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Trending @ RWU Law: Dean Yelnosky's Post: Why I Tweet Every Day

Michael Yelnosky

Roger Williams University School of Law

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Dean Yelnosky's Post

Why I Tweet Every Day

Posted by Michael Yelnosky on 12/21/2015 at 08:30 AM

I know that lots of people hate Twitter, and I know many of the reasons.

Too many tweets are inane (“I am having an awesome grilled cheese for lunch”); there are too many abbreviations and symbols used on Twitter (what do @ and # mean anyway?); the 140-character limit makes it impossible to convey anything meaningful; and Twitter is accelerating the destruction of written English. Young people cannot write elegant prose, and they would not be able to recognize it if they saw it. #OMG!

Nevertheless, I tweet. Enthusiastically. Every weekday (and often on the weekend). Prior to becoming dean in July 2014, I had only the slightest familiarity with Twitter. My nephew, who is much younger and cooler than I, told me a few years before that it was a great way to get interesting and real time information from countless sources. So I began to “follow” some Twitter feeds. My nephew told me to “curate” the kind of information I wanted to receive. I did, but I did not tweet anything out. I was listening, but I was not talking.

That all changed when I became dean because I suddenly had a lot to share. In fact, I recall telling someone during the run up to taking on my new role that RWU Law was such a dynamic and innovative institution that “I could tweet something meaningful about the law school every day.” I was right. In fact, after almost a year and a half, I have averaged more than two tweets a day.

My tweets fall roughly into five categories. I tweet about:

- 1) the accomplishments of our students, alumni, faculty, and staff;
- 2) the numerous events that take place at RWU Law that enrich our students' experience here -- events that are planned by the law school faculty and staff, and events planned by our students;
- 3) the law school's new programs and other initiatives;
- 4) media coverage of the law school; and

5) occasionally, something that catches my eye on our campus in Bristol or Providence.

Here are some examples from each category:

CATEGORY 1



Michael J. Yelnosky (@MichaelYelnosky) <https://twitter.com/MichaelYelnosky/status/583232414819983360>

Home Moments Search Twitter Have an account? Log In

 **Michael J. Yelnosky**
@MichaelYelnosky
Dean and Professor of Law, Roger Williams University School of Law
Joined January 2012

 **Michael J. Yelnosky**
@MichaelYelnosky [Follow](#)

[@RWULaw](#) alum Ashley Ham Pong describes how her career as an immigration lawyer began [@RWULaw](#) Immigration Clinic. tinyurl.com/py7kq6y

RETWEETS 2 LIKE 1

4:40 AM - 1 Apr 2015

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start  3:14 PM 12/8/2015

Michael J. Yelnosky (@MichaelYelnosky) <https://twitter.com/MichaelYelnosky/status/633240056761851904>

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 **Michael J. Yelnosky**
@MichaelYelnosky
Dean and Professor of Law, Roger Williams University School of Law
Joined January 2012

 **Michael J. Yelnosky**
@MichaelYelnosky [Follow](#)

Almost 15% of 2015 graduates of [@RWULaw](#) start judicial clerkships in September for courts in RI, NV, NJ, CT, and Hawaii.

RETWEETS 4

4:32 AM - 17 Aug 2015

Providence, RI

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start  3:17 PM 12/8/2015

CATEGORY 2

This screenshot shows a Twitter post from Michael J. Yelnosky (@MichaelYelnosky). The tweet text reads: "Students @RWULaw get rare opportunity to hear from First Circuit." The image attached to the tweet shows a group of people in a courtroom setting, including several individuals in black judicial robes. The user's profile information on the left identifies him as the Dean and Professor of Law at Roger Williams University School of Law, with a bio and a "Joined January 2012" date. The browser's address bar shows the URL: https://twitter.com/MichaelYelnosky/status/651529499637645312. The system tray at the bottom indicates the time is 7:22 PM on 12/9/2015.

This screenshot shows another Twitter post from Michael J. Yelnosky (@MichaelYelnosky). The tweet text reads: "Senator Reed, Senator Whitehouse, and Representative Langevin @RWULaw Cybersecurity Symposium." The image attached to the tweet shows three men in suits seated at a table during a symposium. The user's profile information on the left is identical to the first screenshot. The browser's address bar shows the URL: https://twitter.com/MichaelYelnosky/status/65507068258713600. The tweet includes a retweet count of 2 and a timestamp of "10:19 AM - 16 Oct 2015". The system tray at the bottom indicates the time is 7:23 PM on 12/9/2015.

https://twitter.com/MichaelYelnosky/status/581432806635666880

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Michael J. Yelnosky
@MichaelYelnosky

Bryan Stevenson, Judge Thompson, Judge Savage and @RWULaw students. Bryan is signing copies of Just Mercy.



