Call for Proposals ☙ **Sixth Biennial Conference on Applied Legal Storytelling**
American University, Washington College of Law ☙ **Washington, D.C., July 11–13 2017**

This is the call for proposals for the sixth biennial conference on Applied Legal Storytelling. We are offering two deadlines for submitting proposals: January 20, 2017 (priority deadline) and March 12 (extended deadline).

About the Conference

The Applied Legal Storytelling Conference brings together academics, judges, and practitioners. The conference has previously convened in 2007 (London), 2009 (Portland), 2011 (Denver), 2013 (London), and Seattle (2015). We are excited to bring it to Washington in July, 2017.

Applied Legal Storytelling is defined broadly to allow people creativity in the way they think and present on the topic. Among the broadest categories are the uses of storytelling in law practice, legal education, and legal scholarship; the ways in which fiction-writing techniques or narrative theory can inform legal storytelling; stories in the law, or law as stories; legal storytelling and metaphor; legal storytelling and cognitive science; and ethical considerations in legal storytelling. If you are a lawyer and if you have ever read, watched, or told a story then you already know something about Applied Legal Storytelling.

In an effort to continue the storytelling conversation for this sixth conference, and simultaneously to welcome new attendees, we are providing resources for those interested in submitting a proposal and who wish to generate ideas or respond to others'. The first is a list of topics from past conferences; that list is appended at the end of this call for proposals. The second is a link to a bibliography on Applied Legal Storytelling, including articles that have emerged from previous storytelling conferences. http://www.alwd.org/wp-contentuploads20151108-rideout_article2015-pdf/ . We are also happy to answer questions and offer you suggestions—if you are a newcomer and interested in becoming involved, please reach out. Even if you have never met us before.

Presentation Formats

The conference will include 60-minute and 30-minute time slots. For the 60-minute time slots, we welcome interactive, panel or roundtable presentation proposals, as well as other format types. For the 30-minute time slots, we envision presenters adopting something like the 14–18 minute TED-style format of rehearsed presentations that center on one idea conveyed through narrative, with reserved time for questions from the audience. On the proposal form, please indicate either a preference for a particular format or your willingness that we accept your proposal in any of the formats and time constraints.

Submitting a Proposal

Deadlines: To allow greater flexibility for those interested in submitting a proposal, the Program Committee has established two submission deadlines. Please email your proposals to Ronna Craig at ronnac@lclark.edu

- The **Priority Deadline** for submissions is January 20, 2017. The Program Committee will review all proposals received by this date by February 14.

- The Committee will also consider proposals submitted by the **Extended Deadline**, March 12 and will review these proposals by the first week of April.

Proposal format: Please use the format provided at the end of this proposal. We ask for a short summary of fewer than 60 words for use in the conference app (that's right, we are moving to a smart-phone app for the program), as well as a narrative description of your proposal for selection purposes. (500 words, maximum).

Selection process: The Program Committee will review the proposals and respond according to the submission date. Those who submitted proposals by the Priority Deadline (Jan. 20) will be notified by mid-February if their proposal has been accepted. Those who submitted their proposal by the Extended Deadline (Mar. 12), will be notified by early April.

Conference Structure and Registration

The conference will take place from July 11 to July 13, 2017, at the American University, Washington College of Law. We are planning a conference that, like previous Applied Legal Storytelling conferences, will be collegial, inclusive, and supportive of your work.

The 2017 conference will begin with registration and a reception early in the evening of July 11 at the law school. The next two days, July 12 and 13 will be devoted to a plenary session and presentations given in concurrent sessions. The conference will close with a

dinner at the end of the day on July 13.The dinner is part of the conference itself—designed to be a signature event that facilitates ongoing conversations.

We will send out registration and hotel information early in 2017. The host school contact for the conference is Binny Miller, bmiller@wcl.american.edu .

Questions

If you have questions, please feel free to contact any member of the conference planning committee:

Binny Miller	bmiller@wcl.american.edu
Elizabeth Keith	ekeith@wcl.american.edu

Brian J. Foley	bjfolz@yahoo.com
Steve Johansen	tvj@lclark.edu
Stefan H. Krieger	Stefan.H.Krieger@hofstra.edu
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Ruth Anne Robbins	ruthanne@law.rutgers.edu

Sponsors

This conference is sponsored by the Legal Writing Institute, The Clinical Legal Education Association (CLEA), and American University, Washington College of Law.

Topics from Past Conference Presentations

This list is offered to help generate ideas. Not all ideas are brand-new.
Conversation in the field includes presentations that respond to other people's ideas.

Lawyering:
- public interest lawyering and storytelling
- legal storytelling techniques in trial, appellate, ADR, contract, negotiation, legislative advocacy, law reform, or other and alternative settings
- specific storytelling elements under the microscope and their use in practice—generally, or in a particular area of law
- storytelling aspects across different types of written legal communications
- modernizing the tools of legal storytelling (visuals, technology, social media, you name it)
- ethical considerations of legal storytelling to clients, other parties, fact finders

Scholarship or Interdisciplinary Theory and Applications:
- legal rhetoric and narrative theory
- empirical research into the role of storytelling/narrative in the lawyering process
- stories as ways to enhance cognition and memory
- metaphors, storytelling, and language in specific areas of the law
- comparative storytelling models across different legal systems and different classes of clients
- imagined rewriting of legal stories using different voices or perspectives

Teaching Strategies:
- recognizing and addressing legal storytelling as an area important to teaching
- re-examining teaching of skills courses to deliberately include narrative reasoning
- teaching modules about storytelling or narrative theory
- teaching fact analysis as part of teaching legal analysis
- examinations of curricula that incorporate the use of stories to teach doctrinal classes
- designing case studies/simulations/case rounds to include discussions of storytelling skills
- borrowing storytelling techniques from other media

Bibliography of Publications: The 2015 bibliography of Applied Legal Storytelling scholarship can be found here. http://www.alwd.org/wp-contentuploads20151108-rideout_article2015-pdf/

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Washington, D.C. ✐ July 11-13, 2017
Format for Proposals

Please submit your proposal, in MS Word or PDF format and include the following information:

Title of presentation

Presenters (please include school/organization and any professional title you normally use).

Summary of presentation (60-word maximum, to be used in the conference program on the smartphone app)

Description of presentation (500-word maximum)

Format (if you have a preference—solo presenter, panel, roundtable, something we haven't thought of)

Time needed/preferred (30 minutes or 60 minutes). Please indicate whether a preference or make/break.

Technology needs

The contact information of all presenters (email and preferred phone)

Please email your proposal to Ronna Craig, ronnac@lclark.edu
- The **Priority Deadline** for submissions is January 20, 2017.
- The **Extended Deadline** for submissions is March 12.