



Association of American Law Schools

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Lauren K. Robel
Indiana University -
Bloomington

November 7, 2012

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University of California -
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Memorandum 12-19

TO: Deans of Member Schools
Associate Deans of Academic Affairs

Immediate Past President

Michael A. Olivas
University of Houston

FROM: Susan Westerberg Prager, Executive Director

Serving through 2012

Ann C. Shalleck
American University

SUBJECT: *Journal of Legal Education* Request for Proposals

Serving through 2013

Pat K. Chew
University of Pittsburgh

Paul Marcus

College of William & Mary

Serving through 2014

Blake D. Morant
Wake Forest University

The purpose of this memorandum is to invite your law school and a member or members of your faculty to submit a proposal to assume the editorship of the *Journal of Legal Education* beginning on January 1, 2014. We would welcome individual as well as joint proposals from member law schools. The *Journal of Legal Education*, published by the Association of American Law Schools, is a premier professional journal on issues affecting legal education. Dean and now Professor Bryant G. Garth and Professor Gowri Ramachandran have served admirably as co-editors. All of us in legal education are grateful for their excellent stewardship of the *Journal* and for the contributions of the Southwestern Law School as the host school.

Kellye Y. Testy

University of Washington

The AALS Executive Committee seeks to ensure that the *Journal of Legal Education* continues as a high quality journal that provides an open forum for all members of the legal education community. Thus, the Executive Committee seeks to forge a partnership with a law school (or law schools) that will assume responsibility for the *Journal of Legal Education* for the next five-year term. The enclosed Request for Proposals describes the background and goals and provides details on the application procedures for the *Journal*. I hope that your school and a member or members of your faculty will be interested in submitting a proposal. Proposals should be submitted by March 1, 2013. We would appreciate it if you would circulate the enclosed Request for Proposals to your faculty.

Executive Director

Chief Executive Officer
Susan Westerberg Prager

Managing Director

Jane M. La Barbera

Associate Director

Linda D. Jellum

Assistant Director

Rachel A. Wilson

Memorandum 12-19
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Proposals, which should be received in our office by March 1, should be sent via e-mail to jleproposals@aals.org or by mail to *Journal of Legal Education* Proposals, Association of American Law Schools, 1201 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 800, Washington, DC 20036.

We hope that you will consider seriously this opportunity for your school and for legal education.

Attachment: *Journal of Legal Education* Request for Proposals



Association of American
Law Schools

JOURNAL OF LEGAL EDUCATION

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Background, Detailed Information and Requirements

The Association of American Law Schools solicits proposals to sponsor the *Journal of Legal Education*. As a premier publication in the legal academy, the *Journal of Legal Education* features articles and essays examining various facets of law, legal education, and the legal profession in general. This peer-reviewed publication appeals to a broad and diverse readership that is both domestic and international. Member law schools that sponsor the *Journal* garner significant prestige that comes with being identified with the most widely disseminated and read publication in the academy. Member schools may submit proposals directly to AALS as directed below.

PURPOSE OF PROPOSAL: To select the editor(s) and institutional sponsorship of the *Journal of Legal Education* for a five-year term to begin on January 1, 2014.

PROPOSALS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED NO LATER THAN: March 1, 2013

PART I

BACKGROUND

In 1992 the Executive Committee determined that a proposal should come both from an AALS member law school(s) and from the editor (or editors) at the law school(s). The Executive Committee will make its selection based both on the individual(s) proposed as editor(s) and the institutional proposal.

Southwestern Law School has served as the host school for the *Journal of Legal Education* since January 2009 and will continue to serve until December 2013. Under the leadership of Professors Bryant Garth and Gowri Ramachandran, the quality of the *Journal* has been innovative and continued to improve significantly. Southwestern Law School's editors' advances followed the excellent work of Professors Carrie J. Menkel-Meadow and Mark V. Tushnet (now at Harvard Law School) and the Georgetown University Law Center, the two prior editors and institutional sponsor.

