

Michael D. Gilbert

Vice Dean and Professor of Law

University of Virginia

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

University of Virginia School of Law

Vice Dean	2021 – present
Martha Lubin Karsh and Bruce A. Karsh Bicentennial Professor of Law (three-year research chair)	2023 – present, 2019 – 2022
Professor of Law	2014 – present
Sullivan & Cromwell Professor of Law (three-year research chair)	2015 – 2018
Associate Professor of Law	2009 – 2014

- Courses: Building the Rule of Law, Constitutional Law and Economics, Cryptocurrency Law and Policy, Direct Democracy, Judicial Decision-Making, Law of Corruption, Law and Economics I (private law), Law and Economics II (public law), Legislation, Regulation of the Political Process
- UVA Corruption Lab on Ethics, Accountability, and the Rule of Law (CLEAR) <http://clearlab.virginia.edu>
- Center for Public Law and Political Economy <https://www.law.virginia.edu/academics/program/center-public-law-and-political-economy>
- UVA Research Achievement Award (2022); All-University Teaching Award (2020); UVA Student Council Distinguished Teaching Award (2015)

EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley

Berkeley, CA

Ph.D., Jurisprudence and Social Policy, 2008

- Dissertation: *An Economic Analysis of Direct Democracy and the Single Subject Rule*
- Committee: Robert Cooter (Chair), Daniel Farber, Rui de Figueiredo, Daniel Rubinfeld
- National Science Foundation Doctoral Dissertation Grant
- Other honors: Chancellor's Dissertation Fellowship, Dean's Normative Time Fellowship, Jurisprudence and Social Policy Fellowship, John M. Olin Fellowship

J.D., 2005

- Order of the Coif (graduated first in law school class)
- Articles Editor, *California Law Review*
- Riesenfeld Fellow

Tulane University

B.S., Economics and Political Science

New Orleans, LA

1999

- Graduated *summa cum laude*, Phi Beta Kappa
- J. Ernest Tanner Award, Senior Scholar in Economics

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit
Law Clerk, Judge William A. Fletcher

San Francisco, CA
2008 – 2009

World Bank Group
Consultant, Doing Business Project

Washington, DC
2005

Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom (UK) LLP
Summer Associate

London, England
2005

Clifford Chance LLP
Summer Associate

San Francisco, CA
2004

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System
Research Assistant, International Finance Division

Washington, DC
1999 – 2002

Central Intelligence Agency
Intern (paid), Directorate of Intelligence

Langley, VA
1998

RESEARCH

Rational Gridlock (draft, coauthor: Scott Baker)

Law and Economics for Empaths (draft, coauthor: Andrew T. Hayashi)

[Enforcement Signals Under Rules and Standards](#) (draft, coauthors: Nicholas Almendares and Rebecca Kerley)

[Political Corruption](#), in *Oxford Handbook of American Election Law* (Eugene D. Mazo ed., Oxford University Press, forthcoming 2024) (coauthor: Deborah Hellman)

[Constitutional Law and Economics](#), Forthcoming in *Research Methods in Constitutional Law: A Handbook* (Malcolm Langford & David S. Law eds., Edward Elgar) (coauthor: Robert D. Cooter)

- Spanish translation: [Derecho Constitucional y Economía](#), 10 *Revista Facultad de Jurisprudencia* 294 (2021)

[Truth Bounties: A Market Solution to Fake News](#), 102 *North Carolina Law Review* 509 (2024)
(coauthor: Yonathan Arbel)

[PUBLIC LAW & ECONOMICS](#), Oxford University Press, 2022 (coauthor: Robert D. Cooter)

[Conflicts Among Rights: An Economic Approach](#), 9 *Revista Facultad de Jurisprudencia* 67 (2021)

- Spanish translation: Un enfoque económico de los conflictos de Derechos, in *Derecho y Economía: Debates Contemporáneos* (María Alexandra Ortiz Cabrera & Rodrigo Barcia Lehmann eds., Tirant Lo Blanch, 2022)

[Constitutional Locks](#), 19 *International Journal of Constitutional Law* 865 (2021) (coauthors: Mauricio Guim and Michael Weisbuch)

- Special Mention Prize for an outstanding article published in volume 19 of the *International Journal of Constitutional Law*

[Do Good Citizens Need Good Laws? Economics and the Expressive Function](#), 22 *Theoretical Inquiries in Law* 153 (2021) (coauthor: Andrew T. Hayashi)

[Conflict Avoidance in Constitutional Law](#), 107 *Virginia Law Review* 1 (2021) (coauthor: Charles Barzun)

