



MICHAEL SWEIG, JD
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CURRICULUM VITAE (Winter 2012)

with Statement of Teaching Philosophy, and References

JD De Paul University College of Law, 1986
Managing Editor of Lead Articles, De Paul Law Review, 1985-1986

BA Economics, University of California, Santa Cruz, 1980

FEATURED

“From Practicing Law to Changing it,” by Dawn Turner Trice ([Chicago Tribune](http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2010-08-01/news/ct-met-trice-0802-20100801_1_law-license-law-firm-ex-offenders), August 1, 2010)(discusses personal background as basis for becoming criminal justice reform lobbyist)
http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2010-08-01/news/ct-met-trice-0802-20100801_1_law-license-law-firm-ex-offenders

AUTHOR (most recent – see other publications, p. 3.)

“**In Felony’s Mirror: Reflections on Pain and Promise**,” (Institute for People with Criminal Records, Denver, 2011) A memoir with commentary on legal ethics and restorative justice for white-collar crime.

CURRENT ACTIVITY

Registered Professional Lobbyist, State of Colorado (2011)

Affiliate Faculty, Metropolitan State College of Denver. (In both Criminal Justice and Communication Arts.)

Founder, Institute for People with Criminal Records: A Consortium of Thinkers Advancing Equal Justice Under Law. (est. Summer 2010). www.PeoplewithCriminalRecords.org

Mission: To engage diverse stakeholders, including collaboration with the business and law enforcement communities, to advance equal justice in various ways: e.g., voter registration and civics education for people with felonies and their families, academic support for social justice legislative agendas, assisting and training people with criminal records in social justice careers, including grant writing, lobbying and advocacy, and creation of programs like Great Books in Prison, *Amici Curiae* for People with Criminal Records, Community-based Paralegal Clinics for People with Criminal Records, and a Victim’s Rights and Relations Initiative.

Representative Current Program Work: Bringing critical thinking and cognitive skill enhancement curricula to prisons, restorative justice programs and probation departments; development of community legal clinics to serve needs of people with criminal records.

Representative Current and Recent Policy Work: Support for 68th Colorado General Assembly, Second Session, Senate Bill “Collateral Consequences.” Sponsor: Senator Pat Steadman. *Amicus Curiae* brief in the Illinois Supreme Court in *People ex. rel. Dept of Corrections v. Hawkins*, No. 110792 (June 16, 2011)(Illinois Dept of Corrections cannot garnish inmate wages at 100%).
<http://www.state.il.us/court/opinions/supremecourt/2011/june/110792.pdf>



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AUTHOR (recent publications and papers – public policy and law related)

Moving-the-Box by Executive Order in Illinois | De Paul Journal for Social Justice 4 DePaul J. for Soc. Just. 1:17 Fall 2010. (with co-author Melissa McClure). <http://peoplewithcriminalrecords.com/move-the-box/>

Blueprint for Progress: How Illinois Empowers Rehabilitated People with Criminal Records | Ch. 8, ISSUES WITH CRIMINAL RECORDS, 2010 Supplement, Illinois Institute of Continuing Legal Education | Summer 2010 http://peoplewithcriminalrecords.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/03/IICLE_Ch_8-31.pdf

Beyond Legal Mechanisms – Employment, Housing and Other Related Critical Supports | Ch. 6, ISSUES WITH CRIMINAL RECORDS, 2010 Supplement, Illinois Institute of Continuing Legal Education | Summer 2010 (with co-author, Jodina Hicks) <http://peoplewithcriminalrecords.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/03/Ch-6-IICLE-2.pdf>

Advancing Equal Justice Under Law for People with Criminal Records: Uniform Standards for Assessing Occupational Licensing Applications | Spring 2010; <http://www.docstoc.com/docs/49522664/Advancing-Equal-Justice-Under-Law-for-People-with-Criminal-Records-Uniform-Standards-for-Assessing-Occupational-Licensing-Applications>

Statement of Michael Sweig in Support of Senate Bill 1050 | June 15, 2009
Submitted to Governor Pat Quinn's Policy Director,
<http://www.docstoc.com/docs/11022549/STATEMENT-OF-MICHAEL-SWEIG-JD1>

Michael Sweig's Blog:
http://www.bestthinking.com/thinkers/society_and_humanities/nonprofit_organizations/advocacy/michael-sweig

RECENT AND PAST EXPERIENCE

Co-Author/Principal Lobbyist for Illinois Senate Bill 1050 (Certificates of Rehabilitation for People with Criminal Records). Illinois General Assembly, 96th (2009)

Appointment.

