

JENS FRANKENREITER

Washington University in St. Louis School of Law
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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Washington University in St. Louis School of Law

Associate Professor of Law, 2021–

Columbia Law School

Postdoctoral Fellow in Empirical Law and Economics, Ira M. Millstein Center for Global Markets and Corporate Ownership, 2019–2021

University of Virginia School of Law

Visiting Associate Professor of Law, Fall 2018

Max Planck Bonn

Senior Research Fellow, 2017–2019

EDUCATION

Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) Zurich, Switzerland

Ph.D., 2016

Committee: Stefan Bechtold, Daniel Rubinfeld, Heike Schweitzer

Honors: ETH Medal 2017 (recognition for outstanding dissertations at ETH Zurich)

SIAF Award 2018 (awarded to outstanding dissertations in social sciences)

Harvard Law School

LL.M., 2015

University of Bonn and LMU Munich

German State Examination in Law, 2010

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Washington University in St. Louis School of Law

Corporations (Fall 2021, Fall 2022, Fall 2023, Fall 2024, Fall 2025)

Mergers & Acquisitions (Fall 2022, Fall 2023, Fall 2024, Fall 2025)

LawTech Seminar (Spring 2022, Spring 2023, Spring 2025, Spring 2026)

Columbia Law School

Machine Learning and Law (with Eric Talley; Winter 2023, Winter 2024)

University of Virginia School of Law

LawTech Seminar (with Michael A. Livermore; Fall 2018)

PUBLICATIONS

Grading Machines: Can AI Exam-Grading Replace Law Professors?

JOURNAL OF LAW & EMPIRICAL ANALYSIS (forthcoming 2026) (with Kevin Cope, Scott Hirst, Eric Posner, Daniel Schwarcz, and Dane Thorley)

Sticky Charters? The Surprisingly Tepid Embrace of Officer-Protecting Waivers in Delaware

16 HARVARD BUSINESS LAW REVIEW (forthcoming 2026) (with Eric Talley)

Featured on the Harvard Law School Forum on Corporate Governance, April 17, 2024

Sex & Startups

42 YALE JOURNAL ON REGULATION 589 (2025) (with Talia Gillis and Eric Talley)

Featured on the Columbia Law School Blue Sky Blog, February 20, 2024

Dark Patterns in the Opt-Out Process and Compliance with the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA)

PROCEEDINGS OF THE 2025 CHI CONFERENCE ON HUMAN FACTORS IN COMPUTING SYSTEMS 223 (2025) (with Van Tran et al.)

Lawma: The Power of Specialization for Legal Tasks

PROCEEDINGS OF THE THIRTEENTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LEARNING REPRESENTATIONS (RLI) 35059 (2025) (with Ricardo Dominguez-Olmedo et al.)

Studying Judicial Citations and Citation Data

OXFORD HANDBOOK OF COMPARATIVE JUDICIAL BEHAVIOUR 565 (Lee Epstein et al. eds., 2024)

Antitrust, Amazon, and Algorithmic Auditing

180 JOURNAL OF INSTITUTIONAL AND THEORETICAL ECONOMICS (JITE) 319 (2024) (conference issue) (with Abhisek Dash et al.)

Measuring Compliance with the California Consumer Privacy Act Over Space and Time

PROCEEDINGS OF THE 2024 CHI CONFERENCE ON HUMAN FACTORS IN COMPUTING SYSTEMS 785 (2024) (with Van Tran et al.)

Are Lawyers' Case Selection Decisions Biased? A Field Experiment on Access to Justice

52 JOURNAL OF LEGAL STUDIES 273 (2023) (with Michael A. Livermore)

Natural Language Processing in Legal Tech

LEGAL TECH AND THE FUTURE OF CIVIL JUSTICE 70 (David Freeman Engstrom ed., 2023) (with Julian Nyarko)

Cost-Based California Effects

39 YALE JOURNAL ON REGULATION 1098 (2022)

Featured on ProMarket, October 21, 2021

Cleaning Corporate Governance

170 UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA LAW REVIEW 1 (2021) (with Cathy Hwang, Yaron Nili and Eric Talley)

Selected as one of the Top 10 Corporate and Securities Articles of 2022

Featured on the Harvard Law School Forum on Corporate Governance, March 17, 2021

Featured on ProMarket, June 8, 2021

The Deep Structure of Deliberate Ignorance – Mapping the Terrain

DELIBERATE IGNORANCE – CHOOSING NOT TO KNOW 65 (Ralph Hertwig & Christoph Engel eds., 2021)
(with Barry Schwartz et al.)

