

Patricia Quinn Robertson Johnston

Arkansas State University
Neil Griffin College of Business
Department of Economics and Finance
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Education

J.D., Vanderbilt University School of Law

B.A., Vanderbilt University.
Major: Economics with Related Work in Mathematics

Professional Positions

Academic

Arkansas State University (2005-Present)

Professor of Business Law

Executive Director of Arkansas State University Center for Leadership Excellence (CLE) 2022-Present;
Faculty Coordinator of CLE 2016-2022 (the CLE was formerly known as the Women's Business Leadership Center)

Director of Undergraduate Studies, Neil Griffin College of Business (NGCOB) 2021-2022

Interim Associate Dean, NGCOB, 2019-2021

Department Chairperson, Department of Economics and Finance, 2012-2021

Courses Developed and Taught in Online and Traditional Formats at Arkansas State University

LAW 2023, Legal Environment of Business

REI 3413, Real Estate Practice

LAW 4043, Law of Business Organizations

LAW 4073 Business Law in Popular Culture

REI 4413, Real Estate Law

LAW 6023, Law and Ethics in Business

MGMT 6793, Business Ethics and Social Responsibility

LAW 459V, Special Problems in Law

Chaired an Honors Thesis Committee and served on many other honors thesis committees

Taught multiple Honors Sections

Served on Doctor of Educational in Educational Leadership Committee

Advisor for Doctoral Student in Environmental Science

IAE CAEN in France

Taught International Business Law course for Master's in International Management program at IAE CAEN in France, November-December 2018; November-December 2019

Professional Experience Prior to Academic Positions

Attorney/Member, Yost and Robertson PLC, Franklin, Tennessee
President, Williamson County Escrow & Title Inc.

Licensures and Certifications

Licensed to Practice Law, State of Arkansas.

Licensed to Practice Law, State of Tennessee.

Published Intellectual Contributions

- Robertson Johnston, P. Q. (2022). The Ripple and More: Developments in Cryptoassets and Securities Law, *Business Law Review*, Volume 53, 15-26 (Fall 2022).
- Robertson, P. Q. (2016). Anti-Surcharge Laws and Freedom of Speech. *Business Law Review*, 49, 67-84.
- Robertson, J., Robertson, P. Q. (2015). Equitable Remedies under ERISA: The Sixth Circuit's Position in *Rochow*. *Business Law Review*, 48, 91-102.
- Robertson, P. Q., Tew, P. (2014). Retirement Funds in Bankruptcy: *Clark v. Rameker*. *Business Law Review*, 47, 97-114.
- Quinn, T., Robertson, J., Robertson, P. Q. (2013). Challenges to the Defense of Marriage Act. *Journal of Business Administration Online*, 12 (2).
- Robertson, P. Q., Robertson, J. (2012). *Christopher v. Smithkline Beecham Corp.* *Journal of Business Administration Online*, 11(2), 10.
- Robertson, J., Robertson, P. Q. (2012). Motions to Compel Arbitration and Suits on the Underlying Merits. *Business Law Review*, 45, 19.
- Robertson, P. Q., Robertson, J. (2011). The Ku Klux Klan Act and the Intracorporate Conspiracy Doctrine. *Business Law Review*, 44, 235-255.
- Robertson, P. Q., Dancer, T. (2010). Deductibility of Work-Related Educational Expenses. *Journal of Accountancy* Dec. 2010), 42-45 plus 2-page online supplement.
www.journalofaccountancy.com/Issues/2010/Dec/20103279.htm
- Robertson, P. Q., Robertson, J. (2010). Grumbling, Retaliation, and the Fair Labor Standards Act: *Kasten v. St. Gobain Performance Plastics Corp.* *Business Law Review*, 43, 133-149.
- Robertson, P. Q. (2009). In Sickness and in Health: Recent Judicial Developments in Americans with Disabilities Act Association Discrimination Cases. *Employee Responsibilities and Rights Journal/Springer*, 21(3), 171-193.
- Robertson, P. Q., Lewis, J. M. (2009). Donor's Remorse and Broken Promises: The Enforceability of Charitable Pledges. *Journal of Legal, Ethical, and Regulatory Issues* 12(2), 15-27.
- Robertson, P. Q., Robertson, J. (2009). How Much You Keep: *Eschelmann v. Agere* and Tax Gross-Ups in Employment Discrimination Cases. *Business Law Review*, 42, 127-138.
- Robertson, J., Robertson, P. Q. (2008). Multi-State Taxation and Captive REITS: Wal-Mart's "Rollback" of Taxes. *Business Law Review*, 41, 89-108.
- Robertson, P. Q. (2008). We've Always Done It This Way: Information, Ethics, and Antitrust in Real Estate Sales. *Rushton, LA: Proceedings of the International Academy of Business and Public Administration Disciplines*.
- Robertson, P. Q., Dancer, T. (2008). *Educating Your Teacher Clients- An Update on Deductible Travel Expenses While Pursuing Future Studies*. Proceedings of the 2008 Meeting of the Academy of Accounting, Finance, and Economics.
- Robertson, P. Q. (2007). Kickbacks, RESPA and the Title Insurance Industry: How to Get Foot in the (Courthouse) Door". *Real Estate Law Journal*, 36(3), pages 270-297.

