

**GRACE J. WIGAL**  
**Teaching Professor of Law**

*West Virginia University College of Law*  
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**EDUCATION:**

**Marshall University, Huntington, WV.**

- B.A. with honors in multiple majors: speech, journalism, and language arts, 1972  
Highlights include Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities, Alpha Lambda Delta - Freshman Women's Honorary, Fagus - Senior Women's Honorary, student government, marching band, concert orchestra, President of Phi Mu Sorority, news writer for The Parthenon student newspaper, and author of feature articles in other publications including West Virginia Magazine.
- M.A. with honors in Reading Education, 1976.

**West Virginia College of Graduate Studies.**

Forty-five hours in specialized education courses, including learning disabilities, 1976 - 1983. Lacked only the practicum for an additional Master's Degree.

**West Virginia University College of Law, Morgantown, WV.**

- J.D., May, 1989.
- Highlights include Law Review Managing Editor; Order of the Coif; Student Bar Association; Women's Law Caucus; and West Virginia Law Review Literary Award for article published in 1989, "Hazelwood East School District v. Kuhlmeier: The Death of No Prior Restraint in an Official High School Newspaper."
- Research Assistant to Professors Fisher, DiSalvo, Cardi and Ashdown.
- Graduated fourth in class of 124 while caring for two small children at home.

**PROFESSIONAL  
EXPERIENCE:**

**Director**

- ***West Virginia University College of Law, Morgantown, WV.***  
Director of Academic Excellence Center. 2009 - present.  
Director of Legal Research and Writing Program. 1992 - 2009.  
Director of Academic Support Program. 1992 - 1996, 1999 - 2002, 2004 - 2009.  
Director of Appellate Advocacy Program. 1993 - 2006.

**Faculty**

- ***West Virginia University College of Law, Morgantown, WV.***  
Legal research and writing. 1990 - 2009.  
Appellate advocacy. 1991, 2004 - 2005.  
Academic Support Program. 1992 - present.  
Contract Drafting. Skills Week.
- ***Pocahontas County High School, Dunmore, WV.***  
Teacher of reading, English, journalism, and speech. Advisor to award-winning high school newspaper and yearbook, with numerous students winning both state and national journalism awards. Developed an innovative high school remedial reading program which was federally funded and became a model for other schools in the state. Produced a number of plays and coached students who won awards in state forensic tournaments. 1972 - 1974, 1977 - 1983.

- ***Divide Elementary School, Lookout, WV.***

Reading Specialist in a Title I reading program for grades 2-6. 1974 - 1977.

**Consultant - Just Write Seminars**

Part owner of consulting company that provides CLE instruction for lawyers who desire to improve their writing. 2006 - present. Presentations made:

2006 – Pittsburgh

2007 – Philadelphia

2008 – Philadelphia

**Law Firm Associate**

Step toe and Johnson, Clarksburg, WV.

Assigned to litigation team, with concentration in construction and medical malpractice cases. 1989 - 1990 (full-time); 1990 - 1992 (part-time).

**Law Clerk**

Step toe and Johnson, Clarksburg and Morgantown, WV.

Completed numerous research and writing assignments, including an appellate brief and a proposal to the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals to modify state rules of evidence in regard to child witnesses. 1988 - 1989.

**Office Manager**

Haese Corporation, Boulder, CO.

Managed office personnel for construction development company and in-house attorneys.

Duties also included involvement in the bidding process; working with owners, general contractors, subcontractors and suppliers; supervision of subcontractors; participation in design process and quality control; and negotiation and settlement of claims.

Implemented and programmed a computerized labor and job cost tracking system.

1984 - 1986.

**Owner and Treasurer**

Upland Construction Company, Summersville, WV.

Duties included bookkeeping, job cost analysis, and purchasing.

1976 - 1978.

**MEMBERSHIPS:**

1. American Bar Association
2. West Virginia State Bar
3. Legal Writing Institute
4. Scribes
5. Association of Legal Writing Directors, a professional organization  
Elected Treasurer: 2004 - 2006, 2006 - 2010
6. Monongalia County Bar Association
7. AALS Section of Legal Writing and Research
8. AALS Section of Academic Support

**PUBLICATIONS:**

1. James Watson and Grace Wigal, Building Codes and Building Permit Issues, Major Land Use Law in West Virginia (NBI 1990).
2. Knud Hermansen and Grace Wigal, Who Owns the Records?, ASCM Bulletin 52 (May/June 1993), reprinted in 3 Nevada Traverse 21 (1993) and in other trade publications.

