

MELISSA S. DAIGNEAULT

3201 Caterina Ln. • College Station, Texas 77845 (979) 587-0136 • mdaigneault@lockardandwhite.com

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

LOCKARD & WHITE, INC., College Station, Texas

October 2013 – Present

Vice President and General Counsel

Provide general counsel, risk management and legal advisory services to professional services firm specializing in telecommunications engineering and consulting. Particular emphasis on contract evaluation and negotiations, regulatory compliance, employment issues, sales, marketing, proposals and pricing, and resource utilization and maximization, and general business issues and disputes.

- Proficient at all aspects of project management, procurement, deployment and construction, corporate structure, organization and governance and compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- Perform financial duties including financial analysis, forecasting and reporting, accounting, managing cash flow, working closely with Business Operations Officer and accountant;

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY, College Station, Texas

January 2009 – July 2013; Jan 2017 - Present

Part-time Visiting Lecturer

Study Abroad Coordinator & Leader

October 2009 – July 2013

Undergraduate Program Coordinator

August 2011 – July 2013

Fulfilled responsibilities for teaching, engagement and research in the Department of Construction Science, developed, implemented and lead the semester long study abroad and internship program, and guided and oversaw the development and assessment of undergraduate program.

- Courses taught:
 - COSC 463: Introduction to Construction Law
 - COSC 465: Advanced Topics in Construction Law,
 - COSC 468: Risk Management in the Built Environment (Created and implemented this course)
 - COSC 627: Advanced Topics in Dispute Resolution
- Developed, implemented and lead an innovative and value-added study abroad and internship program for students allowing them to study Construction Law and Risk Management in London as well as gain hands on construction management experience in the global marketplace. This program required coordinating classroom space, enrichment activities, and Tier 4 (general) Student Visas under the UKBA PBS. It also required moving and relocating my family for 3 months of the year for the three years I ran the program. As the faculty leader of this program, I was able to develop international relationships, and a fundamental knowledge of international risk management, construction contracts and dispute resolution.
- Guided the administration of the undergraduate program in Construction Science making admissions decisions for transfer and change of major students, advising students, overseeing assessment of the undergraduate program and guiding the curriculum development of the department.
- Although research was not a specified part of my position, I worked with several students to prepare and submit quality research projects to international symposia.
 - “BUILDING A PROFESSION”

Co-PI

Additional PI: Jenny Casmus, Senior Construction Science student pursuing University Honor's designation

Accepted on Abstract to COBRA 2010 conference in Paris, France

Research studying what it means to be a “profession” and whether builders, contractors and construction managers fit that definition. If so, what benefits and burden come along with the professionalization of the construction industry, and gauging industry interest in being formally considered “professionals,” similar to doctors, lawyers accountants and engineers.

- “APPLYING ADJUDICATION AS AN ALTERNATE DISPUTE RESOLUTION MECHANISM IN THE US”

Co-PI

Additional PI: Nicholas Harrison, Senior Construction Science student

Accepted on Abstract to COBRA 2011 (not presented) conference in Manchester, England

Research studying the statutory Adjudication system used in England and Wales, and if and how that system might be used in the United States to increase the efficiency of dispute resolution in the construction industry.

PARKER POE ADAMS & BERNSTEIN LLP, Raleigh, North Carolina

April 2004 – April 2008

Associate

Worked as an associate in the Financial, Construction, and Commercial Disputes Practice Group working to a limited extent doing collections work for large financial institutions but focusing primarily on all aspects of construction law, representing owners, architects/engineers, and contractors in commercial, utilities and heavy highway construction matters.

- Worked effectively as part of a team on larger complex cases and contracts, but also managed all aspects of litigation both as plaintiff’s counsel and defense counsel, drafting pleadings and discovery, reviewing documents, preparing for, taking and defending depositions, drafting and filing motions and supporting memoranda, engaging in settlement negotiations, mediations, and trial.
- Reviewed, drafted and negotiated both standard form and bespoke agreements between and amongst the different parties involved in construction projects, and using multiple different delivery systems.

YETTER & WARDEN, L.L.P., Houston, Texas

September 2003 – April 2004

Associate

Worked at a complex commercial litigation boutique law firm representing a diverse array of international and domestic clients, including both plaintiffs and defendants. Focused primarily on all aspects of litigation related to the multi-million dollar engineering, procurement and construction by one of the world’s largest construction firms upgrading compressor stations on a domestic pipeline for a major energy provider in the US. Additionally, worked at Yetter & Warden as a summer associate in the summers of 2001 and 2002 while still in law school.

PROFESSIONAL LICENSES AND AFFILIATIONS:

CERTIFIED ASSOCIATE CONSTRUCTOR: American Institute of Constructors (1999)

STATE BAR OF TEXAS: November 2003

STATE BAR OF NORTH CAROLINA: August 2004

MEMBER: Society of Construction Law Online Member; Tenth Judicial District Bar Association; Texas Aggie Bar Association, Texas Bar Association

EDUCATION:

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW, Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Juris Doctor, May 2003

- Dean’s Scholarship
- Honor Council Member and Elections Officer
- London Summer Study Abroad (2001)

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY, College Station, Texas

Bachelor of Science in Construction Science, summa cum laude, December 1999

- Outstanding Junior—College of Architecture (one of 10 students with “junior” classification chosen from the entire University)
- Phi Kappa Phi
- Golden Key National Honor Society
- “Top Five Speakers of the Year”, Texas Undergraduate Moot Court Association