

Jacob R. Hurst

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Strategic Law Library Director and Associate Professor with over a decade of leadership in academic and university-wide library systems. A dedicated steward of institutional resources, I have a proven track record of unifying complex library units, modernizing digital infrastructure, and navigating transformative institutional change. I am an expert in balancing fiscal discipline with the ethical integration of emerging technologies, including Generative AI and unified Integrated Library Systems (ILS). Committed to the dual mission of supporting rigorous academic scholarship and providing equitable access to legal information for the broader community.

EXECUTIVE CORE COMPETENCIES

Strategic Leadership	Information & Tech Stewardship	Academic & Community Engagement
System Unification: Expertise in merging multi-unit libraries and streamlining operations.	AI & Emerging Tech: Strategic oversight of Generative AI integration and digital evolution.	Clinical & Skills Support: Developing a research curriculum to support law practice skills.
Fiscal Stewardship: Advanced budget planning, contract negotiation, and inflation mitigation.	ILS Migration: Proven success transitioning to unified systems (e.g., Folio, OCLC).	"Access School" Advocacy: Creating innovative eBook programs to reduce student cost barriers.
Change Management: Leading staff through structural transitions and compliance (ABA/SACSCOC). Export to Sheets	Digital Repositories: Architecting scholarly impact through BePress and SSRN synergy.	Faculty Liaison: Direct support for faculty scholarship and repository curation.

LIBRARY ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

St. Thomas University – Miami Gardens, Florida University Librarian & Law Library Director | April 2022 – Present

- **Institutional Stewardship:** Unified three distinct library units (University, Law, and Museum/Archives) into a single management structure, streamlining workflows and synergizing policies across the institution.

- **Fiscal Leadership:** Orchestrated an 18% expansion in digital collections over three years while negotiating multi-year contracts below market rates to mitigate inflationary pressures.
- **Technological Innovation:** Serve on the President's Technology Advisory Committee and moderate university-wide faculty roundtables on the integration of Generative AI in higher education.
- **Space Transformation:** Directed the revitalization of the library's physical footprint, converting low-use stack areas and copy rooms into digital classrooms and communal study spaces.

Law Library Director and Associate Professor of Law Librarianship | January 2020 – Present

- **Executive Leadership:** Served as a core member of the Dean's Leadership Team, contributing to college-wide strategic planning and operational governance.
- **Strategic Resource Allocation:** Directed all law library operations, including the strategic acquisition of physical and digital collections and the execution of a comprehensive budget designed to meet evolving ABA and institutional metrics.
- **Rapid Growth Management:** Successfully managed a 67% increase in student enrollment over three years by strategically growing library staffing and reconfiguring resources to maintain high service standards.
- **Access Advocacy:** Designed and implemented a first-year eBook program providing required texts at a 30-40% discount, directly supporting STU's mission as an "access school".
- **Scholarly Impact:** Established *STU Law Scholarly Works*, a digital repository synergizing faculty profiles across SSRN, HeinOnline, and Google Scholar to amplify research reach.
- **Faculty & Student Engagement:** Established the law library's instructional curriculum, including the creation of the Legal Research Boot Camp and Advanced Legal Research courses.
- **Technology & Infrastructure Oversight:** Managed law school audiovisual support staff and classroom technology planning; served as the primary webmaster for the College of Law, St. Thomas Law Review, and the Intercultural Human Rights Law Review.
- **Compliance & Accreditation:** Ensured continuous institutional compliance with ABA standards through meticulous monitoring and reporting of library use metrics.
- **Community Pipeline Mentorship:** Supported the Palermo Mentorship Program for Carol City High School and created a mentorship program for Aventura Waterways K-8 Law Academy featuring mock trial coaching and "Day-in-the-Life" field trips. Arranged for middle school students to receive mentorship from current law students.

Assistant Director for Public Services | October 2012 – December 2019

- Directed a department of 15-25 individuals, including reference, circulation, and AV support staff.
- Collaborated on budget matters and facilities management while serving as the primary library liaison for faculty.

RESEARCH AGENDA: THE STEWARDSHIP OF SHARED RESOURCES

My research is unified by the theme of stewardship, examining how we manage and protect essential resources—whether environmental or informational—in a period of rapid change.

Natural Resource Stewardship in the American West: Growing up in Utah, I developed a lifelong passion for protecting the unique landscapes of the American West. My research focuses on how climate change is necessitating urgent new legal and policy conversations regarding the use and protection of natural resources. I am particularly interested in the intersection of traditional resource law and the emerging mandates for sustainability in the face of environmental shifts.

Stewardship in Modern Librarianship

- **The Digital Transition and AI:** I examine the intensifying shift toward e-resources and how libraries must integrate AI expectations into decision-making. My work explores how to leverage patron AI usage to improve research outcomes and community engagement.
- **Institutional Unification (Work in Progress):** I am currently authoring an article detailing the lessons learned from architecting and implementing the merger of the STU Law Library into a unified university library system. This research serves as a practical guide for administrators tasked with creating shared library structures from the ground up.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Courses Taught

- **Core Curriculum:** Advanced Legal Research and Writing (3cr); Legal Research and Writing (3cr).
- **Skills & Advocacy:** Appellate Advocacy (2cr); Legal Research Boot Camp (1cr); Practical Legal Research (2cr).
- **Specialized Lectures:** Cyberlaw, International Law, Jurisprudence, Race and the Law, and the Rule of Law.

EDUCATION

University of South Florida, School of Library and Information Science

- Master of Library and Information Science, *magna cum laude*, December 2014

St. Thomas University College of Law

- Juris Doctor, *cum laude*, May 2011

University of Utah, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences

- Bachelor of Science, Political Science, May 2002

SERVICE & AWARDS

- **Award:** STU “STUard” (Employee) of the Year, 2023.
- **Law School Committees:** Library, Technology, and Branding Committee (Chair); Student Wellness Committee; Academic Standing Committee; Dean’s Leadership Team.
- **University Committees:** President's Technology Advisory Committee; Provost's Council; University Faculty Senate; Strategic Planning and Development Committee.
- **Professional Memberships:** American Association of Law Libraries (AALL); American Library Association (ALA); American Bar Association (ABA); Association of American Law Schools (AALS).

PREVIOUS PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. – Salt Lake City, Utah Branch Manager | July 2002 – December 2007

- Managed staff and conducted annual budget planning to achieve operational compliance and strategic goals.
- Maintained fiscal discipline while leading the Rocky Mountain Region in sales and profit goals at consecutive national conferences.