

Cathy C. Yu

Professional Experience

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES – WASHINGTON, DC

Director of Labor and Health Oversight | January 2019 - Present

Committee on Education and Labor, Chairman Bobby Scott

- Manage and lead the Labor and Health oversight staff in executing all aspects of a Congressional investigation:
 - Negotiate and work closely with officials at the federal, state, and local levels, experts from the academic and advocacy communities, and private sector opposing counsel to conduct discovery, including the use of subpoenas as necessary for document requests, interviews, and depositions
 - Strategically plan press goals with press team, including working to prevent leaks of sensitive information and helping to craft effective press releases and talking points
 - Translate investigations into committee hearings, including drafting memoranda, questions, and opening statements, as well as witness selection and preparation
 - Drafted in-depth reports presenting the results of an investigation, including several reports released in the 116th Congress by Chairman Bobby Scott

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES – WASHINGTON, DC

Subcommittee Staff Director | May 2017 - December 2018

Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity - Committee on Veterans Affairs, Ranking Member Tim Walz

- Managed the subcommittee staff that oversaw policy changes to improve economic outcomes through a comprehensive framework of education, workforce development, and housing programs
- Worked closely with the Departments of Veterans Affairs, Small Business, Education, and Labor and outside groups to develop and negotiate support for legislation, including landmark legislation such as the \$3+ billion Harry W. Colmery Veterans Education Assistance Act of 2017:
 - Collaborated with coalition members to build and implement strategy for developing legislation
 - Commissioned research and expert testimony to inform policy and programmatic changes
 - Negotiated coalition members' positions of support and opposition for policy initiatives within a larger package in order to manage and align partnerships for passage
 - Worked closely with the Congressional Budget Office to modify legislation to ensure that program changes remained within allocated amounts, as well as negotiate with Congressional appropriators for additional budgetary appropriations as needed
 - Oversaw the implementation of newly legislated programs and grants for future legislative fixes
- Maintained close relationships with other Member staffs in order to maneuver and manage the numerous and often-opposing legislative agendas within various caucuses
- Strategized with Congressional leadership, other Congressional Committees, and external groups to safeguard key programs, as well as target bad legislation for defeat

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER – WASHINGTON, DC

Adjunct Professor of Law | January 2018 - May 2019

- Taught seminars to over 50 second- and third-year law students participating in experiential learning

U.S. SENATE – WASHINGTON, DC

Senior Counsel | January 2017 - May 2017

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, Ranking Member Claire McCaskill

- Lead counsel on numerous oversight investigations of fraud, waste, and abuse across the federal government, focusing on spending in defense, international investment, and healthcare
- Managed investigative teams of up to four staffers and oversaw all aspects of executing a U.S. Senate investigative hearing:
 - Work closely with government officials at the federal, state, and local levels, experts from the academic and advocacy communities, and opposing counsel representing the private sector to conduct discovery, including document requests, interviews, and depositions
 - Plan press strategy with the press team, including working on press releases and backgrounders
 - Draft all hearing and follow-up documents, including memoranda, questions, opening statements, and questions for the record
- Served as co-counsel for several Senate confirmation hearings
- Experienced in working with whistleblowers on protected disclosures

U.S. SENATE – WASHINGTON, DC

Senior Counsel and Chief Investigator | February 2015 - January 2017

Special Committee on Aging, Ranking Member Claire McCaskill

- Lead counsel on numerous investigations of private industry and government agencies, including the pharmaceutical industry and the Department of Defense
- Led a high-profile Senate investigation into the price-gouging models of pharmaceutical companies:
 - Conducted extensive discovery of Valeant Pharmaceuticals International, Turing Pharmaceuticals, Retrophin, and Rodelis Therapeutics, resulting in over one million pages of documents obtained from the companies with subpoenas
 - Prepared and oversaw three Senate hearings, with extensive media coverage, of our findings
 - Drafted and released a 131-page bipartisan report from Senators Claire McCaskill and Susan Collins containing our findings titled *Sudden Price Spikes in Off-Patent Prescription Drugs: The Monopoly Business Model that Harms Patients, Taxpayers, and the U.S. Health Care System*
- Managed a yearlong investigation into the denial of veterans health benefits to servicemembers who were purposefully exposed to mustard gas experiments by the Department of Defense during World War II
 - Drafted and released a report from Ranking Member Claire McCaskill of our findings titled *Cruel and Unusual Service: The Servicemen Left Behind by the Secret Mustard Gas Experiments of World War II*

- o Drafted legislation that ultimately passed to ensure that the Department of Defense acknowledged conducting these experiments and therefore allow the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide health benefits and compensation to those harmed, including retroactive payments

U.S. SENATE – WASHINGTON, DC

Counsel | May 2013 - February 2015

Subcommittee on Financial and Contracting Oversight - Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, Chair Claire McCaskill