Presentations

- Robertson Johnston, P.Q., My Body is a Temple: Religious Accommodations of Scientific Beliefs in the Workplace, Midwest Academy of Legal Studies in Business, Chicago, IL (Spring 2026).
- Robertson, P. Q., Consumer Protection and Standing to Sue Debt Collectors: Lessons from the Living Dead, Southeastern Academy of Legal Studies in Business, Asheville, NC (Fall 2025).
- Robertson Johnston, P.Q., Panelist at session regarding Mentoring at first annual Catalyst event in Jonesboro, AR (Spring 2025)
- Robertson Johnston, P.Q., REX v. Zillow; Violation of Consumer Protection or Reasonable Business Practice?, Midwest Academy of Legal Studies in Business, Chicago, IL (Spring 2024).
- Robertson Johnston, P.Q., Testing the Testers: Standing to Sue Under the Americans with Disabilities Act, Academy of Legal Studies in Business, virtual presentation (Summer 2023).
- Robertson Johnston, P.Q., Standing Under the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, Midwest Academy of Legal Studies in Business, Chicago, IL (Spring 2023).
- Robertson Johnston, P.Q., Case Studies in Human Resources and Anti-Discrimination Law, Presented at the invitation of Arkansas State University to aspiring leaders on our campus (May and October 2023).
- Robertson Johnston, P.Q., Worry, Confusion, Zombies, and Standing: Intangible Injuries and the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, Academy of Legal Studies in Business, virtual presentation (July 27, 2022).
- Robertson Johnston, P.Q., The Ripple and More: Developments in Crypto Assets and Securities Law, North Atlantic Regional Business Law Association, Boston, MA (April 9, 2022).
- Robertson Johnston, P.Q., Remarks on the Value of French American International Educational Exchanges (as invited speaker at online webinar exchange Democracy and Friendship between France and the USA at IAE Caen France January 20, 2021).
- Robertson, P.Q., Lewis, James M. Arbitration Agreements with AT&T and Its Corporate Cousins: A Question of Consent, Southeast Academy of Legal Studies in Business (November 13, 2020).
- Robertson, P.Q., Lewis, James M. Landlord Liability for Tenant-on-Tenant Harassment, Academy of Legal Studies in Business (August 6, 2020).
- Robertson, P.Q. Madonna and the Love Break, Midwest Academy for Legal Studies in Business, Chicago, IL. (March 24, 2017).
- Robertson, P. Q. Anti-Surcharge Laws and Freedom of Speech, North Atlantic Regional Business Law Ass'n, Bentley University, Waltham, MA. (April 2, 2016).
- Robertson, P. Q. (Presenter & Author), Tew, P. (Author Only), North Atlantic Regional Business Law Ass'n Annual Meeting, "Retirement Funds in Bankruptcy: Clark v. Rameker," Univ. of Mass-Lowell, MA. (April 5, 2014).
- Robertson, J. (Author Only), Robertson, P. Q. (Presenter & Author), Quinn, T. (Author Only), 62nd Arkansas College Teachers of Economics and Business Conference, "Challenges to the Defense of Marriage Act," Arkansas College Teachers of Economics & Business, Conway, Arkansas. (September 27, 2013).
- Robertson, J., Robertson, P. Q., 49th Annual MBAA Conference, "Interpreting 'Aiding and Abetting' in the Criminal Tax Law," Midwest Academy of Legal Studies in Business, Chicago, IL. (February 28, 2013).

