Call for Papers Eighth Junior Faculty Forum on Law and STEM

Northwestern Pritzker School of Law, September 26-27, 2025

The Northwestern, Penn and Stanford law schools are pleased to announce a Call for Papers for the Eighth Junior Faculty Forum on Law and STEM, which will be held at Northwestern on September 26-27, 2025. The Forum is dedicated to interdisciplinary scholarship focusing on the intersection of Law and Science-Technology-Engineering-Mathematics (STEM). We are seeking submissions from junior faculty in any discipline interested in presenting papers at the Forum. The deadline for submissions is June 3, 2025.

A group of junior scholars will be chosen on a blind basis from among those submitting papers. One or more senior scholars, not necessarily from Northwestern, Penn, and Stanford, will comment on each paper. The audience will include the participating junior faculty, faculty from the host institutions, and invited guests. Participating junior faculty are expected to stay for the full duration of the Forum.

Our goal is to promote interdisciplinary research exploring how developments in STEM are affecting law and vice versa. Preference will be given to papers with the strong interdisciplinary approaches integrating these two areas of study.

We invite submissions on any topic related to the intersection of law and any STEM field. Potential topics include (but are not limited to):

- Artificial intelligence
- Autonomous vehicles
- Biometrics
- Bitcoin and other blockchain technologies
- Chat-GPT and large language models
- Climate change technologies
- Computational law
- Cryptocurrency and NFTs
- Customized medicine
- Genetics and epigenetics
- Machine learning and predictive analytics
- Nanotechnology
- Neuroscience and law
- Online security and privacy
- Regulation of online platforms
- Robotics
- Spectrum policy
- Synthetic biology
- Virtual and augmented reality

A jury of accomplished scholars with expertise in the particular topic will select the papers to be presented. Suggestions of possible commentators are also welcome.

There is no publication commitment. Northwestern, Penn, and Stanford will cover presenters' and commentators' travel expenses, though international flights may be only partially reimbursed. Authors of accepted papers are expected to attend the conference and present their work in person.

QUALIFICATIONS: To be eligible, authors must be teaching at a U.S. school of higher education in a tenured or tenure-track position or as a Visiting Assistant Professor or Fellow and must have received their first tenure-track appointment no more than seven years before the conference. Authors in tenure and tenure-track positions will be given priority. American citizens or permanent residents teaching abroad are also eligible to submit provided that they have held a faculty position or the equivalent, including positions comparable to junior faculty positions in research institutions, for less than seven years, and that they earned their last degree after 2015. We accept jointly authored submissions so long as the presenting coauthor is individually eligible to participate in the Forum and none of the other coauthors has taught in a tenured or tenure-track position for more than seven years. Papers that will be published prior to the meeting are not eligible. Authors may submit only one paper.

PAPER SUBMISSION PROCEDURE: Electronic submissions should be made through this website, using the "Submit Here" button at the top or bottom of this page and completing the registration. The deadline for submissions is June 3, 2025.

Please remove all references to the author(s) in the paper. Please use this registration to list your name, email address, the names and emails of any coauthors, the title of your paper, and the general topic under which your paper falls. The registration can be found on the next page by clicking the "Submit Here" button at the top or bottom of this page. Any questions about the submission procedure should be directed to Professor David Schwartz (david.schwartz@law.northwestern.edu).

FURTHER INFORMATION: General information about the Forum is available through this link. Inquiries concerning the Forum should be sent to Mark Lemley at the Stanford Law School, David Schwartz at the Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law, or Christopher Yoo at the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School.

Submission Deadline is June 3, 2025. We will notify applicants as soon as practical thereafter whether their papers have been selected.