

Family Law Scholars & Teachers

March 13, 2017

Dear Colleagues,

We write to invite you to join us at the Tenth Annual Family Law Scholars and Teachers Conference (FLST), which will take place this year on **Monday-Tuesday, June 5-6, 2017, at Fordham University School of Law in New York**. As in previous years, the conference will provide an opportunity for us to share scholarship, pool our knowledge on teaching issues, talk about our field and professional development, and get to know one another.

The FLST Conference will start in the afternoon on Monday, June 5, with a dinner in the evening. It will continue on Tuesday, June 6. Fordham University School of Law has generously offered us space to meet as well as breakfast and lunch for conference participants on June 6. There will be no registration fee for the FLST Conference, but you must secure your own funding for hotel, transportation, and the conference dinner.

Conference sessions

The conference will consist of the following sessions: a welcome plenary, small group works-in-progress sessions, small group “incubator” sessions, a teaching plenary, lunchtime breakout discussions on topics to be determined, and a closing plenary.

- *Welcome plenary*. The committee will give an overview of the conference, followed by an opportunity for participants to introduce themselves and briefly summarize their current scholarly projects, teaching challenges, etc. This should give everyone an opportunity to identify areas of mutual interest that can be discussed further during the conference.
- *Works-in-progress (WIP) sessions*. These will be small breakout sessions designed to foster intensive discussion of each WIP. The size of each workshop will depend on the number of proposals submitted. As with previous years, all conference participants will sign up in advance to attend specific WIP sessions, so as to balance attendance among the various workshops. If more papers are submitted than time allows to be discussed, the planning committee will select the papers that will be presented based on subject matter, methodology, etc.
- *Incubator sessions*. These will be small breakout sessions designed to allow those who have an early-stage idea to get substantial feedback on the idea without submitting a paper. Participants will submit a *short* summary (1-5 pages) describing their idea, and very briefly introduce the idea to the group. The small group will then provide reactions, including suggestions for framing of the idea, appropriate formats or audiences, and further reading. The planning committee will make judgments about how many incubators can be accommodated depending on how many applications we receive; priority will go to people in their first three years of teaching.

- *Teaching plenary.* As in previous years, this year’s teaching plenary will give conference participants the opportunity to share instructional strategies that they have used in their classrooms. This could include simulation exercises, group work, assessment strategies, visuals, or any other strategies you use to help your students learn. Presenters will have the opportunity not only to explain the strategy or provide participants with a copy of the exercise—but to also lead the group in experiencing the instructional strategy first hand. The emphasis will be on the *Show* part of Show and Tell, with the goal that conference participants will be able to then implement the strategy in their own classrooms.
- *Breakout discussions.* These discussions will allow us to address topics of interest to be determined by the registrants ahead of time. We may break into smaller groups based on interests and/or topics (e.g., addressing current events, effective editing, teaching & writing management, going on the market, pursuing another degree while on tenure track, or developing a book proposal).
- *Closing plenary.* This plenary will provide everyone with an opportunity to comment on their conference experience and offer suggestions for next year’s FLST meeting.

Registration

Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis, so please register as soon as possible, but no later than Friday, March 31, 2017. Registration priority has already been given to prior attendees. Please understand that we will not be able to accommodate more than 45 people, so if you are interested in participation, be quick to register! If more than 45 people register, we will maintain a waiting list and invite people off the list if spaces open up.

You do not have to submit your proposal for a WIP or incubator when you register. Registration reserves your space to attend the conference only. You will need to sign up to present either a WIP or Incubator separately.

To sign up for the 2017 FLST Conference, please send an email to familylawsatc@gmail.com with your name, title, and whether you are interested in a WIP or an incubator. We are going to be using a Google Groups page to post the proposals instead of the TWEN site used in the past. More information about how to use the Google Groups site will be provided to conference participants.

Accommodations

Fordham Law School has booked a block of rooms at The Empire Hotel at 44 W 63rd St. The group discounted rate of \$269.00 (exclusive of taxes) (Superior King or Superior Double-Double) will be held under the booking name “FLST Planning Committee Group.” Rates will be valid until May 4, 2017, and there is a 48-hour cancellation policy. Attendees can book a room by calling (855) 265-7400, or by using the following hyperlink: <https://make-reservations.com/web/en/choose-room/EMPIRE/2017-06-04/2017-06-06/FLST/EMPIRE/Empire-Hotel>.

Questions

If you have questions about **registering** for the 2017 conference, please contact Kaipo Matsumura at kaiponanea.matsumura@asu.edu or Albertina Antognini at albertina.antognini@uky.edu. If you have any other general questions, please feel free to contact any of us on the planning committee.

We are very excited about this conference. We look forward to hearing from you and hope to see you in New York in June!

Warm regards,

Albertina Antognini

Andrew Gilden

Kaipo Matsumura

Seema Mohapatra

Amy Mulzer

Dara Purvis

Gregg Strauss

Allison Tait

Jessica Dixon Weaver