# Peter Conti-Brown

The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania • 3730 Walnut Street, Suite 600 Philadelphia, PA 19104 • <u>petercb@wharton.upenn.edu</u> • (215) 898-6516 (office) • (650) 799-7232 (cell)

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, Department of Legal Studies and Business Ethics		
Courses taught: Legal Studies 101; Securities Regulation; Other People's Money: The Law, Politics, and History of Financial Institutions; Responsibility in Business; The Regulation of Financial Institutions (University of Pennsylvania Law School)		
Nonresident Fellow, Economic Studies, The Brookings Institution Affilated with the Hutchins Center on Fiscal and Monetary Policy and the Center on Regulation and Markets	2019 – present	
Visiting Professor, Columbia Law School Course scheduled: Secured Credit (four-credit course)	Fall 2020	
Visiting Researcher, International Monetary Fund, Research Department	2019	
<ul><li>Academic Fellow, Rock Center for Corporate Governance, Stanford Law School</li><li>In residence 2010-2011; nonresident, 2011-2015.</li></ul>	2010 - 2015	
Visiting Fellow, Program on Corporate Governance, Harvard Law School	2014	
OTHER EXPERIENCE		
Of Counsel, Gupta Wessler PLLC, Washington, D.C.	2013 - 2016	
Law Clerk, Judge Stephen F. Williams, U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit	2012 - 2013	
Law Clerk, Judge Gerard E. Lynch, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit	2011 - 2012	
EDUCATION		
Princeton University, Department of History, PhD	2017	
Stanford Law School, J.D.	2010	
The City College of New York, Department of Education, M.S.	2007	
Harvard College, A.B., <i>magna cum laude</i> , Sociology and Romance Languages and Literatures	2005	
HONORS AND AWARDS		
Tanto Fund Award	2020	
Cynthia and Bennett Golub Endowed Faculty Scholar Award	2018-2019	
Wharton MBA Excellence in Teaching Award	2018, 2019	
Wharton Undergraduate Excellence in Teaching Award	2017, 2018, 2019	
Penn Undergraduate Research Mentoring Award Wharton Dean's Fund Research Award	2016, 2017, 2019 2016, 2017, 2019	
Institute for Political History, Hugh Davis Graham Award	2010, 2017, 2019 2016	
Council on Foreign Relations, Stephen M. Kellen Term Member	2015-2020	

Updated February 20

Princeton University, John R. Irwin Fellowship (one of five named fellowships for 100+ history	2015
graduate students)	
Princeton University, Pass with Distinction, General Exams in U.S. history, international financial	2015
history, and the economics of central banking	
George Washington University School of Law, Junior Faculty Scholarship Prize, Center for Law,	2013
Economics, and Finance.	

# P U B L I C A T I O N S Books

Research Handbook on Central Banking (edited, with Rosa M. Lastra, Edward Elgar Publishing, 2018)

The Power and Independence of the Federal Reserve (Princeton University Press, 2016)

- Reviewed in Regulation, CFA Institute, Journal of Economics, Biz Ed Magazine, Journal of Economic Literature, Journal of Economic History, Financial Post, Wall Street Journal, Financial Times, Central Banking Magazine, Library of Law and Liberty, Library Journal, Kirkus Reviews, and Financial World
- When States Go Broke: Origins, Context, and Solutions for the American States in Fiscal Crisis (Cambridge University Press) (2012) (edited, with David Skeel)

## Articles and Essays

"Against Technocratic Essentialism," Yale L. J. (forthcoming 2020) (with David Wishnick)

