

April Xiaoyi Xu

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EDUCATION

Harvard Law School, J.D. May 2021

- **President**, Harvard Asia Law Society
- **Salzburg Cutler Fellow in International Law** (2021): one of 4 Harvard-nominated Cutler Fellows
- **Managing Editor**, *Harvard Negotiation Law Review*
- **International Editor**, *Cambridge Law Review*
- **Editorial Board Member**, *Harvard Journal of Law and Technology* and *Harvard International Law Journal*
- **J.D. Mentor** to HLS L.L.M. candidates | **Pre-Law Mentor** to Harvard College students
- **Academic Chair**, 1L Section Committee | **Internal Chair**, West Coast Club
- **Actress, Singer, and Dancer**, HLS Parody | **Actress**, APALSA Trial Reenactments

Pomona College, B.A., Politics and Spanish (minor), *summa cum laude* May 2018

- **Phi Beta Kappa**: Initiated junior year (2017), induction ceremony host (2018) | **Sigma Delta Pi** chapter president
- **John A. Vieg Prize in Politics**: Award for the graduating senior with the best academic record in politics
- **Distinction in Politics Senior Exercise**: Top mark on the capstone exercise for senior politics majors
- **Bernard Chan Award**: One of the foremost Pomona awards for academic attainment and community service
- **Dole Kinney Prize in Creative Writing**: Awarded twice in 2017 and 2018

LAW REVIEW PUBLICATIONS

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- *Personality Disorders and the Insanity Defense*, 17 U.C. IRVINE L. REV. __ (forthcoming 2027).
 - *Deep and Continuous Palliative Sedation Without Artificial Nutrition and Hydration: An International Review*, 35 IND. INT'L COMP. L. REV. 67-151 (with Richard Liu and Thaddeus Mason Pope) (2025).
 - *Catch and Contain Novel Pathogens Early!—Assessing U.S. Medical Isolation Laws as Applied to a Future Pandemic Detection and Prevention Model*, 55 U. MICH. J.L. REFORM 23-41 (2021).
 - *Smartphones Out, Bye COVID-19!—Assessing the Possibility of Exporting China's Global Pandemic-Era QR Codes as Health Certificates*, HARV. J.L. & TECH. (2021).
 - *They Belong with Taylor Swift: Applying Trademark Law and Textual Analysis to the Branding of Love Song Lyrics*, 2020 U. ILL. L. REV. 139-151 (2020).
 - * Selected in Yale Law School's Spring 2024 syllabus for Professor Harold Koh's "The Law and Management of Global Fame" course
 - *But What If Big Brother's Surveillance Saves Lives?—Comparative Digital Privacy in the Time of Coronavirus*, 54 CREIGHTON L. REV. 147-172 (2020).
 - * Featured on the World Health Organization's "COVID-19 Global literature on coronavirus disease" webpage.
 - *When Judges Compete on a Lawless Terrain: Possible Futures for Clerkship Hiring*, HARV. L. & POL'Y REV. (2020).
 - *Applying the Model Penal Code (MPC)'s Insanity Defense to Sleepwalking Killers and Psychopaths: Interfacing Neuroscience and Criminal Law*, 23 NEW CRIM. L. REV., 471-515 (2020).

EXPERIENCE

Tulane Law School, New Orleans, LA 2025-Present

Forrester Fellow

- Teach 2 sections of Legal Research and Writing each semester
- Contribute to Tulane's scholarly community as a full-time faculty member
- Co-convenor, Murphy Center on Law and Economy Workshop
- Member, AALS Sections on Criminal Law, Medicine and Health Care Law, and Technology Law
- Faculty Member, Tulane Criminal Law Society
- Faculty Advisor, Tulane Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA)

Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP, Houston, TX 2024-2025

Associate

- Represented sector-leading clients (such as Meta and Zuckerberg) in the technology and energy sectors as part of the Complex Litigation and Dispute Resolution group
- Drafted motions and legal memoranda; contributed to various aspects of discovery; complex legal research and analysis; involved in defensive and offensive depositions
- Initiated and lead an animal law pro bono project

Allen, Overy, Shearman & Sterling LLP, New York City, NY 2022-2024

Associate

- Represented clients in a broad range of litigation matters, including intellectual property, antitrust, investigations, and international arbitration matters involving cross-border clients and teams from Taiwan, Germany, Denmark, Mainland China, England, and Ireland
- Experience included legal research, drafting motions to dismiss, complaints, contested protective orders, RFPs and interrogatories, etc.
- Pro bono practice included criminal (2 murder cases), family, immigration, and environmental law matters
- Asian Affinity Network Steering Committee member
- U.S. Pro Bono Committee member
- U.S. Associate Council member

*Formerly Allen & Overy LLP prior to merger with Shearman & Sterling LLP

U.S. District Court for the District of Oregon, Portland, OR 2021-2022
Judicial Law Clerk, Chambers of Judge Michael H. Simon