- Robertson, P. Q., Robertson, J., 49th Annual MBAA Conference, "Windfall Taxes as Creditable Income Taxes," Midwest Academy of Legal Studies in Business, Chicago, IL. (February 28, 2013).
- Robertson, P. Q., Robertson, J., Academy of Legal Studies in Business Annual Meeting, "Manifest Disregard in Arbitration Post-Hall Street," Kansas City, MO. (August 11, 2012).
- Robertson, J., Robertson, P. Q., Annual Conference - Academy of Legal Studies in Business, "Plain Language in the Tax Law," Kansas City, MO. (August 10, 2012).
- Robertson, J. (Author Only), Robertson, P. Q. (Presenter & Author), Annual Conference North Atlantic Regional Business Law Association, "Motions to Compel Arbitration and Suits on the Underlying Merits," Boston, MA. (March 31, 2012).
- Robertson, P. Q., Robertson, J., Annual Conference - Academy of Legal Studies in Business, "Salesmen Minus Enthusiasm? Pharmaceutical Sales Reps and the Fair Labor Standards Act," New Orleans, LA. (August 11, 2011).
- Robertson, P. Q., North Atlantic Regional Bus. Law Association Annual Conference, "The Ku Klux Klan Act and the Intracorporate Conspiracy Doctrine," Waltham, MA. (April 2, 2011).
- Robertson, P. Q., Annual Meeting Southeastern Academy of Legal Studies in Business, "Interstate Land Sales Full Disclosure Act of 1968: Big News in 2010," Charleston, SC. (November 12, 2010).
- Robertson, P. Q., North Atlantic Regional Business Law Association Annual Conference, "Grumbling, Retaliation and the Fair Labor Standards Act: Kasten V. Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics Corp.," Boston, Massachusetts. (April 10, 2010).
- Robertson, P. Q., Academy of Accounting Finance and Economics Annual Conference, "Accountants' Negligence Liability to Non-Clients: New Cases, Same Old Confusion," New Orleans, LA. (December 10, 2009).
- Robertson, P. Q., International Academy of Business and Public Administration Disciplines, "We've Always Done It This Way: Information, Ethics, and Antitrust in Real Estate Sales," Memphis, TN. (October 27, 2008).
- Robertson, P. Q., Robertson, J. F., North Atlantic Regional Business Law Association, "Multi-State Taxation and Captive REITS: Wal-Mart's Rollback of Taxes," Providence, RI. (April 5, 2008).
- Robertson, P. Q., Lewis, J. M., Academy of Legal Ethical and Regulatory Issues, "Donor's Remorse and Broken Promises: The Enforceability of Charitable Pledges," Tunica, MS. (April 4, 2008).
- Robertson, P. Q., Southeastern Academy of Legal Studies in Business, "The Catch-22 of the Americans with Disabilities Act: Post Secondary Students with Disabilities," Memphis, TN. (November 2007).
- Robertson, P. Q., Arkansas College Teachers of Economics and Business, "Students with Disabilities - the ADA and College Students (Catch-22)," Arkadelphia, AR. (October 2007).
- Robertson, P. Q., MidAtlantic Academy of Legal Studies in Business, "Kickbacks, RESPA and the Title Insurance Industry: Getting a Foot in the (Courthouse) Door," St. Michael's, MD. (March 2007).
- Moore, L., Robertson, P. Q., Arkansas College Teachers of Economics and Business Annual Meeting, "Tax Increment Financing Issues: Origins and Issues in Arkansas, Missouri & Tennessee," Conway AR. (October 6, 2006).
- Robertson, P. Q., Midwest Academy of Legal Studies in Business, "The Right to Die: Gonzales v. Oregon," Chicago, IL. (March 2006).

Robertson, P. Q., Southeastern Academy of Legal Studies in Business, "Fifth Amendment Taking Clarified: Rent Caps, Gas Prices and the Substantial Advancement of Legitimate State Interests," Atlanta, GA. (November 2005).

