

## WELCOME

On behalf of the Planning Committee, I welcome you to the first AALS Workshop on Thriving and Surviving the Academy: Concrete Steps for People of Color and Their Law Schools. This Workshop is the result of the hard work of a number of people, including all the presenters, the members of the Planning Committee for the Workshop for New Law Teachers, the Committee on the Recruitment and Retention of Minority Law Teachers and the AALS staff.

In January of 2005, the AALS published the results of a study entitled "The Promotion, Retention, and Tenuring of Law School Faculty: Comparing Faculty Hired in 1990 and 1991 to Faculty Hired in 1996 and 1997." This study indicated that the retention of faculty of color in the legal academy is dismayingly low. In light of the foregoing study and ensuing report, the Committee on the Recruitment and Retention of Minority Law Teachers requested that the AALS Executive Committee authorize a workshop addressing issues related to the retention of minority law teachers; this Workshop is the direct result of that request.

Faculty from all over the country have gathered to share their wisdom at this Workshop, which will address the three performance areas considered in the granting of tenure to law faculty: Scholarship, Service and Teaching. There will be an opportunity for small group discussions in the morning and at lunch you will receive an informative and inspirational message from Professor David Hall, former Dean of the School of Law and former Provost of Northeastern University.

Again, welcome to the Workshop; we sincerely hope that this program will help to increase the discussion and attention directed to the survival and thriving of faculty of color in American law schools.

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and Chair, Planning Committee for AALS  
Workshop for New Law Teachers