

# Call for Proposals for Open Submission Programs for the 2019 AALS Annual Meeting

The Program Committee for the 2019 Annual Meeting of the Association of American Law Schools is pleased to request proposals for “open submission” programs for the 2019 Annual Meeting to be held January 2-6, 2019 in New Orleans. Open submission programs are those which are not sponsored by an AALS Section. All annual meeting attendees are eligible to participate as speakers.

The 2019 Annual Meeting’s theme is **Building Bridges**. AALS President Wendy Perdue of the University of Richmond School of Law selected the theme because “As our society struggles with this problem of deep polarization, lawyers and law schools have an important role to play. Lawyers are, after all, in the dispute resolution business. Resolving conflict is central to what we do. And today, perhaps more than ever before, the skills that we as lawyers have, and we as law professors teach, is of critical importance.” We encourage program organizers to consider using the theme in framing their proposals but it is not a requirement.

There are four types of open submission programs for the 2019 Annual Meeting:

- **Open Source** programs are traditional scholarly programs outside of section programming and not sponsored by one of the AALS Sections.
- **Discussion Group** programs provide a setting for discussions among a small group of invited faculty.
- **Symposium** programs are extended sessions (half day or longer) that focus on in-depth scholarly exploration of a topic of academic interest.
- **Hot Topic** programs focus on topics that emerged too late in the year to be included in other types of programs.

Open Source, Discussion Group, and Hot Topic programs that are selected by the Committee will be scheduled by the AALS staff for 1 ¾ hour sessions. By contrast, Symposium programs are full-day or half-day programs.

All program organizers should allow at least 15 minutes for audience participation. We also welcome proposals for Open Source programs that depart from the typical format of having participants present 10-20 minute talks. Organizers could, for example, submit a proposal for a roundtable style program in which participants answer a series of questions posed by the moderator and the audience. As another example, participants could engage in one or more role-play sessions.

## **Deadlines**

Proposals for Open Source and Discussion Group programs are due **April 13, 2018**.

Proposals for Symposium programs are due **May 11, 2018**.

Proposals for Hot Topic programs are due **October 19, 2018**.

## **General Submission Guidelines**

Specific guidelines for submissions which apply to each specific type of program can be found below. The following general guidelines apply to all open submission proposals.

Programs may be proposed by full-time faculty members or administrators at AALS Member or Fee-Paid law schools. International faculty, visiting faculty (who do not retain a permanent affiliation at another law school), graduate students, and non-law school faculty are not eligible to submit proposals but may serve as presenters.

Proposals for Open Source and Symposium programs may reserve one or more spots for participants selected from a call for participation. Participants selected from a call for participation must be identified no later than September 29, 2018.

For Discussion Groups, calls for participation will follow a different process that is described in more detail below under the Discussion Group proposal details.

A proposal for any of the four program categories should include:

- The program title.
- The names and contact information of the program organizers.
- A detailed description of the proposed program, including (a) the format of the proposed program, (b) an explanation of the overall goal of the program, and (c) if applicable, an indication that one or more speakers will be selected from a call for participants.
- Names of speakers to be invited including their full names and schools with links to or copies of their curricula vitae. The number of speakers should be limited to three (or a maximum of four) plus one moderator and should include a diversity of law schools, viewpoint, gender, race, and years of experience. Discussion Group proposals should have no fewer than 8, and no more than 15 invited participants, with 12 being the strongly preferred max.
- If applicable, name the journal or edited volume that will be publishing the program.

Program organizers should take the AALS core value of diversity into account when developing their proposal. Organizers are also encouraged to include junior faculty and participants who provide viewpoint diversity appropriate to the program as well as representation from a wide

range of types of law schools. The scheduled program time should be used only for the academic discussion itself; if there is any “business” to take care of (e.g., discussion of whether to form a new AALS Section, or combine with an existing one, etc.), that should take place outside of the allotted time. Examples of successful proposals submitted in prior years are [available here](#).

# Open Source Programs

**Proposals Due: April 13, 2018**

Open Source Programs are traditional scholarly programs other than those proposed by an AALS Section.

Proposals should follow the general guidelines set forth above.

**In reviewing Open Source Program proposals, the Committee will consider the overall quality of the program, including whether:**

- The program is likely to be of interest to Annual Meeting attendees;
- There is a diversity of presenters, including diversity of schools, viewpoints, and backgrounds;
- The proposal is well written and thoughtfully constructed; and
- Junior participants will be included.

Open Source Program proposals are due **April 13, 2017** and should be submitted using the online submission form [here](#). Questions may be directed to [opensource@aals.org](mailto:opensource@aals.org)

# Discussion Group Programs

**Proposals Due: April 13, 2018**

A Discussion Group program provides a small group of faculty the opportunity to engage in a sustained conversation about a topic of interest to the participants. Discussion Group sessions will not feature formal presentations. Discussion Group participants will typically be expected to write and share a short presentation summary (3-5 pages) as part of their participation. These written summaries are intended to facilitate a lively and engaging real-time round table discussion among the participants.

