

11th Annual Conference – Call for Proposals and Award Nominations

Perseverance, Resilience, and Resistance in Canadian Clinical Legal Education

(Holiday Inn – Yorkdale, Toronto, Ontario, June 3-5, 2020)

The **Association for Canadian Clinical Legal Education** (ACCLE) is delighted to confirm that we will be hosting our 11th Annual Conference at the Holiday Inn – Toronto Yorkdale.

In the years since ACCLE launched at our inaugural conference in 2010, the number and breadth of clinical legal and experiential learning programs has increased dramatically. As the national voice for Canadian clinical legal education, ACCLE is increasingly invited to participate at policy tables on legal education reform across the country, to weigh in on policy and substantive legal issues as they affect clinical programs, and to be a voice of advocacy on behalf of our membership.

Last year, the ACCLE celebrated its 10th Annual Conference in London, Ontario, where our first conference was held in October 2010. Following successful collaborations with the International Journal of Clinical Legal Education (IJCLE) in 2016 and the Canadian Association of Law Teachers (CALT) in 2017 and 2018, ACCLE opted to hold this special anniversary conference independently. Based on the feedback we have received, the intimate setting provided an opportunity for our membership, primarily clinicians, to regroup and to explore topics directly affecting the future of clinical legal education in Canada. ACCLE is therefore proceeding independently with our 11th Annual Conference, and we hope that the conference will be a space to continue the conversations that began last year, while introducing new themes.

The focus of our 2020 conference is “**Perseverance, Resilience, and Resistance in Canadian Clinical Legal Education**”. We are interested in exploring questions such as:

- What are the ongoing and future challenges to clinical legal education in Canada and worldwide?
- In what ways do clinics and/or clinicians employ strategies of perseverance, resilience, and/or resistance?
- How can fiscal challenges provide opportunities for students to embrace modes of perseverance and resilience in pursuing access to justice for vulnerable client populations?

- Alternatively, how might narratives of resilience be damaging to clinics' clients, students, and clinicians?
- How can community partnerships and interdisciplinary approaches facilitate new opportunities for clinics, clinicians, and law students?
- During times of fiscal challenge, how can resistance help you serve your mandate?

ACCLE invites proposals for papers or workshops that fit within the general theme of *"perseverance, resilience, and resistance in Canadian clinical legal education"*. We welcome participation and submissions from all legal educators, as well as professionals from other related fields. We are especially interested in proposals seeking to engage the audience in an interactive or dynamic way.

We especially welcome proposals from racialized persons, women, Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, LGBTQ2sIA+ persons and others who may contribute to the further diversification of ideas.

How to Submit

Proposals must be submitted using this [online form](#). The form requires you to provide the names, contact information and a short bio (100 words) for each proposed presenter, as well as a short abstract (250 words) describing the proposed session. All relevant fields in the form must be completed in order for the proposal to be considered. If accepted, we will use the submission in this form to create the conference program, **so please review your information carefully for accuracy before submitting.**

The deadline to submit is **January 31, 2020**.

Proposals will be reviewed and selected by members of the ACCLE Board based on their quality and relevance to the theme and the goals of the conference. Questions about this call for proposals or the conference more generally should be directed to Natasha Brown, Conference Chair, at natasha.brown@umanitoba.ca or Martha Simmons, ACCLE President, at msimmons@osgoode.yorku.ca.

Please note: ACCLE is a volunteer-run organisation. We rely on our annual conference to generate a small income to sustain our work. For this reason, ACCLE requires all presenters to register for the conference regardless of whether they are able to attend for the full two days. Similarly, ACCLE is not able to waive or subsidize participants' attendance expenses.

In keeping with this year's theme, we are seeking sponsors to assist with costs associated with the conference. If you are aware of any organizations, companies, or individuals who may be interested in sponsorship, please contact Natasha Brown, Conference Chair, at

natasha.brown@umanitoba.ca or Martha Simmons, ACCLE President, at msimmons@osgoode.yorku.ca.

Awards

On the occasion of three of ACCLE's longest serving Board members retiring from the Board, ACCLE announced the creation of three awards in their honour – the Ferguson, Cirillo and Buhler Awards. We are accepting applications for nominees for all three awards alongside proposals for the conference. The successful nominees will be announced at the 2020 conference.

Ferguson Award

This award, named in honour of Doug Ferguson, founder and long-time ACCLE Board member and Director of Community Legal Services at Western Law, will be given to one or more members of a clinical project or program that promotes access to justice and clinical law within a law school setting. The award can be given to the leader of a team, or to a portion of or all its members. The award can be given to a “pop-up” clinic or a long-standing clinic. In order to qualify as a “clinic”, the project must work to directly advance the interests of clients or client groups.

Applications for this award shall include:

- Names of the nominee(s) and the clinic/ clinical project
- Description of project
- Summary of the project's achievements
- 2 letters of support

Cirillo Award

This award, named in honour of Lisa Cirillo, long-time ACCLE Board member and Director of Downtown Legal Services, will go to an individual clinician who has made a significant contribution to the life of their legal clinic.

Applications for this award shall include:

- Name of the nominee
- Description of the nominee's work
- Examples of the nominee's work (where applicable)
- 2 letters of support

Buhler Award

This award, named in honour of Sarah Buhler, long-time ACCLE Board member and Professor at the College of Law, University of Saskatchewan, will go to a professor, clinical professor, or other individual whose work intersects academic and clinical approaches to clinical and experiential legal education.

Applications for this award shall include:

- Name of the nominee
- Description of the nominee's work
- Examples of the nominee's work
- 2 letters of support

All nomination packages should be submitted as single pdf files, addressed to Martha Simmons, President of the Association of Canadian Clinical Legal Education, at msimmons@osgoode.yorku.ca. All nominations should be submitted on or before **Monday, March 23, 2020**.