

## Simmons Law School Welcomes New Dean and Faculty Members



### **Hannah Brenner Johnson, Dean and Hiram H. Lesar Professor of Law**

Dean Brenner Johnson brings a wealth of experience as a professor, academic administrator, and nonprofit leader to her role at Simmons Law School.

Her research focuses on institutions and systems (i.e., colleges/universities, prisons, the legal profession, and the courts) and the disparate power dynamics that often exist within. She studies the perpetration of sexual violence and the related reporting,

investigation, and adjudication in closed and quasi-closed institutional settings. Brenner Johnson is also an expert on issues of inequality in the legal profession.

She has an extensive publication record of law review articles, books and book chapters. Notably, she is the co-author of *Shortlisted: Women in the Shadows of the Supreme Court* (NYU Press) and a legal casebook on leadership and law. Her work has been widely cited by the courts and the mainstream media.

Dean Brenner Johnson earned her B.A. and J.D. from the University of Iowa.

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### **Caitlín Gossett,**

### **Assistant Professor of Law**

Professor Caitlín Gossett's research interests include criminal law, child welfare, juvenile law, and systemic poverty.

She began her legal career as a public defender in Appalachia and later worked in public interest law in Boston, including representing the Massachusetts Department of Children and Families and supervising attorneys during the COVID-19 housing crisis. Professor Gossett has taught at Suffolk Law School and Loyola New Orleans as a Westerfield Fellow. At Simmons Law School, she teaches Criminal Law and related subjects.



Professor Caitlín Gossett earned her B.A. in Chemistry from Smith College and her J.D. from Notre Dame Law School.

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**Thomas Reichert,  
Assistant Professor of Law**

Professor Thomas Reichert's research interests include intellectual property, corporate law, and legal ethics.

Before joining Simmons Law School, he practiced as a patent attorney with Bookoff McAndrews, PLLC in Washington, DC, and Kutak Rock, LLP in Kansas City, specializing in corporate and intellectual property law.

He is registered with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and licensed to practice in Illinois and Missouri. Professor Reichert's teaching emphasizes practical application and problem-solving, drawing on his industry experience. At Simmons Law School, he teaches Contracts I and Business Organizations.

Professor Thomas Reichert earned his B.S. and M.Eng. in Civil and Environmental Engineering, MBA (cum laude), and J.D. (cum laude) from Southern Illinois University.

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**Kristin Wolek,  
Assistant Professor of Law**

Professor Kristin Wolek's research focuses on information ethics, privacy, and the role of legal institutions in the digital age.

She joined Simmons Law School this summer after serving as a Law Library Fellow at the University of Arizona and working in a variety of research, teaching, and administrative roles. Her research focuses on information ethics, privacy, and the role of legal institutions in the digital age. She is an active member of the American Association of Law Libraries and teaches Lawyering Skills: Legal Research.



Professor Kristin Wolek holds a B.A. in Information Science & eSociety (with Honors), a J.D., and an M.L.I.S. with certificates in Legal Information and Data Science, all from the University of Arizona.

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SIU Simmons Law School | 1150 Douglas Drive | Mailcode 6804 | Carbondale, IL 62901

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