CALL FOR NEW SCHOLARS AND MENTORS
2027 SEALS Annual Meeting

The SEALS (Southeastern Association of Law Schools) annual meeting provides a venue for new scholars to present their work and get reactions and advice from among the nearly 800 faculty members who regularly attend the conference. We invite you to nominate one or more junior faculty members from your school to participate in this program and to forward our call for Mentors to your senior faculty. The 2027 meeting will be at the Marriott Harbor Beach Resort & Spa in Fort Lauderdale, Florida from July 25 through July 31.

Call for New Scholars

Below are the details of the program and the nomination process:

Eligible Faculty: All tenure-track faculty are eligible. Faculty nominated for the program generally have 0 to 6 years of teaching experience and are untenured. New Scholars are exempt from SEALS' one-panel-per-person rule, meaning that New Scholars may participate in a substantive panel in addition to the New Scholars program.

Eligible Work: New Scholars are invited to present a work-in-progress at any stage of development.

Program Structure: The New Scholars Program consists of a panel presentation, a discussion group, and networking events.

> Panel Presentation: New Scholars are organized into thematic panels of three to four presenters. Presentations are 25-30 minutes in length, inclusive of questions and answers. Each New Scholar is assigned a Mentor who is a senior scholar with expertise in the subject matter of the presentation. The Mentor contacts the New Scholar in advance of the presentation, attends the presentation, and provides confidential feedback on the presentation and any draft shared by the New Scholar.
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> Discussion Group: New Scholars are included in discussion group titled "The Next Article," at which New Scholars present emerging ideas for future scholarship and receive feedback and suggestions for improvement in a warm and supportive environment. Feedback is provided by other New Scholars as well as invited senior scholars. This brainstorming session is a new and popular addition to our New Scholars program.
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> Networking Events: New Scholars are invited to participate in two networking events: The New Scholars Luncheon and the New Scholars Happy Hour. Both events allow New Scholars to meet and mingle with other New Scholars, Mentors, and members of the New Scholars and Mentor Committee.

Deadline for Nominations: December 15

Number of Nominations: Each member and affiliate member school is guaranteed one nomination. We will accept additional nominations if space permits.

Nomination Procedure: The Dean or Associate Dean may nominate a faculty colleague via our New Scholar submission portal, https://www.sealslawschools.org/submissions/newscholars/scholars.php, which solicits

basic information about the nominee and the proposed presentation (title and short synopsis). All New Scholars must register for the SEALS meeting and pay the conference registration fee when registration opens in early April 2027.

Call for Mentors

We also need Mentors, and we would be grateful if you would forward this request to your senior faculty. **Faculty interested in serving as a Mentor should email the Mentor Committee Chair, Stacey Tovino, at Stacey.tovino@ou.edu, by December 15, 2026.**

Mentoring is essential to the program's continued success and offers senior scholars a chance to share the benefits of their experience with the next generation of law scholars. The Mentor's role is to:

- read a draft or outline of the New Scholar's work;
- attend the New Scholar's presentation at the SEALS conference in person;
- meet with the New Scholar after the presentation; and
- provide written constructive feedback on the work and the presentation.

Please note that Mentors must attend the SEALS meeting in person.

Should you have questions, please feel free to contact either of us by e-mail. Thanks so much.



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