

MICHAEL D.O. RUSCO

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EDUCATION

LL.M.	University of Wisconsin School of Law, Madison, WI	2010
J.D.	University of Wisconsin School of Law Madison, WI	1998
B.A.	University of Houston, Houston, TX	1993

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Southern University Law Center, Baton Rouge, LA 2019 to Present
Professor; Senior Fellow, Native American Law & Policy Institute
Courses: Legal Writing I, Legal Writing II, Litigation Drafting, Civil Procedure, Conflict of Laws, Contracts, and Business Organizations

Atlanta's John Marshall Law School, Atlanta, GA 2011 to 2013
Associate Professor
Courses: Legal Writing I, Legal Writing II, Contract Drafting

University of Wisconsin School of Law, Madison, WI 2008 to 2010
William H. Hastie Fellow

Southern University Law Center, Baton Rouge, LA 2007 to 2008
Assistant Professor of Legal Analysis & Writing
Courses: Legal Writing I, Legal Writing II

VISITING APPOINTMENTS

Stetson University College of Law, Gulfport, FL 2015 to 2016
Courses: Legal Writing I & II

Valparaiso University Law School, Valparaiso, IN 2014 to 2015
Courses: Legal Writing I & II

Univ. of Arkansas School of Law, Little Rock, AR Fall 2013
Course: Legal Writing I

Florida A&M Univ. College of Law, Orlando, FL 2010 to 2011
Courses: Contracts and Business Organizations

American Indian Law Center, PLSI, Albuquerque, NM Summer 2010
Courses: Legal Writing

PUBLICATIONS

Incorporating Federal Indian and Tribal Law into Litigation-Drafting Curricula, in *Integrating Doctrine and Diversity: Inclusion & Equity Beyond the First Year* (Nicole P. Dyszlewski et al eds., 2023) (with Prof. Gail Stephenson).

Oklahoma v. Castro-Huerta, Jurisdictional Overlap, Competitive Sovereign Erosion, and Fundamental Freedom of Native Nations, 106 Marq. L. Rev. 889 (2023).

Ancillary Skills and Law School Success, 35 The Second Draft, May 2022
<https://www.lwionline.org/article/ancillary-skills-and-law-school-success> (peer reviewed, online).

Tribal Influence in Federal and State Politics, in *Tribal Administration Handbook: A Guide for Native Nations in the United States* (Rebecca M. Webster and Joseph Bauerkemper eds., 2022) (with Prof. Kirsten Matoy Carlson and Attorney Patrice Kunesh).

Avoiding Extinction, Preserving Culture: Sustainable, Sovereignty-Centered Tribal Citizenship Requirements, 91 N.D. L. Rev. 1 (2015). Selected by the Native American Rights Fund to be part of its online law library on tribal citizenship.

Tribal Citizen Participation in State and National Politics: Welcome Wagon or Trojan Horse? 36 Wm. Mitchell L. Rev. 793 (2010). Cited by or in the Minnesota Supreme Court, the Yale Law Journal, and the American Indian Law Deskbook.

PUBLICATIONS IN PROGRESS

Using Math Analogies to Make Legal Writing More Accessible to Students with stem Backgrounds

Sine Qua Non: Competitive Sovereign Erosion and the Federal Government's Fiduciary Duty to Protect Tribes from Jurisdictional Overlap

Incorporating Indian Law Into Legal Writing Curricula: Where It Works and Where It Does Not

GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENTS

Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi Election Hearing Officer	2023 to Present
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Ho-Chunk Department of Justice, Black River Falls, WI Senior Tribal Counsel, Business Department Primary Counsel	2016 to 2018
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Southwestern Intertribal Court of Appeals Associate Justice	2010 to 2011.
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Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma Special Supreme Court Justice	2009 to 2011
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GOVERNMENT APPOINTMENTS *continued*

Wisconsin Department of Justice, Madison, WI 1999 to 2001
Assistant Attorney General, Civil Litigation Unit

Ho-Chunk Nation Judiciary, Black River Falls, WI 1998 to 1999
Staff Attorney. One-year appointment.

PRESENTATIONS & SYMPOSIA

ALWD Biennial Conference 2023

Concurrent Presentations, Putting Together a Writing Problem that Uses Indian Law, July 14, 2023.
With Prof. Gail Stephenson (Southern University Law Center) and Prof. Wendy Shea (Mitchell Hamlin School of Law).

Separate and Unequal in Indian Country

Law and Society Association 2023 Annual Meeting, Thematic Panel Discussion, San Juan, Puerto Rico, June 2, 2023 (with Prof. Winona Singel, Assistant Prof. Dan Lewerenz, and Assistant Prof. Daniel Rice).

ALWD Scholars Workshop

Association of Legal Writing Directors, University of Oregon School of Law, Oct. 7, 2022.

Life After Law School Series: Writing Workshop

Student Bar Association, Southern University Law Center, Oct. 7, 2021.

Plenary Power, Lone Wolf's Legacy, and Imperium en Imperio: Can Sovereignty Survive?

Tribal Courts and Sovereignty Symposium, Southern University Law Center, Oct. 25, 2019.

Historical Legacies of Blood Quantum in Indian Law

State Bar of Arizona CLE, Albuquerque, NM, May 4, 2018.

Taxation of Construction Projects in Indian Country

State Bar of Arizona CLE, Albuquerque, NM, Oct. 18, 2017.

Tribal Equal Access to Voting Act

Eleventh Circuit Legal Scholarship Forum, Stetson University College of Law, Nov. 13, 2015.