Service Activities:

2024-2026

- Executive Director of Center for Leadership Excellence (formerly known as Women's Business Leadership Center ("WBLC"), Women's Leadership Center, and Women's Leadership Collaborative). Activities include:
 - Chair of Leadership Conference Committee (have chaired this committee continuously since 2014 and the tenth conference will be September 2026). This conference typically includes more than 500 attendees each year.
 - Coordinated initiative to make A-State become the only undergraduate Forte Foundation partner university in Arkansas.
 - Recognized as a 2025 Inspiring Program in Business by Insight into Diversity.
 - Led efforts to rename and rebrand the WBLC to Center for Leadership Excellence and recruit a broader demographic in 2025-26.
 - Traveled with students in February 2024 and February 2025 to the "Fast Track to Finance Conference" at Deutsche Bank in New York and traveled with students to the "Emerging Leaders Conference" by Forte in New York in October 2024.
 - Traveled with students to Amazon's Nashville, TN, headquarters to learn about careers at Amazon in April 2025.
 - Traveled with students to Little Rock for lunch and workshops with business mentors and large service project for Life Touch (formerly known as Arkansas Hospice)
 - Gallup Clifton strengths coaching and workshops for high school and college students through the Gallup Strengths platform. Administered approximately 300 Clifton Strengths assessments in 2024-25.
 - Two Annual Recognizing Remarkable Women luncheons in 2024-25.
 - Consistent communication with donors, partners, and mentors who have given time and financial resources to support our A-State students in the Center.
 - Establishment and regular meetings with an active advisory board for the Center.
 - Assist Advancement with fundraising efforts for the Center.
 - Host multiple events for A-State alums and students, including annual retreats with 100+ attendees, a preconference dinner, special recognitions of graduating Leadership Intern seniors, an etiquette luncheon, and holiday celebrations.
 - Host talks by community and professional leaders to the Center's Leadership Interns.
 - Manage an intensive mentoring program (including approximately 100 students each year) to prepare our students for leadership and career.
 - Coordination of potential internship and volunteer opportunities for students with various companies and organizations.
 - Help oversee multiple student service projects.
 - Serve on a committee and participate in events regarding LEAD students at Nettleton Jr. High.
 - Represent the Center and speak at community and campus events.
 - Manage selection of approximately 20 scholarships per year.
 - Organize student registration and travel to multiple conferences and events, such as Catalyst, Power of the Purse, Arkansas Women's Leadership Symposium, trips to mentors' homes for events, etc.
 - Represent the Center's press releases, TV interviews, etc., oversee production of marketing materials, recruiting, etc.
 - Received grant of \$5,000 from Entergy for annual conference in 2024.
 - Chair of Search Committee for Director of Student Engagement and Outreach, Center for Leadership Excellence (formerly Women's Business Leadership Center).
- Promotion Retention and Tenure Committee (Committee Chair for Department of Economics and Finance Spring 2026; Served on College Committee Spring 2026; Served on Department Committee as a committee member for multiple years)
- Chair, Neil Griffin College of Business Grievance Committee 2026
- Neil Griffin College of Business (NGCOB) Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
- NGCOB Assessment Committee
- NGCOB Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee (spring 2024).
- Goal Assessment Teams for NGCOB Assessment Committee.

- Department Assessment Committee
- Department Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
- Volunteer for student recruiting and advising events (e.g., Red Wolf advising event in March 2024), talking with potential students and their parents during campus visits, etc.
- Volunteer for student recruiting events, talking with potential students and their parents who visit campus, etc.
- Coordinate and host high school student activities with high school teachers and counselors at our annual Women's Leadership Conference, Leadership Academy, etc., including campus tours, speakers, and workshops
- Fall 2024 Presentation to 150+/- FYE Business students about majors in our department
- Interviewed approximately 175 students for participation in the Center for Leadership Excellence (formerly WBLC) and included a mini-coaching session using their Gallup Clifton Strengths assessment results in the interview.
- Developed and led webinar about LinkedIn for approximately 25 students from various universities and community colleges who receive funds from the Arkansas Single Parent Scholarship Fund.
- WBLC Leadership Academy for high school girls on November 15, 2024. More than 50 high school girls from 4 different high schools participated.