- Lead counsel on numerous oversight investigations of fraud, waste, and abuse across the federal government, including investigations into wrongdoing at HHS, VA, DOD, and USAID
- Led a high-profile investigation into campus sexual assault and the failure of schools around the country to tackle the problem
 - o Conducted a nationwide survey of institutions of higher learning on their sexual assault policies
 - o Drafted a report from Chair Claire McCaskill titled *Sexual Violence on Campus: How too many institutions of higher learning are failing to protect students* containing a detailed analysis of our survey findings

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES – WASHINGTON, DC

Legislative Fellow | September 2012 - May 2013

Office of Representative Jan Schakowsky

- Conducted policy research and drafted analyses on a variety of legislative issues, including hydraulic fracturing, public utility fraud, and European debt crisis
- Researched and developed environmental legislation for the Member
- Reviewed and analyzed hearing testimony in order to draft questions and prepare Member for committee proceedings
- Drafted Floor Statements, Dear Colleague letters, and constituent mail on behalf of the Member
- Attended meetings with interest groups on behalf of the Member

OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS ATTORNEY GENERAL – CHICAGO, IL

Assistant Attorney General | August 2011 - August 2012

- Independently litigated multiple dockets simultaneously and through all phases of complex regulatory litigation, including in-depth legal research and case analysis, managing expert testimony, conducting hearings, and drafting pleadings, briefs, written discovery, and motions.
- Specialized in energy efficiency regulatory litigation at the Illinois Commerce Commission
- Developed and lobbied for the Illinois Attorney General's energy policy and legislative agenda
- Represented utility consumers in coalitions with government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and the energy industry to achieve best practices for electric vehicle integration, energy procurement, energy conservation, grid strengthening, and smart grid implementation
- Collaborated with government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and the energy industry to achieve best practices for energy production, sale, and use

ILLINOIS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES – SPRINGFIELD, IL

Assistant Counsel to the Speaker | January 2011 - July 2011

- Legal Counsel for the Public Utilities, Telecommunications, Mass Transit, and Cities & Villages Committees and interim Parliamentarian for the House of Representatives
- Researched and drafted legal and policy analyses on over one hundred bills, including bills relating to wind energy procurement incentives, tax increment financing, and civil rights
- Drafted and steered dozens of bills through the legislative process, including facilitating bill negotiations among parties and oral defense of bills during House Floor debate
- Tracked all legislative developments and served as Legal Counsel for the Mass Transit, Public Utilities, Cities & Villages, and Telecommunications Committees

CITY OF CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF LAW – CHICAGO, IL

Special Assistant Corporation Counsel | October 2010 - December 2010

- Represented the City of Chicago in municipal, state, and federal environmental litigation and pre-litigation disputes
- Perform policy research and provide policy and legal guidance on the City of Chicago's environmental initiatives
- Conducted legal research and analysis on a wide range of environmental issues, including experience with the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, and National Environmental Policy Act

DLA PIPER LLP – CHICAGO, IL

Associate Attorney | October 2008 - June 2010

- Served as a key team member in the Energy & Water, Patent, and Franchise litigation practices
- Advised commercial clients on compliance with state and federal laws and regulations
- Conducted in-depth legal research and case analysis
- Drafted pleadings, motions, and written discovery and experienced in motion practice
- Managed expert witnesses and expert testimony
- Participated in depositions and negotiations with opposing counsel
- Managed litigation documents, including deciding which documents to use for expert witness preparation and identifying privileged documents
- Analyzed renewable energy policy, tax credits, and markets for energy industry clients
- Represented natural gas and electric public utility clients in regulatory litigation
- Assisted in all aspects of representing natural gas and electric utility clients in proceedings before the Illinois Commerce Commission and monitored cases at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- Advised clients on compliance with state and federal intellectual property laws and rulings, including strategizing about litigation and settlement options
- Managed expert witnesses and expert testimony on complex intellectual property topics, including trademark and patent law
- Researched juvenile justice policy for the Illinois Coalition for the Fair Sentencing of Children and the American Bar Association's Collateral Consequences Project
- Researched criminal justice policy for the Public International Law & Policy Group and the Uptown People's Law Center

- Worked several criminal justice reform projects for the Public International Law & Policy Group and the Uptown People's Law Center
- Litigated several criminal appeals cases on behalf of pro bono clients
- Conducted hearings and negotiations regarding students' access to education as pro bono counsel for Equip for Equality

PRO BONO CENTER FOR DISABILITY AND ELDER LAW – CHICAGO, IL

Public Interest Law Initiative Fellow | June 2008 - September 2008

- Drafted power of attorneys for elderly clients as a 711-licensed law student under the supervision of a staff attorney
- Managed independent caseload of family law matters

LEXISNEXIS – CHICAGO, IL

Student Representative | September 2007 - May 2008

- Assisted University of Chicago law students with the effective use of LexisNexis and helped market LexisNexis.

