

CHAN TOV MCNAMARAH

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of Illinois College of Law

Assistant Professor of Law, 2026–Present

Cornell Law School

Visiting Assistant Professor of Law, 2023–2026

EDUCATION

Cornell Law School, J.D., *cum laude*, 2019

Honors: Myron Taylor Scholar
Herbert R. Reif Prize for Well-written Contribution to a Journal
Robert S. Pasley Memorial Prize for Law and Humanities
Jeffrey S. Haber Prize for Best Student Note on LGBT Law

CALI Award: Analytics for Lawyers; Constitutional Law in the News; Critical Perspectives on Law
(first in class) Guilty Acts, Guilty Minds; Law and Humanities; Race and Law; Legal Scholarship

Activities: Cornell Law Review – Publishing Editor; Diversity Committee
Cornell International Law Journal – Notes Editor; Diversity Committee

Only member of graduating class to serve on multiple print law journals.

Franklin & Marshall College, B.A., Government and Business, 2016

Honors: Honors List
Dean's List
Financial Services Honors Society

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

Primary: Antidiscrimination Law; Constitutional Law; Employment Discrimination.

Secondary: First Amendment (religious clauses).

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Articles and Long-form Essays (over 20,000 words)

Present Discrimination

EMORY LAW JOURNAL __ (forthcoming 2026)

Cis-Woman-Protective Arguments

122 COLUMBIA LAW REVIEW 845 (2023)

Cited by 11th Circuit Court of Appeals

Recipient of 2023 Dukeminier Award for Best Articles on LGBT Law
Reprinted in WOMEN AND THE LAW (Thomson Reuters 2024)
Reviewed in JOTWELL: THE JOURNAL OF THINGS WE LIKE (LOTS) (Oct. 11, 2023).

Misgendering

109 CALIFORNIA LAW REVIEW 2227 (2021)

Short Essays, Comments, and Online Observations (under 20,000 words)

Some Notes on Courts and Courtesy

108 VIRGINIA LAW REVIEW ONLINE 317 (2021)

Cited by Michigan Supreme Court order adopting Rule 1.109

Misgendering as Misconduct

68 UCLA LAW REVIEW DISCOURSE 40 (2020)

Cited by 6th Circuit Court of Appeals

Reprinted in WOMEN AND THE LAW (Thomson Reuters 2022)

Student Writing

Published Notes in every journal at Cornell Law School, including twice in the Cornell Law Review.

Striking Out Animus

24 CORNELL JOURNAL LAW & PUBLIC POLICY 945 (2021)

Queer Eyes Don't Sympathize: An Empirical Investigation of LGB Identity and Judicial Decision-Making

105 CORNELL LAW REVIEW 589 (2020) (with Jared Ham)

White Caller Crime: Racialized Police Communication and Existing While Black

24 MICHIGAN JOURNAL RACE & LAW 335 (2019)

On the Basis of Sex(ual Orientation or Gender Identity): Bringing Queer Equity to School with Title IX

104 CORNELL LAW REVIEW 745 (2019)

Recipient of 2019 Cornell Law School Herbert R. Reif Prize

Silent, Spoken, Written, and Enforced

51 CORNELL INTERNATIONAL LAW JOURNAL 495 (2018)

Sexuality on Trial: Expanding Pena-Rodriguez to Combat Juror Queerphobia

Recipient of 2018 Dukeminier Award Jeffrey S. Haber Prize

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Affective Discrimination

*Discriminating with Feeling: Or, Appeals to Regret and the Legal Epistemology of Queer Emotions
Prompts and Prejudice*

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

Present Discrimination

Rocky Mountain Junior Scholars Forum, Oct. 2025, Provo, Utah
Equality Law Scholars' Forum, November 2025 (one of six scholars selected)
Maryland Law Review Symposium, March 2026, Baltimore, MD (invited)

Religious Maltreatment and the Queer Child

California Law Review Symposium, March 2024, Berkeley, CA (invited)

Appeals to Regret and Affective Discrimination (presented under various titles)

University of Richmond Law School Junior Faculty Forum, May 2023, Richmond, VA
Cornell Law School Summer Faculty Workshop Series, July 2023, Ithaca, NY
West Coast Sexuality, Gender & the Law Conference, March 2023, Los Angeles, CA
Michigan Law Junior Scholars Conference, Apr. 2024, Ann Arbor, MI

Cis-Woman-Protective Arguments

Cornell Law School Summer Faculty Workshop Series, July 2022, Ithaca, NY

Misgendering

Cornell Law School Summer Faculty Workshop Series, July 2021, Ithaca, NY

INVITED GUEST LECTURES AND PANELS

Skrmetti and the Broader Environment for LGBTQ+ Rights – Progress and Possibilities in State Courts

Richard C. Failla LGBTQ Commission & Brennan Center Panel, Nov. 2024, New York, NY

Cis-Woman-Protective Arguments

Dukeminier Awards Journal Symposium, Nov. 2024, Los Angeles, CA

Dispelling the Trans Specter: A Politics and Philosophy of Solidarity

Cornell University, May 1, 2024, Ithaca, NY

Like Crabs in a Bucket: On the Interdependent Nature of Anti-Trans and Anti-Black Legal Oppression

Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Apr. 2024, Baton Rouge, LA

Appeals to Regret

Moritz College of Law, Advanced Family Law Seminar, Columbus, Ohio
Brooklyn Law School, Law and Inequality Seminar, Nov. 2023, New York, NY
Cornell University, Intro to Feminism, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Feb. 2023, Ithaca, NY

The Work of Trans Affect

Cornell University, Trans Studies Now! Speaker Series, Oct. 2023, Ithaca, NY

SELECTED AWARDS, GRANTS, AND RECOGNITION

Equality Law Scholars' Forum, 2025 (one of 6 selected)
Dukeminier Award for Best Articles on LGBT Law, 2023
Michigan Law Junior Scholars Conference, 2024 (selected from 400 applicants)
University of Minnesota Libraries Archives and Special Collections, Elmer L. Anderson Award, 2023
National LGBTQ+ Bar Association Student Leadership Award, 2019
Dukeminier Award's Jeffery S. Haber Prize for Best Student Note on LGBT Law, 2018

LEGAL WORK EXPERIENCE

Davis Polk & Wardwell, LLP, Associate, New York, NY and Sao Paulo, Brazil, Oct. 2019 – Aug. 2022

Professor Matteo M. Winkler, École des Hautes Etudes Commerciales de Paris, Research Assistant, Ithaca, NY, Jan. – June 2019

Davis Polk & Wardwell, LLP, Summer Associate, N.Y. and Washington, D.C., May – Aug. 2018

Professor Muna Ndulo, Cornell Law School, Research Assistant, Ithaca, NY, March 2018 – May 2019

PepsiCo, Inc., Larry D. Thompson Legacy Fellow, Purchase, NY, May – Aug. 2017

BAR ADMISSIONS

New York (2020); Sao Paulo, Brazil (2022)