

Southern Clinical Conference 2015
Request for Proposals
October 22-24, 2015
University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law
Memphis, Tennessee

Confronting Issues of Race and Diversity in Clinical Legal Education

Revised Deadline for Proposals: August 14, 2015

The Planning Committee for the 2015 Southern Clinical Conference invites you to submit proposals for this year's conference, which will take place from Thursday evening, October 22nd, to mid-day Saturday, October 24th, at the University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphreys School of Law in Memphis, Tennessee. Details on registration and lodging will follow soon.

The committee is open to receiving proposals for plenaries, concurrents, workshops or discussions formatted in other ways. **The revised deadline for proposals is August 14, 2015. We will notify those who make proposals August 31, 2015.** A solicitation for a devoted Works-in-Progress session has gone out under separate cover.

We invite proposals that address how to teach and advocate about race and diversity in clinical education. We encourage applicants to think broadly about this topic. We solicit proposals from teachers of in-house clinic or externship courses, and other courses that offer real practice experience.

For example, proposals might focus on any of the following topics:

- ❖ Programs or initiatives that address racial justice in distinctive or compelling ways.
- ❖ Responses to the emerging public debate about race relations across the nation, including the #BlackLivesMatter and other similar movements.
- ❖ Ways that clinical programs and teachers can leverage their position in two worlds (the legal academy and law practice) to confront issues of race and diversity.
- ❖ Specific courses or classes or pedagogical methods that offer effective ways to introduce race and diversity issues into clinical teaching.
- ❖ The influence of teaching about race and diversity on clinic design and vice versa (e.g. choosing long-term vs. one-semester cases; representing groups vs. individuals; focusing on political vs. litigation vs. transactional strategies; selecting and sequencing of externship vs. in-house vs. other real practice experiences.)
- ❖ The distinctive dimensions of confronting race and diversity in a southern historical and political climate.
- ❖ The challenge of teaching race and diversity as a pervasive concern, regardless of the

practice areas into which our students will graduate.

- ❖ Addressing issues of race and diversity as they arise within our law schools and impact students, faculty, staff, and other internal stakeholders.
- ❖ The contributions that we, as clinical teachers, can make to a larger discussion of race through service and scholarship.
- ❖ The challenges confronted by both newer and more experienced teachers in integrating race and diversity as topics into newly-created or long-standing courses.

Successful proposals might combine one or more of the suggestions above, or discuss none of them. We encourage you to think creatively and flexibly in addressing the conference theme.

CRITERIA

In general, the organizing committee will favor proposals that address the conference theme, are relevant to conference attendees, are well-defined and focused, are timely and important, and show care and thoughtfulness in development.

We value diversity, both in the composition of presenting teams, and in your topic's presentation of diversity as a concern in your work. Diversity includes gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability, geographical location, years of experience, type of school, type of program and other factors.

SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

Proposals should be submitted by e-mail to Sandra Love (stlove@memphis.edu) no later than **August 14, 2015**. Please use the cover sheet and proposal template attached to this e-mail.

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