2019 AASE Bi-Annual Diversity Conference
"Expanding Access, Opportunity, and Success"
October 3 – October 4: Chicago, IL
DePaul University College of Law
Call for Proposals

Introduction

The 2019 Association of Academic Support Educators Bi-Annual Diversity Conference will bring together colleagues interested in intersection of diversity, legal education, and academic support. In this collegial and collaborative environment, colleagues will have a chance to meet, reconnect, and share ideas about pedagogy, scholarship, and professional growth.

The mission of the AASE Diversity Committee is to work collaboratively to advocate for and support diversity in law schools, to encourage academic support programs to engage in practices that promote and support diversity, to promote the recruitment and retention of diverse academic support professionals, and to provide resources that enhance knowledge and encourage understanding of diversity. The Committee honors ASP's traditional role in supporting racial diversity in law schools and endorses a broad definition of diversity, that includes but is not limited to: race, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, religion, national origin, ethnicity, physical or mental disability, and socio-economic status.

In order to present at the conference, you need to be a current AASE member and current with your annual dues at the time of the submission. If you are not an AASE member, you must submit an application to verify membership eligibility and pay your annual dues before submitting your proposal.

The program committee welcomes proposals on diversity and inclusion related topics that are relative to legal education and academic support.

Please craft your proposal carefully using the below format. Proposals can be submitted via e-mail to aaseconference@gmail.com. The program committee will only look at proposals submitted through this method.

A "Sample Proposal" is available at the end of this document and it contains more detailed explanations

and sample answers of the questions you will see in the required online form. The program committee will look for proposals that describe the presentation and its goals in detail. Our assumption is that a clear and detailed proposal today will lead to a stronger presentation at the conference. Please review the Sample Proposal before submitting the required online form.

Presentation Format

Presentations may be in any form the presenter finds effective. Although the committee does seek to accommodate all presenters with their selection for presentation format and timing, the committee may occasionally ask presenters to change the format or timing of a presentation to fit the needs of a comprehensive and diverse program.

The following is a description of the different types of presentations:

Interactive Workshop

An interactive workshop is a presentation with audience participation throughout. A proposal for an interactive workshop should discuss what you plan to do to make the presentation interactive.

Examples include: pair and share, break-out group discussions, use of demonstrative aids that involve the audience, or other audience participation. Note that providing handouts, although very beneficial for attendees, does not on its own make the presentation interactive.

If you submit a proposal with more than one presenter for your session, your proposal should include the name, e-mail address, and school for each presenter. In determining how many presenters to include in your proposal, please make sure that each person will have sufficient time to fully discuss his or her topic. Because most presentations will last only 45 minutes, we recommend no more than 2 to 3 presenters.

Lesson in a Box

A lesson in a box presentation is a session devoted to the presentation of a lesson on a single topic. Such sessions should include all of the information and materials necessary for attendees to leave the session prepared to deliver the lesson on their own.

Moderated Group Discussion

Moderated Group Discussions are more informal presentations that feature group conversations and interaction. The committee encourages presentations that will foster dialogue among conference attendees. These sessions are particularly well suited for hot topics.

Speed Round

Speed Rounds are 10 minute, fast-paced, high-impact sessions. These are opportunities for new ideas, or for emerging professionals to present ideas that might not have been presented on before. There will be several Speed Rounds running concurrently throughout the period.

Brochure Summary

Please provide a short summary of your presentation for the conference brochure. The summary should not exceed 250 words and should accurately reflect the subject of the presentation.

Technology

As part of your proposal we ask that you explain whether your presentation requires projection, internet access, audio, or other technology and the degree to which each is necessary to your presentation. We ask that proposals identify any technology needs at this early point so that we can be prepared well in advance of the conference to provide accessibility.