2023:

- Member, Chancellor's University Women's Leadership Campus Expansion Committee
- Member, University Search Committee, for Women's Leadership Collaborative Director
- Development and delivery of legal training materials and sessions for aspiring staff supervisors and leaders on our campus jointly with A-State Human Resources and A-State's legal department
- Executive Director of Women's Business Leadership Center and Interim Director of Women's Leadership Collaborative. Activities included:
 - Receipt of **\$1,000,000 commitment (to be paid over 10 years)** from a donor to establish the Women's Leadership Collaborative. This financial commitment was directly a result of our relationships developed through work in the Women's Business Leadership Center (established 2016).
 - Negotiated the new partnership with Forte Foundation (see fortefoundation.org). A-State recently became the only undergraduate Forte partner university in Arkansas.
 - Negotiation and initiation of plans for strengths training for high school and college students through purchase of the Gallup Strengths platform.
 - Partnered with University Advancement to host the first annual WLC Recognizing Remarkable Women luncheon in November 2023.
 - Host multiple events for A-State alums and students, including an annual retreat with 80+/- attendees, a preconference dinner, special recognitions of graduating Leadership Intern seniors, and a holiday celebration
 - Manage an intensive mentoring program to prepare our students for leadership and career (including over 100 mock interviews with at least 18 difference businesses and more than 25 small group mentoring sessions incorporating important conversations between mentors from the professional world and our students in 2023)
 - Coordination of potential internship and volunteer opportunities for students with various companies and organizations
 - Travel with students for mentoring and teambuilding experiences with a former Microsoft executive and our Center's Founding Director in Mountain Home, AR
 - Oversee multiple student service projects, including a leadership workshop for 100+/- sixth grade gifted and talented students in Jonesboro Public Schools
 - Represent the WLC at community and campus events such as luncheon with Greenfield Lecturer, Rotary, etc.
 - Speak at campus meetings (such as Chancellor's Leadership Class Roundtable) and other meetings throughout the region
 - Collaborate with other groups on campus (such as Women in Science, faculty in the College of Engineering, and the HOWL Transition Program) at events to expand the WLC's mission and impact
 - Manage selection of approximately 20 scholarships per year for undergraduate and MBA and MAcc students
 - Spoke at Memphis Rotary District meeting, Jonesboro Rotary meeting, and Stuttgart Rotary meeting about the Center

- Chair of Women's Leadership Conference Committee
- NGCOB Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
- NGCOB Assessment Committee
- NGCOB Welcoming & Belonging Committee
- NBCOB Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee
- Goal Assessment Teams for NGCOB Assessment Committee.
- Department PRT Committee
- Department Assessment Committee
- Department Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
- Collaborated in major revisions of Business Administration degree and development of marketing materials for Business Administration degree
- Marketed the Certificate in Business Law and Compliance
- Volunteered for student recruiting events such as Select A Major Fair, talking with potential students and their parents during campus visits, etc.
- Lunch with potential Finance faculty candidate to assist Finance Search Committee
- Volunteer for student recruiting events such as Select A Major Fair, talking with potential students and their parents who visit campus, etc.
- Coordinate and host high school student activities with high school teachers and counselors at our annual Women's Leadership Conference, including campus tours, speakers, and workshops

2022

- University Pathways Committee member - chaired by Associate Vice Chancellor of Academic Services to focus on recruitment and retention of students.
- University Women's Leadership Center Campus Expansion Committee formed by the Chancellor
- University Faculty Research Awards Committee (FRAC) Proxy Member – reviewed FRAC applications and participated and voted at FRAC meeting
- NGCOB Assessment (Assurance of Learning) Committee plus two Goal Assessment Teams
- NBCOB Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee
- Director of Undergraduate Studies – 8/15/21-6/30/22 – a variety of initiatives and tasks assigned by our Dean, including extensive curriculum and schedule review and revision, work on international sister programs with the Office of Global Initiatives, selection and recognition of college award winners, follow-up activities for AACSB accreditation, gathering data and reporting societal impact, participation in recruiting events, etc.
- Develop and Market the Certificate of Business Law and Compliance
- Chair of Women's Leadership Center Conference Committee
- Executive Director of Women's Leadership Center
- Department PRT Committee
- Department Undergraduate Curriculum Committee
- Department Program Promotion Committee
- Department Student Scholarship Selection Committee (Chair)
- Department Grievance Committee
- Department Social Committee (unofficial committee)
- Led development of a course rotation in collaboration with NGCOB faculty and the Office of Global Initiatives for a potential program partnership in Japan
- Spoke at International Admissions Virtual Sessions to expose an international audience to opportunities for the study of business at A-State and coordinate with others in our Master's programs for this event
- Developed a video recording shown in all Business and FYE classes for freshmen about majors in our Department
- Engaged in roundtable listening sessions with students about student experiences with advising on our campus and writing a report about what we learned for Pathways Committee
- August welcome table for INSPIRE (an orientation week for diversity) and attend evening mingle welcome event for INSPIRE students