- "The Administrative Law of Central Banking," Yale J. on Reg. (forthcoming 2020) (with Yair Listokin and Nicholas Parrillo)
- "Testing the Crisis Legislation Hypothesis: The Divergence of Banking and Securities Legislation," Journal of Financial Crises (forthcoming 2020) (with Michael Ohlrogge)
- "Institutions: A Research Program for Law, Macroeconomics, and History," Law & Contemporary Problems (forthcoming 2020)
- "The Limits of Independence in Institutional Design: Gilson & Kraakman's Revolution, Postponed," The Journal on Corporation Law (forthcoming 2020)
- "Private Markets, Public Options, and the Payment System," Yale Journal on Regulation (forthcoming 2020) (with David Wishnick)
- "Restoring the Promise of Federal Reserve Governance," Mercatus Working Paper, January 2020
- "The Foreign Affairs of the Federal Reserve," 44 J. Corp. L. 665 (2019) (with David Zaring)
- "The Institutions of Federal Reserve Independence," 32 Yale J. Reg. 257 (2015)
- "The Twelve Federal Reserve Banks: Governance and Accountability in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century," Hutchins Center on Fiscal and Monetary Policy at the Brookings Institution, Working Paper (2015)
- "Direct Democracy and State Fiscal Crisis: The Problem of Too Much Law," 7 Duke Journal on Constitutional Law & Public Policy 43 (2012)
- "Elective Shareholder Liability," 64 Stanford Law Review 409 (2012)
- "Liability Holding Companies," 59 UCLA Law Review 852 (2012) (with Anat Admati and Paul Pfleiderer)
- "Scarcity Amidst Wealth: The Law, Finance, and Culture of Elite University Endowments in Financial Crisis," 63 Stanford Law Review 669 (2011) (student note)
- "A Proposed Fat-Tail Risk Metric: Disclosures, Derivatives, and the Measurement of Financial Risk," 87 Washington University Law Review 1461 (2010)

### Shorter Works

- Review: Sven Beckert & Christine Desan, eds., American Capitalism: New Histories, published in Economic History Review, summer 2019
- Review: William L. Silber, The Story of Silver: How the White Metal Shaped America and the Modern World, published in Business History Review, spring 2019
- "Independence and the New Normal: How Long-term Low Interest Rates Scramble the Political Economy of Central Banking," to be included in *Revisiting Saving and Retirement in a Record Low Environment*, edited by Olivia Mitchell, Oxford University Press, 2018.
- "Central Banking and Institutional Change in the United States: Punctuated Equilibrium in the Development of Money, Finance, and Banking" (in Conti-Brown & Lastra, *Research Handbook on Central Banking*, 2018)
- "Ulysses and the Punch Bowl: The Governance, Accountability, and Independence of the Federal Reserve," 24 George Mason Law Review 617 (2017)
- "The Presidency, Congressional Republicans, and the Future of Financial Reform," Penn-Wharton Public Policy Initiative Policy Brief, February 2017
- "The Federal Reserve's Big Bang and the Challenge of Institutional History," Book Review of Roger Lowenstein's America's Bank: The Epic Struggle to Create the Federal Reserve, The New Rambler, Fall 2016.
- "Misreading Walter Bagehot: What Lombard Street Really Says to Modern Central Bankers," Book Review of Walter Bagehot's Lombard Street, The New Rambler, December 14, 2015
- "Finance By and For the People," Book Review of Andrew Palmer's Smart Money, The New Rambler, October 22, 2015
- "Barney Frank's Rules of Order," Book Review, The New Rambler, June 3, 2015
- "The Governance of the Federal Reserve System after the Dodd-Frank Act," *Peterson Institute for International Economics Policy Paper* 13-25 (2013) (with Simon Johnson)
- "Introduction: The Perennial Crisis," in When States Go Broke: Origins, Context, and Solutions for the American States in Fiscal Crisis (Peter Conti-Brown and David Skeel eds., Cambridge University Press) (2012)
- "The Accidental History of the Federal Banking and Securities Laws: A Review of Michael Perino's Hellhound of Wall Street: How Ferdinand Pecora's Investigation of the Great Crash Forever Changed American Finance," 39 Securities Regulation Law Journal 45 (2011)

#### Works in Progress

- The Federal Reserve: An American History (under contract with Liveright/Norton, forthcoming 2022)
- The Law of Financial Institutions, Aspen 7th edition (with Carnell, Macey, Miller, forthcoming 2021)
- The Banker's Thumb: An Institutional History of Bank Supervision in America from the Civil War to the Global Financial Crisis (under contract with Harvard University Press, forthcoming 2020; with Sean H. Vanatta)
- "Supervision, the Great Depression, and the Creation of the New Deal" (under submission to *Business History Review*, with Sean H. Vanatta)
- "A Random-Walk Theory of Financial Legislation" (with Brian Feinstein) (under submission to law reviews)

