



Melissa

Melissa McGonigal Berry | Director of
Professional Development and Diversity

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As Lane Powell's Director of Professional Development and Diversity, Melissa Berry provides leadership and strategic direction for the firm's professional development and diversity programs.

Melissa oversees the design, implementation and monitoring of a wide variety of programs related to the professional development of the firm's attorneys, increasing Lane Powell's diversity, and fostering an inclusive work environment.

Melissa has an extensive background in legal education and law school student and career services, where she led efforts to help law students from all backgrounds succeed. Melissa began her career as a litigator before turning her focus to professional development, diversity and inclusion.

Education

Northwestern University School of Law,
J.D., *cum laude*

Newcomb College of Tulane University,
B.A., Political Science and Latin American
Studies, *cum laude*

Accreditation

Mental Health First Aid Certification
(2019)

NALP Coaching 201 Training (2017)

NALP Coaching 101 Training (2016)

Admissions

Washington

Professional Experience

University of Washington School of Law

- Assistant Dean for Student & Career Services (2017-2019)
- Affiliate Instructor (2018-2019)
- Director of Graduate Program & Alumni Coaching (2016-2017)
- Lecturer (2000-2003)

Chapman University, Dale E. Fowler School of Law

- Assistant Dean of Career Services (2014-2016)
- Director, Environmental, Land Use & Real Estate Law Emphasis Program (2005-2008)
- Associate Professor (2007-2008)
- Assistant Professor (2003-2007)

University of Missouri School of Law, Visiting Associate Professor (2013-2014)

MBM Group LLC, Manager (2009-2013)

National Conference of Bar Examiners, Consultant (2005-2008)

Perkins Coie LLP

- Associate Attorney (1996-2000)
- Community Pro Bono Fellow, TeamChild (2000)

U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, Law Clerk to the Honorable David B. Sentelle (1995)

Latham & Watkins, Associate Attorney (1994-1996)

U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, Law Clerk to the Honorable Terence T. Evans (1993-1994)

Community Involvement

Seattle Area Legal Recruiting Association

- President (2019)
- Vice President (2018)

Mother Attorneys Mentoring Association, Seattle

- Board Member (2019-Present)
- Co-Chair, Mentorship Committee (2019-Present)

Legal Employers Advancing Diversity of Washington, Board Member, (2017-2019)

National Association of Law Placement

- Chair, Legal Master's Programs Interest Group (2019-2020)
- Co-Vice Chair, Professional Identity formation Work Group, Law Student Professional Development Section (2018-Present)
- ABA Employment Outcomes Advisory Group (2018-2019)
- Nominating Committee (2018-2019)
- Conference Planning Committee (2017-2018)
- Co-Chair, Pro Bono Work Group, Public Service Section (2016-2017)

Holloran Center Professional Identity Formation Project, Leadership Competency Working Group (2019-2020)

National Association of Law Student Affairs Professionals, Mentorship Committee, Co-Chair

Association of American Law Schools

- Student Services Section, Vice Chair (2019)
- Student Services Section, Executive Committee (2018-Present)
- Academic Support Section, Program Committee (2018)

Association of Academic Support Educators, Program Committee (2018-2019)

Thought Leadership

April 27, 2021 | Event / CLE

Sneaking in the Veggies: Embedding Well-Being into Professional Development

National Association for Law Placement | Virtual

January 28, 2021 | News

Lane Powell Once Again Named as One of the Nation's Best Places to Work for LGBTQ Equality

Awards & Honors

January 13, 2021 | Event / CLE

Lateral Lawyer Integration

National Association for Law Placement | Virtual

January 11, 2021 | Publication

Benevolent Stereotyping: Killing Careers with Kindness?

National Association for Law Placement Bulletin

November 24, 2020 | News

Leadership Council on Legal Diversity Recognizes Lane Powell as 2020 'Top Performer'

Awards & Honors

March 3, 2020 | Publication

A Primer on Professional Identity Formation

The National Association for Law Placement Bulletin

January 21, 2020 | News

Lane Powell Earns Top Marks in 2020 Corporate Equality Index for Fourth Consecutive Year

Awards & Honors

January 5, 2020 | Event / CLE

[Post-Graduate Legal Education](#)

Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting | Washington, D.C.

January 4, 2020 | Event / CLE

[Student Services Panel](#)

Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting | Washington, D.C.

October 4, 2019 | Event / CLE

Putting First Gen First: Supporting First Generation Law Students through Academic Success

Association of Academic Support Educators Bi-Annual Diversity Conference | Chicago

September 12, 2019 | News

Berry Joins Lane Powell as Director of Professional Development and Diversity

Firm Announcement

July 19, 2019 | Event / CLE

A Coaching Toolkit for Leaders

Women's Leadership in Legal Academia Conference | Charlottesville, Virginia

July 11, 2019 | Event / CLE

Teaching Associates to Manage Chaos and Thrive

Professional Development Consortium Summer Conference | Nashville, Tennessee

June 13, 2019 | Event / CLE

Fostering First Gen Success From Admissions to Alumni

National Association of Law Student Affairs Professionals Annual Conference | Washington, D.C.

March 29, 2019 | Event / CLE

Lessons Learned: Career and Student Services

Legal Master's Programs Annual Conference | Fort Lauderdale, Florida

January 5, 2019 | Event / CLE

Hot Topics in Student Services

Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting | New Orleans

January 3, 2019 | Event / CLE

Fostering Growth Mindset Through UW Resilience Lab

Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting | New Orleans

June 2018 | Event / CLE

Gaining Grit: Helping Law Students Build Resilience

National Association of Law Student Affairs Professionals Annual Conference

May 2018 | Event / CLE

A Coaching Toolkit for Academic Support Professionals: Helping Law Students Build Resilience

Association of Academic Support Educators Annual Conference

March 3, 2018 | Event / CLE

Failing Forward: Shifting the Mindset

Tulane University's Women Making Waves Conference | New Orleans

March 2018 | Event / CLE

Integration Within the Law School and University

Legal Master's Programs Annual Conference

January 2, 2018 | Event / CLE

Added Value: Programming for International LLM Professional Development

Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting

January 1, 2018 | Event / CLE

Coaching as a Differentiating Strategy

Association of American Law Schools Annual Meeting

June 2, 2017 | Event / CLE

To Counsel or to Coach? Determining the Best Approach & Practices for Different Settings

National Association of Law Student Affairs Professionals Annual Conference

June 1, 2017 | Event / CLE

Campus Climate for Non-JD Students: Strategies for Inclusion of Graduate Program & International Students

National Association of Law Student Affairs Professionals Annual Conference

March 2017 | Event / CLE

Student Support & Campus Climate

Legal Master's Programs Annual Conference

June 1, 2016 | Event / CLE

Professional Development: Whose Job Is It?

Institute for Law Teaching & Learning Conference