Other Select Memberships, Service, Credentials and Awards

Member of Board of Editors, Business Law Review.
Association of College and University Educators (ACUE) Micro credential in Promoting Active Learning.
Clifton Strengths for Students Champions Course Completed
IRB Training for Human Research Completed
At least 15 hours per year (average) in Continuing Legal Education annually
Arkansas State University Excellence in Diversity Award (2021).
Arkansas Adviser of the Year, Phi Beta Lambda (2019).
Jonesboro Woman of the Year, Business & Professional Women (2016).
Internal Service Award, College of Business. (2011).
Presidential Excellence Award, Arkansas Phi Beta Lambda. (2011).
University Committee, Pathways Committee for recruitment and retention of students (2020-present)
University Committee, Academic Budget Committee (2020-2021).
University Committee Chair, Undergraduate Admissions Appeals Committee. (2011 - 2013).
University Honors Council Secretary and Council Member. (2009 - 2011).
College of Business Committee Chair: Women's Business Leadership Conference Committee. (2014 - Present); The first Conference was in 2015, and the Conference has grown to 500 participants.
College of Business Online Undergraduate Education Committee (2015- 2016); and Chair of Scholarship and Honors Committee (2009 - 2011).
Faculty Advisor, Phi Beta Lambda. (2008 - 2022).
Faculty Advisor, Arkansas State University Economics Club (2018-2020)
Faculty Advisor, Arkansas State University Business & Professional Women (2016-2020)
Faculty Co-Advisor, Arkansas State Young Investors Club. (2012 – 2014).
Served on various other University Committees, including: Chancellor Search Committee; Honors Awards Committee; Development, Communications and Alumni Committee; Student Disciplinary Committee; Disabilities Services Committee, Academic Affairs AACRAO Review Committee; Academic Affairs Online Proctoring Committee.
Served on various College and Department Committees, including: Executive Committee; three Dean Search Committees; Promotion, Retention and Tenure; Student Professional Development; College Curriculum; Assessment; Recruiting; Green Business; Law Curriculum; Faculty Search; Faculty Grievance; Recruiting.
Board Member, Girl Scouts Diamonds of Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas (2016-2019).
Elder, First Presbyterian Church, Jonesboro, AR. (Active Session Member: 2009 – 2011; 2013 - 2015).
Board Member, PACES (Parents and Children Educational Services), Jonesboro, AR. (2010 - 2013).
Chair, Organizer, and Volunteer at Affiliate Site City Youth Ministries/Summer Feeding Program, Jonesboro, AR. (Summer 2011).
Board Member, First Presbyterian Church Preschool, Jonesboro (2010).
Member, Cardiology Associates Foundation Education Committee, Jonesboro, AR. (2006 - 2008).
Member, Academy of Legal Studies in Business.
Member, North Atlantic Regional Business Law Association.
Member, Midwest Academy of Legal Studies in Business.
Reviewer, Journal of Employment & Labor Law.
Panelist at Arkansas State University Pre-Law Club about Women in the Law (2018).
Speaker at accelHERate event at Arkansas Biosciences Institute (2018).
Speaker about Women's Leadership Center and Conference at various Rotary Clubs.
Guest Judge, Arkansas State University Moot Court Team.
Lead various leadership workshops for educators and girls
Volunteer at Prolifix (mentor for a young professional)
Volunteer at Multinational Memphis
Spoke to the Veritas Leges Society (Business Law Club) and PreLaw Club about Law School and Legal Careers