her scholarship focuses on anti-poverty work, generally, and on how black American economic history intersects with the American federal income tax system, in particular. Before transitioning to her role at NYU, she was an associate in the tax group at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, LLP, in Washington, DC. Prior to that, she clerked for the Honorable Jeffery A. Meyer at the United States District Court for the District of Connecticut. Gondwe has been reading, writing, and thinking about the impact of race in the spaces that black and brown people occupy for more than a decade. Gondwe received her A.B. in African American Studies and Linguistics from Harvard College and her J.D. from Yale Law School. She is a member of the D.C. Bar. All views expressed in her chapter are solely her own and do not express the views or opinions of her employer.

Elexus Harris is graduating with her B.A. in Communication and a minor in Women's Studies from California State University San Marcos. Harris found herself immersed in student affairs as an undergraduate. After garnering experience and being exposed to departments that ran orientation, residence life, event planning, and fraternity and sorority life, she knew she would like to pursue a career in higher education. Harris has worked as the Assistant Director of Admissions at the University of California, Irvine School of Law since 2020. Also in 2020, she completed her M.A. in Higher Education Administration at Loyola Marymount University after receiving her M.A. in Communication with an emphasis in Public Relations in 2017. Having worked in the legal education field since 2016, Harris has found a passion for the Millennial population. Still in the beginning of her career, Harris hopes to find her place within the field of higher education student affairs and expand upon her passion for students pursuing passions of their own.

Dr. Jennah Jones has more than 15 years of experience working with students in a variety of settings, including leadership, academic advising, social justice, crisis management, instruction, residence life and student life. She currently serves as the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs and Inclusive Excellence at the University of California, Irvine School of Law. Before joining the team at UCI Law, she held positions at Syracuse, Duke, and North Carolina State Universities. Dr. Jones is also an adjunct professor at the Rossier School of Education at the University of Southern California. She received her Ed.D. in Educational Leadership at the University of Southern California, her M.S. in Higher Education at Syracuse University, and her B.A. in Sociology at the University of San Diego.

Cas Laskowski is the Technology and Research Services Librarian at Duke Law, where she collaborates with other innovators and technology centers at the law school to foster student engagement with technology through training, networking, and access to emerging technologies. She is also part of Law by Design, a law school initiative to help foster students' creative problem solving by teaching them design thinking methodology. Laskowski writes regularly about legal and library technology and serves as Chair of the AALL Diversity & Inclusion Standing Committee and SEAALL Treasurer.

Ashley Matthews is a Reference Librarian at the George Mason University Law Library in Arlington, Virginia. Prior to joining the law library, she interned for the Law Library of Congress, managed law student engagement for Equal Justice Works, designed communication strategies to increase federally funded civil legal aid with the Legal Services Corporation, and helped law students find public interest jobs with the National Association for Law Placement. Matthews completed her M.S.L.I.S. at Catholic University of America. She received her B.A. from Hampton University and her J.D. from the University of Miami School of Law. Her favorite legal topics are access to justice, visual law, and legal research.

DeShannon McDonald teaches undergraduate courses in Legal Environment & Ethics and Business Law and a graduate course in Special Topics in Negotiation as an Assistant Professor of Business Law in the College of Business & Public Affairs at Alabama A&M University. McDonald's research interests focus on ethics, business and legal pedagogy, alternative dispute resolution, and wellness in the legal community.

Haley Moss was diagnosed with autism at age 3 and made international headlines as the first documented openly autistic attorney admitted to The Florida Bar. She received her Juris Doctor from the University of Miami School of Law in 2018, and graduated from the University of Florida in 2015 with Bachelor's degrees in Psychology and Criminology. Moss previously practiced in healthcare and international law. She is the author of *Middle School: The Stuff Nobody Tells You About* and *A Freshman Survival Guide for College Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders: The Stuff Nobody Tells You About*. Moss has written about neurodiversity and disability for publications such as *The Washington Post*, *ABA Journal*, *HuffPost*, *Teen Vogue*, *Fast Company*, and authored law review articles on legal issues surrounding disability. She also co-hosts the *Spectrumly Speaking* podcast, which is dedicated to autistic women.

Sara L. Ochs is an Assistant Professor of Law at the University of Louisville Brandeis School of Law, where she teaches first-year legal writing courses. Before joining the Louisville faculty, Ochs served as a teaching fellow at Elon University School of Law, where she taught legal writing and international criminal law. In addition to writing about the impact of imposter syndrome on legal academics, her scholarship also lies in the field of international criminal law, with a focus on the international prosecution of mass atrocities and the use of transitional justice mechanisms in post-conflict societies. Prior to entering academia, Ochs clerked for the Honorable Judge Carl J. Barbier on the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana and subsequently practiced tort and insurance defense and maritime law in New Orleans. She proudly earned her Juris Doctor from Loyola University New Orleans College of Law, where she graduated second in her class.

Brittany L. Raposa is the Associate Director and Professor of Bar Support at Roger Williams University School of Law in Rhode Island. In her capacity as a professor, she teaches the mandatory in-house bar preparation course that students take in their third year, as well as a second-year skills course. In Raposa's capacity as director of the bar support program, she teaches supplemental classes and holds workshops to assist students before and while they study for the exam. She was voted Professor of the Year by the 2018 and 2019 class and is the Distinguished Teaching Professor of the 2019–2020 academic year. Prior to Roger Williams, Raposa was a private bar exam and law school tutor and practiced family law and probate litigation. She graduated summa cum laude from UMass Law and pursued her LL.M from Northeastern University in Health Policy and Law, and focuses her academic research on reproductive justice.

George Taoultides is the Circuit Librarian for the First Circuit Court of Appeals. He previously worked at Harvard Law School Library as the Manager of Faculty Research and Scholarly Support. George is a member of the American Association of Law Libraries and Law Librarians of New England. Taoultides holds a B.A. in English Literature from Wheaton College, J.D. from Suffolk University Law School, M.L.I.S. from Simmons College, M.Ed from Harvard Graduate School of Education, and an A.L.M from Harvard Extension School.

Dr. Sandra Williamson-Ashe is a tenured-associate professor in the Ethelyn R. Strong School of Social Work at Norfolk State University, where she also received her MSW. With a doctorate in higher education administration and leadership from George Washington University, she has served in several senior level University administrative positions; assistant to the director of the higher education center, associate vice president for student affairs, and vice president for enrollment management and student affairs. As a proponent of leadership, Williamson-Ashe has published several book chapters on leadership as well as peer-reviewed articles to improve collegiate andragogy, group work, ethics, student success and redefining the leadership of women. Dr. Williamson-Ashe has previously served as a Commonwealth of Virginia gubernatorial appointment to the Council on Aging and a Virginia Beach Mayoral appointment to the e-government commission. She is a professional recipient of the American Council on Education – Norrine Bailey Spencer Scholarship for the Women's Network Virginia and an Honorary Member of the Golden Key International Honour Society.

Michelle Zakarin is an Associate Professor of Legal Process at Touro College, Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center. She has been teaching Legal Process, the first year legal research and writing course for law students, since 2003. In addition to her J.D. degree, she also has an undergraduate degree in computer science which led to her development and teaching of cybercrime at Touro. In cybercrime, law students study issues involving technology and the applicability of the Fourth Amendment, statutory regulations in obtaining stored data, cyberbullying, stalking, and harassment. It has been her experience that students need a great deal of feedback and she has seen firsthand how useful and constructive feedback can be in the learning process.

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