



Call for Proposals:

19th Biennial Conference

"Teaching, Writing, and Thriving at All Stages"

July 15-18, 2020

Georgetown University Law Center

Washington, D.C.

Proposals Due: 11:59 p.m. (EST) Monday, June 17, 2019

Please join us for the 2020 Biennial Conference of the Legal Writing Institute, where colleagues will have the opportunity to meet, reconnect, and share ideas about teaching, scholarship, and professional growth.

The 2020 conference theme is "Teaching, Writing, and Thriving at All Stages." This broad theme covers a number of topics relating to teaching, scholarship, and professional service. While we hope to inspire you with the "Teaching, Writing, and Thriving at All Stages" conference theme, the Program Committee welcomes proposals on *any* subject of interest to the legal writing community. Relatedly, the committee believes that a rich and compelling program showcases a variety of voices and perspectives. With that in mind, we especially encourage submissions from those who are new to our community or who may not often present at this Biennial or other conferences. At the end of the Call for Proposals is information about mentoring available to those who would like guidance on preparing a proposal, presenting, or both.

Basic Proposal Information

All proposals must be submitted using an online submission form available [here](#). To submit a proposal, you will need to create a log-in and password. Even if you previously created an account, you will be prompted to create a new log-in and password. When you submit the proposal, the submission program will prompt you to include the following information. Additional information about submitting a proposal is addressed below.

- 1- Name, email address, and affiliation for each designated presenter, panelist, and moderator;
- 2- 50-word biography for each presenter/moderator;
- 3- Title of the presentation;
- 4- A brief proposal description;

- 5- Presentation labels;
- 6- Presentation format; and
- 7- Anticipated technology needs.

Limit on Number of Proposals

In order to ensure that the maximum number of individuals may present at the conference, you will be limited to one conference presentation with the following exception. You may participate in two presentations only if one of the presentations will be (1) part of a LWI committee sponsored presentation or (2) a poster presentation. Participating in a presentation includes serving as a moderator.

Although you will be limited to one presentation at the Conference with the exceptions described above, you may be listed as a presenter or co-presenter for up to three submitted presentation proposals. You do not need to rank your presentation proposals in order of preference. If, however, you are selected for more than one presentation, you will be asked to select the presentation in which you would like to participate.

Selection Notification

By October 11, 2019, you will be notified about the status of your proposal(s). If your proposal is selected, we will ask that you provide a photograph of yourself to accompany your biography on the conference app.

Designation (i.e., Presenter, Panelist, or Moderator)

If you submit a proposal with more than one presenter for your session, please also submit the names of any co-presenter(s) and, if relevant, moderator(s). In determining how many presenters or panelists to include, please make sure that each person will have sufficient time to fully discuss his or her topic. For example, the committee recommends having no more than three presenters in a 45-minute presentation.

A few notes about submitting the names of co-presenters. To add a co-presenter, click on the "Add Co-Author" button during the submission process. You will then be prompted to provide co-presenters' names and email addresses. The submission system limits you to three co-presenters. If there are additional co-presenters, please list them in the "Biography/ies" field on the main submission page. Please provide 50-word biographies for all presenters/moderators.

Proposal Description

You will be required to submit a description of your proposal of no more than 1,500 characters. No additional files may be uploaded.

Presentation Labels

The committee seeks a mix of presentations, including but not limited to presentations that address topics of specific interest to new, mid-level, and veteran members of the field. The topics could relate to any facet of teaching, scholarship, or professional service. The topics could cover the scholarship, practice, or pedagogy of any of the sub-areas of our field, including

cognition and other education areas; composition; legal rhetoric; applied legal storytelling; issues related to social justice; professional identity development, both for professors and for students; and any other topic that would be of interest to those in the legal writing community.

To facilitate scheduling of presentations and to help attendees navigate the conference program, the committee invites you to select up to three labels that would apply to each of your proposal(s). The labels are grouped based upon the conference theme, but your selected labels need not correspond exclusively to one aspect of the conference theme. These labels will be incorporated into the Conference Program.

- **Teaching**
 - First Year/Required Legal Writing Courses
 - Advanced Legal Writing Courses
 - Cognitive Science and Education Theory
 - In-Class Exercises and Problem Design

- **Writing**
 - The Scholarship Process
 - Works in Progress
 - Scholarship in the Legal Writing Field
 - Subject Matter Specific Scholarship

- **Thriving**
 - Professional Development
 - Leadership/Administrative Opportunities
 - Programmatic Transitions
 - Cultural Awareness and Cultural Competency