Michael J. Yelnosky
@MichaelYelnosky
Dean and Professor of Law, Roger Williams University School of Law
Joined January 2012

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7:25 PM 12/9/2015

https://twitter.com/MichaelYelnosky/status/647521211694587904

Home Moments Search Twitter Have an account? Log In

Michael J. Yelnosky
@MichaelYelnosky

Scenes from last night's Santoro Business Law Lecture. Gigi Sohn from FCC. @RWULaw



Michael J. Yelnosky
@MichaelYelnosky
Dean and Professor of Law, Roger Williams University School of Law
Joined January 2012

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7:24 PM 12/9/2015

CATEGORY 3

This screenshot shows a Twitter post from Jose F. Batista (@jfbatista) dated December 9, 2015. The tweet text reads: "Big couple weeks 4 @RWULaw - mass incarceration symposium, diversity dinner & now the launch of the @JusticeCenterRI!". Below the text is a photograph of a man speaking at a podium in a lecture hall. A large screen behind him displays the logo for the "CENTER FOR JUSTICE" at Roger Williams University. The user's profile information on the left includes a photo of Jose F. Batista, his name, handle, bio ("Dominican food, Rhode Island politics, New England sports."), and that he joined in June 2010. The browser address bar shows the URL: https://twitter.com/jfbatista/status/586187768545603585.

This screenshot shows a retweeted Twitter post from Providence Journal (@projo) dated November 2, 2015. The tweet text reads: ".@RWULaw + Providence firm team up to help veterans. bit.ly/1NNTqop". Below the text is a small graphic with a stylized letter 'J' and a short article snippet: "Roger Williams law school, Providence law firm team up to ... PROVIDENCE, R.I. — Law students at Roger Williams University will get federal appeals court experience, and veterans who have been denied disability benefits will get free lawyers for their appe... providencejournal.com". The tweet shows 5 retweets. The user's profile information on the left includes a photo of Michael J. Yelnosky, his name, handle, bio ("Dean and Professor of Law, Roger Williams University School of Law"), and that he joined in January 2012. The browser address bar shows the URL: https://twitter.com/projo/status/661402206080397312.

Twitter, Inc. [US] https://twitter.com/MichaelYelnosky/status/575631205770600448

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Michael J. Yelnosky
@MichaelYelnosky

Follow

.@RWULaw Alternative Spring Break.
NOLA, NYC, and Providence.



Michael J. Yelnosky
@MichaelYelnosky
Dean and Professor of Law, Roger Williams University School of Law
Joined January 2012

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7:31 PM 12/9/2015

Twitter, Inc. [US] https://twitter.com/MichaelYelnosky/status/655116886963650560

Home Moments Search Twitter Have an account? Log In

Michael J. Yelnosky
@MichaelYelnosky

Follow

Interested in Cybersecurity and Law?
Consider the J.D./M.S. joint degree program
@RWULaw .



Michael J. Yelnosky
@MichaelYelnosky
Dean and Professor of Law, Roger Williams University School of Law
Joined January 2012

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7:30 PM 12/9/2015

CATEGORY 4

This screenshot shows a Twitter post by Michael J. Yelnosky (@MichaelYelnosky) from December 2, 2014. The tweet text reads: "New York Times article features steps we are taking @RWULaw to make law school more affordable. tinyurl.com/pkr9dj". Below the text is a link to a New York Times article titled "Law School is Buyers' Market, With Top Students in Demand". The article snippet states: "Law schools, facing declining enrollment, are trying to attract students by cutting or freezing tuition and increasing financial aid." The tweet has 5 retweets and 3 likes. The user's profile information includes: "Michael J. Yelnosky @MichaelYelnosky, Dean and Professor of Law, Roger Williams University School of Law, Joined January 2012". The browser address bar shows the URL: "https://twitter.com/MichaelYelnosky/status/539746971662446592". The system clock in the bottom right corner shows 7:36 PM on 12/9/2015.

This screenshot shows a Twitter post by Michael J. Yelnosky (@MichaelYelnosky) from September 8, 2015. The tweet text reads: "Prelaw Magazine @NationalJurist recognizes @RWULaw in 'Top Ten Innovations in Legal Education.' tinyurl.com/q8f5ohz". The tweet has 7 retweets and 3 likes. The location is listed as "Providence, RI". The user's profile information is the same as in the first screenshot. The browser address bar shows the URL: "https://twitter.com/MichaelYelnosky/status/641209673132154880". The system clock in the bottom right corner shows 7:40 PM on 12/9/2015.