By the Illinois Senate President to the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority Task Force on Inventorying Employment Restrictions. September, 2010.

Public Policy Liaison, Safer Foundation, Chicago

Direct and conduct research, develop and steward legislative agenda regarding employment barriers and discrimination against people with criminal records; lobbyist and liaison to lobbyists, legislators, executive and judicial branches, policymakers, media, employers, service providers, and people with criminal records and their families. 2008 – 2010

Criminal Justice Reform Advocacy Award.

Presented by Rep. Constance A. "Connie" Howard, (D, 34th), for "invaluable contribution" to legislative initiatives for those who have paid their debt to society. September 20, 2009.



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Co-Chair. Public Policy Work Group, Wisconsin Community Services Regional Reentry Planning Collaborative. 2009-2010

Legal Studies Professor, Adjunct Roosevelt University, (Fall 2003-Spring 2010) 19 consecutive terms and 32 courses taught, see below.

Roosevelt University Faculty Senate, 2006-2007; 2009-2010, Business College **Faculty Council**, Curriculum Committee, 2009-2010

Staff Editor, Journal of Legal Studies Education, since 2007

Reviewer, Journal of Legal Studies in Business, since 2008

Reviewer, American Business Law Journal, since 2009

Reviewer, Journal of Labor and Employment Law, since 2009

Private real estate development, 2002-2008

Private law practice (commercial litigation, arbitration, mediation), 1986-1998

TESTIMONY

Illinois House of Representatives Small Business Development and Workforce Development Committee, July 26, 2011: Challenges and employment bars for people with criminal records.

Illinois Senate Criminal Law Committee, March 17, 2010, in support of Senate Bill 2607: Offender Initiative Probation for first-time, non-violent, probationable felony offenses.

Illinois House of Representatives Judiciary II, Criminal Law Committee, October 28, 2009, in support of Governor Quinn's Amendatory Veto to Senate Bill 1050: Expansion of Certificates of Relief from Disability and Certificates of Good Conduct. Committee accepted AV unanimously; House accepted AV 95-24.

Illinois Senate Criminal Law Committee, October 14, 2009, in support of Governor Quinn's Amendatory Veto to Senate Bill 1050: Expansion of Certificates of Relief from Disability and Certificates of Good Conduct. Committee and full Senate accepted the AV unopposed.

Illinois Senate Executive Committee, May 31, 2009, in support of House Amendments to Senate Bill 1050: Expansion of Certificates of Relief from Disability and Certificates of Good Conduct. Passed Committee unopposed.



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Illinois House of Representatives Judiciary II, Criminal Law Committee, May 28, 2009, in support of Senate Bill 1050: Expansion of Certificates of Relief from Disability and Certificates of Good Conduct. Passed Committee unopposed and passed House 94-23.

Illinois Senate Criminal Law Committee, May 13, 2009, in support of Senate Bill 1050: Expansion of Certificates of Relief from Disability and Certificates of Good Conduct. Passed Committee unopposed and passed Senate 55-0.

Illinois General Assembly Task Force Public Hearing on Employment of Persons with Past Criminal Convictions, Roosevelt University, May 3, 2008.

SPEAKING

“A White-Collar Mind is a Terrible Thing to Waste,” UC Denver School of Public Administration: Nov. 9, 2011. Auraria Campus, Denver, Co.

Facilitator: Mini-Symposium, “Making Smart-on-Crime-Policy that Protects Victims and Empowers Felon Employment.” Panel: Denver DA, Mitchell Morrissey, Sen. Pat Steadman, and others. 8:30 a.m., November 14, 2011 Denver City Council Chambers

“Pardons and Certificates of Rehabilitation,” Stateville Correctional Center, Joliet, Illinois, April 26, 2011.

“If I Weren’t White, My Non-Probationable Felony Would Not Have Been Probationable,” Trinity United Church of Christ Prison Ministry, Chicago, March 2011.

Moderator: “Safe and Successful Reentry Strategies,” The California Wellness Foundation’s annual Violence Prevention Conference, Los Angeles. October 19-20, 2010.

“Understanding the New Illinois Law for Certificates of Rehabilitation,” Illinois Department of Corrections, April 28, 2010.