Discussion Groups could be limited to a single substantive area and subject (e.g., “Equitable Remedies in Civil Rights Litigation”). Ideally, however, Discussion Groups will offer an opportunity for faculty in cross-cutting fields to bring useful perspectives to the conversation. For example, a Discussion Group on “Free Speech and Community Policing” could invite perspectives from multiple vantage points, obviously including public law and criminal law, but also including critical, feminist, and comparative law perspectives as well.

A Discussion Group program should feature no fewer than 8, and no more than 15, invited participants, with 12 invited participants being the strongly preferred maximum. The proposal should identify approximately 2/3 of the participants or possible invitees, and the balance will then be invited from an open call that the AALS staff will disseminate after the proposal is accepted. As with other programs at the Annual Meeting, attendees who are not invited Discussion Group participants are welcome to attend the Discussion Group as observers, and at some point during the program, the moderator should open up discussion to all attendees.

Proposals for a Discussion Group program should follow the general submission guidelines set forth above. For all accepted proposals, the Annual Meeting Program Committee and the AALS staff will post calls for participation and will facilitate the program organizers’ review of the submissions. The final participant list is subject to review and approval by the Program Committee. Once the participants are identified, the organizers are requested to solicit 1-page Abstracts from them and distribute them among the participants in advance of the meeting.

Organizers are also expected to moderate the Discussion Group unless another moderator is identified in the proposal. Organizers are responsible for ensuring timely communication among the participants prior to the Annual Meeting, including disseminating any abstract or paper requirements and deadlines for circulating to participants.

**In reviewing Discussion Group Program proposals, the Committee will consider the overall quality of the program, including whether:**

- The program is likely to lead to an interesting and constructive discussion among the participants;

- There is a diversity of presenters, including diversity of schools, viewpoints, and backgrounds;
- The proposal is well written and thoughtfully constructed; and
- Junior participants will be included in the group.

Discussion Group Program proposals are due **April 13, 2018** and should be submitted using the online submission form [here](#). Questions may be directed to [discussiongroup@aals.org](mailto:discussiongroup@aals.org).

# Symposium Programs

## Proposals Due: May 11, 2018

Symposium programs are full-day or half-day programs that focus on an in-depth scholarly exploration of a topic of academic interest. The Committee encourages symposium program organizers to arrange for the publication of the papers in a journal or edited volume.

In addition to following the general submission guidelines set forth above, symposium proposals should also include:

- An abstract of up to 750 words describing the program and its anticipated contribution to legal scholarship.
- Abstracts of up to 250 words describing each proposed symposium paper.
- If requesting a full-day or half-day Symposium.
- A description of any publication arrangement (or potential arrangement) for the program in a journal or edited volume.

If the Symposium will be published in a student-edited law review, the AALS will waive the registration fee for up to two student editors to attend the Annual Meeting.

**In reviewing Symposium Program proposals, the Committee will consider the overall quality of the program, including whether:**

- The abstracts reflect papers that are likely to contribute substantially to the scholarship in the field;
- The program is likely to be of interest to Annual Meeting attendees;
- There is a diversity of presenters, including diversity of schools, viewpoints, and backgrounds;
- The proposal is well written and thoughtfully constructed; and
- Junior participants will be included in the program.

Symposium Program proposals are due **May 11, 2018** and should be submitted using the online submission form [here](#). Questions may be directed to [symposium@aals.org](mailto:symposium@aals.org).

# Hot Topic Programs

## Proposals Due: October 19, 2018

Hot Topic programs focus on topics that emerged too late in the year to be included in other types of programs. Hot Topic Program proposals that are selected by the committee will be assigned a program time slot that cannot be changed to accommodate speakers due to scheduling constraints.

In addition to following the general submission guidelines set forth above, Hot Topic proposals should include an explanation of why the topic is “hot” and why it was not possible to make the proposal in one of the other program categories with an earlier deadline.

Hot Topic Program Organizers should check the preliminary Annual Meeting program on the AALS website to be sure that there is no direct conflict between the proposed topic and a program already on the schedule. The Committee will narrowly construe this requirement and will try to avoid disqualifying proposals due to conflict with an existing program.

**In reviewing Hot Topic Program proposals, the Committee will consider the overall quality of the program, including whether:**

- The proposed topic is “hot” and could not have been made in one of the other program categories with an earlier deadline
- The program is likely to be of interest to Annual Meeting attendees;
- There is a diversity of presenters, including diversity of schools, viewpoints, and backgrounds;
- The proposal is well written and thoughtfully constructed; and
- Junior participants will be included in the program.

Hot Topic Program proposals are due **October 19, 2018** and should be submitted using the online submission form [here](#). Questions may be directed to [hottopic@aals.org](mailto:hottopic@aals.org).

### **Program Committee for the 2019 Annual Meeting**

KATHLEEN BOOZANG, Seton Hall University School of Law, **Chair**

STEVE CALABRESI, Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law

JESSICA ERICKSON, The University of Richmond School of Law

STEVE MULROY, The University of Memphis, Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law

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