

**Leanne Fuith**  
**Professor of Law**

Mitchell Hamline School of Law  
St. Paul, Minnesota

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Licensed to Practice Law in Minnesota since May 2010 (Attorney # 0390795)

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**EDUCATION**

**Juris Doctor (JD), Mitchell Hamline School of Law, St. Paul, Minnesota**  
f/k/a/ William Mitchell College of Law  
Graduation Year: 2010  
Honors: *cum laude*, Dean's List

**Bachelor of Arts (BA), University of Wisconsin, River Falls, WI**  
Graduation Year: 1997  
Major: Journalism (print) and Marketing Communications  
Minor: German  
Dean's List

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**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

**Mitchell Hamline School of Law, St. Paul, Minnesota**

Professor of Law (July 2022-present)

Associate Professor (July 2020-June 2022)

Visiting Professor (July 2018-June 2020)

Visiting Assistant Professor (August 2013-June 2018)

Adjunct Professor (August 2011-July 2013)

- Teach in subject areas and courses including Business Organizations, Civil Dispute Resolution, Contracts, Comparative International Business Law: Doing Deals Across the World (London), Deals and Disputes, Foundations of Practice, Law and Business Externship/Residency, Lawyer as Business Owner, and Transactions & Settlements.
- Develop and teach curriculum in professional identity formation, professional development, diversity and inclusion, and health and wellness for first year law students and upper-level curriculum in law firm formation, management, and leadership.

- Chair faculty Curriculum Committee and sub-committees on Academic Freedom, the implementation of Learning Outcome 6 and Standard 303(b) and (c) on professional identity formation and cultural competence, anti-racism, and bias, and the J.D. Skills Curriculum (2023-present).
- Chair faculty subcommittee of the Admissions Committee on Character and Fitness (2024-present)
- Faculty member of Admissions Committee, Bar Passage Committee, Curriculum Committee, Skills Development Committee, Diversity Working Group, and Student Advising Committee.
- Oversaw management, instruction, curriculum development, and staffing of Lawyering, Mitchell Hamline's first-year legal writing and professionalism program.
- Member of leadership team tasked with development and implementation of five-year strategic plan following the combination of two legacy schools.

**Mitchell Hamline School of Law, St. Paul, Minnesota**

Dean, Career and Professional Development (July 2016-June 2023)

- Oversaw Office of Career and Professional Development including student and alumni counseling, professional identity formation, and recruitment initiatives, mentoring, residency and externship programs, and alumni and employer relations.

**Mitchell Hamline School of Law, St. Paul, Minnesota**

Director, Center for Law and Business (January 2015-June 2016)

Assistant Director, Center for Law and Business (August 2013-December 2014)

- Managed planning, development, and implementation of Law and Business curriculum and Law and Business Certificate program.
- Developed and directed Center for Law and Business Advisory Board, facilitated quarterly meetings and ongoing communications, fundraising, and engagement.

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**SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**

- *"Unlocking Career Potential: JD Advantage Roles for Women and Women-Identified Attorneys"* With Equal Right, the Official Journal of Minnesota Women Lawyers (2024)
- *"Advancing Law Student Professional Identity Formation: A Whole School Approach,"* National Association of Law Placement Bulletin (2022)
- *"Building a better bar admissions process,"* Bench & Bar of Minnesota (2022)
- *Is There a Better Way to Admit Lawyers? The Future of the Bar Exam Needs a Hard Look,* Bench & Bar of Minnesota (2022)

- *COVID-19 and the Caregiving Crisis: The Rights of our Nation's Social Safety Net and a Doorway to Reform*, 11 University of Miami Race & Social Justice Law Review 150 (2021). With S. Trombley.
- *Covid-19 and the Caregiving Crisis*, Bench & Bar of Minnesota (2020). With S. Trombley.
- *Achieving Diversity on Corporate Boards: Engagement and Education; Not Legislation*, 45 Mitchell Hamline Law Review Sua Sponte 112 (2019)
- *Creating the Lawyers as Business Leader*, 43 Mitchell Hamline Law Review 1095 (2017)
- *The New Minnesota LLC Act: Flexibility and Control for Minnesota Business Owners*, 9 Mitchell Hamline Journal of Law and Practice 1 (2016)