“Overview of Senate Bill 1050: Illinois Now in a Class by Itself,” Chicago Jobs Council, November 10, 2009

“Life After Prison: Removing Barriers for the Formerly Incarcerated” | Tuesday, March 10, 2009. Northwestern University Students for Sensible Drug Policy & Nat’l Org. for Reform of Marijuana Laws

Guest Lecture in Legal Ethics | April 10, 2008
University of Chicago Law School, for Professor Michele Goodwin



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Panel Participant, legal perspective concerning employment barriers to ex-offenders in Illinois, 8th Annual Fathers Who Care "Expo For Today's Man," | June 7, 2008 Malcom X College, in collaboration with Congressman Danny Davis's Office and the Illinois Council on Responsible Fatherhood

QUOTED

"Looking for a job? Hope you don't have any prior convictions," [Medill Reports: Chicago](http://news.medill.northwestern.edu/chicago/news.aspx?id=187291&terms=Looking%20for%20a%20job%3F%20Hope%20you%20don%27t%20have%20any%20prior%20convictions) discusses Institute for People with Criminal Records and the Move-the-Box by Executive Order initiative. <http://news.medill.northwestern.edu/chicago/news.aspx?id=187291&terms=Looking%20for%20a%20job%3F%20Hope%20you%20don%27t%20have%20any%20prior%20convictions>

"Ex-Lawyer Is Now an Advocate for Others with Background Issues," *ABA Journal* | August 2, 2010 (observes that I'm so fulfilled as an advocate for others who seek employment with felony convictions that I've not sought to regain my law license.)

"From Practicing Law to Changing it," *Chicago Tribune* | August 1, 2010 (profiles my work as an advocate for people with criminal records)

"Felony Conviction Haunts Grandmother, Township Official," *The Daily Journal* | September 4, 2009 (exploring collateral consequences of conviction)

"An Unbelievable Defiance of the Law," *Progress Illinois* | March 18, 2009 (discussing how the Illinois State Police (ISP) refused to carry out at least 2,700 court-ordered expungement and sealing of individual criminal records.)

"Closing Arguments," *The Chicago Reporter* | March 2009 (expose on Illinois State Police refusal to follow court orders to seal or expunge criminal records)

"Boston Bans the Box," *The Chicago Reporter* | May 2009 (Historical look at various municipal "Ban-the-Box" ordinances that address employment discrimination against people with criminal records.)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE & CREDENTIALS

Academically Qualified ("AQ") and Professionally Qualified ("PQ") under AACSB standards, and Doctorally Qualified ("DQ") under ACBSP Standards.



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Affiliate Faculty, Criminology Dept. and Communications Arts Dept., Metropolitan State College of Denver. (Present)

Courses: Criminal Justice and the Social Structure
Argumentation & Advocacy
Interpersonal Communications,
Public Speaking

Adjunct Legal Studies Professor, Roosevelt University, Walter E. Heller College of Business
(19 consecutive terms, 32 courses Fall 03-Spring 2010)

Courses: Business Law
Business & Society
Methods of Critical Reasoning
Legal Issues in Human Resource Management (graduate)
Legal Environment of Business (graduate)
Senior Thesis

Visiting Faculty, De Paul University School for New Learning, January 2001 – June 2002
Courses: Critical Thinking, Judicial Opinion as History, Ethics and Law of Internet Privacy

Adjunct Faculty, Northwestern Business College, Fall 2000 – Spring 2001
Courses: Composition, Advanced Composition, Public Speaking

Adjunct Faculty, Kendall College, Fall 2000
Course: Legal and Ethical Aspects of Technology

Available on request: Letters of Reference from Roosevelt University and De Paul University, extensive laudatory narrative student evaluations; statistical evaluations consistently exceed national mean.



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OTHER LEGAL PUBLICATIONS AND PAPERS

Protecting the Public by Protecting Lawyers from Themselves: The Only Solution to Disbarment for Theft of Client Funds | *OBITER*, pp. 31-32. November 2003. <http://peoplewithcriminalrecords.com/wp-content/uploads/2011/03/Protecting-the-Public1.pdf>

COMMENT: Do Lawyers Play While Victims Pay When Corporations Discharge Toxic Tort Liability in Bankruptcy | Fall 1985 35:16 *DE PAUL LAW REVIEW* 1, p. 161

Matsushita v. Zenith: Sovereign Compulsion and Conspiracy Go Out Before the Trial Goes On, Fall 1986 5:1 *DICKINSON JOURNAL of INTERNATIONAL LAW*, p. 29