3. Marcia Pollard and Grace Wigal, Hospital Staff Privileges: What Every Health Care Practitioner and Lawyer Needs to Know (Health Administration Press 1996). Author of the following chapters:

Chapter 1 - "Introduction: Hospital Staff Privileges in the 1990s"

Chapter 2 - "The History of Staff Privileges"

Chapter 3 - "Hospital Liability for Negligent Selection, Retention, or Supervision of a Staff Member"

Chapter 4 - "The Health Care Quality Improvement Act and its Data Bank Reporting Requirements" (This chapter provided cutting-edge review of the then-new Data Bank and gave health care providers a reason to purchase the book.)

4. The Physician's Perspective on Medical Law (The American Association of Neurological Surgeons, 1997), contributing author.

Chapter 20 - "Issues in Physician Licensure"

Chapter 21 - "Issues in Hospital Privileges and Peer Review"

5. Dean's Column, guest author, The West Virginia Lawyer, Nov. 1998 (an explanation of the LRW Program at WVU).
6. Brutal Choices in Curricular Design: Repeaters in LRW Programs, 61, Perspectives, Teaching Legal Research and Writing (West 2001).
7. Appellate Procedure in West Virginia: Why Rule 4A's Expedited Petition Process Isn't Attractive to Attorneys, 4 Journal of Appellate Practice 289 (Spring 2002).

### **University Activities:**

1. West Virginia University Faculty Senate - 1995-1996, 1998  
Faculty Senate Parliamentarian - 2007 - 2011.
2. West Virginia University Dubois Scholarship Selection Committee - 1993 - present.
3. West Virginia University Faculty Handbook Committee - 1995 - 1996.

### **PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

1. Assisted in creating the Drafting Exercise Data Bank for the Legal Writing Institute by describing and cataloging exercises submitted by legal writing teachers throughout the United States. Summer, 1993.
2. LSAC Academic Support Workshops
  - William and Mary College of Law, Summer 1993
  - University of San Diego School of Law, 1995
  - St. Louis University School of Law, 2009
  - Ohio State University School of Law (Pipelines Conference), 2009
3. Legal Writing Institute's Conferences

- University of Michigan, Summer 1990, 1998
  - University of Puget Sound School of Law, 1992, 1996
  - Chicago-Kent School of Law, 1994
  - Seattle University School of Law, Summer 2000
  - University of Tennessee, Summer 2002
  - Seattle University School of Law, Summer 2004
  - Georgia State University College of Law, Summer 2006
  - Indianapolis College of Law, Summer 2008
  - Rocky Mountain Regional Conference, Spring, 2013
4. College of Law Pre-Law Academy Instructor - 1995 - 1997; Bridging the Gap Instructor - periodically from 1998 to present.
  5. Brief Judge, ABA Moot Court National Competition. 1998 - 1999
  6. National Conference of Bar Examiners' Academic Support Conference, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin. 2005
  7. Association of Legal Writing Directors
    - Website Committee, 1999 - 2001.
    - Archives Committee, Co-Chair, 1999 - 2000.
    - Summer Conferences
      - New England School of Law, Boston, Mass. 1999
      - University of Minnesota School of Law, Minneapolis, Minn. 2001
      - University of Windsor, Windsor, Canada. 2003
      - Northwestern School of Law, Chicago, Ill. 2005
      - University of Denver School of Law, Denver, CO 2007
      - University of Missouri - Kansas City, Missouri, 2009
      - McGeorge School of Law - Sacramento, CA 2011.
    - Assistant program chair of 2003 conference in Windsor
    - Treasurer of national organization: 2004 - 2006, 2006 - 2010
    - Archivist - 2012 - present
  8. AALS Section of Academic Support
    - Website Committee - 2011 - 2013
    - Bar Passage Committee - 2013 - present
  9. Direct and Implement the Summer Law Institute, WVU College of Law  
An intensive one-week immersion program for non-traditional and socio-economically disadvantaged undergraduate students.  
2010 - present

## **PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS**

1. *Building Codes and Building Permit Issues*, published in Major Land Use Laws in West Virginia (NBI Continuing Legal Education Program, Charleston, W.Va., and Martinsburg, W.Va., summer, 1990). Speaker.
2. *Persuasive Writing* (West Virginia Defense Bar Annual Meeting, Charleston, June, 1997 -- prepared the materials, and upon a death in the family, Lisa Eichhorn stepped in at the last minute to deliver the presentation).
3. *Step by Step Instruction* (Legal Writing Institute's Biennial Conference, Chicago - Kent Law School, 1996). Break-out session speaker.
4. *Writing the Persuasive Brief* (Mountain State Bar, Huntington, W.Va. Nov. 1998).

