

Call For Papers

“Pursuing Diverse Talent in Legal and Professional Services: Research Within and Across Professions, Organizations, and Societies”

**Second Annual Conference of the
Research Group on Legal Diversity
American Bar Foundation
Chicago, May 10-11, 2013**

Theme: The 2013 conference will be organized around the theme of *talent*, with a particular interest in how predicting, measuring, developing, promoting, and retaining talent in professional fields intersects with diversity along the lines of race/ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, disability, and religion. While the core interest of the Research Group is legal diversity, the premise of this conference is that much can be learned by considering these issues within and across different professions, organizations, and societies. Papers from all disciplines and social science methods are welcome.

Submission Process: Interested scholars should submit an abstract by email, no later than Friday, November 30, 2012, to Robert L. Nelson (rnelson@abfn.org). Authors will be notified of their acceptance to the conference by Friday, December 14th. Presentation drafts of conference papers will be due by Monday, April 1, 2013. Final drafts are due July 1, 2013. Travel costs for authors of accepted papers will be provided by the conference.

Publication plans: Conference papers will be submitted as a collection as a symposium issue of a refereed journal, a law review, or an edited book. Authors may submit papers written for the conference to other outlets with the permission of conference organizers, acknowledgement of support, and permission for reprinting. The Research Group is committed to promoting the publication and dissemination of high quality research on diversity and will work with authors to best achieve this goal. Ronit Dinovitzer, Spencer Headworth, Robert Nelson, and David Wilkins will act as Special Editors for the publication of the conference collection.

Conference Format: The conference will consist of public sessions on Friday afternoon that will feature mixed panels of research presentations by scholars and commentary by practitioner-leaders. Saturday sessions, while open to all, will feature research roundtables by members of the Research Group on Legal Diversity and other invited authors.

Questions: Questions about submissions and the conference should be sent to conference organizers through Spencer Headworth (sheadworth@abfn.org) or 312-988-6534.

The Research Group on Legal Diversity is a network of scholars convened by the American Bar Foundation to conduct empirical research on diversity in the legal profession. It is co-directed by Ronit Dinovitzer, Robert Nelson, and David Wilkins. More information on the Research Group may be found by following the link on the American Bar Foundation’s home page, americanbarfoundation.org.