

## Call for Proposals

### **“The University & Democracy”**

#### ***Boston University Law Review Symposium***

**November 14, 2025**

As the Symposium [abstract](#) notes, universities are understood to be guardians of democracy and bulwarks against authoritarianism. Yet many of our most powerful universities have capitulated to and enabled the Trump administration’s open effort to exert “existential terror” on our institutions and our communities. Against this backdrop, the 2025 *BU Law Review* Symposium will critically examine why universities are failing to protect democracy, as well as their role in it and how we might reorient our universities toward their core mission: to pursue truth and knowledge for the common good.

The Symposium will engage multiple interrelated topics, including but not limited to: university governance; university financing; academic freedom; commitments to equality; campus organizing and student and faculty protest; bargaining for the common good; and alternative visions of higher education.

We invite submissions for paper or panel proposals that engage the foregoing and related inquiries or otherwise interrogate the relationship between universities and our constitutional democracy. Given the complexities of this topic, we encourage an interdisciplinary approach and welcome proposals from individuals working in a range of fields, including but not limited to law, education, political science, sociology, economics, and policy studies.

Proposals should include a cover page with paper/panel titles, proposed presenters, affiliations, and the submitter’s email contact. Please submit an abstract of 250-500 words to [jfeingol@bu.edu](mailto:jfeingol@bu.edu) with the subject line: “BU Law Review Symposium Proposal.”

**The deadline for submission is August 1, 2025.** Accepted submissions will be notified no later than August 15, 2025. Submissions will be reviewed on a rolling basis, so early submission is encouraged.