

GRACE WANKIIRI ORSATTI, JD, M.Sc

Associate Professor
Syracuse University College of Law
Syracuse, NY
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EDUCATION

Harvard Medical School, MSc Bioethics
Thomas R. Kline School of Law of Duquesne University, JD
Duquesne University School of Business, BSBA

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

2025-present
Syracuse University College of Law
Associate Professor

2019-2025
Thomas R. Kline School of Law of Duquesne University
Assistant Professor of Clinical Legal Education,
Director, Wills & Healthcare Decisions Clinic
Director, Pro Bono Program,
Director, Externships Program, 2019 present

2024-2025
Duquesne University College of Osteopathic Medicine
Lecturer

PUBLICATIONS:

Dorothy Yam et al., *Education in Advance Care Planning: A Novel Equity-Based, Interprofessional Service-Learning Approach*, 2 JOURNAL OF INNOVATION IN HEALTH SCIENCES EDUCATION (2025), <https://soar.usa.edu/jihse/vol2/iss1/3>.

Grace W. Orsatti, *Accompany the Dying, Comfort the Grieving: Counseling Clients About Organ Donation Decision*, 16 Ne. U.L. Rev. 129 (2024)

Grace W. Orsatti, *Restoring Rights — A Path Towards Guardianship Reform*, The Hill, October 11, 2023

Grace W. Orsatti, *Attorneys As Healthcare Advocates: The Argument for Attorney-Prepared Advance Healthcare Directives*, 50 J.L. Med. & Ethics 157 (2022)

Grace W. Orsatti, Alison Colbert, *Sibling Conflict Over a Parent's End-of-Life Care: A Legal Perspective*. Nursing. 2020 Nov.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS:

American Geriatrics Society Annual Conference,

Crossing the Divide: Medical-Legal Advance Care Planning, May 10, 2025

Health Law Professors Conference,

Ethics of Care in Estate and End-of-Life Planning, May, 2024.

National Aging and Law Conference, American Bar Association Commission on Law and Aging,

The Healthcare POA: A Scalpel, Not a Sledgehammer, May 17, 2024.

Pennsylvania Bar Institute Estate & Elder Law Symposium Healthcare Powers of Attorney,

Living Wills, & POLST Decision-Making Tools in the Event of Temporary or Permanent Incapacity, Feb 7, 2024

Southeastern Association of Law Schools (SEALS) Annual Conference, Experiential Learning Workshop, July, 2023:

Embracing Non-Traditional Experiential Projects,

Critical Evidence Concerns Across the Curriculum.

Emerging Considerations for Clinics

Mid-Atlantic Consortium of Externships (MACE) CLE (co-organizer) Building Cultural Awareness in Externship Students, Feb 1, 2023.

Pennsylvania Bar Association Estate Planning Institute, Healthcare Powers of Attorney, Living

Wills, & POLST Decision-Making Tools in the Event of Temporary or Permanent Incapacity.

HONORS & AWARDS:

2023: Thomas R. Kline Meritorious Service Award

2020: Feinstein Fellow Jewish Healthcare Foundation Feinstein Death and Dying Fellowship.

2018: Pittsburgh Courier Women of Excellence Award

GRANTS:

- McElhattan Foundation Medical-Legal End-of-Life Planning Grant, 2024-2025.
- American College of Trusts and Estates Council (ACTEC) Grant, 2023-2025
- McElhattan Foundation End-of-Life Planning and Care Grant, 2022-2023
- E. Louis Feldman Charitable Trust Grant for Elder Justice Programming, 2022-2023

UNIVERSITY SERVICE:

Duquesne Kline School of Law

- o Curriculum Committee, 2024-2025
- o Recruitment Committee, 2022-2024
- o Student Support Committee 2020-2022
- o Admissions Committee 2019-2020
- o Dean's Task Force on the Evening Division, 2021-2022
- o Dean's Diversity Action Council, 2020-2024

- o Public Interest Law Association Advisor, 2019-present
- o ABA Site Visit Committee, 2022
- Other Service
 - o Pennsylvania Supreme Court Advisory Council of Elder Justice in the Courts
 - o Pennsylvania Bar Association Elder Law Section Council Member o Allegheny County Bar Association Elder Law Committee
 - o Allegheny County Bar Association Amicus Brief Committee
 - o Neighborhood Legal Services Association Board Member
 - o Allegheny County Bar Association and Allegheny County Medical Association Advance Healthcare Directive Committee.

JUDICIAL CLERKSHIPS

Supreme Court of Pennsylvania

Law Clerk, 2006-2008

Superior Court of Pennsylvania

Law Clerk, 2009- 2015

Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas

Law Clerk, 2004-2005, 2016-2019

OTHER PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

2016-2018 Thomas R. Kline School of Law of Duquesne University, Externship Supervisor

2015-2016 Bank of New York Mellon, Legal Compliance and Regulatory Enforcement

2008-2009 W. Timothy Barry & Associates, Pittsburgh, PA, Associate Attorney,

2008-2009 Pennsylvania Bureau of Mediation, Labor Arbitrator