



Association of American Law Schools

## **WELCOME**

On behalf of the Planning Committee, I'm delighted to welcome you to the 2008 AALS Workshop for New Law Teachers. We hope that it gets you started on your way to becoming a first-rate teacher and scholar and a thoughtful, conscientious institutional citizen.

We all know that lawyers have to be educated and trained in order to be good at what they do. That is why law schools exist. The same is true of law professors. Great professors are not born great; they have to learn to think about what they are doing and how to do it well. Our goals in this workshop is to provide you a head start on the process of being self-conscious and self-critical about the three main components of a faculty member's job—teaching, writing, and service.

To do this, we have gathered a wide array of professors who profess about different subjects in different kinds of schools and who may not agree on how an aspiring professor should pursue excellence. Yet they all share a passion for their jobs, a commitment to the importance of what they do, a willingness to share their ideas with the next generation of professors, and an appreciation for their good fortune in finding one of the best jobs in the world. Do take all the opportunity you can at this workshop, both formally and informally, to benefit from these accomplished faculty who share a willingness to “pay it forward.”

Welcome to the Workshop—and welcome to the profession!

Michael D. Green,  
Wake Forest University, and  
Chair, Planning Committee for AALS  
Workshop for New Law School  
Teachers