

Beneath the glittering business districts of most American cities, lies an urban core in flux. Join an interdisciplinary group of lawyers and academics for a fresh approach to ...

Tackling the Urban Core Puzzle

Call for Papers from Junior Scholars

Northeastern University School of Law's second annual Legal Scholarship 4.0 conference will continue to explore the frontiers of applied theory by examining contemporary approaches to economic development in American cities and their often distressed urban cores. Even as American metropolises have begun to pull themselves out of the Great Recession, the neighborhoods at their cores generally remain underdeveloped and impoverished. They contribute significantly to the worsening inequality gap in the United States. They appear to be entrenched sites of market failure and economic distress. By examining a range of contemporary models aimed to improve worker participation, financial services, property access, business competition and the development of business and personal assets and wealth, this conference will explore new connections between law and development in the urban core. Plenary speakers include Frank Pasquale (University of Maryland Carey School of Law), J. Phillip Thompson (Massachusetts Institute of Technology, School of Architecture & Planning), Anthony Townsend (New York University, Rudin Center for Transportation Policy and Management), Scott Cummings (UCLA School of Law), Nestor Davidson (Fordham Law School) and Judith Scott (General Counsel to the Service Employees International Union).

The conference will advance the agenda of the Legal Scholarship 4.0 series at Northeastern University School of Law by focusing on two interrelated issues: audience and methodology. By engaging with scholars who use a range of methodologies, including qualitative empiricism, interdisciplinary collaboration and scholarship embedded in ongoing partnerships "in the field," we will explore new and developing models for applied theory that are intended to reach a broader range of audiences.

While Friday's focus will be on urban development, **the Saturday workshop will include works-in-progress by junior scholars exploring a range of substantive areas. Northeastern invites junior scholars (those who have spent 7 years or fewer as full-time law professors) to share their works-in-progress.**

Break-out works-in-progress sessions will include a comment on each paper by senior faculty, and discussion by fellow panelists and conference participants. Conversations will continue throughout the conference at breakfast and lunch (provided), as well as during the speakers' dinner. Interested junior faculty members are invited to submit an abstract (not to exceed 500 words) of the project they would like to present by **August 31, 2015**, to Professor Rashmi Dyal-Chand, r.dyal-chand@northeastern.edu. The chosen participants will be expected to submit completed paper drafts by September 9, 2015, and to participate in the entirety of the conference.