

University of California, Santa Barbara - May 14-16, 2009.

Negotiating Legal Boundaries

*Hosted by:
The Law and Society
Graduate Student Committee*

Featured Speaker:
Abdullahi An-Na'im, Professor
of Law, Emory University.

Submission Procedure:
Please submit a 300 word
abstract and curriculum vitae
by March 15 via email
attachment to
legalboundaries@gmail.com.

Presentations should be 15-
20 minutes in length (8-10
pages). A faculty respondent
will offer feedback and
facilitate discussion with the
audience.

We hope to rotate this
conference among the
participating UC campuses in
the coming years, and so we
especially welcome applicants
who express interest in
continuing this graduate
student dialogue.

A limited number of travel
grants are available.

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In recent decades there has been a shift to broaden the study of law and society not only to address the structure of law but also to explore the lived experience of law as it affects individuals and communities. This conference welcomes graduate student work on law and society in an effort to analyze how individuals and communities negotiate legal boundaries. We encourage submissions from those working across disciplines, including humanities, law, and the social sciences.

Call for Abstracts: submissions may focus on (but are not limited to) the following themes.

- **Formation of Identity:** How do shifting legal boundaries affect individual and group identities? How are legal boundaries drawn around race, gender, class, sexuality, religion, and their intersections? How and why do these identities shift over time? How does the law contribute to cultural and popular understandings of the politics of identity?
- **Claiming Legal Rights:** What are the legal and everyday processes by which rights are claimed? What role do rights play in current and historical socio-political contestations? How do various forms of social inequality affect access to and mobilization of rights?
- **Facilitating and Contesting Forms of Social Control:** How do legal boundaries enable and/or undermine various forms of social control? What is the role of social movements in contesting legal forms of social control? How do competing claims of moral and legal authority inform legal conflict?