

## ACADEMIC CONCLAVE

# WE & THE LAW SCHOOLS

*Conversations That Matter*

### CONCLAVE THEMES

*Research Quality, Ethics,  
Pedagogy, and Academic  
Leadership.*

### DATE & VENUE

**27 March, 2026**

*National Law University Delhi*

*Organised by:*

***National Law University Delhi***

*Under the aegis of*

***National Academy of Law Teachers (NALT)***

## About National Law University Delhi

National Law University Delhi, established in 2008 under the National Law University Act, of 2007, is a premier institution committed to excellence in legal education and research. The University has been consistently ranked 2nd in the Law Category of the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) by the Ministry of Education (MoE), Government of India. NLU Delhi has produced distinguished scholars, including three Rhodes Scholars. Governed by leading judicial, academic, and legal bodies, NLU Delhi fosters interdisciplinary research, legal awareness, and constitutional values. With a strong record of academic and professional achievements, it strives to shape students as catalysts for social, political, and economic change while equipping them to address contemporary legal challenges. The University is offering five year integrated B.A.LL.B. (Hons.), LL.M. (Regular), Joint Masters/LL.M., in IP Law and Management Programme, LL.M. (Pro.), Ph.D. and Diploma Programmes. The curriculum and pedagogy at NLUD are designed to bridge the gap between theoretical concepts and their practical applications. The University aims to encourage novelty and scientific temper amongst its students, enabling them to become pioneers of change for future generations. The commendable achievements of the students and faculty of NLUD within a short span of time stand testimony to the pool of skill and talent that this University has nurtured.

## About National Academy of Law Teachers (NALT)

NLUD has established National Academy of Law Teachers (NALT) to improve quality of teaching and research in Law and other Social Sciences. The NALT, since its inception, has been promoting and protecting teaching-learning methodology for the purposes of training faculty members for the quality teaching, research and curriculum development across the nation.

# Why “We & the Law School”

*The title signals ownership. The law school is not an abstract institution. It is shaped daily by teachers. This series places faculty at the centre of introspection, responsibility, and reform.*

That “we” within every law teacher matters. It is the shared academic conscience that rarely finds time or space for honest conversation. National Law University Delhi seeks to provide both the occasion and the platform. Law schools’ faculty today face tremendous challenges pertaining to publish, teach with rigour, secure funding, and remain socially relevant. Faculty shoulder these demands, often in isolation. Yet spaces for candid academic dialogue remain scarce. Teachers need forums where they can reflect, debate, disagree, and recalibrate without anxiety. The faculty today is teaching to a set of students who bring with them peculiar challenges. They also have unique set of problems which become crucially important in delivering the teaching. Some open conversations for a frank exchange of ideas are always helpful to learn from each other. The idea of a conclave is rooted in this vision only. This conclave is designed to meet all such needs which are the product of a challenging environment in which we all work. We need a dialogue without borders. It’s here and now.

## OUR VISION

The aim of this conclave is to create a safe, rigorous, and reflective academic space where law teachers engage with core questions of research quality, publication ethics, pedagogy, and academic leadership. The focus stays on substance, not show. On ideas, not applause.

## OBJECTIVES

The Academic Conclave at National Law University Delhi would create this space to pause and ask why we teach and research law in India, and what we are really trying to achieve. It opens up honest conversations on whether counting publications has overtaken caring about quality, and how global expectations sit with Indian realities. It shares real, workable ways to publish in good journals without losing sleep or self-respect. It reflects on how we teach, how much authority a classroom needs, and how to keep students engaged without turning into entertainers. It also talks openly about faculty workload, burnout, and academic integrity, because tired teachers do not build great universities. Above all, it aims to build a small but serious community of legal academics who think deeply, act responsibly, and still enjoy the life of the mind.

## FORMAT

The conclave is designed as a tight, interactive academic gathering rather than a talk-fest. Panels stay small and focused, speakers are curated, and real debates are built in through structured response sessions. Instead of long speeches, participants bring short provocation papers that spark disagreement and discussion. Closed-door, faculty-only discussions create space for candid conversations, where people speak freely, listen closely, and leave with sharper ideas than they arrived with.

## PARTICIPANTS

The conclave brings together law teachers at different stages of their careers, from early starters to seasoned hands, along with academic administrators who shape institutional choices. Participation in this exclusive event is open to all faculty members in Delhi NCR, teaching full time, part time, ad-hoc or visiting faculty in law schools. Editors of reputed journals join the mix to share what works and what does not from the other side of the desk, and senior scholars come in as mentors, not lecturers, to offer perspective, honesty, and the kind of advice you usually only get over long.

