

Call for Papers
AALS Section on Civil Rights

The AALS Section on Civil Rights is sponsoring a panel discussion, "Civil Rights and Civil Movements in the 21st Century: Building Sustainable Movements for Social Change," to be held during the AALS Annual Meeting in New York City, on Thursday, January 7, 2016, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.

The program will consist of four panelists, with time allocated for audience participation. The Section on Civil Rights will invite three of the panelists and the fourth will be selected from this Call for Papers. The section leadership is currently accepting abstracts and/or draft papers. The subject line for submissions should read: AALS Civil Rights and Civil Movements. Submissions should include the author's name, affiliation, and full contact information. Abstracts or draft papers should be sent to Professor Patience Crowder at pcrowder@law.du.edu and Professor Gilda Daniels at gdaniels@ubalt.edu no later than Friday, September 4, 2015.

AALS Section on Civil Rights
Civil Rights and Civil Movements in the 21st Century:
Building Sustainable Movements for Social Change

"To cheapen the lives of any group...cheapens the lives of all." -William Pickens

Program Description

The pursuits of civil rights and related social justice movements are seldom one-dimensional. There is much that must go wrong before unrest in places like Ferguson, Baltimore, or Cleveland manifest in tragedy and action. Accordingly, this panel will be broad in scope. Proposed topics including recording police interactions with the public, the criminalization of black youth, and #blacklivesmatter are welcome. In addition, topics exploring the connection between community development and the civil rights movement are particularly encouraged. Such topics might include economic development, affordable housing, the impact of policing on community development, or funding disparities in public education. How do economic considerations factor into instances of social injustice? Are instances of police brutality expressions of the underlying disease of racism or merely its symptoms? What can communities and community leaders do to improve matters at both local and national levels? How is movement building around civil rights different fifty years after the passage of the Civil Rights Act and what are the intersections that can advance civil rights in the 21st Century? Proposals should aim to deepen understanding of these important issues while recognizing their complex and multi-faceted nature.