Past *Journal of Legal Education* Editors and Host Law Schools for the past 30 years have been:

Journal of Legal Education 1982-Current

Year	School	Editors
Volume 32-34, 1982-1984	Cornell Law School	Roger C. Cramton
Volume 35, 1985		Peter W. Martin
Volume 36-37 1986-1987		Roger C. Cramton
Volume 38-42, 1988-1992	University of Iowa College of Law	David H. Vernon

Volume 43-48, 1993-1997	Case Western Reserve University School of Law	Jonathan L. Entin Erik M. Jensen William P. Marshall Karen Nelson Moore <i>(note: editors changed over the years)</i>
Volume 49-53, 1999-2003	Vanderbilt University Law School	D. Don Welch Kent D. Syverud
Volume 54-58, 2004-2008	Georgetown University Law Center	Carrie Menkel-Meadow Mark Tushnet
Volume 59, 2009-2012	Southwestern Law School	Bryant G. Garth Gowri Ramachandran

PART II

GOALS FOR THE *JOURNAL OF LEGAL EDUCATION*

Although the substantive focus of the *Journal of Legal Education* will be decided by the next editor(s), it is essential that the *Journal* continue to be an outstanding professional journal that captures the excitement and diversity of ideas in legal education. To achieve this fundamental goal, the Executive Committee believes that the following must occur and will evaluate proposals with these goals in view:

- The *Journal* must continue to publish the work of a diverse collection of authors and perspectives – the *Journal* must be a truly open forum for all members of the legal education community and must make visible the full range of opinion in legal education;
- The editor(s) must enjoy high intellectual stature among colleagues in legal education, and demonstrate an interest in all aspects of legal education; and
- The editor(s) should consider adapting the *Journal* to a changing world, including electronic distribution modalities.
- Although the scholarly direction of the *Journal* will be determined by its next editor(s), several specific types of articles that should be considered include the following:
 - Articles about scholarship, including new voices, "cutting edge topics, and methodologies;"
 - Articles about curricula and teaching, including learning theory and pedagogy;
 - Articles about the global activities of law schools, including comparative perspectives on legal education;
 - Articles addressing issues in the profession that may affect legal education;
 - Articles on the history of legal education, including its leaders and significant developments;
 - Articles raising institutional issues such as fundraising, admissions, career services, shared governance;

- Articles addressing professional identity issues, including those that consider diversity issues in legal education;
- Articles addressing the regulation of legal education.

PART III

EDITORIAL STRUCTURE AND CONTROL

The editorial model envisioned by the Executive Committee is one with a high degree of collaboration between the editors and the *Journal's* Editorial Board in determining the *Journal's* content and themes, deciding which articles to publish selecting reviewers of submitted manuscripts, and for determining the weight to be given to reviewers' comments in revising manuscripts. The editor(s) will be responsible for all aspects of the publication process, including editing, production, dissemination, and promotion.

The editor(s) should be prepared to make an annual report to the Executive Committee of the Association of American Law Schools at its January meeting. That report should include a full review of the accomplishments of the *Journal*, its policies, plans for the coming year, and financial status.

Editorial Board. The editor(s) will have an Editorial Board that is expected, upon request, to provide energetic advice to the editor(s) on matters of editorial policy. This board is appointed by the President of the Association and it is comprised of member school law faculty. At any one time, the Editorial Board has been appointed for 3-year terms by different AALS Presidents. Members of the Editorial Board will also be asked to review manuscripts, to help obtain additional reviewers when needed, and to offer recommendations regarding which articles to publish. An important obligation of the Editorial Board will be to read all the issues of the *Journal* and provide feedback to the editor on each issue and on the year's output. The Editorial Board meets once a year at the AALS Annual Meeting.

