

Shannon Gardner

950 Irving Avenue, Suite 408, Syracuse, New York 13244
315-443-2926 ▪ spryan03@syr.edu

EXPERIENCE

Syracuse University College of Law

August 2010–present

Positions and Appointments:

Associate Dean for Academic Programs (July 2025-present)

- Provide strategic leadership and oversight for all academic programs of the College of Law, including the residential JD, online/hybrid JDinteractive (JDi), LL.M., S.J.D., international short courses, and specialized academic initiatives, ensuring alignment with institutional priorities, legal education trends, and market demand
- Serve as a senior academic leader on the Dean's Senior Leadership Team and the University Leadership Team, advising on academic strategy, resource allocation, and long-term planning for degree programs and curricular initiatives
- Lead curriculum development, program review, and continuous improvement efforts across all academic programs, including course planning, curricular renewal, academic standards, and assessment of student learning outcomes
- Direct and manage all accreditation and regulatory compliance activities, including preparation of the ABA self-study, coordination of ABA site visits, ongoing accreditation reporting, and compliance with New York State Education Department requirements
- Assume primary responsibility for academic assessment and program evaluation, overseeing learning outcomes assessment, accreditation-related assessment processes, and data-informed decision-making to support academic quality and student success
- Collaborate closely with the Dean, Associate Deans, and faculty leadership on course scheduling, faculty teaching assignments, academic policy development, and resolution of academic issues impacting student progression and success
- Partner with the Associate Dean of Students and academic administrators to address academic challenges, refine academic policies, and support student achievement, retention, and timely degree completion
- Advance academic innovation and pedagogical excellence, including oversight of the JDi program, development of asynchronous and technology-enhanced courses, and integration of emerging areas such as artificial intelligence and practice-ready competencies into the curriculum
- Work collaboratively with the University's Center for Online & Digital Learning to design, review, and implement high-quality online and hybrid courses consistent with best practices in digital pedagogy and accreditation standards
- Lead and contribute to strategic planning initiatives, including service on the Academic Strategic Planning Implementation Committee (ASPI), ensuring that academic programs advance the College of Law's strategic pillars and areas of excellence
- Identify and evaluate opportunities for growth and innovation in new degree programs, certificates, and extended learning initiatives, including interdisciplinary and cross-unit collaborations with University partners
- Represent the College of Law on key University committees, including Academic Leaders for Strategic Initiatives (ALSI) and the Educational Effectiveness Committee, contributing to institution-wide academic policy, assessment, and strategic initiatives

Associate Dean for Online Education (2022-2025)

- Oversee the College of Law's online/hybrid JDinteractive Program, with a current student body of 335 students
- Serve as a member of the Dean's Senior Leadership Team
- Manage the development of asynchronous courses and residency courses for the program, develop and implement best practices for all aspects of the program, support faculty and students in the program, and engage with alumni to teach short courses and support the program
- Partner with all other units of the College to ensure the unique nature of the program and its students is understood, and their needs are supported, and work with other University units (including Center for Online & Digital Learning; Office of Diversity & Inclusion; and the Whitman School) to manage and provide programs and resources for JDi
- Work directly with the Vice Dean regarding course planning, faculty course assignments, and part-time instructor hiring, and supervise and work with Assistant Director for Online Programs to ensure online course management and residency courses all run smoothly

- Coordinate ABA Annual Report for JDi, including collection and presentation of data regarding the program and its students, and review all petitions to the New York State Court of Appeals for permission to sit for the New York State bar examination
- Explore and develop new programs within and beyond JDi, including the Certificate of Advanced Study in National Security Law, and manage existing programs, including (in collaboration with the Whitman School) our online JDi/MBA degree program

Teaching Professor (2010-present)

- Teach courses including legal research, legal writing, and oral advocacy; various aspects of federal criminal law, including white collar crime; and introduction to the American legal system and study of law
- Teach international LL.M. students Introduction to the American Legal System and law school skills courses, including case methodology, case briefing, and introduction to the Socratic method

Service:

- Senator, Syracuse University Senate (2022-24)
- Co-Chair (2023-24) and Member (2022-23), Women's Concerns Committee of the University Senate
- Coach of ABA National Appellate Moot Court Competition team (2016-17 and 2017-18)
- Faculty Director, Lionel O. Grossman Trial Competition (2017)
- Substantial College Committee service, including Promotion and Review Committee; Academic Strategic Planning Committee; Academic Strategic Planning Implementation Committee; Admissions and Financial Aid Committee; and Dean's Search Committee

Awards:

- Meredith Teaching Recognition Award for Continuing Excellence (2021) – University's highest award for teaching excellence
- Lucet Lex Mundum Award (2017, 2019, and 2021) – award for teaching excellence selected by international LL.M. students

Conferences and Visiting Professorships:

- Visiting Professor, Tor Vergata University, Association of Legal Graduates, Rome, Italy (Summer 2018) -- taught Italian attorneys and law students Introduction to the American Legal System
- Visiting Professor, Holy Spirit University of Kaslik, Beirut, Lebanon (Fall 2016) -- taught LL.M. graduate students Introduction to the American Legal System
- Presenter at the Global Legal Skills Conference in 2016 (Verona, Italy) and 2017 (Monterrey, Mexico) regarding teaching international students in American legal programs

Criminal Justice Act Indigent Defense Panel for the Northern District of New York

June 2010–June 2011

Defense Attorney

- Represented indigent criminal defendants charged in federal criminal cases

United States Attorney's Office, Central District of California Assistant United States Attorney, Criminal Division

June 1998-April 2009

- Federal criminal prosecutor with assignments including Criminal Appeals Section (August 2007 - April 2009), Narcotics Section (January 2004 - August 2007), and Major Frauds Section (July 2000 - January 2004)
- Argued cases before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals on five occasions, authored 13 answering briefs for criminal cases on appeal, and reviewed and revised numerous appellate briefs and motions authored by other trial attorneys in the office
- Tried and/or co-tried seven federal jury trials
- Oversaw investigations leading to grand jury indictments of numerous defendants for violations of federal criminal law

Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker LLP Associate, Employment Law Department

October 1995-May 1998

- Represented clients in all aspects of employment defense litigation and counseling; second-chaired jury trial in United States District Court on claims of age and gender discrimination (resulting in directed verdict for the firm's clients)

The Honorable William J. Rea United States District Judge for the Central District of California Law Clerk

September 1994-September 1995

EDUCATION

J.D., Loyola Law School, Los Angeles

May 1994

- Graduated *cum laude* and Order of the Coif
- Loyola of Los Angeles Law Review: Note and Comment Editor (1993-94) and Staff Member (1992-93)

B.A. in English, University of California at Los Angeles

June 1991