



Mini-Conferences on Coronavirus and Law

University of Oklahoma College of Law

Organized by:

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CFP: Call for Presentations (incl. partially developed ideas)

How is law helping or hurting in the fight against the pandemic? What could it do better?

What

A series of informal gatherings to issue-spot legal impediments to, and opportunities for, ending the pandemic. For presenters, instead of a “work-in-progress paper,” the bar is set much lower. Think “work-in-progress blog post.”

Each presenter will have up to 10 minutes to present, plus five minutes for questions and feedback. Four to six presenters per mini-conference.

Presenters are asked – but not required – to write a short guest blog post regarding the subject of their presentation for non-exclusive posting on lawgarithmic.com, a new science-and-law blog focused on the coronavirus pandemic.

Where

They will be held “at” OU Law via Zoom (for logon/password info, e-mail eric.e.johnson@ou.edu).

When

2:00 to 4:00 p.m. CDT on dates that will depend on participants’ availability. So far, the following dates are either *potential* or **definitely happening**: **Friday, April 10** (full); *Monday, April 13*; **Wednesday, April 15** (3 slots open); **Friday, April 17** (2 slots open); *Monday, April 20*; *Tuesday, April 21*; *Wednesday, April 22*; *Friday, April 24*.

Why

The pandemic isn’t just a function of biology, it’s also a function of society, including our laws and legal institutions. To fight the virus, it may prove easier to change the law than to push back against the biology. Thus, we should be thinking creatively about the role of the law in stopping the spread of COVID-19 and in saving lives.

Who

Legal scholars, scholars from other disciplines, clinicians, research scientists, government officials, and others whose professional role may provide insights on how the law is helping or hurting in the fight against COVID-19.

How

If you are interested in presenting, send a brief e-mail regarding what you want to talk about to eric.e.johnson@ou.edu and indicate on which of the dates (mentioned above) you would be able to participate.

The mini-conferences are not open to the general public, but if you have a relevant professional connection and you would be interested in attending without presenting, e-mail eric.e.johnson@ou.edu.

A partial list of questions to explore ...

- How does the law frustrate or support the scientific search for effective treatments?
- How might law support or thwart good decision-making about public health measures?
- How might liability and regulatory concerns incentivize desirable or undesirable conduct of citizens, researchers, firms, and government agencies?
- How might speech-affecting law (copyright, constitutional free speech guarantees, defamation) affect the flow of accurate and useful information about the pandemic?

List of participants so far ...

- **Stacey A. Tovino**, Judge Jack and Lulu Lehman Professor of Law, UNLV William S. Boyd School of Law
- **Theodore C. Bailey**, M.D., J.D., Chief, Division of Infectious Disease, Greater Baltimore Medical Center
- **Erika M. Douglas**, Assistant Professor of Law, Temple University Beasley School of Law
- **Ana Santos Rutschman**, Assistant Professor of Law, Center for Health Law Studies and Center for International & Comparative Law, Saint Louis University School of Law
- **Jennifer D. Oliva**, Associate Professor of Law, Center for Health & Pharmaceutical Law & Policy, Seton Hall University School of Law
- **Victoria Sutton**, Paul Whitfield Horn Professor and Director of the Center for Biodefense, Law and Public Policy, Texas Tech University School of Law
- **Alfred C. Yen**, Professor of Law and Dean's Distinguished Scholar, Boston College Law School
- **Brian L. Frye**, Associate Professor of Law, University of Kentucky College of Law
- **Alejandro E. Camacho**, Professor of Law and Director, Center for Land, Environment, and Natural Resources, University of California Irvine School of Law
- **Robert L. Glicksman**, J. B. and Maurice C. Shapiro Professor of Environmental Law, George Washington University Law School
- **Anjali Vats**, Assistant Professor of Communication and African and African Diaspora Studies, Boston College; Assistant Professor (by courtesy), Boston College Law School
- **Sapna Kumar**, Law Foundation Professor of Law, Co-director, Institute for Intellectual Property & Information Law, University of Houston Law Center

More info ...

http://ericejohnson.com/projects/coronavirus_and_law/