DLA PIPER LLP – CHICAGO, IL

Summer Associate | May 2007 - August 2007

- Researched and drafted legal memoranda addressing various legal issues.
- Drafted sections of a brief to the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals.
- Participated in trial preparation

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND POLICY CENTER – CHICAGO, IL

Legal Intern | June 2006 - August 2006

- Drafted air quality literature for the Illinois Mercury Pollution Reduction Campaign
- Researched and drafted legal memoranda analyzing Clean Water Act provisions and Peotone Airport's eminent domain issues
- Researched treaties and legislation relating to the protection of migratory birds
- Drafted sections of a comment for the Mercury Pollution Reduction Campaign of Illinois.
- Reviewed documents in preparation for air pollution litigation

FEDERAL SIGNAL CORPORATION – OAKBROOK, IL

Legal Intern | May 2005 - September 2005

- Participated in trial preparations for firefighter hearing loss litigation.
- Performed statutory research on various states' commercial codes.
- Drafted cease and desist letters relating to copyright and trademark infringement.

KAPLAN INC. TEST PREP – CHAMPAIGN, IL AND DOWNERS GROVE, IL

Instructor | August 2004 - August 2005

- Taught the LSAT Prep class to over 100 students, as well as tutored students individually

Additional Experience

- Dem Confab: 2015-2020 Co-Director
 - Organized a semi-annual professional skills training for 100+ senior House and Senate staffers
- Conference on Asian Pacific American Leadership: 2018-2020 Board Member
 - Managed a \$300,000+ budget for the organization as Treasurer
 - Guided the organization to empower Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander youth by increasing access to public service opportunities and building a strong public service pipeline
- Hillary for America: 2016 Regional Get Out the Vote Director, Virginia
- New Leaders Council: *DC Chapter – 2012-2013 Board Member, Chicago Chapter – 2012 Fellow*
 - Directed the DC Chapter to equip millennial leaders with the skills to run for office, manage campaigns, create start-ups, and take their activism back into their communities and workplaces to impact progressive change
- Voter protection counsel for the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under the Law's Election Protection Project in 2008 and Obama for America in 2012
- Canvassed and phone banked for IL-8, IL-17, and NY-19 during the 2012 elections
- Public Interest Law Initiative (PILI) Board Member – Student Representative 2006-2008
 - Served as a representative for the graduate fellows on the organization's Board of Directors; the program places new associates from Chicago law firms at public interest law agencies in Illinois, where they work for 300 hours before joining their firms

Bar Admissions and Skills

- Admitted to the Illinois State Bar
- Proficient in scientific writing and research
- Fluent in verbal Mandarin Chinese

Publications and Awards

- "Wait Until This Year," *The Deal Magazine*, January 22, 2010 (with Mark Williams and Sarah Wang). Article on China's venture capital and private equity markets in the global economic downturn
- First Place Undergraduate Poster Award at the University of Illinois Biotechnology Center's Science Research Poster Competition (January 2004). Presented *Microclimate changes in soybeans grown in elevated carbon dioxide and their effects on insect herbivory*. Yu, C., O. Dermody, and E. DeLucia (September 2003). Poster was also presented at the 2003 Undergraduate Mentoring in Environmental Biology Poster Session, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Illinois
- Wheeler, E., C. Yu, and J. Brawn (August 2005). *Seasonal and species differences in antimicrobial defenses of wild bird eggs*. Research poster presented at the Ecological Society of America/International Association for Ecology joint meeting, Montréal, Canada
- Yu, C., E. Wheeler, and J. Brawn (September 2004). *Seasonal and environmental patterns in House sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) egg quality*. Presented research poster at the 2004

Undergraduate Mentoring in Environmental Biology Poster Session, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Illinois

Education

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO LAW SCHOOL

Juris Doctor | 2008

- Women's Bar Foundation of Illinois Merit Scholarship Recipient 2007
- Mandel Legal Aid Clinic – Criminal and Juvenile Justice Project
- Asian Pacific American Law Student Association – President 2006-2007
- Environmental Law Society – Board member 2006-2007
- Graduate Council – Law School Representative and Activities Committee Chair 2007-2008
- Law Women's Caucus – Board member 2006-2007

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Bachelor of Science in Integrative Biology | 2005

- National Science Foundation's Undergraduate Mentoring in Environmental Biology Fellow: June 2004 to September 2004 and June 2003 to September 2003
 - Competitive two-year fellowship provided full funding for individual research projects during summers
 - Summer – Fall 2004, Department of Animal Biology and Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Science. Developed and led research project on the immunology of avian eggs and its effects on avian reproduction and conservation
 - Spring – Summer 2003, Department of Plant Biology. Developed and led research project that focused on the effects of global warming (elevated CO₂ levels) on soybean leaf temperature and the effects of leaf temperature on insect herbivory and the consequences on agricultural production
- Executive Board member of the Pre-Law Club
- Phi Alpha Delta Honorary Law Fraternity – Pre-Law Member and Newsletter Editor
- Alpha Lambda Delta National Academic Honor Society
- Phi Eta Sigma National Academic Honor Society
- Dean's List 2005
- The National Scholars Honor Society
- Listed in the 2003/2004 edition of *The National Dean's List*[®]