Michael J. Yelnosky (@MjYel) · Roger Williams Law on Twi...
 https://twitter.com/RWULaw/status/534424851965288449

Home Moments

RWU Law
 @RWULaw

Follow

.@alexandani joins Schneider Electric, GTECH, and others to offer Corporate Counsel Externships to @RWULaw students.
providencejournal.com/news/education...

Alex and Ani to offer training to Roger Williams University...
 CRANSTON, R.I. — Roger Williams University School of Law is partnering with Alex and Ani to offer a clinical experience for students as part of a new externship program.
providencejournal.com

RETWEETS 3 LIKES 2

11:16 AM - 17 Nov 2014
 Providence, RI

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7:42 PM 12/9/2015

Michael J. Yelnosky (@MjYel) · Michael J. Yelnosky (@MjYel) on Twi...
 https://twitter.com/MichaelYelnosky/status/663727334516760576

Home Moments

Michael J. Yelnosky
 @MichaelYelnosky

Follow

.@RIMonthly publishes Super Lawyers list in November edition. Over 40 percent of "Rising Stars" are graduates of @RWULaw!

RETWEETS 6 LIKES 4

6:38 AM - 9 Nov 2015
 Providence, RI

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7:39 PM 12/9/2015

Michael J. Yelnosky (@MjYel) · Roger Williams Law (@RWU) on Twi...
 https://twitter.com/MichaelYelnosky/status/553158852280332289

Home Moments

Michael J. Yelnosky
 @MichaelYelnosky

Follow

.@ProvBusNews writes that @RWU & @RWULaw are taking care of their business and "contributing to the greater good."

RWU makes big move downtown
 Roger Williams University's decision to expand its downtown Providence presence by moving into the former home of 36 Studios LLC is appealing on a number of fronts.
 Of course, it is a good sign that the school sees Providence as an important part of its mission.
[Providence Business Journal](#)

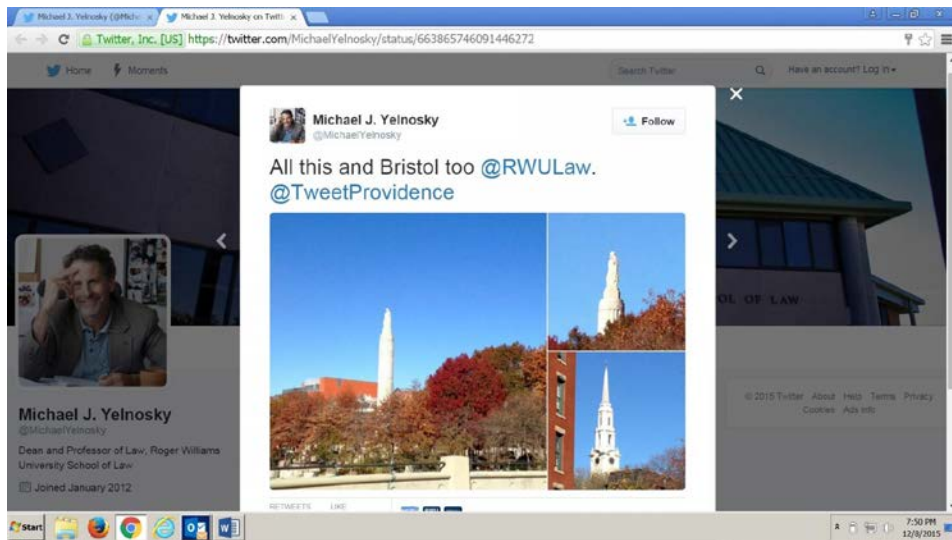
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7:43 PM 12/9/2015

