

## **SEALS NEW SCHOLARS WORKSHOP MENTOR GUIDELINES**

For nearly a decade, the Southeastern Association of Law Schools (SEALS) has run a very successful New Scholars Workshop. The purpose of this Workshop is to give new faculty the opportunity to present a work-in-progress and receive feedback from their peers and others. As a way of improving the Workshop experience, SEALS includes an optional mentor component of the Workshop.

### **DETAILS ABOUT THE SEALS ANNUAL MEETING**

You must register to attend this year's Annual Meeting and pay the conference registration fee. A registration form is available online at <http://www.nsulaw.nova.edu/seals/>. You must contact the hotel directly to make room reservations. We have reserved a block of rooms at a discounted rate, but the number of attendees often exceeds the number of allotted hotel rooms.

### **MENTOR PROGRAM**

SEALS hopes that the entire group at the Annual Meeting will mentor new faculty. In addition to such informal mentoring, the Mentor Program is designed to ensure that self-designated New Scholars receive the benefit of advice from at least one Mentor. The program matches New Scholars and Mentors from different law schools.

### **MENTOR NOMINATION AND PARTICIPATION**

Participation in the Mentor Program is entirely voluntary. However, SEALS guarantees a mentor to New Scholars from each school that agrees to participate (by providing a Mentor). Schools that do not nominate a Mentor are not guaranteed a Mentor for their New Scholar.

### **MENTOR ROLE**

The Mentor's role includes becoming familiar with the guidelines relating to New Scholars in this program (available at: <http://www.nsulaw.nova.edu/seals/scholars.htm>), reading a draft or outline of the New Scholar's work, attending the New Scholar's presentation, meeting with the New Scholar after the presentation, and providing written constructive feedback on the work as well as the presentation.

### **MENTOR ROLE PRIOR TO THE PRESENTATION**

At least 30 days before the Annual Meeting, the Mentor makes contact with the New Scholar in order to arrange the process. At this time, the New Scholar may wish to share an outline or draft of the work. In addition, the Mentor can establish a post-presentation meeting time and work out a feedback process that is acceptable to both.

### **MENTOR ROLE FOLLOWING THE PRESENTATION**

After the presentation, the Mentor shares ideas and helpful strategies with the New Scholar about the concepts, presentation, scholarship, and possible publication of the work. The Mentor should also provide constructive, written feedback on the work and the presentation. It is also useful to discuss feedback informally with the New Scholar, perhaps over a meal or refreshments. As appropriate, a Mentor might introduce the New Scholar in person or by correspondence to an established scholar in the field who has a particular interest in the subject matter.