### **Other Publications**

- *Blended Learning Externships* (Chapter 33), published in *Law Teaching Strategies for a New Era: Beyond the Physical Classroom*. Carolina Press (2021). With D. Roy.
  - *JD Advantage Career Guide*, Spring 2020 ed. Washington, D.C.: National Association for Law Placement, 2020. With National Association of Law Placement (NALP) JD Advantage Work Group.
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### **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

- Lawyer and Law Student Professional Identity Formation, Professionalism, and Ethics
  - Law Firm and Business Formation, Management, and Leadership
  - Workplace Culture, Strategy, and Employment Law
  - Legal Education, Pedagogy, Innovation, and Artificial Intelligence
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### **SELECTED CONFERENCES & PRESENTATIONS**

- "Mistakes New Lawyers Often Make and What To Do About Them," New Lawyers Conference, Minnesota Continuing Legal Education (January 2025)
- "Transforming Legal Education for the Future of Law," Mitchell Hamline School of Law (January 2025, moderator and facilitator)
- "Business Planning: How It Can Help Your Law Practice and Improve Your Life," Minnesota Continuing Legal Education Solo and Small Firm Conference (August 2024)
- "Marketing Roundtable – Ideas to Help You Create the Right New Business," Minnesota Continuing Legal Education Solo and Small Firm Conference (August 2024, moderator)
- "Are the Bar and the Character And Fitness Requirements Exclusionary?" Mitchell Hamline School of Law, Race and Ethics in the Law Summer Series (July 2024, panelist)
- "The Present and Future of DEI: Law Students and New Lawyers Perspective," Hennepin County Bar Association and the Ramsey County Bar Association (May 2024, panelist)

- "The Quality of Justice: Lawyer and Law Student Identity, Responsibility, Cultural Competence, and Advocacy for Change," 2024 Equal Justice Works Public Interest Summer Internship Primer (May 2024)
- "The Quality of Justice: Developing Lawyer and Law Student Professional Identity, Responsibility, and Cultural Competence," National Association of Law Placement (NALP) Annual Education Conference (April 2024)
- "Perspectives on Leadership: Teaching Lawyers and Law Students To Lead," National Association of Law Placement (NALP) Annual Education Conference (April 2024, panelist)
- "A Conversation about Academic Freedom," Mitchell Hamline School of Law (April 2024, moderator and facilitator)
- "Closing the Gap: Partnering on the Transition from Student to Practitioner," National Association of Law Placement's Professional Development Institute (December 2023, panelist)
- "Leadership Development Programming Roundtable," National Association of Law Placement (NALP) (October 2023, panelist).
- "Mind Your Business for Solo and Small Firm Lawyers: Identifying Your Ideal Client," Solo and Small Firm Section of the Minnesota State Bar Association (October 2023)
- "The Law Firm is Also a Business – Business Practices and Ideas to Make You More Successful," Minnesota Continuing Legal Education Solo and Small Firm Conference (August 2023, panelist)
- "Mind Your Business: Business Planning for Lawyers – The Importance of a Business Plan and How to Create One," Minnesota Continuing Legal Education Solo and Small Firm Conference (August 2023)
- "Civility: Ethics, Education, and Expectations," Minnesota Law Day, Minnesota State Bar Association, Ramsey County Bar Association, Ramsey County Law Library (May 2023)
- "Solo and Small Practice Roundtable on Law Firm Marketing and Advertising," Minnesota State Bar Association (May 2023, panelist)
- "Lawyer as Business Owner: Business Planning for Solo and Small Law Firms" (plenary presentation), Minnesota State Bar Association Solo Small Summit (May 2023)
- "Tech for Justice: Bridging the Gap Through Innovation," Mitchell Hamline School of Law (April 2023, moderator).
- "Standard 303(b) and 303(c) Discussion Group," 2023 National Association of Law Placement (NALP) Annual Education Conference (April 2023)
- "Professional Identity Formation: Bridging the Gap Between Law School and Practice," 2023 National Association of Law Placement (NALP) Annual Education Conference (April 2023)
- "The Whole Law School Approach to ABA Standard 303," 2022 National Association of Law Placement (NALP) & American Law Institute (ALI) Professional Development (December 2022)

