Call for Papers

Law and Rurality Workshop

The Rural Reconciliation Project at the University of Nebraska College of Law, along with the University of South Dakota Knudson School of Law, will host a workshop this fall for scholars of all levels and disciplines whose work engages with law and its relation to rural people and places. The workshop will be held in person in Lincoln, Nebraska, on Friday, October 21, 2022.

Depending on demand, we also plan to accommodate some hybrid or remote participation options, as needed, and therefore encourage those who are unable to attend in person to still apply.

This workshop will provide a forum for a range of scholars to share and receive feedback on works-in-progress on any topic that addresses or investigates rurality and the law, including legal issues viewed through the lens of rurality, rural geographies, or rural-urban difference. Participants will be expected to read and comment on other works. We also anticipate at least one incubator session for scholars to receive feedback on nascent ideas, and other thematic discussion sessions or topical excursions may be organized.

Workshop Expenses and Event Logistics

There is no fee for the workshop. Participants are expected to cover their own travel expenses, but we may have some limited stipends available for those without travel support from their home institutions (in the range of $400-700 per participant, depending on financial need and other circumstances). Lincoln, Nebraska, is a lovely college town—especially in the fall—with affordable lodging, diverse food options, and a range of cultural activities. The University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus is serviced most conveniently by the local Lincoln Airport, but participants may also consider Omaha’s Eppley Airfield, which is approximately 55 minutes from the Lincoln campus and accessible through local shuttle services or rental car.

The Rural Reconciliation Project at the University of Nebraska College of Law will sponsor all workshop events, including all participant meals during the workshop. We anticipate this including a pre-workshop dinner on Thursday, October 20, 2022, for those who are available, and all meals and an evening reception and dinner on the day of the workshop, Friday, October 21, 2022. We are also exploring a possible local excursion or field trip that connects to the theme of the workshop, and all local event transportation, including from the workshop hotel to the workshop itself, will also be provided. More details will be provided upon workshop acceptance.
We very much look forward to hosting you in Lincoln for substantive conversation and continued development of our professional community. Of course, we will continue to monitor public health conditions and follow all University of Nebraska-Lincoln and local Lancaster County public health guidelines, as they develop.

Submission Process and Related Deadlines

If you are interested in workshopping an idea or an in-progress paper, please submit a title and abstract to Hannah Haksgaard at hannah.haksgaard@usd.edu no later than Monday, August 22, 2022.

At the time of your title/abstract submission, please also communicate the following:

☐ whether you plan to workshop an in-progress draft paper (however early stage) or prefer to present more briefly an idea only at an incubator session
☐ whether you intend to attend in-person or through a remote option
☐ whether you are requesting financial travel assistance and, if so, some brief context of the source and scope of your need

For full in-progress workshop sessions (as opposed to idea-only incubator sessions), draft papers will be due October 7, 2022, and will be circulated to other workshop participants soon thereafter.

We also invite particularly interested scholars to attend even without workshopping a paper or presenting an idea for future work. If you wish to attend all or part of the conference – either as a general participant or as a commentator – please also e-mail hannah.haksgaard@usd.edu by August 22, 2022, with some background and context about your proposed engagement (i.e., in person or remote, as a formal discussant or general workshop member).

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