

Meet the New Faculty...



Aida M. Alaka- Visiting Associate Professor

Before joining Washburn Law, Alaka was a lecturer at the University of Kansas, where she taught courses in Legal Research and Writing, Race Discrimination Law and Higher Education Law. Prior to teaching, she was a partner at the Chicago law firm of Winston & Strawn, focusing on employment law, counseling and litigation. Before joining Winston & Strawn, Alaka was an associate in the litigation practice group of the Chicago firm of Holleb & Coff. She also worked in the corporate law department of Sears, Roebuck and Company, counseling management on employment-law issues and managing litigation. At Washburn Law Alaka will teach Legal Analysis Research and Writing.

Alaka received her B.A. with distinction in Comparative Literature and German from the University of Wisconsin – Madison in 1981 and her J.D. from Loyola University Chicago in 1993. During law school, she was Editor-in-Chief of the *Loyola University Law Journal* and a staff writer for the *Loyola University Consumer Law Reporter*.

Alaka is licensed to practice in Kansas and Illinois and has been admitted to the bar of the Northern and Central Districts of Illinois and the Eastern District of Wisconsin.



Kelly L. Anders- Associate Dean for Student Affairs

Since 1990, Anders has worked in a variety of capacities, including Administration, Teaching, Counseling, Research, and Public Affairs. These skills have been sharpened in a variety of sectors – academic, corporate, government, and nonprofit. She holds a B.A. in News-Editorial Journalism, with minors in Art, French, and History, from the University of Nebraska in 1989, as well as a J.D. and certification in Dispute Resolution from Pepperdine University School of Law in 1996. She is a member of the Urban League Guild, and served on the Board of Directors of Opera Colorado and Colorado Lawyers for the Arts.



Jeffrey Jackson- Associate Professor

Jackson came to Washburn Law last year as a Visiting Professor. Prior to joining Washburn Law, Jackson was at the Kansas Supreme Court as a staff attorney for Death Penalty and Constitutional issues. Prior to that, he was law clerk to The Honorable Mary Beck Briscoe on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit, law clerk to The Honorable Justice Robert E. Davis at the Kansas Supreme Court, an associate at Bennett & Dillon L.L.P. in Topeka and staff attorney for the Kansas Court of Appeals. He will teach Legal Analysis Research and Writing.

Jackson received his B.B.A. in Economics from Washburn University in 1989, his J.D. from Washburn Law in 1992 and his LL.M. in Constitutional Law at Georgetown University Law Center in 2003. At Washburn Law, Jackson was Assistant Editor for the *Washburn Law Journal*. Jackson is admitted to practice in Kansas, Missouri, U.S. District Court for the District of Kansas, U.S. District Court for the Western District of Missouri and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit. He is a member of the Kansas Judicial Council Death Penalty Advisory Committee.



Joe McKinney
Visiting Associate Professor

McKinney recently retired from the Topeka law firm of Goodell, Stratton, Edmonds & Palmer, L.L.P. having practiced for eighteen years, chiefly in the areas of tax and estate planning. Prior to his graduation from Washburn Law in 1986, he worked as a Certified Public Accountant with both local and national public accounting firms from 1974 through 1985, primarily engaged in tax practice. McKinney will be teaching Law and Accounting, Law and Finance and Taxation of Corporations.

McKinney served in the United States Air Force from 1961 to 1965 as a medical corpsman. While in the Air Force he completed his undergraduate degree studies at Washburn University in 1965. He returned to Washburn in 1971 to secure a business and accounting education and was named the University's Kansas Certified Public Accountant Scholar in 1972.

Professor McKinney holds commercial pilot and flight instructor certificates. He flew professionally for several years and continues to actively teach primary and instrument flying.



William Merkel
Associate Professor

For the past two years, Merkel taught an intensive introductory course designed to acclimatize foreign-trained lawyers to the advanced study of U.S. law. Merkel received a B.A. from Johns Hopkins in 1988, a J.D. from Columbia in 1996 and a PhD in History from Oxford in 2005.

After graduating from Johns Hopkins, Merkel worked as an analyst with the Department of Transportation in Washington before returning to graduate school. After law school, he worked in appellate litigation with the Washington D.C. firm of Wiley, Rein, and Fielding, and then took time out to write *The Militia and the Right to Arms, Or, How the Second Amendment Fell Silent* (Duke University Press, 2002) with the late Richard Uviller. Merkel then spent two years teaching American History at Oxford and two years teaching Comparative Introduction to American Law to foreign-trained LL.M.s at Columbia. Merkel will teach Constitutional Law at Washburn Law.

Merkel is licensed to practice in New York and Washington D.C.

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Jack Preis
Visiting Associate Professor

Preis joins the Washburn Law faculty teaching Federal Courts, Law and Economics, and Legal Analysis Research and Writing. He graduated from Cornell University in 1994, where he studied agricultural economics, and Vanderbilt University Law School with a J.D. in 2002. He served as Editor-in-Chief of the *Vanderbilt Law Review*. After law school, Preis clerked for United States District Judge Royce C. Lamberth in the District of Columbia and then spent approximately three years as an associate at Wilmer Cutler Pickering LLC, also in Washington, D.C. Prior to law school, Preis spent three years trading agricultural commodities for Archer Daniels Midland in Illinois.

Preis is licensed to practice in Virginia, Washington D.C. and Kansas.



Peter Reilly
Associate Professor

For the past three years, Reilly has been the Hewlett Fellow in Conflict Resolution and Legal Problem-Solving, as well as Adjunct Law Professor, at Georgetown University Law Center. Prior to Georgetown, Reilly worked for seven years as Attorney-Advisor in the Office of General Counsel of the United States Commission on Civil Rights in Washington, D.C. He clerked for Judge Raya S. Drebien of the State Appeals Court, Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Reilly recently published "Teaching Law Students How to Feel: Using Negotiations Training to Increase Emotional Intelligence," 21 (2) *Negotiation Journal* 301-314 (2005).

Reilly received a B.A. from Princeton University in 1988, a J.D. from Harvard Law School in 1993 and an LL.M. from Georgetown University Law Center in 2004. Reilly is admitted to the District of Columbia Bar; Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Bar. He will teach Contracts, Negotiations and Alternative Dispute Resolution at Washburn Law.