PART IV

BUDGET AND STAFFING

The configuration of administrative and editorial support for the editor(s) is the responsibility of the sponsoring school(s). At present, there is approximately \$30,000 in gross revenue each year from subscriptions. Currently, West Academic Publishing and Foundation Press generously absorb all of the costs of printing the *Journal* and has since 1948, when the first issue was published. In the past, AALS has been able to provide some modest financial assistance to the sponsor and may be able to do so in the future.

Changes such as subscription rates and issues such as cover design and website design must be made with consultation with the Executive Director of the AALS.

PART V

HOW TO APPLY

AALS welcomes individual as well as joint proposals from member law schools. The proposals must also identify the editor(s). If the proposal involves co-editors from different law schools, each editor's law school must

assume the responsibilities of sponsorship. The proposal should describe how the co-editors plan to organize the work. Proposals must explain the general strategy proposed by the editor(s) for achieving the goals of the *Journal* outlined. If the editors plan to adopt a unique or distinctive substantive approach for the *Journal* or plans to depart in a major way from its present format, these plans must be described.

To apply for sponsorship of the *Journal of Legal Education*, member law school(s) must email the following or mail two (2) copies the following:

- Proposal narrative (see below for suggested content);
- Budget information;
- Resume(s) of editor(s); and
- Institutional arrangements, if a consortium of law schools undertakes the responsibility for the *Journal*.

General Instructions for Proposal Narrative

The proposal narrative should present the applicant's view of the *Journal's* goals and describe and justify the strategies to be used to accomplish those goals. For example: What will the most important focus or emphasis, if any, be for the *Journal*? What audiences will, or should, the *Journal* serve, and how? What mechanism will the editor(s) use to ensure that the major issues and perspectives and approaches in legal education are addressed? How will the editor(s) strike an appropriate balance among the variety of viewpoints? How will the editor(s) ensure that the *Journal* becomes the major part of a network for exchange of ideas concerning pedagogy, scholarship, and other aspects of legal education within the legal education community? Will the editor(s) consider additional, alternate methods of publication in addition to print?

In addition, the proposal narrative should address each of the following criteria and anything else that the applicant cares to address:

1. **Institutional capability:** The proposal should enable the Executive Committee to determine the capabilities of the host law school to sustain a high-quality publication for a minimum of a five-year period. There should be evidence of an appropriate organizational structure and commitment to provide the services of appropriate staff.
2. **Contribution of the institution:** This section should apprise the Executive Committee of the availability of appropriate resources – what services and resources will the host institution provide the *Journal*? In what ways might the host institution contribute to the *Journal's* accomplishment of the goals set out in Part II?
3. **Background of editor(s):** This section should describe the experience of the proposed editor(s) that may be relevant to the editing of the *Journal*.

General Instructions for Budget Information

A sound financial plan for the *Journal* will be an important component of a successful proposal. This section should include a narrative description of the budget needed to operate the *Journal*. Proposals must include a

proposed budget for each year of sponsorship. It should fully describe plans for providing administrative, editorial support. It should detail any arrangements the law school proposes to compensate the editor(s) – whether through release time, salary supplement, or otherwise – and to compensate administrative/secretarial staff. Personnel items should include the position titles of key support staff and number of hours as well as any plans for consultant services. The budget must detail the sources of funds to support the *Journal's* production, publication and dissemination.

The proposal should enable the Executive Committee to determine the extent to which the law school is recommending an adequate and cost-effective budget, including the extent to which (1) the budget is adequate to support the activities of the *Journal*, (2) the equipment and supplies that the institution plans to furnish are adequate, and (3) the costs are reasonable in relation to the objectives of the proposal.

Interested law schools should contact AALS Associate Director Linda Jellum, at ljellum@aals.org for more information relating to the budget.

PROPOSALS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED NO LATER THAN: March 1, 2013

PROPOSALS TO BE SENT TO:

jleproposals@aals.org

or mailed to:

Journal of Legal Education Proposals
Association of American Law Schools
1201 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Suite 800
Washington, DC 20036

ANTICIPATED DATE FOR ANNOUNCING SELECTION: On or before August 1, 2013