[Active Virtues](#), 98 *Washington University Law Review* 857 (2021) (coauthor: Mauricio Guim)

Waiting to Vote in the 2016 Presidential Election: Evidence from a Multi-county Study, 73 *Political Research Quarterly* 439 (2020) (with coauthors)

Polling Place Quality and Access, in *The Future of Election Administration* 83-100 (Mitchell Brown, Kathleen Hale, & Bridgett A. King eds., Palgrave, 2019) (with coauthors)

[The Law and Economics of Entrenchment](#), 54 *Georgia Law Review* 61 (2019)

[Insincere Evidence](#), 105 *Virginia Law Review* 1115 (2019) (coauthor: Sean Sullivan)

[Transparency and Corruption: A General Analysis](#), 2018 *University of Chicago Legal Forum* 117 (2018)

Pedagogical Value of Polling-Place Observation by Students, 51 *PS: Political Science & Politics* 831 (2018) (with coauthors)

[Contributions and Corruption: Restoring Aggregate Limits in the States](#), in *Democracy by the People: Reforming Campaign Finance in America* 328-343 (Timothy K. Kuhner & Eugene D. Mazo eds., Cambridge University Press, 2018)

[Entrenchment, Incrementalism, and Constitutional Collapse](#), 103 *Virginia Law Review* 631 (2017)

[Aggregate Corruption](#), 104 *Kentucky Law Journal* 651 (2016) (coauthor: Emily Reeder)

- Prepared for symposium entitled Issues in the 2016 Election, March 25, 2016, University of Kentucky

[The Coordination Fallacy](#), 43 *Florida State University Law Review* 399 (2016) (coauthor: Brian Barnes)

- Prepared for symposium entitled The Law of Democracy at a Crossroads: Reflecting on Fifty Years of Voting Rights and the Judicial Regulation of the Political Thicket, Mar. 27-28, 2015, Florida State University

[Insincere Rules](#), 101 *Virginia Law Review* 2185 (2015)

[The Problem of Voter Fraud](#), 115 *Columbia Law Review* 739 (2015)

- Reprinted in Civil Rights Litigation and Attorney Fees Annual Handbook (Steven Saltzman ed., Vol. 31, 2016)

[Disclosure and Corruption](#), 14 *Election Law Journal* 148 (2015) (coauthor: Benjamin Aiken)

[Judicial Independence and Social Welfare](#), 112 *Michigan Law Review* 575 (2014)

[Campaign Finance Disclosure and the Information Tradeoff](#), 98 *Iowa Law Review* 1847 (2013)

[Interpreting Initiatives](#), 97 *Minnesota Law Review* 1621 (2013)

- Prepared for symposium entitled A More Perfect Union? Democracy in the Age of Ballot Initiatives, Oct. 26, 2012, University of Minnesota

[Disclosure, Credibility, and Speech](#), 27 *Journal of Law and Politics* 627 (2012)

- Prepared for symposium entitled Disclosure, Anonymity, and the First Amendment, Oct. 29, 2011, University of Virginia

[Does Law Matter? Theory and Evidence from Single Subject Adjudication](#), 40 *Journal of Legal Studies* 333 (2011)

[Direct Democracy, Courts, and Majority Will](#), 9 *Election Law Journal* 211 (2010)

- Book review of Kenneth P. Miller, *Direct Democracy and the Courts* (2009)

[Reply to Hasen and Matsusaka](#), 110 *Columbia Law Review Sidebar* 59 (2010) (coauthor: Robert Cooter)

[A Theory of Direct Democracy and the Single Subject Rule](#), 110 *Columbia Law Review* 687 (2010)
(coauthor: Robert Cooter)

[Less Can Be More: Conflicting Ballot Proposals and the Highest Vote Rule](#), 38 *Journal of Legal Studies* 383 (2009) (coauthor: Joshua Levine)

[Single Subject Rules and the Legislative Process](#), 67 *University of Pittsburgh Law Review* 803 (2006)

ADDITIONAL TEACHING

Paris 2 Panthéon-Assas University

Visiting Professor of Law 2024, 2022

Roadmap Scholars Program

University of Virginia 2023, 2022

Universidad Torcuato di Tella

Visiting Professor of Law 2022, 2021, 2020

University of Nevada, Reno

Visiting Professor of Law, Judicial Studies Program 2021, 2016

Young African Leader Initiative

James Madison's Montpelier 2017

University of Münster, Germany

Visiting Professor of Law 2015

University of California, Berkeley

Graduate Student Instructor 2003 – 2006

- Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor Award

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Referee

American Law and Economics Review, American Politics Research, California Law Review, Cambridge University Press, Columbia Law Review, Constitutional Political Economy, Election Law Journal, Harvard Law Review, Journal of Empirical Legal Studies, Journal of Law and Courts, Journal of Politics, Law & Social Inquiry, Regulation and Governance, University of Chicago Law Review, Virginia Law Review, Yale Law Journal

