

SONIA LEE YAGURA

EDUCATION

University of California College of the Law, San Francisco, San Francisco, California
Juris Doctor, *cum laude*

Cornell University, Ithaca, New York
Bachelor of Arts, English

EXPERIENCE

Loyola Law School, Los Angeles, California
Director of Academic Success Program, August 2025 – Present
Associate Clinical Professor, July 2023 – Present
Adjunct Professor, August 2021 – June 2023
Writing Specialist, August 2015 – June 2023

Southwestern Law School, Los Angeles, California
Adjunct Professor, August 2013 – January 2021
Taught Refining Your Legal Writing class, a skills class for upper division law students to reinforce legal writing strategies. Co-taught Law Review: Staff, a class designed to aid Southwestern Law Review staff members prepare law review articles of publishable quality.

USC Gould School of Law, Los Angeles, California
Acting Director of the Domestic Violence Clinic, August 2003 – July 2004
Clinical Instructor/Supervising Attorney, May 2003 – August 2003; July 2004 – July 2005
Taught and supervised upper division law students obtain restraining orders, dissolve marriages, establish paternity, and obtain custody orders on behalf of domestic violence survivors. Implemented an interdisciplinary program with the USC School of Social Work. Drafted grant proposals and grant reports. Conducted trainings for domestic violence advocates and therapists regarding legal remedies for domestic violence victims. Coordinated with other community organizations and advocates to improve available services for domestic violence victims and their children in Los Angeles County.

Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California
Volunteer Attorney for the Asian Pacific Islander Unit, August 2005 – April 2007
Handled litigation matters involving domestic violence and immigration status. Administered legal advice at community legal centers.

O'Melveny & Myers LLP, Los Angeles, California
Associate, October 1999 – May 2003
Handled all stages of commercial litigation, corporate and criminal investigations and government regulatory actions. Litigated complex issues in white collar criminal, environmental, antitrust, insurance, contracts, and intellectual property law.

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

“Think Tank: Empowering Neurodiverse Students to Thrive in the Legal Profession” with Nikkee E. Espree (AASE Conference, Las Vegas, NV, May 25-29, 2026).

VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONS

Association of Academic Support Educators
Assessment Committee Member, August 2025 – Present

Lincoln Training Center Board, South El Monte, California
Board Member, June 2025 – Present
Fundraising Committee Member, June 2025 – Present

Rose Bowl Aquatics Club Board, Pasadena, California
Board Member, April 2021 – May 2024
Governance Committee Chair, May 2022 – May 2024
Financial Aid Committee Co-Chair, July 2022 – May 2024

Rose Bowl Water Polo Booster Club, Pasadena, California
Board Member, August 2020 – September 2022
DEI Committee Member, February 2021 – September 2022

Cornell Alumni Ambassador Association Network, San Gabriel Valley
San Gabriel Valley Committee Co-Chair, October 2018 – October 2024
San Gabriel Valley Committee Member, October 2016 – October 2018

Meals on Wheels, Pasadena, California
Volunteer, April 2019 – May 2023

Polytechnic School, Pasadena, California
Poly Annual Fund Committee Member, Middle School DEI Committee Member, Parent Ambassador, Room Parent, Parent Volunteer
September 2010 – June 2023