Speaker.

5. *Small Scale Organization* (Legal Writing Institute's Biennial conference, University of Seattle, 1998). Breakout session presenter.
6. *Evaluating Legal Writing Teachers* (Association of Legal Writing Director's Biennial Conference, Northeastern School of Law, Boston, Mass., 1999). Break-out session presenter.
7. *Panelist: Increasing the Visibility of LRW Programs through Recruiting and Admissions Processes* (Association of Legal Writing Director's Biennial Conference, Northeastern School of Law, Boston, Mass., 1999).
8. *Legal Research for Paralegals* (A two-day conference for paralegals, College of Law, Morgantown, W.Va., July, 1999). Designed, directed, and taught in this program, which was geared to providing instruction to paralegals who desired to take the national certification test.
9. *Legal Writing for Paralegals* (A two-day conference for paralegals, College of Law, Morgantown, W.Va., July, 2000). Designed, directed, and taught in this program geared to preparing paralegals to take the national certification test.
10. *Effective Legal Writing Workshop* (A two-day conference for paralegals, College of Law, Morgantown, W.Va., June, 2001). Instructor.
11. *End of an Era: A New Manual for Legal Citation* (West Virginia Trial Lawyers Association Legal Assistants Program, Charleston, W.Va., Feb. 17, 2001). Speaker.
12. *Legal Analysis: Statutes and Cases* (West Virginia Trial Lawyers Association Legal Assistants Program, Charleston, W.Va., June 9, 2001). Speaker.
13. *Good-bye Blue Book: The New Standards for Legal Citation* (West Virginia Continuing Legal Education "Update on the Law" seminar, Morgantown, W.Va., Nov. 3, 2000). Speaker.
14. *Torts for Paralegals* (a two-day conference for paralegals at the College of Law, Morgantown, WV, July 19 - 20, 2002). Designed, directed, and instructed in this two-day program focusing on the common tort actions that paralegals will deal with in the law firm setting.
15. *The Agony of Failure* (Legal Writing Institute, Biennial Conference, University of Tennessee School of Law, Knoxville, Tennessee, June 7 - 8, 2002). Breakout session speaker.
16. *Plenary Presentation: Leadership Through ALWD – Looking Forward* (Association of Legal Writing Directors Biennial Conference, July 17 - 19, 2003, University of Windsor, Windsor, Ontario, Canada). Powerpoint presentation to conclude the conference.
17. *Workshop on Ethics and Professional Responsibility for the Legal Assistant* (a two-day conference for paralegals at the College of Law, Morgantown, WV, July 25 - 26, 2003). Designed, directed, and instructed in this two-day program focusing on the ethical considerations of working as a paralegal in the law firm setting.
18. *Building Skills: Interviewing and Investigation for Legal Assistants* (a two-day workshop at the College of Law, Morgantown, WV, June 25, 26 2004). Designed, directed, and instructed in this two-day program focusing on fact investigation and interviewing techniques.

19. *Using Formulas to Help Students Master the “R” and “A” of IRAC* (Legal Writing Institute Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, Summer 2006) with Hollee Temple.
20. *Administrative Law: Negotiating the Regulatory Maze* (a one-day conference for paralegals, presented twice in June, 2006). With Hollee Temple.
21. *Teaching Professionalism with a Lesson in Timekeeping* (Legal Writing Institute Conference, Indianapolis, Summer 2008).
22. *Helping Students Self-Assess Critical Skills in Light of Professional Expectations* (Institute for Law Teaching Conference, Gonzaga, Summer 2009).
23. *Advancing Your Writing Program: Communicating With the Law Firms that Hire Your Students* (Association of Legal Writing Directors Conference, Kansas City, Summer 2009).

**FACULTY  
HONORS:**

1. West Virginia University College of Law Faculty Service Award. 1997
2. West Virginia University College of Law Faculty Scholarship Award. 1998

**OTHER  
ACTIVITIES:**

Board of Directors, West Virginia Alzheimer’s Association, 2003 to 2010.