

# ACS RESEARCHLINK: Connecting Law Students and Lawyers Committed to Justice

ACS is pleased to invite **lawyers, law students and law professors** to participate in the third year of ACS RESEARCHLINK, an innovative online resource that collects legal research topics submitted by public interest practitioners for law students writing faculty-supervised law review/journal notes, seminar papers or independent study/dissertations for academic credit. Practitioners receive a copy of the resulting student paper and approved papers are published online.

**Public interest lawyers with interesting topics** they wish they had time to research fully, who welcome national exposure for their organizations and issues and like the idea of making legal scholarship more practical while supporting law students interested in social justice can submit topic ideas by completing a simple form at <http://ResearchLink.ACSLaw.org>.

**Law students looking for real-world legal research topics** that help public interest lawyers, who are interested in potential publication opportunities and want opportunities to build relationships with practitioners can search for topics at <http://ResearchLink.ACSLaw.org>.

	How ACS RESEARCHLINK can help you	How to use ACS RESEARCHLINK	How to Help ACS RESEARCHLINK
LAWYERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promotes research on legal theories that you identify, at no cost and without the need to supervise students</li> <li>Generates papers on topics you lack time to explore</li> <li>Facilitates national exposure for your organization</li> <li>Acquaints the next generation of lawyers with your organization and issues</li> <li>Cultivates law students' willingness to work in the public interest</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submit a paper topic for student research at <a href="http://ResearchLink.ACSLaw.org/practitioner">http://ResearchLink.ACSLaw.org/practitioner</a></li> <li>Use student scholarship as a resource in your practice</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tell your colleagues about ACS RESEARCHLINK</li> <li>Share this flyer with your affinity groups and email lists</li> <li>Share your outreach suggestions with <a href="mailto:ResearchLink@ACSLaw.org">ResearchLink@ACSLaw.org</a></li> </ul>
STUDENTS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Offers research topics that make your academic work relevant</li> <li>Provides opportunities to collaborate with a lawyer practicing in your area of interest, at an organization you support, or in part of the country to which you seek exposure</li> <li>Generates networking opportunities in fields you are interested in</li> <li>Creates potential publication opportunities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Explore ACS RESEARCHLINK for your next research assignment</li> <li>Find a professor and secure their agreement to grade your work for academic credit</li> <li>Commit to writing the paper to gain access to the topic author</li> <li>Write your paper and submit it to your professor for a grade</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tell your professors about ACS RESEARCHLINK</li> <li>Share ACS RESEARCHLINK with other students, especially those in public interest student groups</li> <li>Notify your school's journal and law review editors about ACS RESEARCHLINK</li> <li>Urge lawyers you work with to propose topics for student research</li> </ul>
ACADEMICS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acquaints students with well-defined issues of pressing real-world legal importance</li> <li>Creates a closer link between theory, doctrine and practice</li> <li>Links students with other expert sources of substantive and career guidance</li> <li>Identifies lawyers practicing in your field</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommend to students that they explore ACS RESEARCHLINK when selecting a paper topic</li> <li>Provide written feedback on student papers to assist both students and topic authors</li> <li>Certify that a student received a passing grade for original work, and whether it received a grade of "B" or better to enable online publication</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Share word with your students and colleagues about the topic database</li> <li>Notify your school's journal and law review editors, and other student groups about ACS RESEARCHLINK</li> <li>Urge graduates and practitioners to propose topics for student research</li> <li>Consider proposing a topic touching on your research interests</li> </ul>

Please visit <http://ResearchLink.ACSLaw.org/> to complete forms online or contact [ResearchLink@ACSLaw.org](mailto:ResearchLink@ACSLaw.org) with questions or comments.

## Share the Resource

If you are willing to **announce the availability of ACS RESEARCHLINK to your colleagues and/or law students**, or have other ideas about how ACS can best share word about the availability of this resource, please contact [ResearchLink@ACSLaw.org](mailto:ResearchLink@ACSLaw.org).

Students from numerous law schools, across the country, have participated in ACS ResearchLink, including:

- ▶ Boston College Law School
- ▶ Brooklyn Law School
- ▶ Duke University School of Law
- ▶ Faulkner University/Thomas Goode Jones School of Law
- ▶ George Washington University Law School
- ▶ Georgetown University Law Center
- ▶ Golden Gate University School of Law
- ▶ Indiana University School of Law - Indianapolis
- ▶ Louisiana State University Law Center
- ▶ Michigan State University College of Law
- ▶ New York University School of Law
- ▶ Northeastern University School of Law
- ▶ Northwestern University School of Law
- ▶ Pace University School of Law
- ▶ Rutgers University School of Law - Camden
- ▶ Seattle University School of Law
- ▶ UC-Berkeley Boalt Hall School of Law
- ▶ UC-Hastings College of the Law
- ▶ UCLA School of Law
- ▶ University of Miami School of Law
- ▶ University of Oklahoma Law Center
- ▶ University of San Diego School of Law
- ▶ University of Southern California School of Law
- ▶ Washington and Lee University School of Law
- ▶ William & Mary School of Law

Visit <http://ResearchLink.ACSLaw.org> to learn more.

ACS offers support to legal scholars in a variety of ways relating to its mission to promote the vitality of the U.S. Constitution and the fundamental values it expresses: individual rights and liberties, genuine equality, access to justice, democracy and the rule of law.

**ACS offers opportunities to network with other progressive lawyers in your area.**

- ▶ ACS lawyer chapters offer a **local forum to share ideas and debate issues** integral to a progressive legal and policy perspective. Lawyer chapters connect members with national ACS initiatives and provide them with opportunities to help shape national debate.

**ACS offers an online forum for your ideas.**

- ▶ If you'd like to **publish a short (op-ed length) legal commentary**, please **submit a guest blog to ACSblog**, one of the most widely read blogs in the progressive legal movement, with an audience of roughly 50,000 readers per month. Guest bloggers have included legal and policy experts from across the country, including attorneys from Human Rights First, the ACLU, AFL-CIO, the National Senior Citizens Law Center and other prominent legal organizations.

**ACS can help disseminate your writing.**

- ▶ ACS widely distributes rigorous legal analysis presented in a short, accessible format. If a **writing project between 10-20 pages appeals to you**, please **contact us about writing an ACS Issue Brief**, or alternatively, submit an essay or article to the student-edited *Harvard Law & Policy Review*, the official journal of ACS. In addition to sharing Issue Briefs with our members, the press, and a growing network of contacts on Capitol Hill, we also publish selected Issue Briefs in a bound volume titled *Advance* twice a year.

**ACS offers a speaking forum for your ideas.**

- ▶ Please **consider speaking to an ACS student or lawyer chapter** about your area of legal expertise. ACS chapters on over 160 law school campuses, as well as among groups of practicing lawyers in over 30 major legal markets, are always looking for speakers with insightful reflections on legal and policy topics.

**ACS can connect you with others sharing your legal expertise and interests.**

- ▶ ACS brings together academics, advocates, and practitioners with similar areas of legal interest. Each Issue Group periodically hosts conferences and symposia at which your attendance would be welcome. To **join an ACS Issue Group focused on your legal interests**, visit <http://www.ACSLaw.org/c21/signup>.

**ACS brings together students, academics, and professionals at the annual National Convention.**

- ▶ The ACS National Convention held each summer in Washington, D.C., offers the chance to engage in a number of discussion and networking opportunities, featured speakers, and panels.