University of Virginia Law School

Vice Dean (2021 – present)

Academic and Professional Standards Committee (Chair, 2021 – present)
Appointments Committee (2021 – present; Chair, 2020 – 2021; 2016 – 2017; 2014 – 2015)
Clinical Search Committee (Chair, 2022 – 2023; chair, 2019)
Center for Public Law and Political Economy (Director, 2020 – 2022)
Tenure Committee (2022 – 2023; 2019 – 2020; 2017 – 2018)
Faculty Retreat and Workshops Committee (Chair 2018 – 2019; 2010 – 2011)
Law & Economics Committee (Co-Chair, 2017 – 2019)
Ad Hoc Committee on Centers (2018)
Ad Hoc Teaching Load Committee (2015 – 2017)
Curriculum Committee (2015 – 2016)
Graduate Program Committee (2015 – 2016)
Admissions Committee (2014 – 2015)
Empirical Legal Studies Committee (2010 – 2011; 2012 – 2014)
Academic Placement Committee (2011 – 2012)
Graduation Writing Awards Committee (2011)
Order of the Coif Committee (2009 – 2010)

University of Virginia

CLEAR: UVA Corruption Lab on Ethics, Accountability, and the Rule of Law (current)
Committee on Evaluating Teaching (2022 – 2023)
Data Analytics Working Group (2022 – 2023)
Interfolio Faculty Focus Group (2023)
Strategic Research Infrastructure Initiative (Co-Chair, Communication Working Group, 2022 – 2023)
Research Computing Working Group (2021)
Institute of Democracy’s Post-Election “War Room” (2020)
Leadership in Academic Matters (2016)

Other Service

Member, [Convergencia Network](#), Universidad Autonoma de Chile (2023 – present)
Member, Academic Committee, [El Instituto de Análisis Económico del Derecho](#), Universidad de Palermo (2023 – present)
External Researcher, Research Group on Economic Law, Institutional Competitiveness, Innovation, Development, Jurimetrics and Public Policies (GIDE PUCE), Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador (2021 – 2022)
Election Officer, City of Charlottesville (2020 – present)

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

“Law and Economics for Empaths,” Université Paris-Panthéon-Assas, Mar. 2024; American Law & Economics Association annual meeting, Boston University, June 2023; ComplianceNet Conference, American University, June 2023.

“Public Law and Economics,” Latin American Workshop in Law and Economics, University of Brasilia, Nov. 2023 (remote); Universidad Austral, Oct. 2023; Peking University Law School, May 2023 (remote).

“Transparency, Corruption, and Electoral Systems,” Universidad Austral, Oct. 2023.

“Truth Bounties: A Market Solution to Fake News,” Latin American and Caribbean Law and Economics Association (ALACDE), Pontificia Universidad Javeriana de Colombia, Oct. 2023; Université Paris-Panthéon-Assas, Nov. 2022; Midwest Law and Economics Association, University of Chicago, Oct. 2022; Maryland Carey Law Virtual Constitutional Law and Economics Workshop, Sept. 2022.

Commentator on Thomas Bennett, “Breaking Kayfabe,” Judicial Decision-Making: A Symposium, Washington University School of Law, Sept. 2023.

“Enforcement Signals Under Rules and Standards,” Max Planck Institute for Research on Collective Goods, June 2023 (remote).

“Do Good Citizens Need Law?,” VII Congreso Internacional de Regulación y Consumo, Universidad Autónoma de Chile, May 2023 (remote).

Commentator on Yonathan Arbel, “The Credibility Effect: Defamation Law and Audiences,” Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, University of Virginia, Nov. 2022.

Speaker on panel titled The Importance of Constitutional Emotions for a Democratic Polity, International Association of Constitutional Law, Córdoba, Argentina, Aug. 2022.

“Political Corruption,” workshop for the Oxford Handbook of American Election Law, Aug. 2022 (remote).

