



## National Legal History Conference Comes West

Teachers, practitioners and others interested in legal history will gather in Tempe in October at the annual meeting of the American Society for Legal History. Hosted by the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at ASU on October 25-28, there will be 35 panels and more than 100 papers; topics include the legal profession, the U.S. Supreme Court, ancient and Biblical law, gender and race, intellectual property, constitutional law and law and literature.

ASU Law's Professor Jonathan Rose was instrumental in bringing the meeting to Arizona. The fact that "the biggest legal history conference in the world" will be at ASU is "a real feather in the cap of the law school," says Rose. In recent years, ASU Law has developed a legal history library, including antiquarian books.

For Rose, a Professor of Law and the Willard H. Pedrick Distinguished Research Scholar, the topic is a real labor of love. About nine years ago, he remade his life of scholarship from a focus on antitrust, contract law and ethics; he expanded it to include English legal history.

Typically, Rose says, about 300 attendees arrive to hear panels of scholars. This year's meeting, he adds, includes "a group of superstars." They will discuss a raft of topics including many that are very timely—including judicial supremacy, the use of history in constitutional interpretation, and the *Dred Scott* decision, whose 150th anniversary is this year. A key speaker will be University of Oxford professor Paul Brand, on the topic of the origins of professional judging.



JONATHAN ROSE

Here is information on a few of the panels being presented. More detail and registration information are available online.

### Grassroots Lawyers in the Twentieth Century

Chaired by Marjorie E. Kornhauser of ASU Law, the panel examines how outsiders to the legal system used the law to effect social and political change from the 1880s through the 1970s. It views such outsiders as important legal actors and explores how they created novel models of public interest lawyering.

**Making Places, Making People: The Legal History of the Southwest**  
Papers in this panel include the topics of "Reconfiguring Borders in 19th-Century El Paso," "The Making of the Mexican American Race," and "Multiracial Dissonance, Cold War Containment and the Law of Municipal Boundaries in the Metropolitan West."

**Constituting Gender and Citizenship in the American Polity**  
This panel examines three historical moments in which women made new claims to membership in the American polity.

**Telling the Story: Legal History and the Art of Documentary Filmmaking**  
This panel will focus on the ways filmmakers can tell a story about a legal case, whether that case gained fame in its time or might otherwise have been lost to history. Presentations include "Land of Orange Groves and Jails," "The Lemon Grove Incident," and "Of Civil Rights and Wrongs: The Fred Korematsu Story."

**Governing American Sexuality**  
Papers include "We Are Merely Concerned With the Fact of Sodomy": Sexual Perversion and State Incapacity in the World War I-era Military" and "Sexual Morrill-ity: The Land Grant College Act, Eugenics and the Nationalization of Sexual Normativity."

**American Indians and the Federal Government**  
Panelists include ASU Professors Kevin Gover and Peter Iverson (panel chair) and papers including "The Reemergence of Federal-Tribal Treaty Making" and "Racing the Indian Tribe." 

### American Society for Legal History Conference

**WHEN:**  
Oct. 25-28

**WHERE:**  
Tempe Mission Palms Hotel  
60 E. 5th St.

**INFORMATION:**  
To register or for more information about the ASLH, go to [www.aslh.net](http://www.aslh.net), and for details about the conference, go to [www.law.asu.edu/ASLH07](http://www.law.asu.edu/ASLH07) or e-mail [Jonathan.Rose@asu.edu](mailto:Jonathan.Rose@asu.edu).