AMHERST, Mass. – We are pleased to invite you to participate in the Annual Law and Society Association Meeting!

The submission period for the Law and Society Association’s Call for Submissions opens on September 5, and the deadline is November 6, 2019, at 11:59 p.m. ET (USA). The Program Committee welcomes any scholar studying sociolegal activities to submit a paper proposal. We recommend scholars interested in proposing a session with a creative format to consult with the Program Committee and the LSA Executive Office (melissak@umass.edu) in advance of submitting their proposal.

**WHEN:** May 28-May 31, 2020

**WHERE:** Denver, Colorado, USA | [Hyatt Regency Denver Convention Center](#)
The globe is facing massive challenges that defy established mechanisms of governance. Climate change, wars, and continuing poverty lead to both the dislocation and the isolation of populations. New forms of mobility and demographic change have put strain on the institutions responsible for social provision, like education, housing and employment. New dynamics of rule and resistance are emerging as fearful (and racist) people opt to elect authoritarians who promise stability and a return to some “golden age,” when there was less freedom, less liberty and more control through the use of real or threatened violence. In this world, sociolegal scholars are understandably concerned with understanding these phenomena as well as identifying what systems of ruling authority can address these problems and how they can do so—while also protecting the rights of the world’s residents and providing conditions for them to flourish.

Rule may be singular as well as plural. In a moment when we see the rise of authoritarian forms of governance, how are rules asserted as a form of resistance? Resistance is often envisioned as the deliberate breaking of rules, such as through civil disobedience or other forms of rebellion. But resistance can sometimes take the form of exact adherence to rules, such as the industrial strategy of work-to-rule, where workers do no more than the minimum required under their contract. In other situations, instituting rules can itself be an act of resistance against forms of lawless tyranny, or resistance might manifest through attempts to change particular rules and promote different rules. Resistance, too, is not without its rules: resistance movements have often developed their own internal rules to guide and co-ordinate the pursuit of their objectives.

In the face of this tidal wave of authoritarian rule in various parts of the globe, resistance takes many forms, all of which have implications for the way that people govern and organize themselves. In the US, we see social movements organizing protests, while courts are sometimes supporting the rule of law against a lawless administration. New currents of activity appear to be forming in realms such as reproductive rights and the regulation of gender-based misconduct. Narratives of resistance are emerging and stretching across national borders, including that of decolonisation. Many of these forms of resistance are aimed at asserting control over governing institutions, although many also contest elsewhere. In any case, organized institutional resistance is only one possibility; others resist through revolution, rejecting those institutions entirely, or through flight from repressive conditions, seeking refuge.
The 2020 Program Committee invites individual and fully-formed panel submissions for what will be a challenging and exciting meeting. The Program Committee also welcomes the submission of complete panels of four to five papers in languages other than English. Submissions of individual paper proposals may however only be in English.

You will find the Call at: https://www.lsadenver2020.org/.

In the Call you will find information about the theme, submission instructions, and more. We will be adding more meeting information as time progresses.

**2020 PROGRAM COMMITTEE Co-CHAIRS**

Jonathan Klaaren  
University of the Witwatersrand

Anna-Maria Marshall  
University of Illinois

**KEY UPCOMING ANNUAL MEETING DATES**

- **Sep. 5** - Submissions Open  
- **Nov. 6** - Submissions Close  
- **Early Dec.** - Early Registration Opens *Best Price*  
- **Early Dec.** - Acceptance Letters Distributed

**The deadline for proposal submission is November 6, 2019. Registration will begin in December. If you have questions, please contact the LSA Executive Office (lsa@lawandsociety.org). We hope you will join in what promises to be a full and exciting program in Denver, Colorado!**

| #LSADenver2020 |
IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Elections Open Early Sept.

Elections for the Class of 2022 LSA Trustees will be held in early September. All current LSA members will be able to vote for trustees.

BE A PART OF THE DISCUSSION!

Don’t miss out on job opportunities or key sociolegal topics being discussed in LSATalk, an exclusive email list for Law and Society Association members. There are numerous announcements in LSATalk regarding jobs, fellowships, grant opportunities and discussions on sociolegal issues. Current members can email lsatalk@googlegroups.com to have their topics automatically posted. We do not sell access to this list or any personal information to solicitors or other organizations.

STAY CONNECTED!

There are numerous ways to stay connected with the Law and Society Association. Follow the LSA on Twitter @law_soc and on Facebook.