- "Building Lawyer and Law Student Professional Identity: A Necessary Partnership," National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA) Annual Convention (November 2022)
- "The Evolution of a Lawyer's Professional Identity: How Will Updated ABA Standards Impact Your Workplace?" Twin Cities Diversity in Practice (November 2022)
- "Optimizing Professional Identity Formation through Externships," Externships 11 Conference (October 2022)
- "A New Way of Working: Supporting Library Professionals in Remote and Hybrid Workplaces," American Association of Law Librarians Annual Conference (July 2022)
- "ABA Standard 303 Revisions on Professional Identity Formation," SEALS Conference (July 2022, discussant)
- "Engaging Law Students in Public Service Work," Minnesota County Attorneys Association Leadership Forum and Board Retreat (September 2022, panelist)
- "Mentorship Matters: Creating new and innovative law student mentorship opportunities," National Association of Law Placement Annual Conference (April 2022, panelist)
- "Elimination of Bias: Rethinking the Bar Exam," Minnesota State Bar Association Annual Convention (June 2022, moderator).
- "Making the Shift to Mutual Care: How One School Is Empowering Student Personal and Professional Well-Being Through Institutional Investment in Mutual Care," 2022 Institute for Well-Being in Law Conference (May 2022)
- "Transforming Your Practice and Strategies for Personal Growth," Legal Leadership Network: Certified Leader in Practice Program (October 2021)
- "Critical Conversation: The Future of Greater Minnesota Law Practice – Opportunities and Challenges," Minnesota State Bar Association Annual Conference (June 2021, moderator).
- "The Future of the Bar Exam," Minnesota State Bar Association, Hennepin County Bar Association, and Ramsey County Bar Association (April 2021, moderator)
- "Lessons from COVID: Best Practices for Interviewing, Hiring, On-Boarding, and Orienting Remotely," Minnesota State Bar Association, Hennepin County Bar Association, and Ramsey County Bar Association (February 2021, panelist)
- "Lessons on Delivering Justice After COVID-19," Transnational Conference on the Future of Legal Education, The Practice of Law and the Judiciary," Bahceshir University, Atlanta's John Marshall Law School, and Mitchell Hamline School of Law (February 2021)
- "COVID-19 and the Caregiving Crisis," Minnesota State Bar Association, Hennepin County Bar Association, and Ramsey County Bar Association (November 2020).
- "Lawyers as Leaders and Advocates for Change," Practice Law Conference, Minnesota State Bar Association (October 2020)
- "The Impact of Technology and Social Media on Our Emotional Intelligence," Business as Usual Podcast, Minnesota State Bar Association (October 2020, panelist)
- "COVID-19 and the Caregiving Crisis," Symposium: Defending and Promoting Civil Rights in a Time of Coronavirus, The University of Miami School of Law, the AALS Civil Rights

Section, the Hispanic National Bar Association, and the University of Miami Race and Social Justice Law Review (September 2020, panelist)

- “Using Technology to Advance Law Student Professional Identity Formation,” AALS Section on Technology, Law and Legal Education (July 2020, panelist)
  - “Applying Distance Learning Best Practices to Remote Work with Lawyers and Law Students,” Twin Cities Diversity in Practice (April 2020, panelist)
  - “Best Practices for Teaching Online,” Peking University School of Transnational Law (February 2020)
  - “The 1L Virtual Classroom,” Live with Kellye and Ken (December 2019, podcast guest)
  - “Barriers at the Bargaining Table,” Mitchell Hamline Alumni CLE (December 2019)
  - “Professional Identity Formation and Professional Development in the Curriculum: A Whole School Approach,” Conference: Leadership Development for Lawyers: Increasing our Impact, University of Tennessee College of Law at Knoxville (April 2019)
  - “Sustaining Rural Communities,” One Profession Conference (Ninth Judicial District), Minnesota State Bar Association (March 2019)
  - “Creative Collaborations with Career Services Offices,” Externships 9: Coming of Age Conference at the University of Georgia (March 2018)
  - “Client Contact from Day One,” 6th Annual Educating Tomorrow’s Lawyers Conference, Ignite Presentation, Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System (September 2017)
  - “Increasing Diversity and Opportunities in the Employee Benefits Practice,” Employee Benefits Section, Minnesota State Bar Association (June 2017)
  - “Issues and Trends in the Ethical Use of Social Media,” Ramsey County Bar Association (May 2017, moderator)
  - “Legal Education and Business,” Law Review Symposium, Mitchell Hamline School of Law (March 2017, moderator)
  - “Integrating Career Development Across the Curriculum,” 5th Annual Educating Tomorrow’s Lawyers Conference, Ignite Presentation, Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System (September 2016)
  - “Cybersecurity: The New Priority for Business,” Fifth Annual Center for Law and Business Day, Mitchell Hamline School of Law (May 2016, moderator)
  - “The New Minnesota LLC Act,” Ramsey County Bar Association (March 2016)
  - “Innovative Ways to Manage the Law, Technology and Your Business,” Third Annual Center for Law and Business Day, William Mitchell College of Law (May 2014, moderator)
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## **LEGAL EXPERIENCE**