Computational Methods in Legal Analysis

16 ANNUAL REVIEW OF LAW AND SOCIAL SCIENCE 39 (2020) (with Michael A. Livermore)

Writing Style and Legal Traditions

LAW AS DATA: COMPUTATION, TEXT, AND THE FUTURE OF LEGAL ANALYSIS 153 (Michael A. Livermore & Daniel Rockmore eds., 2019)

Text as Observational Data

LAW AS Data: COMPUTATION, TEXT, AND THE FUTURE OF LEGAL ANALYSIS 59 (Michael A. Livermore & Daniel Rockmore eds., 2019) (with Marion Dumas)

Forum Selling Abroad

92 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA LAW REVIEW 487 (2019) (with Stefan Bechtold and Dan Klerman)

Featured on the Oxford Business Law Blog, November 26, 2018

The Limits of Smart Contracts

175 JOURNAL OF INSTITUTIONAL AND THEORETICAL ECONOMICS (JITE) 149 (2019) (conference issue)

Are Advocates General Political? An Empirical Analysis of the Voting Behavior of the Advocates General at the European Court of Justice

14 REVIEW OF LAW & ECONOMICS 20160037 (2018)

Network Analysis and the Use of Precedent in the Case Law of the CJEU – A Reply to Derlén and Lindholm

18 GERMAN LAW JOURNAL 687 (2017)

The Politics of Citations at the ECJ: Policy Preferences of EU Member State Governments and the Citation Behavior of Members of the European Court of Justice

14 JOURNAL OF EMPIRICAL LEGAL STUDIES 813 (2017)

CASE BOOK

Corporations

3rd edition (2023) (with Holger Spamann)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

The Other Delaware Effect

The Rise of the Horse-Choker: The Complexification of Advance Notice Bylaws

(with Scott Hirst)

DECODEM: Data Extraction from Corporate Organizational Documents via Enhanced Methodologies

Declassifying Bylaws

(with Cathy Hwang, Yaron Nili, and Eric Talley)

Using Machine Learning to Enforce the CCPA: An Experimental Study

(with Julian Nyarko and Dane Thorley)

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

The Rise of the Horse-Choker: The Complexification of Advance Notice Bylaws

Online Workshop on the Computational Analysis of Law (2025)

The Other Delaware Effect

Conference on Empirical Legal Studies (CELS), Georgetown University (2025)

University of Illinois Faculty Workshop (2025)

Harvard Law School Empirical Law & Finance Seminar (2025)

American Law and Economics Association (ALEA), NYU (2025)

Universidad Torcuato di Tella Faculty Workshop (2025)

BYU Deals Conference (2025)

Tulane Corporate & Securities Roundtable (2025)

University of Oxford Business Law Workshop Series (2025)

University of Chicago Law & Econ Workshop (2024)

Hamburg Lectures Series in Law and Economics (2024)

Sticky Charters? The Surprisingly Tepid Embrace of Officer-Protecting Waivers in Delaware

Conference on Empirical Legal Studies (CELS), Emory University (2024)

University of Arizona Faculty Workshop (2024)

CELS Global Brazil, São Paulo (2024)

American Law and Economics Association (ALEA), University of Michigan (2024)

Cornell Law School Empirical Legal Studies Colloquium (2024)

BYU Deals Conference (2024)

Duke University Law & Social Sciences Seminar (2024)

University of Pennsylvania Law & Economics Seminar (2023)

