

Sections on Real Estate Transactions and Property Law 2024 AALS Annual Meeting Call for Presentations

The Association of American Law Schools (AALS) Sections on Real Estate Transactions and Property Law are pleased to announce their joint program to be held during the 2024 AALS Annual Meeting in Washington, DC, from January 3-6, 2024. The program is titled *Corporate Acquisition of Rental Housing & Public Policy Responses*.

This joint program is also co-sponsored by the State and Local Government Law Section, the Community Economic Development Section, and the Clinical Legal Education Section.

Program Description

In recent years, large corporate landlords have been acquiring an increasing share of the U.S. rental housing stock. Data and anecdotal evidence indicate that such owners operate differently than “mom and pop” landlords across a variety of measures, including rent setting, property maintenance, fee collection, and evictions. Some argue that institutional landlords offer advantages related to greater access to capital and efficiencies derived from economies of scale. By contrast, recent developments like algorithm-based rent setting via software deployed by many large corporate owners has raised concerns about rent escalation and even price fixing. This program will analyze the shifting terrain in the rental housing market and consider, where appropriate, public policy responses like rent stabilization, good cause eviction protections, landlord registries, universal access to counsel, and other federal, state, and local interventions.

One or two panelists will be chosen from this Call for Presentations and will join Jessica Shoemaker (Nebraska College of Law), Nicole Summers (Georgetown Law School), Brandon Weiss (moderator, American University Washington College of Law), and one or two additional pre-confirmed panelists from academia, housing advocacy, and/or industry.

Call for Presentations – Submission Details

Please submit a maximum 500 word abstract in Word or PDF to the Real Estate Transactions Section Chair, Brandon Weiss (weiss@wcl.american.edu), and the Property Law Section Chair, Jill Fraley (fraleyj@wlu.edu), with “AALS Submission: Real Estate Transactions & Property Law” in the subject line. Submissions must be received by August 12, 2023.

We welcome submissions that address any of the topics described in the Program Description that involve law schools or lawyers. We invite proposals from law faculty including junior and/or clinical faculty, as well as participants who provide diversity and who reflect a variety of law schools.

Selected presenters will be announced by no later than September 15, 2023. Per AALS rules, only full-time faculty members and fellows of AALS member law schools are eligible to submit an abstract to Sections’ calls for presentations. All panelists, including speakers selected from this Call for Presentations, are responsible for paying their own annual meeting registration fee and travel expenses.

Inquiries or Questions

Any inquiries about the Call for Presentations should be submitted to Professor Brandon Weiss, American University Washington College of Law (weiss@wcl.american.edu), and/or Professor Jill Fraley, Washington and Lee University School of Law (fraleyj@wlu.edu).