**Laurie & Laurie, P.A.**, St. Louis Park, Minnesota

Attorney (May 2010-August 2013)

Law Clerk (April 2007-April 2010)

- Practice focused on employment and business law and general civil litigation including, but not limited to, matters involving breach of contract, non-compete and severance agreements, wage and hour concerns, harassment and discrimination, and entity selection and formation.
- Represented clients in transactional matters, at administrative hearings and in all phases of litigation.
- Negotiated settlements through direct intervention and mediation.
- Drafted settlement and non-compete agreements, employment policies, corporate bylaws, legal opinions, motion practice pleadings, administrative charges, and responses.
- Managed firm's branding presence and client intake process.
- Part of team that received favorable decisions in two significant disability discrimination cases.

**Thomson FindLaw**, Eagan, Minnesota

Law Clerk (May 2008-August 2008)

- Developed and drafted Master Services Agreement for FindLaw Client Development team. Researched business and legal issues; prepared management recommendation memos. Proposed strategy for presenting FindLaw Marketing programs to attorneys working towards their CLE requirements.

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## **BUSINESS EXPERIENCE**

**Fuith Law, PLLC**, Lakeville, Minnesota

Attorney and Owner (2022-present)

- Practice focused on employment and business advising including business formation, contract negotiation and review, compliance and regulatory issues, employment law, wage and hour issues, severance negotiation, workplace and manager training, and dispute resolution.

**LexHaven, LLC, White Bear Lake, Minnesota**

Co-Founder and Owner (2023-present)

- Coach and consult with lawyers and law firm owners on business strategy, law firm leadership, management, and operations, and professional development and practice transitions.

**Fuith Marketing and Consulting, Lakeville, Minnesota**

Owner and Consultant (2006-2009)

- Advise and consult with small businesses on marketing strategy, research, and implementation in retail, software, and higher education industries. Facilitate market research and develop brand strategies and communications.

**Thomson FindLaw, Eagan, Minnesota**

Marketer, Affinity Relationship Marketing (February 2006-August 2006)

- Developed strategy and launched FindLaw Affinity Partnership Program designed to educate bar and trial lawyer association membership about best practices and ethical considerations related to lawyer and law firm marketing.
- Negotiated and closed three major partnerships within three months of program launch.
- Analyzed, developed and executed product promotions, marketing campaigns and speaking engagements to support partnerships.

**Hanley Wood Marketing, Minneapolis, Minnesota**

Director, Client Services and Strategic Solutions (2003-2006)

Assistant Director, Client Services (2000-2002)

Client Services Coordinator (1998-1999)

- Trusted strategy and execution partner for Fortune 500 clients producing large-scale marketing initiatives and loyalty programs, including print, online, email, telemarketing and point-of-purchase tactics.
- Planned and executed all facets of multi-city sales conferences for FedEx Corporation sales force.
- Supervised group responsible for \$9 million in annual revenues; personal responsibility for \$3.5 million.
- Drove 200% increase in annual client revenues over eight years.
- Partnered with management to implement processes to improve workflow and forecasting of revenue.



