In late spring, our parent organization, ALWD, announced the selection of Professor Kathryn M. Stanchi as the second recipient of the Berger Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Legal Writing Scholarship. Professor Stanchi wrote a significant amount of scholarship during her tenure at Temple University’s Beasley School of Law in Philadelphia. The Berger Award is ALWD’s highest scholarship award, recognizing the recipient-academic’s long-term dedication to, and advancement of the legal writing discipline. The award serves to celebrate those, like Professor Stanchi, who have written influential articles, books, and essays—work that has significantly impacted others working in the area.

For those of us who write and publish in the field, Professor Stanchi is the perfect recipient for this prestigious award. She is known nationally and internationally for her work, which sets the standard for connecting the psychology of persuasion to the practice of law. Her scholarship is routinely cited in articles and textbooks. Two of her own books were published by Cambridge University Press.

Another of her projects, the United States Feminist Judgments Project, builds on an international movement and allows many other academic scholars to participate in the re-analysis of judicial decisions from a non-hegemonic perspective. As one of her nominators wrote,

“As the leader of the United States Feminist Judgments project, a project that reimagines and rewrites major judicial opinions from a feminist perspective, [Kathy’s] efforts have had a world-wide impact as the series has expanded internationally. . . . She advocated for the project to include legal writing and clinical professors, and her effort has given over 30
LRW and clinical professors the opportunity to publish with the Cambridge University Press.

During the award presentation in late May, both the president and president-elect of ALWD (Professors Jodi Wilson and Anne Mullins, respectively) spoke about Professor Stanchi’s reach and influence. They commended her on her dedication to more than her own scholarly interests, but also to the academic community—legal writing and beyond. Her work, they said, “blurrs the lines between doctrine, theory, and skills.”

The editors of Legal Communication & Rhetoric: JALWD are all well-versed in Professor Stanchi’s work—how could we not be and still call ourselves editors?—and we stand to give her our keen applause for all that she has accomplished. Her work stands as the exemplar in the field. We offer warm and hearty congratulations to one of our discipline’s pillars.

A bibliography of Professor Stanchi’s contributions is included, demonstrating the depth and reach of her work.

–The Editorial Board of LEGAL COMMUNICATION & RHETORIC: JALWD, July, 2019
Kathryn M. Stanchi: A Bibliography

Books and Book Chapters

LEGAL PERSUASION: A RHETORICAL APPROACH TO THE SCIENCE (with L. Berger) (Routledge 2017).


Executive Series Editor, Feminist Judgments Series (Cambridge U. Press)

• FEMINIST JUDGMENTS: REWRITTEN TAX OPINIONS (2018);
• FEMINIST JUDGMENTS: REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE REWRITTEN (Forthcoming 2019);
• FEMINIST JUDGMENTS: FAMILY LAW OPINIONS REWRITTEN (Forthcoming 2020);
• FEMINIST JUDGMENTS: TORTS OPINIONS REWRITTEN (Forthcoming 2020);
• FEMINIST JUDGMENTS: EMPLOYMENT DISCRIMINATION OPINIONS REWRITTEN (Forthcoming 2020)

Selected Articles


The Problem with ABA Standard 405(c), 66 J. LEGAL EDUC. 558 (Spring 2017).

This is Your Sword: How Damaging Are Prior Convictions to Plaintiffs in Civil Trials?, 89 WASH. U. L. REV. 901 (2014) (with D. Bowen).


The Power of Priming in Legal Advocacy: Using the Science of First Impressions to Persuade the Reader, 89 OR. L. REV. 305 (Fall 2010).


Resistance is Futile: How Legal Writing Pedagogy Contributes to the Law’s Marginalization of Outsider Voices, 103 DICK. L. REV. 1 (Fall 1998). Cited in EMMA COLEMAN JORDAN & ANGELA HARRIS,
• ECONOMIC JUSTICE: RACE, GENDER, IDENTITY AND ECONOMICS (Foundation Press 2005) and

• Cited in Commonwealth v. King, 834 N.E. 2d 1175 (Mass. 2005),
  State v. P.H., 840 A.2d 808 (N.J. 2004) and
• WAYNE R. LAFAVE, SUBSTANTIVE CRIMINAL LAW §17.5 (2d ed.).