- Drafted judicial opinions, bench memoranda, and other documents for a wide range of criminal and civil cases at various stages of litigation
- Assisted Judge Simon with legal research and analysis before, during, and after court proceedings

Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA 2020-2021

Teaching Fellow to Judge Joseph A. Greenaway, "Great Cases of the Supreme Court" Seminar

Researched the latest scholarship on 8 prominent Supreme Court cases, designed course syllabus based on research and regular meetings with Judge Greenaway, proposed edits to weekly discussion questions, and assisted with all other aspects of the course

Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA 2020-2021

Research Assistant to Professor Jeannie Suk Gersen

Contributed legal research and analysis to Prof. Suk Gersen's academic projects, including law review publications and legal articles for *The New Yorker*; topics include constitutional, family, and criminal law

Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA 2020-2021

Research Assistant to Professor Noah R. Feldman

Contributed research for Prof. Feldman's book *The Broken Constitution: Lincoln, Slavery, and the Refounding of America*

National Bureau of Economic Research, Cambridge, MA 2020-2021

Research Assistant to Professor Amy N. Finkelstein

Contributed policy, economics, historical, and legal research to Professors Amy Finkelstein (MIT) and Liran Einav (Stanford)'s book *We've Got You Covered: Rebooting American Health Care*

Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA Spring 2021

Research Assistant to Professor Urs Gasser

Provided substantive comments and edits for Prof. Gasser's manuscript on AI, trust and law; assisted with legal research

Harvard Law School Program on International Law and Armed Conflict (PILAC), Cambridge, MA Summer 2020

Research Assistant

Contributed research on international law and artificial intelligence in the context of international armed conflicts; report available at <https://pilac.law.harvard.edu/three-pathways-to-secure-greater-respect-for-international-law-concerning-war-algorithms>

U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York, New York City, NY Summer 2019

Judicial Intern, Chambers of Judge Alvin K. Hellerstein

- Drafted judicial opinions, orders, and bench memoranda for Judge Hellerstein; issues included personal jurisdiction, trade secrets, and patent law
- Regularly attended SDNY and Second Circuit civil and criminal proceedings

International Freelance Writer – International 2010–2021

- Regularly contributed to *The Huffington Post*, *USA TODAY*, *South China Morning Post* (Hong Kong), *Caixin* (Mainland China), and 12 other publications in Chinese, Spanish and English; articles attracted 500,000+ readers
- Interviewed British primatologist Jane Goodall, Nigerian billionaire-philanthropist Tony Elumelu, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit Judge Richard Taranto (public event in talk show format), WHO Chef de Cabinet Bernhard Schwartländer, former Greek Foreign Minister Stavros Lambrinidis, and 20 others
- Authored front-page reports on Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor's visit to Pomona; served as student escort
- Work has been cited by *Reader's Digest*, international business textbook, and high school education materials

Editor-in-Chief, *The Claremont Journal of Law and Public Policy* (CJLPP) – International Reach 2016–2018

Founder, *The Intercollegiate Law Journal* (ILJ) – U.S. and Canada, with International Reach 2017–2018

- Headed *The Claremont Journal of Law and Public Policy*, which publishes 3 print editions yearly and 6-8 web articles weekly with submissions from students, academics, and lawyers across the United States and from overseas
- Founded and spearheaded *The Intercollegiate Law Journal*, partnering with undergraduate law journals from McGill, Harvard, University of Pennsylvania, Williams College, and 11 other universities from the U.S. and Canada
- Hosted events including talks by federal and state judges, as well as legal and policy experts, partly through collaboration projects with 16 Southern California-based organizations

Health Systems Intern, World Health Organization (WHO) – China Office, WHO for the Western Pacific 2017

- Designed and implemented an original, nationwide Universal Health Coverage (UHC) campaign based on research and analysis on international health systems, UN Sustainable Development Goals, as well as Chinese health law and policy reforms; the social media portion of the campaign reached 269,470+ subscribers
- Collected and summarized data to brief WHO Director-General Dr. Tedros Ghebreyesus on health in China
- Mobilized and led Peking University students in hosting the first UHC Aid4Health Contest
- Co-hosted WHO Health Law and Policy Roundtable, with 30+ Chinese, Korean, and French legal experts attending

Summer Pupil, Temple Chambers – Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR Summer 2017

- Read and analyzed recent and live Hong Kong business law cases; strengthened oral advocacy skills under the tutelage of barrister and Hong Kong Financial Services Development Council Chairman Laurence Li
- Attended Hong Kong High Court proceedings involving *ex parte* injunctions and Hong Kong-Mainland China investment disputes

Summer Political Science Researcher, Asia Financial Holdings – Hong Kong, HKSAR Summer 2016

- Conducted original research on the 2016 Hong Kong Legislative Council election and presented findings to Hong Kong Executive Councilor and former Legislator Bernard Charnwut Chan
- Published sections of my 47-page research paper in the D.C.-based academic journal *International Affairs Forum*

GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

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- **Rhodes Scholarship Finalist:** One of 14 finalists selected from across China
 - **Downing Scholar:** Awarded full merit scholarship for the University of Cambridge's MPhil degree
 - **Phi Beta Kappa Graduate Scholarship:** Awarded to one Gamma Chapter graduate by the Alpha Association yearly
 - **Stanford Knight-Hennessy Fellowship Inaugural Finalist:** Top 2% of the applicant pool

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

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- **Presenter,** Southeastern Association of Law Schools (SEALS) New Scholars Program - Amelia Island, FL (July 2026), *How Should U.S. Criminal Law “Treat” Personality Disorders*
 - **Presenter,** SEALS Criminal Law & Procedure Workshop: “Old Harms, New Urgency: Reimagining Justice in a Time of Reckoning” - Amelia Island, FL (July 2026), *How Should U.S. Criminal Law “Treat” Personality Disorders*
 - **Presenter,** Law and Society Association Annual Meeting - San Francisco, CA (May 2026), *How Should U.S. Criminal Law “Treat” Personality Disorders*
 - **Presenter,** Governance of Emerging Technologies and Science Conference - Phoenix, AZ (May 2026), *Intimate Companion Robots (“Sexbots”) as Medical Devices: Unifying “Consent” in Criminal, Health, and Technology Law*
 - **Presenter,** Tulane Faculty Scholarship Workshop - New Orleans, LA (March 2026), *How Should U.S. Criminal Law “Treat” Personality Disorders*
 - **Presenter,** Neurolaw Works in Progress Workshop - hosted by Dr. Francis X. Shen (February 2026), *How Should U.S. Criminal Law “Treat” Personality Disorders*
 - **Presenter,** ABA Criminal Justice Academics Committee and AALS Section on Criminal Law’s 2025 Criminal Justice Academic Workshop (December 2025), *How Should U.S. Criminal Law “Treat” Personality Disorders*
 - **Presenter,** Central States Law Schools Association Scholarship Conference - hosted by the University of Kansas School of Law, Lawrence, KS (October 2025), *How Should U.S. Criminal Law “Treat” Personality Disorders: Guilty Mind and Insanity Defense*
 - **Presenter,** Tulane Law School Asian Pacific American Law Students Association (APALSA) - New Orleans, LA (October 2025), *Cookies and Questions with Professor Xu: Law School and Career Tips*
 - **Presenter,** Progressive Education Forum - Beijing, China (June 2025), *Progressive Education and Personalized Pathways*
 - **Panelist,** Harvard Law School Clerkship Panel (February 2022)
 - **Presenter,** Ideas @ Pomona Summit - San Francisco, CA (October 2019), *Words: Free Flowing vs. Painstakingly Precise*
 - **Presenter,** Salzburg Cutler Law Fellows Program (March 2021), *Smartphones Out, Bye COVID-19!—Assessing the Possibility of Exporting China’s Global Pandemic-Era QR Codes as Health Certificates*
 - **Panelist,** Pomona College Alumni Panels (several panels during 2020-2022)

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- **President**, Harvard Law School Association Recent Graduates Network (covering 10 graduating class years) (2023-2025)
- **Harvard College Alumni Admissions Interviewer**: conduct evaluative admissions interviews (2024-present)
- **Participant**, Neurolaw Works in Progress Workshop (monthly session hosted by Dr. Francis X. Shen)
- **Participant**, 2026 AALS Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA
- **Judge**, Thomas Tang Moot Court Competition (Semi-Finals at NAPABA Conference in Las Vegas)
- **Judge**, Social Shifters (international social change competition)
- **Observer**, Uniform Law Commission (project on possession of domestic pets at family dissolution)
- Harvard Radcliffe **Student Advisory Board Member**
- **Moderator**, Harvard College Project for Asian and International Relations (HPAIR) Conference
- **Pomona College Alumni Admissions Interviewer**: conducted evaluative admissions interviews (2018-2024)
- **Pomona College Ambassador and Philanthropy Chair**, the Pomona College Student Ambassadors Program
- **Founding President**, Roots & Shoots BCIS: an award-winning youth conservation club featured by several publications in Chinese, Finnish, and English, with collaboration projects with groups from the U.S., U.K., and China
- **Chair**, the Oldenburg Modern Languages and International Relations Luncheon Colloquium
- **Co-Founder and Pilot Instructor**, FOCUS SAT 2400: provided free academic coaching for students from low-income families in Greater Los Angeles
- **Volunteer**, the Jane Goodall Institute, el Instituto Cervantes, and Lions Clubs International
- **Newscaster**, KSPC 88.7FM; **Television Host**, Claremont Colleges TV

BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS

- New York State (2022)
- Texas State (2024)
- Southern District of New York (2022)
- Eastern District of New York (2022)
- Eastern District of Texas (2023)
- Western District of Texas (2024)
- Southern District of Texas (2024)

SKILLS AND INTERESTS

- **Languages**: bilingual in **English** and **Chinese**, fluent in **Spanish**, intermediate **French** and **Japanese**
- **Interests**: creative writing (completed draft of a legal-thriller romance novel), swimming, *Phantom of the Opera*