Guidelines For Consumer Debt Collection By Attorneys Under the 1986 Amendment to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act | February 1987 *Commercial Law Bulletin* reprinted in, 21: 4 *NEW ENGLAND LAW REVIEW*, p. 697 | Spring 1985-86 (released Spring 1987), cited in:

U.S. CODE ANNOTATED, TITLE 15. COMMERCE AND TRADE CHAPTER 41--CONSUMER CREDIT PROTECTION, SUBCHAPTER V--DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES, § 1692a. Definitions

Roger E. White v. K. David Myers, et al, Tennessee Court of Appeals, Knoxville, May 7, 2001 Session, Case No. E1999-02642-COA-R3_CV, fn 5, p. 10
<http://www.tsc.state.tn.us/OPINIONS/TCA/PDF/014/whiteroger.pdf>

Secrets of the Legal Industry, by Richard Luke Conforth (Sovereignty Education and Defense Ministry (August 2003, Version 1.04), p. 20,
<http://sedm.org/ItemInfo/Ebooks/SecretsOfTheLegalIndustry-060420tocs.pdf>

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP: Academy of Legal Studies in Business

CIVIC ACTIVITIES

City of Boulder Restorative Justice Mediation. Present.

Advisory Board, Roosevelt University Institute for Metropolitan Affairs

Roosevelt University Faculty Senate, 2006-2007, 2009-2010

Roosevelt University Business College Council and Curriculum Committee, 2009-2010

Moot Court Competition Judge, De Paul University College of Law, 2008, 2011

Barnard College Fundraising Volunteer, 2009

Volunteer, Council for Jewish Elderly, 2001 - 2003

Junior Great Books Leader, Glencoe Public Schools, 1999-2000

Board of Directors, De Paul University President's Club, 1992-1997



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PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

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TEACHING REFERENCES

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Associate Dean, De Paul School for New Learning
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Alyce B DeCosta and Walter E Heller Chair
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Michele Goodwin, JD
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University of Minnesota
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Richard Male
55 Madison Street, Suite 750
Denver, Colorado 80206
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Dr. Charles R. Middleton
President, Roosevelt University
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Chicago, Ill. 60605
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cmiddleton@roosevelt.edu

STATEMENT OF TEACHING PHILOSOPHY **Course Concentration:** Legal Studies, Critical Thinking

Objectives and Purpose: My core course objectives are usually three-fold: (1) teach the fundamental course content, but beyond that, (2) encourage critical thinking, problem-solving strategies and instill values for life-long learning; (3) push each student markedly beyond my initial assessment of their "intellectual prowess."

The third objective is most important. My purpose is to challenge each student on their own level, so regardless of their "intellectual prowess" when the course begins, at the end each student will understand they are capable of far more than they knew. To me, "capable of far more" includes not only a student's basic acquisition of course content, but also the ability to confront and assimilate a quality and quantity of material about which the student previously may have been reluctant, unfamiliar, or doubted their ability to master. My courses are intentionally and admittedly somewhat difficult, but interesting.

From the first class of each course, I make a substantial effort to size-up each student. I request personal biographies and give course content-based writing assignments to discern each student's initial intellectual prowess and the "intellectual demography" of each class.

My role is to orient students to a discipline, but also to what it means to be educated generally, and not just in my field. In my first class introductions I inform students that my responsibility to them is mainly as a facilitator and not a spoon-feeder, and their responsibility is to trust the process, do their best, and they will usually achieve far more than they believe themselves capable.



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Means and Measures: My classes are rarely didactic, and more akin to Socratic based on the Shared Inquiry Method. Depending on the course content, my classes resemble Great Books classes. To encourage the use of textual evidence, I ask mostly interpretive questions or questions to which there may be no clearly correct answer.

In most of my courses, the homework, at minimum, is usually the same: by midnight preceding each class I require each student to submit via email at least one question, comment or insight about each reading assignment that possibly can be used in class for discussion, but more importantly, must reflect that the student has read and reflected upon the assigned reading. I give feedback on the question quality, and use these homework submissions as one of my assessment tools – per my syllabi.

My course assignments and exams, which are minimally take-home writing assignments, put a premium on the use of textual evidence and the important differences between conclusions and reasons. I make course content decisions and create assignments and exams that allow me to employ the foregoing means and accomplish my objectives and purpose.

Teaching Record: Most of my student evaluations say I'm my students' best or among their best professors, and my courses are among their favorite course.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Sweig". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent loop at the end of the last name.