

THE PROJECT ON THE FOUNDATIONS OF PRIVATE LAW STUDENT FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

2016-2017

The Project on the Foundations of Private Law is calling for applications for student fellows for the academic year 2015-2016. Applications will be accepted until **Friday, May 27, 2016**. Decisions will be made on a rolling basis.

The Project and Student Fellowship. The Project on the Foundations of Private Law is an interdisciplinary research program at Harvard Law School dedicated to the academic investigation of private law. “Private law” embraces the traditionally common law subjects (property, contracts, and torts), as well as related subjects that are more heavily statutory, such as intellectual property and commercial law. It also includes areas of study that are today less familiar to students and scholars, including unjust enrichment, restitution, equity, and remedies. The Project aims to further study of these areas, their relationships to and distinctiveness from each other, and questions about the status and nature of private law as a whole. The Project draws on multiple disciplines outside law, including economics, history, cognitive science, and philosophy. It also encourages comparative work, especially involving Commonwealth and civil-law systems with explicit notions of private law. The Student Fellowship Program is designed to support student research in the areas identified above.

Eligibility. The student fellowship program is open to Harvard Law School students who are interested in pursuing careers related to the Project’s subject areas and who are committed to undertaking a significant research project during the year of their fellowship.

Writing Requirement. Student fellows will conduct research projects designed to lead to publishable articles. Fellows are expected to produce at least one such paper by the end of the academic year and typically do so in connection with enrollment in the Private Law Workshop in the Fall. Papers written in connection with the fellowship can be also used to satisfy the Law School’s written work requirement or other optional writing credit by prior arrangement with, and final approval of, a faculty advisor who has agreed to supervise a fellow’s work for this purpose.

Curricular Component. Student fellows are strongly encouraged to enroll in courses related to private law and theory, and if possible to attend the Private Law Workshop to be held in the Fall of 2016. In addition, fellows will be expected to take part in occasional roundtable discussions, at which a private law topic will be discussed, sometimes in connection with an outside speaker. Fellows are also expected to take advantage of opportunities to interact with speakers visiting the Project as well.

Resources. The Project will award each fellow a minimum stipend of \$2,000. It will be paid at the end of the academic year, once all fellowship requirements (including submission of an acceptable paper) are completed.

Application. To apply, email the following materials to Brad Conner at **conner@law.harvard.edu**:

1. Your curriculum vitae;
2. A current transcript (unofficial is fine); and
3. A statement of interest and a brief proposal indicating the research topic you would like to pursue (maximum 1,500 words total).