Integrating Google Docs Into Your Curriculum

Central States Legal Writing Conference, University of Kansas School of Law, Sept. 28, 2013.

Student Emotion, Performance, and Evaluations

Western Regional Legal Writing Conference, University of Oregon School of Law, Aug. 11, 2012.

Tribal Citizen Participation in State and National Politics: Welcome Wagon or Trojan Horse?

Southern University Law Center Speaker Series, Feb. 25, 2011.

Tribal Citizen Participation in State and National Politics: Welcome Wagon or Trojan Horse?

Texas State Bar, Indian Law Section Meeting, Jan. 14, 2011.

PRESENTATIONS & SYMPOSIA *continued*

Citizenship, Race, and Symbiosis: A Critique of Tribal Citizenship Practices
University of Wisconsin Indian Law Conference, March 27, 2009.

Legal Writers Workshop
Legal Writing Institute, July 2008. Invited participant.

Mitigating Emotional Barriers to Student Performance: Strategies for New Legal Writing Professors
Rocky Mountain Legal Writing Conference, March 22, 2008.

Advocacy, Pro Bono Work, and Community Service

Hindsight Distorted: Dispelling Misconceptions about Native Society Prior to 1492
Annual Native American Heritage Month presentation. Baton Rouge Main Library, Baton Rouge, Louisiana Nov. 2, 2024; Kiwanis Club, Baton Rouge, Louisiana Nov. 17, 2022; Southern University Law Center, Baton Rouge, Louisiana Nov. 5, 2021 and Nov. 11, 2020; and Houston Community College, Houston, Texas Nov. 22, 2019 and Nov. 26, 2018.

Ho-Chunk Nation
At the request of the Acting Attorney General, I researched and drafted a substantial memorandum analyzing whether the federal Fair Labor Standards Act applies to tribal enterprises located on trust land. A three-way split among federal appellate courts exists.

Texas Green Party
Researched and drafted a successful brief to the Texas Supreme Court addressing a ballot access issue. Note: the brief was filed under the signature of the attorney of record. A letter from the party chair acknowledges my participation. *In re Green Party of Texas*, 630 S.W.3d 36 (Tex. 2020).

Wisconsin Department of Justice
Successfully represented the Wisconsin Department of Corrections before the Wisconsin Supreme Court on an appeal of the state Prison Litigation Reform Act's exhaustion requirement. *State ex rel. Hensley v. Endicott*, 245 Wis.2d 607, 629 N.W.2d 686 (2001).

UNIVERSITY SERVICE

Southern Univ. Law Center, Baton Rouge, LA 2019 to Present
Faculty Grievance Committee, Honor Code Investigatory Committee, Code of Student Conduct
Judiciary Committee, Ad Hoc Committee on Policies, Legal Writing Committee, Foreign Study
Committee, Student Affairs Committee, ADA Sub-Committee, ABA Self-Study Committee.

Valparaiso University Law School, Valparaiso, IN 2014 to 2015
Summer CLEO Program. Student Orientation. Guest lectured on Indian law in Prof. Mary Szto's Race
and the Law Seminar.

Atlanta's John Marshall Law School, Atlanta, GA 2011 to 2013
Academic Standards Committee. 2012 ABA and NYC Bar Moot Court coach. Guest lectured on Indian
law in Constitutional law.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND SERVICE

Tribal In-House Counsel Association 2017 to Present
Member 2017 to present. Board of Directors 2017 to 2019.

Legal Writing Institute 2006 to Present
Member 2006 to present. LWI Lives Committee 2022 to Present.

Journal of Legal Communication & Rhetoric 2014 to 2016
Article Reviewer

ALWD Survey Committee 2013 to 2016
RFP Subcommittee

Honors & Awards

University of Wisconsin
- William H. Hastie Fellowship 2008
- Indian Law Student of the Year 1998
- Heffernan Moot Court Competition
Quarterfinalist 1997
- Senator Feingold Award 1997
- University League Award 1997
- Fall Oral Advocacy Quarterfinalist 1996
- LEO Fellowship 1995

Legal Writing Institute
- Legal Writers Workshop Invited participant
2008.

University of Houston
- Honors College member
- Daily Cougar Editor-in-Chief 1992-93
- Alumni Fund Scholarship
- Houston Press Club Scholarship
- Society of Professional Journalists' Region 8
College Competition 1993: Best Overall
Student Paper, News Reporting Third Place
(individual), Editorial Writing Third Place
(individual)
- Houston Society of Professional Journalists
Grant
- Omicron Delta Kappa member

BAR ADMISSIONS

Tribal: Ho-Chunk Nation Bar (inactive) and Cherokee Nation Bar (inactive)
State: Texas State Bar and Wisconsin State Bar (inactive)
Federal: Southern District of Texas; Western and Eastern Districts of Wisconsin; Fifth and
Seventh Circuit; Supreme Court of the United States.

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Rusco Consulting, Houston, TX	2002 to Present
Fredericks, Peebles & Morgan, Louisville, CO	2018
Adair & Myers, P.L.L.C., Houston, TX	2005 to 2007
Von Briesen & Roper, S.C., Milwaukee, WI	2001 to 2002
Albany Democrat-Herald, Albany, OR	1993 to 1995
Capital Cities/ABC Inc., Texas and Oregon	1993 to 1993
Houston Chronicle, Houston, TX	Summer 1992
University of Houston Daily Cougar, Houston, TX	1990 to 1993