- **Career Stages**
 - New
 - Mid-Career and Beyond
 - All Stages

The following examples are provided for illustration purposes only. The committee is not seeking to promote the use of any particular labels. For example, a presentation showcasing how to design engaging writing assignments may be designated with the following labels: (1) Teaching: First Year/Required Legal Writing Course; (2) Teaching: Cognitive Science and Education Theory; and (3) Career Stages: New. Alternatively, a presentation focusing on effective methods of teaching a diverse Gen Z may be designated with the following labels: (1) Teaching: Cognitive Science and Education Theory; (2) Thriving: Cultural Awareness and Cultural Competency; and (3) Career Stages: All Stages. Finally, a presentation based on the presenters' scholarship exploring the transactional reader and narrative transportation may be designated with the following labels: (1) Writing: Works in Progress; (2) Writing: Scholarship in the Legal Writing Field; and (3) Career Stages: All Stages. The committee encourages you to consider a range of presentation topics and select what you believe are the three most appropriate labels for your presentation.

Presentation Format

Below are descriptions of the various presentation formats. Please keep in mind that the committee may ask presenters to change the format or timing of a presentation to fit the needs of the conference program. This could include asking those who submit proposals for individual presentations if they are willing to consider forming a panel with others who have submitted proposals on a related topic. It may also include asking those who submitted proposals for lecture or interactive presentations to do a poster presentation instead.

- **Lecture/Interactive Presentations (25-minute or 45-minute presentations)**

This presentation is a traditional lecture with Q&A at the end, and an interactive presentation is one that seeks more audience participation throughout. If you are considering an interactive presentation, your proposal should include what you plan to do to make the presentation interactive as well as how much time the interactive activity will take, from explanation through activity through debriefing. Examples of interactive presentations include, but are not limited to, pair and share, break-out group discussions, use of demonstrative aids that involve the audience, or other vehicles for audience participation. Handouts, although very beneficial for attendees, do not, on their own, make the presentation interactive. Whether a lecture or interactive presentation, presenters should allocate sufficient time for questions.

- **Panel Presentations (45-minute or 75-minute presentations)**

Although the majority of panel presentations will be 45 minutes, the committee will set aside a few 75-minute time slots. If you are interested in a 75-minute panel presentation, your proposal should explain why 75 minutes is necessary.

You should designate a moderator in your proposal for a panel presentation. The moderator may or may not be a panelist and should ensure (1) equal time for each panelist to speak and (2) sufficient time for Q&A. If your proposal does not name a moderator and your proposal is accepted, the program committee will ask you to select a moderator.

- **Scholarly Research or Works in Progress (45-minute presentations/discussions)**

The committee welcomes presentations that will focus on recent scholarly work or works in progress in a group discussion format. This could include everything from well-researched brainstorming to near-finished projects. These sessions operate to foster discussion about scholarship in our community or related to our community. If relevant, readings will be distributed before the conference so that more of the session may be devoted to conversation. The Program Committee recognizes the difficulty of knowing now what scholarly projects you might have underway in the summer of 2020. Given this, the committee anticipates issuing a second, more focused Call for Proposals for scholarly research and works in progress closer to the conference date. This should not, however, dissuade anyone from submitting a proposal now for a presentation in this category.

- **Poster Presentations**

Posters will once again be spotlighted at the conference. While the program schedule will include a designated slot when presenters will discuss their posters, the posters will

also be available for viewing (without presenters) for the entirety of the conference. Submitters are not required to submit the actual poster with the proposal, but are welcome to do so if a mock-up is available in an electronic format. Please do submit, however, a description of the idea that you are presenting in your poster (no more than 200 words). Once a poster presentation proposal is accepted, the Poster Sub-Committee for the conference will provide sample posters and other details specific to poster presentations such as size limits. All posters will be displayed on tack boards supplied by LWI.

Technology

Please include your technology requirements as best as you can anticipate them. Keep in mind that some technology may be limited in certain law school spaces. The committee does not make program-selection decisions based on the technology needs of presenters, but such information is essential when planning the conference.

Marketing Prohibited

Although the committee welcomes proposals on any topic of interest to faculty who teach legal writing, a proposal will not be accepted if it appears to be a means to market a textbook or other for-pay product.

Mentors for Submissions and Presentations

If you are a first-time submitter or presenter and would like to talk through the process with an experienced presenter, please contact Program Committee Members: Brad Desnoyer (Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law), desnoyer@iu.edu; Stephanie Hartung (Northeastern University School of Law), s.hartung@northeastern.edu; or Dana Hill (Northwestern Pritzker School of Law), dana-hill@law.northwestern.edu.

Questions about Proposals and Submission

If you have any questions, please contact one of the Program Committee Co-Chairs: Sue Chesler (Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law, Arizona State University), susan.chesler@asu.edu, or Karen Sneddon (Mercer University School of Law), sneddon_kj@law.mercer.edu. If you have any questions regarding technical problems when submitting a proposal, please call Cvent customer care at 1-866-318-4357 (Option 1 and then Option 7).