AALS Call for Papers: State and Local Government Laws and Environmental Sustainability

The AALS Sections on State & Local Government and Natural Resources & Energy Law, with the co-sponsorship of the Sections on Environmental Law and Agricultural & Food Law, are excited to present a joint session at the 2021 AALS Annual Meeting titled, “State and Local Government Law and Environmental Sustainability.” We anticipate receiving a three-hour joint program slot, which will be divided into two parts.

Part 1 will address the current role of state and local government laws in environmental sustainability. Here, we plan to discuss state and local statutes and ordinances related to environmental sustainability, with specific examples and emphasis on natural resources implications related to construction, energy, food & water.

Part 2 will address emerging obstacles to state and local laws in environmental sustainability. This part will focus on some of the challenges facing state and local laws related to environmental sustainability, such as conflict of laws, coordination and partnership challenges, and preemption.

The structure for each part will consist of a panel with short TED-talk-style presentations of approximately 7 minutes, followed by tables of attendees discussing the topics with a moderator at each table who will lead the discussion. We will conclude with a summary of the discussions and audience commentary.

We invite papers and abstracts that explore these questions from a diversity of perspectives. The authors of the selected papers will present their short talks at the 2021 Annual Meeting and engage in dialogue with each other and attendees about the ideas presented.

By August 1, 2020, please send your submission to Professor Sarah Schindler at sschindler@maine.edu and Professor Keith Rizzardi at krizzardi@stu.edu. We welcome submissions at any stage of development, although preference may be given to more fully developed papers over abstracts and paper proposals. The authors of the selected papers will be notified by August 31, 2020.

Please note, presenters will be responsible for paying their registration fee and travel expenses. At the present time, AALS anticipates that the Annual Meeting will proceed in person as planned in San Francisco (https://am.aals.org). The theme is The Power of Words.