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CALL FOR PRESENTATION PROPOSALS

**For a Joint Presentation by the
AALS Section on Academic Support and Section on Technology, Law, and Education**

"Online Teaching: Is it good for legal education? Which professors are doing it? And who owns the content once it is created?"
(Working Title/Theme Subject to Change)

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<u>Program Description</u>

The theme for the AALS 2022 Annual Meeting is "Freedom, Equality, and the Common Good." We seek to explore these topics as they relate to the intersection of academic support and distance legal education. First, we hope to explore whether distance legal education (a.k.a. online teaching) serves the <u>Common Good</u> in legal education. In other words, does technology help or hurt legal education? Next, we plan to pivot to the question of <u>Equality</u>. Are all faculty equally expected to contribute to courses dealing with technology and are faculty compensated adequately (whether time and/or money) for their time in developing asynchronous content? Finally, the presentation will conclude with a discussion of Academic <u>Freedom</u>. Most notably, who owns the work?

Some ideas with these themes may include, but are not limited to:

<u>Common Good</u>
- Did the rise of Zoom Law during a worldwide pandemic help or hurt the development of online teaching?
- Is tech a legitimate delivery method?
- How to overcome the argument regarding lack of engagement?
- Is there a specific type of course that is better suited to be online, and conversely, courses that should never be taught online?
- Which types of technology most effectively maximize student learning and help develop skills?

<u>Equality</u>
- Within a law school, who typically creates and teaches online courses?
- Are certain technology focused courses like E-discovery taught by certain types of faculty?
- What type of courses should be taught online?
- Who is using technology in the classroom?
- Are all technologies really equal or do certain types of technology provide more effective tools for learners than others?

<u>Academic Freedom</u>
- Who owns the work?

- Does your university have a policy regarding the creation and retention of asynchronous courses?
- What happens to an already prepared online course when a professor leaves the institution, or even dies?
- Will the rise of "canned" online courses lead to faculty teaching themselves out of a job?

The Section on Technology, Law, and Education and the Section on Academic Support seek to explore these questions and related issues at the January 2022 AALS Annual (virtual) Meeting during their joint program.

Call for Presenters

Proposals should contain a detailed explanation of both the substance of the presentation and the methods to be employed. Individuals as well as groups are invited to propose topics. The Committee would prefer to highlight talent across a spectrum of law schools and disciplines and is especially interested in new and innovative ideas. Please share this call with colleagues—both within and outside of the legal academy and the academic support community.

Submission Guidelines

Proposals must include the following information:
- A title for your presentation.
- A brief description of the objectives or outcomes of your presentation.
- A brief description of how your presentation will support your stated objectives or outcomes.
- The amount of time requested for your presentation. No single presenter should exceed 45 minutes in total. Presentations as short as 15 minutes are welcomed.
- A detailed description of both the substantive content and the techniques to be employed, if any, to engage the audience.
- Whether you plan to distribute handouts, use PowerPoint, or employ other technology.
- A list of the conferences at which you have presented within the last three years, such as AALS, AASE, or other academic conferences. (The Committee is interested in this information because we wish to select and showcase seasoned, as well as fresh, talent.)
- Your school affiliation, title, courses taught, and contact information (please include email address and telephone number).
- Any articles or books that you have published that relate to your proposed presentation.
- Any other information you think will help the Committee appreciate the value your presentation will provide.

Please submit your proposal to the Academic Support Programming Chair, Kirsha Trychta, at kwtrychta@mail.wvu.edu **by June 30, 2021**. The Committee anticipates notifying those who have been selected to present on/around July 14, 2021.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact one of the Programming Co-Chairs: Natalie Rodriguez at narodriguez@swlaw.edu, Kirsha Weyandt Trychta at kwtrychta@mail.wvu.edu, or Michelle Zakarin at mzakarin@tourolaw.edu.