## COME PREPARED

Those who wish to speak are invited to register with a brief statement of their idea, limited to five hundred words on themes. Selection will rest on the originality and sharpness of the idea, and it's fit with the core themes of the Conclave. This is not to be a conventional paper. Think of it as a clear, fresh argument with an innovative and informal tone. Short, crisp, and thoughtful voices will be curated into three focused panels. Roles will be designated as presenters, discussants, moderators, and active participants engaged in the discussions. This structure will allow conversations to unfold with clarity and depth. Based on the entries submitted, the organizers will categorize submissions as Speaker, Moderator, Discussant, or Participant. The organizers reserve the right to make the final decision.

## OUTCOMES

Participants should walk away with clear, usable guidance on research and publishing, without the usual jargon. They also share teaching ideas that work in real classrooms, not in brochures. The discussions feed into practical policy suggestions for law schools, shaped by people who actually run courses and manage students. The conclave helps form a faculty network built on academic honesty and mutual respect. It also aims to produce a tangible output, an edited volume or a short policy brief, so the conversations do not vanish once the coffee runs out.

# Panel Discussion Themes

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## **01** *Navigating Legal Research and Scholarship: Quality, Ethics, and Meaningful Impact*

This panel examines what constitutes meaningful legal scholarship beyond metrics, addressing ethical research practices, publication pressures, and pathways to producing work with lasting academic and social value. It asks what we really mean when we speak of “quality scholarship” in law. It invites faculty to reflect on whether counting publications has quietly replaced caring about ideas, and how ethical research practices can be preserved amid constant pressure to publish. The panel will look at the daily realities of writing in Indian law schools, time constraints, institutional expectations, and limited resources, and explores ways of producing work that is honest, rigorous, and socially relevant. Rather than chasing metrics, the focus is on scholarship that we can stand by, that contributes to the discipline, and that allows us to retain intellectual self-respect.

## **02** *Reimagining the Law Classroom: Pedagogy, Technology, and Student Agency*

The discussion explores innovative teaching methods, responsible use of educational technology, and strategies to foster active learning and student ownership in contemporary law classrooms. This session reflects on what actually happens inside our classrooms when ideals meet everyday constraints. It examines how authority, empathy, and engagement can coexist, and how faculty can maintain academic rigor without turning into performers. The discussion considers the promise and risks of educational technology, the changing expectations of students, and the challenge of teaching diverse cohorts with varied needs. Participants will share approaches that have worked, and those that have not, in building classrooms where students take responsibility for learning while teachers retain clarity of purpose and standards.

## **03** *Mentorship, Collaboration, and Building Future-Ready Legal Professionals*

This panel turns to the less visible but deeply influential work of mentorship and collegial support within law schools. It explores how formal and informal mentoring relationships shape research habits, career choices, and academic identity among faculty and students. Participants reflect on collaboration across disciplines and institutions, and on preparing graduates for a profession that is changing faster than curricula. The emphasis is on practical ways faculty can support one another, build academic communities, and guide students without losing sight of ethical responsibility and intellectual honesty.

## SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

- Word limit: 500 words [exclusive of footnotes]
- Individual submissions only.
- Name, Designation, Name of organisation, email id and phone number must be clearly mentioned in the submission.
- Format: Times New Roman, 12 pt, line spacing 1.15 cm; Justified
- Footnotes: OSCOLA
- Last Date of Submission: **2<sup>nd</sup> March 2026.**
- Notification of acceptance along with payment link and registration form will be sent to selected participants by **9<sup>th</sup> March 2026.**
- Payment and confirmation of payment to be sent by **12<sup>th</sup> March 2026.**

### SUBMISSION DEADLINE

**02 March, 2026**

### USE QR CODE OR LINK BELOW FOR REGISTRATION



#### Link:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfeCkDiwDd3NJajn8aTazfUED4rCpEpmXys2tbL\\_xAT8ypv3A/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfeCkDiwDd3NJajn8aTazfUED4rCpEpmXys2tbL_xAT8ypv3A/viewform)

## REGISTRATION

It is almost free for all. Just a convenience fee of Rs 500/- would be expected. We can even waive this off, if some reason persists. A salacious lunch and tea-coffee-snacks break is covered in this contribution. We intend to host more than two hundred teachers. Certificates will be given to all participants.

## ORGANISING COMMITTEE

- **Prof. (Dr.) G. S. Bajpai**, Vice Chancellor and Senior Professor, National Law University Delhi, India
- **Dr. Garima Tiwari**, Associate Professor of Law, National Law University Delhi, India
- **Ms. Vibhuti Sharma**, Academic Fellow, National Law University Delhi, India



**For any information**

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