

Call for Participation in a Discussion Group:
A NEW ERA FOR BUSINESS REGULATION?
Abstracts due: August 25, 2017

The Annual Meeting Program Committee for 2016 introduced a new program format, discussion groups, to facilitate scholarly discussion and engagement. Discussion groups provide a small group of faculty with the opportunity to engage in a sustained conversation about a topic of interest. Discussion group participants are expected to write and share a short presentation abstract (3 pages) as part of their participation. The discussion group sessions, however, will not feature formal presentations. Instead, the abstracts are intended to facilitate a lively and engaging real-time discussion among the participants. Participants in this discussion group will consist of a mix of the people identified in the original proposal submitted to the Program Committee along with additional individuals selected on the basis of this call for participation. There will be limited audience seating for those not selected in advance to be discussion participants.

This is a call for participation in a discussion group on “A New Era for Business Regulation?” to be held at the AALS Annual Meeting, on January 6, 2018 at 8:15 am in San Diego.

Description

In January 2017, the president signed an [Executive Order on Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs](#). The order uses budgeting powers to constrict agencies and the regulatory process by requiring the elimination of two existing regulations for each new regulation adopted. The order also mandates that “the total incremental cost of all new regulations, including repealed regulations, to be finalized this year shall be no greater than zero.” The Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs issued a [related guidance memorandum](#) in early February and a [further guidance memorandum](#) in April.

While the executive order does not cover independent agencies like the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, agencies that crafted many of the rules required by the 2010 Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, these agencies and their regulatory agendas will likely be the subject of future reform. Accordingly, a discussion about changes in the business regulatory environment—including an assessment of the consequences—good and bad—of regulatory reform affecting businesses—seems both timely and important. Participation from diverse legal backgrounds (including, but not limited to, financial regulation, securities regulation, administrative law, business finance and governance, and related fields) will enhance the value of the discussion. The discussion session is organized and designed to encourage the exchange of diverse view points, identify possible common ground, foster new perspectives, and articulate emerging issues for exploration in future scholarly works.

Call for Abstracts

The Annual Meeting Program Committee invites faculty and administrators who would like to join this Discussion Group to submit a three-page abstract that addresses the interest of the applying participant in the topic, stating how it connects to current or future research or teaching interests **by August 25**. The co-organizers and current confirmed discussion participants include the following:

1. [Jordan Barry, University of San Diego School of Law](#)
2. [Erica Beecher-Monas, Wayne State University Law School](#)
3. [Eric Chaffee, The University of Toledo College of Law](#)
4. [Benjamin Edwards, Barry University School of Law](#)
5. [Joan Heminway, The University of Tennessee College of Law](#) (co-organizer)
6. [Christine Hurt, Brigham Young University School of Law](#)
7. [Jeremy Kidd, Mercer University School of Law](#)
8. [Christopher K. Odinet, Southern University Law Center](#)
9. [Tracie Porter, Western State College of Law](#)
10. [David Reiss, Brooklyn Law School](#)
11. [Michael Siebecker, University of Denver Sturm College of Law](#)
12. [Anne Tucker, Georgia State University College of Law](#) (co-organizer)
13. [David Zaring, University of Pennsylvania Wharton School of Business](#)
14. [Evan Zoldan, University of Toledo College of Law](#)

Space in this discussion group is limited; the Committee, along with the faculty who proposed this discussion, will select the remaining discussion participants from the abstracts submitted. At the AALS Annual Meeting in January, substantially all of the time designated for the session will be devoted to a moderated, roundtable group discussion among the participants. The co-organizers of the discussion group are seeking publication opportunities for participants in the session.

Each abstract submission for this discussion group should include:

- The title of the submitted presentation/paper;
- The name, school and email of the applying participant;
- A three-page, double-spaced abstract that addresses the interest of the applying participant in the topic, stating how it connects to current or future research or teaching interests; and
- The curriculum vitae of the applying participant.

In reviewing the submitted abstracts, the discussion group co-organizers and selection committee will consider the following:

- The fit and overall quality of the abstract for the discussion group;
- The diversity that the applying participant may bring in terms of a variety of factors including subject matter and viewpoint diversity, institutional affiliation and status (tenure-track, non-tenure track, tenured); and if applicable

- The applying participant's willingness to publish his or her paper along with other discussion group papers.

Abstracts are due by **August 25, 2017** and should be submitted using the [online submission form](#).