“Conflict Avoidance in Constitutional Law,” Conference on Judging Hard Cases, University of Virginia School of Law, May 2022; Workshop in Law, Economy, and Regulation, Universidad Torcuato di Tella, Oct. 2020 (remote); Maryland Carey Law Virtual Workshop in Constitutional Law and Economics, May 2020.

“Justice, Constitutional Courts, and Economics” GIDE-PUCE, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador, May 2022 (remote).

“Information and Compliance,” Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador, Dec. 2021 (remote).

“Law for Angels,” Maryland Carey Law Virtual Constitutional Law & Economics Workshop, Apr. 2022; Latin American and Caribbean Law and Economics Association (ALACDE), Oct. 2021 (keynote) (remote).

“Enforcing Rules versus Enforcing Standards,” ComplianceNet Conference, June 2021 (remote).

“Conflicts Among Rights: An Economic Approach,” GIDE-PUCE/BeLatin Seminar, Universidad Científica del Sur, June 2021 (remote).

Election 2020: The Aftermath (with William Antholis, Melody Barnes, Sidney Milkis, and Janet Napolitano), Miller Center, University of Virginia, Nov. 2020 (remote).

“Do Good Citizens Need Good Laws? Economics and the Expressive Function,” presented at symposium entitled How Law Changes What You Want: Positive and Normative Effects of Law on Values and Preferences, Berkeley Law School, Feb. 2020.

Excerpts from “PUBLIC LAW & ECONOMICS,” Latin American Workshop on Law and Economics, ITAM, Mexico City, Nov. 2019.

“Corruption and Anti-Corruption 101: An Open Discussion with the CLEAR Lab Faculty,” Miller Center, University of Virginia, Nov. 2019.

“Impeachment, Bribery, and Corruption,” University of Virginia, Oct. 2019 (with Prof. Deborah Hellman)

“Insincere Evidence,” presented at Political Economy and Public Law Conference, Princeton, June 2019; American Law & Economics Association annual meeting, NYU, May 2019; University of Chicago Law School, Feb. 2019; Duke Law School, Jan. 2019; University of Michigan Law School, Nov. 2018 (remote); Law & Society Association annual meeting, Toronto, Canada, June 2018.

“Promoting Transparency and Accountability in Government,” Center for the Constitution, James Madison’s Montpelier, Mar. 2019.

Commentator on Ronald Krotoszynski, “Do Words Matter?: The Limited Relevance of Constitutional Text to Securing the Freedom of Speech,” Comparative Constitutional Law Roundtable, James Madison’s Montpelier, Oct. 2018.

“Active Justices: A Portfolio Theory of Supreme Court Power,” presented at ICON-S Conference, Hong Kong, June 2018; UVA Law School, June 2018; Constitutional Law Colloquium, University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana, Apr. 2018.

“Optimal Entrenchment of Legal Rules,” presented at American Law & Economics Association annual meeting, Boston University, May 2018; Comparative Constitutional Law Roundtable, James Madison’s Montpelier, Oct. 2017; University of San Diego Law School, Sept. 2017; George Mason University, April 2017; University of California, Berkeley, Feb. 2017; Political Economy and Public Law Conference, Cornell Law School, June 2016; University of Virginia, June 2016.

Commentator on Jeffrey K. Staton et al., “Appointment Rules and Gender Diversity on High Courts,” Comparative Constitutional Law Roundtable, George Washington University, Mar. 2018.

“Public Law and Economics,” presented at Universidad Espiritu Santo (Guayaquil, Ecuador) and Universidad San Francisco (Quito, Ecuador), Nov. 2017.

“Law and Business,” Congreso Internacional de Ciencias de la Empresa, Universidad Espiritu Santo (Guayaquil, Ecuador), Nov. 2017.

“Transparency and Corruption: A General Analysis,” presented at University of Chicago Legal Forum, Nov. 2017.

Elections in America, University of Virginia, June 2017

Speaker on panel titled Legislative Privilege, Virginia Coalition for Open Government, Montpelier, Dec. 2016.

“Entrenchment, Incrementalism, and Constitutional Collapse,” presented at Political Economy and Public Law Conference, Cornell Law School, June 2016; University of Virginia, June 2016.

Commentator at symposium entitled Democracy By the People: Reforming Campaign Finance in America Today, Seton Hall Law School, Apr. 2016.

“Aggregate Corruption,” presented at symposium entitled Issues in the 2016 Election, University of Kentucky, Mar. 2016.

“The Coordination Fallacy,” presented at symposium entitled The Law of Democracy at a Crossroads: Reflecting on Fifty Years of Voting Rights and the Judicial Regulation of the Political Thicket, Florida State University, Mar. 2015.

