Call for Papers: AALS President's Program on Diversity

Diversity is a core value of the AALS and is critical to our law schools, the legal profession and the world. The topic has been a central feature of past and current AALS publications and Annual Meeting sessions, including Section programming. Recognizing its importance, the current and incoming AALS Presidents have joined together to launch a two-year focus upon diversity, encompassing its many facets, starting with this call for papers for a Presidential Program at the 2017 Annual Meeting in San Francisco, January 3-7.

Presenters will be chosen competitively from submissions received, and papers are expected to be published in the Journal of Legal Education or another academic journal. Please note, submissions that address the following issue statement most directly will be given priority.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Much fine scholarship has, in recent years, addressed important diversity issues surrounding gender, religion, race, viewpoint, disability, and sexual orientation. Tying in to recent events on and off campus, our colleagues in the legal academy have addressed questions of racial equity and inclusion in their teaching and scholarship. Many law schools are now engaged in heightened and new forms of institutional attention on racial and other forms of equity. Some of this heightened inquiry has been prompted by our own reflection on major social issues, including highly visible racial disparity issues in our criminal justice system; however, social and campus protests, including those of the Black Lives Matter movement, have also spurred greater focus.

This President's Program and associated papers will seek to answer questions, including:

- What are the challenges and opportunities for the legal academy in this social and campus climate?
- Does our community have a special role to play as our schools, universities, and civil society confront critical issues surrounding the various diversity issues of concern?
- Are there tensions or synergies between traditional academic values of academic freedom and viewpoint diversity with heightened commitments to racial and other forms of equity and inclusion?

Papers may be submitted by full-time faculty, administrators, or graduate students at AALS Member or Fee-Paid law schools, or by international faculty. Please submit one page abstracts using the following <u>submission form</u>, by September 15, 2016. The abstract should not include any identifying information. Questions may be directed to <u>PresidentsProgram@aals.org</u>.