Time Slots

The committee expects that nearly all presentations will be assigned a 30 minutes, 45 minutes, or 1 hour time slot. Proposals should indicate the time needed for the presentation. Please also address how the presentation can be adapted if you are allotted a shorter amount of time. However, we recognize that a few presentations are better served with more time. If you are interested in a 75-minute time slot, your proposal should clearly explain why 75 minutes is *necessary*.

Submission Deadline

Proposals must be submitted no later than June 30, 2019. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Notification

All individuals submitting a proposal will be notified about the status of their proposal on or before July 31, 2019.

Multiple Proposals and the "One-Presentation Rule"

You may submit a maximum of two proposals, and you need not rank your proposals in order of preference. If you are selected for more than one presentation or panel, you will be given the

opportunity to select the one presentation or panel in which you would like to participate, as each person is limited to one presentation or panel.

No Marketing

Although the committee welcomes proposals on any topic of interest to academic support faculty, a proposal will not be accepted if it appears to be a means to market a textbook or other for-pay product. AASE does not accept proposals from any commercial vendors. Any commercial vendor interested in promoting their materials may do so as a sponsor of the conference. Please email aaseconference@gmail.com to request information on becoming a sponsor.

Questions

If you have any questions, please contact the Programming Committee at: aaseconference@gmail.com.

SAMPLE PROPOSAL

Proposal for 2019 AASE Bi-Annual Diversity Conference

Presenter Contact Information: Cai Leonard, Law School, 2 Main Street, Springfield, ST 98765.
T: 112-356-7890 caileo@lawschool.edu

Presentation Title: Building Positive Classroom Environments

Background of Presentation Topic: Creating a positive learning environment is one of the components critical to successful learning (e.g. Bransford et. al, *How People Learn* 25; Goleman, *Social Intelligence* 268-76; Hess & Friedland, *Techniques for Teaching Law* 326-27). Emotional intelligence and neuroscience studies show that we learn better when we are challenged, supported, respected, and engaged. Too much stress impedes learning; lack of challenge does the same. This workshop focuses on *how* to create a positive learning environment for law students.

Goals of the Presentation: By the end of this workshop participants will:

- Be able to explain the value of positive interpersonal environments in helping students learn;
- Be able to identify methods for building positive interpersonal classroom environments; and
- Be able to engage their own students in exercises that help build positive classroom environments.

Target Audience: Newbies & moderate experience level; all school sizes

Presentation Format: Interactive Workshop

Presentation Methodology: Participants will be actively involved in different techniques that affect classroom dynamics. Participants will engage in:

- Writing
- Discussing ideas in pairs
- Looking at visuals
- Listening & reflecting
- Discussing ideas with the whole group
- Practicing with a small group

Participants will first examine the environments that have been conducive to their own learning, and exchange their ideas with a partner. This will be followed by a short, whole group discussion about the value of creating positive affect — and the value of engaging others in talking about it. Participants will then be given scenarios about classroom behaviors and asked to consider the following kinds of questions:

- What could the professor have done at the beginning of the course to increase the positive interpersonal engagement?
- What are the likely consequences of negative classroom interactions?
- What small steps can professors take to improve the classroom environment?

Participants will be given an overview of how positive and negative interpersonal dynamics and environments affect student learning. They will then discuss things they have noticed within their classes and ways to improve classroom dynamics. Depending on participants' teaching areas, participants may engage in small group discussions about questions relating to doctrinal areas, upper level vs. first year courses, skills courses, or clinical courses.

Throughout the workshop, I will share my own experiences and give examples of what I have found effective in my classes, others' classes, and I will answer participants' questions.

Timing Required: 30 minutes

Materials: Outline of the workshop, scenarios regarding different kinds of classroom environments, questions for participants to respond to, specific techniques professors can use to create positive environments, and short list of resources.

Technology Required: Access to PowerPoint would be very helpful, although the session could be modified to be done without it.

Brochure Summary: We have all witnessed our students struggle in their classes due to too much stress. This workshop focuses on *how* to create a positive learning environment for law students. Through group discussion and partner work, participants will learn how to build positive interpersonal classroom environments.