“Insincere Rules,” presented at University of Virginia, Nov. 2014; American Law & Economics Association annual meeting, University of Chicago, May 2014; Berkeley Law School, Feb. 2014.

“The Problem of Voter Fraud,” presented at American Constitution Society Scholars’ Schmooze, Washington, DC, June 2014; Midwest Political Science Association annual conference, Chicago, IL, Apr. 2014; Constitutional Law Schmooze, University of Maryland, Feb. 2014; symposium entitled The Voting Wars: Elections and the Law from Registration to Inauguration, University of Virginia, Mar. 2013.

Commentator on Lynda W. Powell, *The Influence of Campaign Contributions in the Legislative Process*, and Raymond La Raja, “Campaign Finance and Partisan Polarization,” presented at symposium entitled The Future of Campaign Finance Reform, Duke Law School, Feb. 2014.

“Campaign Finance Disclosure and the Information Tradeoff,” presented at American Law & Economics Association annual meeting, Vanderbilt University, May 2013; Midwest Law & Economics Association annual meeting, Washington University, Oct. 2012; and University of Virginia, Sept. 2012.

Speaker on panel entitled Disclosure—What Should Be Disclosed, When, By Whom?, conference sponsored by the Center for the Constitution at Montpelier entitled Can Campaign Finance Be Reformed?, May 2013.

“Judicial Independence and Social Welfare,” presented at Georgetown Law Center, Apr. 2013; Tel Aviv University School of Law, Dec. 2012; Political Economy and Public Law Conference, Harvard Law School, June 2011; American Law & Economics Association annual meeting, Columbia Law School, May 2011; and University of Virginia, March 2011.

Commentator on Brandice Canes-Wrone, Jason Kelly, and Tom Clark, “Judicial Selection and Death Penalty Decisions,” Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, Stanford University, Nov. 2012.

“Interpreting Initiatives,” presented at symposium entitled A More Perfect Union? Democracy in the Age of Ballot Initiatives, University of Minnesota, Oct. 2012.

Commentator on Douglas Spencer and Abby Wood, “Citizens United, States Divided: Evidence of Elasticity in Independent Expenditures,” Political Economy and Public Law Conference, University of Virginia, May 2012.

Commentator on David S. Law and Mila Versteeg, “Sham Constitutions,” University of Virginia, Jan. 2012.

“Disclosure, Credibility, and Speech,” presented at symposium entitled Disclosure, Anonymity and the First Amendment, University of Virginia, Oct. 2011.

“Does Law Matter? Theory and Evidence from Single Subject Adjudication,” presented at Law and Economics Workshop, Georgetown Law Center, Nov. 2010; JSP Dissertation Colloquium, U.C. Berkeley, Oct. 2010; American Law & Economics Association annual meeting, Princeton University, May 2010. Between October 2008 and February 2009, I presented this paper at workshops at Berkeley, Boston University, University of Chicago, Duke University, Hastings College of the Law, New York University, University of Pennsylvania, University of Southern California, University of Virginia, and Washington University.

Commentator on Robert Cooter and Neil S. Siegel, “Taxes, Regulations, and Health Care: Part II of Collective Action Federalism,” Rational Choice and Constitutional Law Conference, University of Chicago School of Law, Sept. 2010.

Commentator on Thomas J. Miles, “Racial Disparities in the Allocation of Wiretap Applications across Federal Judges,” paper presented at conference on Law and Economics of Criminal Law, University of Virginia, Mar. 2010.

Presentation on Congressional redistricting, Miller Center of Public Centers, University of Virginia, Oct. 2009.

“Less Can Be More: Conflicting Ballot Proposals and the Highest Vote Rule,” presented at American Law & Economics Association annual meeting, Harvard Law School, May 2007, and Western Political Science Association annual meeting, Las Vegas, NV, Mar. 2007.

Speaker on panel entitled Judges Overruling the Electorate?: The Single Subject Rule, Federalist Society’s National Lawyers Convention, Washington, DC, Nov. 2006.

“Political Questions in International Law,” presented at Law & Society Association annual meeting, Baltimore, MD, July 2006.

“Chaos, Direct Democracy, and the Single Subject Rule,” presented at American Law & Economics Association annual meeting, U.C. Berkeley, May 2006, and Law & Economics Workshop, U.C. Berkeley, Feb. 2006.

“Single Subject Rules and Public Choice Theory,” presented at Workshop on Strategic Theory of the U.S. Constitution, U.C. Berkeley, Aug. 2005.