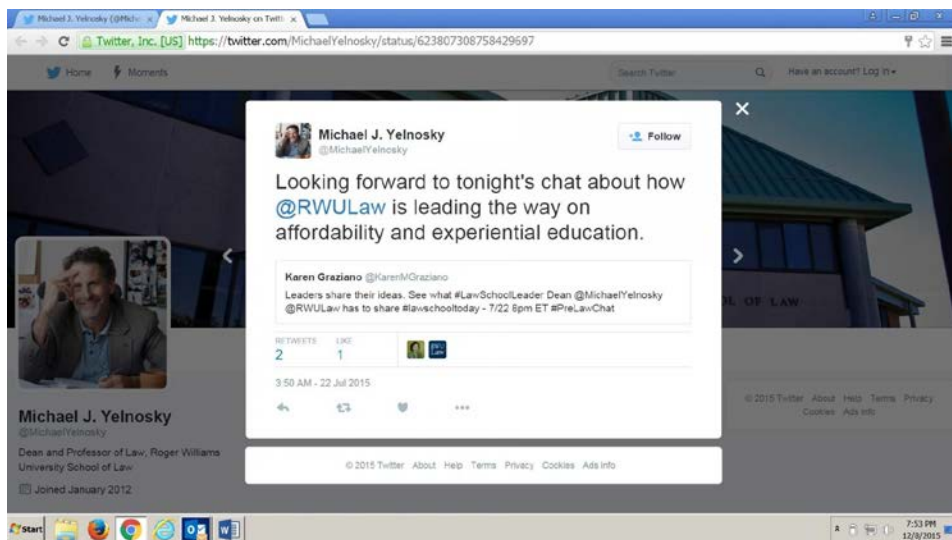
CATEGORY 5

This screenshot shows a Twitter post from Michael J. Yelnosky (@MichaelYelnosky) with the text "Amazing parkour practitioner in @TweetProvidence." The tweet includes a photograph of a person performing parkour on a ledge overlooking a body of water at dusk. The user's profile information on the left identifies him as the Dean and Professor of Law at Roger Williams University School of Law, with a bio and a "Joined January 2012" date. The browser's address bar shows the URL "https://twitter.com/MichaelYelnosky/status/588482392207314945". The system tray at the bottom indicates the time is 7:47 PM on 12/8/2015.

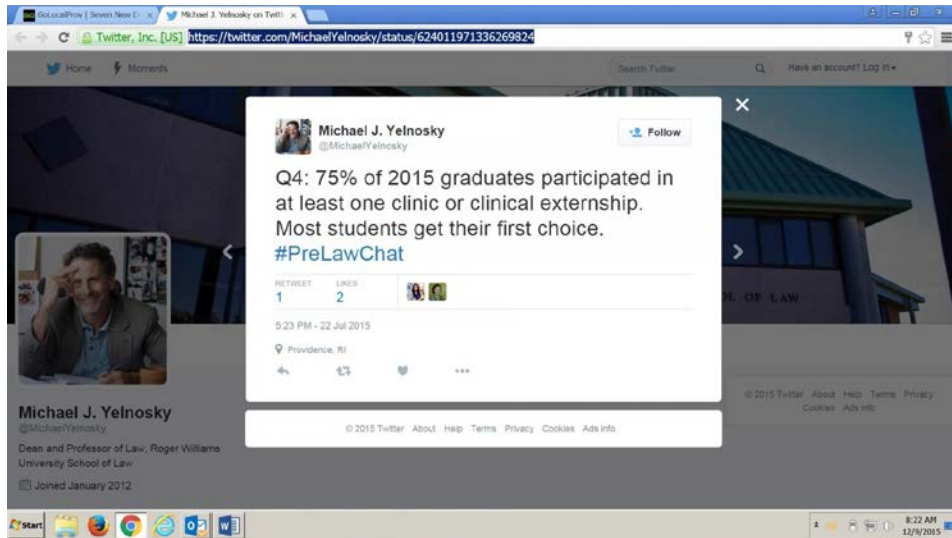
This screenshot shows a Twitter post from Michael J. Yelnosky (@MichaelYelnosky) with the text "Glorious spring day on the campus in Bristol. @RWULaw". The tweet features two side-by-side photographs of a campus with blooming pink cherry blossoms and a tree with yellow leaves. The user's profile information on the left is identical to the first screenshot. The tweet shows 6 retweets and 8 likes, with a timestamp of "10:11 AM · 20 May 2015". The browser's address bar shows the URL "https://twitter.com/MichaelYelnosky/status/601072723390005248". The system tray at the bottom indicates the time is 7:48 PM on 12/8/2015.



I never imagined that I would engage in a real time Twitter conversation with a group of prelaw advisors and students considering law school. Karen Graziano, prelaw advisor at Villanova University, is a prolific and influential tweeter. This July she invited me to participate in a Twitter chat group about legal education and the program at RWU Law.



The questions I answered during that chat allowed me to describe many of the details of our program, including, for example, our clinical guarantee.



The chat was a most interesting exchange because prelaw advisors are intimately familiar with law school costs and programs. They are a well-informed and discerning audience, and I found them on Twitter.

Put simply, I will continue to tweet every day because it is one of the best ways I have found to spread the word about the leadership role of RWU Law in legal education.

