

**Call for Participation in a Discussion Group on**  
*COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IS ACCESS TO JUSTICE*

**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.

The following is a Call for Participation in a Discussion Group on *COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IS ACCESS TO JUSTICE* to be held at the AALS Annual Meeting, Friday, January 5, 2018, from 8:30am – 10:15am, in San Diego.

**Description**

The goal of this Discussion Group is to identify how community economic development (CED) law school courses, experiential and other, as well as CED practice considered generally, increases access to justice and the kind of justice. The participants include clinicians, non-clinicians, and practitioners. This discussion group will tackle challenging questions such as: Is there more justice served by assisting a nonprofit versus a for-profit business? Can assisting with formation of businesses, such as a biotech start-up, contribute to serving a justice need? What gaps exist in the system that lead to the need for justice provided by CED attorneys? What is the evidence that those gaps actually exist? How do we know that the CED practitioners fill those gaps? And in what way?

## **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 Community Economic Development is Access to Justice **by August 25**. Current organizers and confirmed discussion participants include (list in formation) Patience Crowder, University of Denver Sturm College of Law; Scott Cummings, UCLA School of Law; Sabeel Rahman, Brooklyn Law School; Christyne J. Vachon, University of Massachusetts – Dartmouth, School of Law; Edward W. De Barbieri Albany Law School.

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, selected participants will make a one-two minute presentation during the Discussion Group. The remaining time will be devoted to a moderated, roundtable group discussion. *Participants are encouraged to consider submitting for publication presentations/ papers discussed at the Meeting to the Journal of Affordable Housing and Community Development Law.* The *Journal* welcomes articles (typically 7,000-10,000 words (30–50 pages)) as well as essays (typically 2,500–6,200 words (10–25 pages)). Interested authors should send a one- to two-paragraph abstract describing their proposals to the *Journal's* Editor-in-Chief, Laurie Hauber, at [hauberyang@gmail.com](mailto:hauberyang@gmail.com) or Co-Editor Brandon Weiss at [bweiss@umkc.edu](mailto:bweiss@umkc.edu). The *Journal* accepts submissions on a rolling basis. Please do not hesitate to contact the editors with any questions.

Each 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 Community Economic Development is Access to Justice; and
- The curriculum vitae of the applying participant.

In reviewing the submitted abstracts, the discussion group organizer 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 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](#).