#### **Public Writing**

- "The curse of confidential supervisory information," Brookings Institution, Center on Regulation and Markets, December 20, 2019
- "How do you solve a problem like Fannie and Freddie? Not by creating more of them," Brookings Institution, Center on Regulation and Markets, October 7, 2019
- "What happens if Trump tries to fire Fed chair Jerome Powell?" Brookings Institution, Hutchins Center on Fiscal and Monetary Policy, September 9, 2019

"Can fintech increase lending? How courts are undermining financial inclusion," Brookings Institution, Center on	ı
Regulation and Markets, April 16, 2019	
"The Fed Wants To Veto State Banking Authorities. But Is That Legal?" Brookings Institution Center on Regulatio	n
and Markets, November 14, 2018	

"Can Trump Fire Jerome Powell? It's a Political Question," Wall Street Journal, December 10, 2018

"Should John Williams Run the New York Fed?" Brookings Institution Center on Regulation and Markets, July 24, 2018

"The Fed's Job Isn't To Make Trump Happy," Wall Street Journal, July 22, 2018

"Against Postal Banking," Brookings Institution Center on Regulation and Markets, May 31, 2018

"The Quarles Quarrel is Hurting the Fed," Wall Street Journal, April 23, 2018

"Battle Over Bank Watchdog Whiffs on the Law," Bloomberg View, December 15, 2017

"Too Many Empty Chairs at the Federal Reserve," Wall Street Journal, October 4, 2017

"Why Wells Fargo Might Not Survive Its Fake Accounts Scandal," Fortune, August 31, 2017

"The Economy's Visible Hands," Wall Street Journal, March 2, 2017

"The Most Powerful Man in Washington You've Never Heard Of," Wall Street Journal, February 15, 2017

"The Always Evolving Federal Reserve," Financial History, Winter 2016

"Why Conservatives Should Fear a Trump Federal Reserve," Fortune, October 6, 2016

"Wells Fargo and Bank Supervision," Law360, October 3, 2016 (with Sean H. Vanatta)

"Jackson Hole and Democracy," Library of Law & Liberty, September 2016

"To Fear the Fed or Not," Wharton Magazine, February 10, 2016

"Behind the Link Between Wall Street and the Fed," Fortune, December 16, 2015

"What Vanishing Bank Profits Mean for Higher Interest Rates," Fortune, November 15, 2015

"To Fix the Fed, Simplify It," New York Times, July 29, 2015

"Does a Sophisticated Theory Miss the Facts? A Response to Michael Greve's 'Adversarial Corporatism'," *Library* of Law & Liberty, July 10, 2014

"The Constitutional Crisis at the Fed," Politico Magazine, April 13, 2014

"Is the Federal Reserve Unconstitutional? And Who Decides?," Library of Law & Liberty, September 1, 2013

# PAID CONSULTING

Advisory Board Member, TwentyAcre Fund Advise hedge fund on macroeconomic uncertainty and investment strategy in financial services	2019-present
<i>Lecturer</i> , The Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania Executive Education Lecturer on financial regulation and business ethics, among other topics, for various clients of the School's executive education program.	2015-present
Expert, Home Federal Bank of Tennessee v. Home Federal Bank of Kentucky2019Retained by defendants' counsel (Lewis Thomason) to offer an expert opinion on bank naming conventions in the twentieth century.	
<i>Expert</i> , Weiner v. Ocwen Financial Services Retained by plaintiffs' counsel (Baron & Budd) to offer an expert opinion on conflicts of interest and related-party transactions in the mortgage servicing industry.	2018-2019
Expert, Holbrook v. Brink's Retained by defense counsel (Thompson & Coburn) to offer an expert opinion on the structure of the Federal Reserve System, the Fed's balance sheet, and the relationship between the Fed and the U.S. Treasury.	

#### SELECT PRESENTATIONS

[Available upon request]

#### OTHER AFFILIATIONS

Member, The Committee on Monetary and Financial Law of the International Law Association (MoComILA) Affiliated Faculty, Wharton Financial Institutions Center, Penn Wharton Public Policy Initiative, Penn Program on Regulation

Professional Memberships, Organization of American Historians, Business History Conference, and Council on Foreign Relations

Bar Memberships, District of Columbia Bar (2014-present); New York State Bar (2011-2015)

#### OTHER

Languages: Fluent in Portuguese, proficient in Spanish, beginner French and German

Personal: Married to Nikki Conti-Brown, with four children