Sex & Startups

Conference on Data Science and Law, Fordham Law School (2023)
Conference on Empirical Legal Studies (CELS), University of Virginia (2022; with Talia Gillis)
American Law and Economics Association (ALEA), Columbia University (2022)
6th Annual Penn-NYU Empirical Contracts Workshop (2022)
BYU Deals Conference (2022; with Eric Talley)

Cleaning Corporate Governance

University of Texas Faculty Colloquium (2022)
UC Berkeley Law & Business Colloquium (2021)
Columbia Law School Faculty Workshop (2021; with Eric Talley)
NYU External Law & Economics Workshop (2021; with Cathy Hwang, Yaron Nili, and Eric Talley)
University of Oxford (2021; with Cathy Hwang, Yaron Nili, and Eric Talley)
Max Planck Bonn (2021; with Eric Talley)

Cost-Based California Effects

Hamburg Lectures in Law and Economics, University of Hamburg (2022)
Conference on Empirical Legal Studies (CELS), University of Toronto (2022)
University of Virginia Law & Economics Colloquium (2022)
University of Toronto Law & Economics Workshop (2021)
31st Annual Meeting of the American Law and Economics Association (2021)
5th Penn-NYU Empirical Contracts Workshop (2021)
Society for Inst. & Org. Economics (SIOE) (2021)
Oxford Business Law Workshop (2021)
Leibniz Institute for Financial Research SAFE (2021)
Columbia Law School Blue Sky Meetings (2020)
Florida-Michigan-Virginia Virtual Law and Economics Workshop (2020)
Online Workshop on the Computational Analysis of Law (2020)
LEAP Text Analysis in Law Conference, UC Berkeley (2020)
Yale University Information Society Project Ideas Lunch (2020)

Are Lawyers' Case Selection Decisions Biased? A Field Experiment on Access to Justice

University of Virginia Summer Faculty Workshop (2020; with Mike Livermore)
International Junior Scholars Forum in Law and Social Science, University of Chicago (2020)
Conference on Empirical Legal Studies (CELS), Claremont McKenna College, Claremont, CA (2019)
Canadian Law and Economics Association (CLEA), University of Toronto (2019)
Academica Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan (2019)

Forum Selling Abroad

University of Michigan Law and Economics Workshop (2018)

University of Virginia Law & Economics Colloquium (2018)
American Law and Economics Association (ALEA), Boston University (2018)
Conference on Empirical Legal Studies (CELS), University of Michigan (2018; with Stefan Bechtold)
Society for Inst. & Org. Economics (SIOE), HEC Montreal (2018; with Dan Klerman)
European Policy for Intellectual Property (EPIP), University of Glasgow (2015)
Chicago-Kent Roundtable on Empirical Methods in Intellectual Property (2014)

The Politics of Citations at the ECJ: Policy Preferences of EU Member State Governments and the Citation Behavior of Members of the European Court of Justice

Conference on Empirical Legal Studies (CELS), Duke University School of Law (2016)

HONORS AND GRANTS

Distinguished Referee 2018–2020 and 2020-2022, Journal of Legal Studies

MEMBERSHIPS AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Washington University in St. Louis School of Law, Appointments Committee (2023), AI Task Force (2024, 2025) & various smaller committees

Association of American Law Schools, Law & Economics Section, Chair-Elect (2024), Chair (2025)

Conference Involvement:

Area Organizer, ALEA 2024

Member of the Program Committee, CELS 2022, CELS 2024

Manuscript Referee:

Journal of Legal Studies; Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization; Journal of Legal Analysis; Journal of Empirical Legal Studies; Journal of Law and Empirical Analysis; American Law and Economics Review; International Review of Law and Economics; Review of Law & Economics; Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS); Journal of Law & Courts; Journal of Law, Finance, and Accounting; Jurimetrics; International Journal of Constitutional Law; International & Comparative Law Quarterly; Law & Social Inquiry; Artificial Intelligence & Law; European Union Politics

SKILLS

Languages: German, French, Spanish

Programming Languages: R, Python, Stata, LaTeX

last updated: March 2026