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## HONORS & AWARDS

- Selected by the Mitchell Hamline Graduating Class of 2024 to give the Faculty Charge at Commencement (2024)
- Elmer H. Wilbishauser Author's Award, Minnesota State Bar Association. Awarded for authorship of the December 2021 Bench & Bar article "Is there a better way to admit lawyers? The Future of the Bar Exam Needs a Hard Look" (2023)
- Granted security of position as a faculty member at Mitchell Hamline School of Law by faculty vote (2021)
- Recipient of Hanley Wood Red Point award (2004)
- Recipient of FedEx Bravo Zulu awards (2002-2004)

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## SERVICE & PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

### *Minnesota*

- Co-Chair, Supervised Practice Subcommittee of the Minnesota Supreme Court Implementation Committee for Alternative Pathways to Licensure (2025-present)
- Member, Minnesota Supreme Court Implementation Committee for Alternative Pathways to Licensure (2023-present)
- Member, Working Group 3, Board of Law Examiners Competency Study, Minnesota Board of Law Examiners (2021-2022)
- Director, Board of Governors, Minnesota State Bar Association (2019-present)
- Representative, Assembly, Minnesota State Bar Association (2016-present)
- Director, Board of Directors, Minnesota Continuing Legal Education (2019-present)
- Member, Planning Committee for 2024 Solo and Small Firm Conference, Minnesota Continuing Legal Education (2024)
- Past Co-Chair, Tri-Bar CLE Planning Committee, Minnesota State Bar Association, Hennepin County Bar Association, Ramsey County Bar Association
- Past Co-Chair CLE Oversight Committee, Ramsey County Bar Association
- Past Co-Chair, Solo Small Section, Ramsey County Bar Association
- Past Secretary, Practice Management & Marketing Section, Minnesota State Bar Association

## *National*

- Minnesota State Bar Association Delegate, American Bar Association House of Delegates (2024-present)
  - Vice Chair, National Association of Law Placement (NALP) Working Group on Standard 303(b) and 303(c) (2022-2024)
  - Co-Chair, Association of American Law Schools (AALS) Section on Technology, Law and Legal Education (2020-2022)
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## **TEACHING & MENTORING**

- **Courses Taught:**
  - Agency, Partnerships, and LLCs (2013-2014)
  - Business Organizations (2014-2016)
  - Civil Dispute Resolution/Civil Procedure (2021-2024, anticipated Fall 2025)
  - Contracts (2022-2025, anticipated Spring 2026)
  - Comparative International Business Law: Doing Deals Across the World (London; Summers 2016-2019, 2022-2024)
  - Deals and Disputes (2012-2014, 2018-2022, 2024, anticipated Summer 2025)
  - Foundations of Practice (2019-2025, anticipated teaching each semester in 2026)
  - Law and Business Externship (taught or supervised, 2014-2024)
  - Law and Business Residency (taught or supervised, 2020-2023)
  - Lawyer as Business Owner (2017-2024, anticipated Fall 2025)
  - Transactions & Settlements (2012-2023, 2025, anticipated Spring 2026)
  - Business Practicum (Guest speaker, 2022-2025)
  - Legal Methods (Guest speaker, 2019-2022)
  - CLEO Pre-Law Summer Institute (2023-2024)
  - Leadership, A Series (2021-2022)
- **Research Projects Supervised:**
  - Supervise numerous law student research projects and academic papers each year on a wide variety of topics in business, ethics, leadership, and professionalism (2014-present).
- **Mentorship:**
  - Supervise numerous law student externships and residencies each year and mentor and advise on lawyering work, skills development, professionalism, and professional development.

- Mentor and advise the Mitchell Hamline Business Law Society (student organization) and the Mitchell Hamline Solo Small Social (student organization)
  - Oversee law student member participation in Warren Burger Inn of Court each year. Supervise work of law student administrator to the Inn of Court.
  - Provide career advice and guidance on professional ethics, professional development, and lawyering skills and competencies to Mitchell Hamline School of Law students and law students at other law schools.
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#### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & VOLUNTEER WORK**

- Co-Leader, Girl Scout Troop 20152, Lakeville, MN (2014-2017)
  - Volunteer Attorney, Volunteer Lawyers Network (2011-2016)
  - Guardian ad Litem, Second Judicial District Juvenile and Family Courts (2006 –2009)
  - Past Chair, Lakeville Community Education Advisory Council and Lakeville E.C.F.E. Advisory Council
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