

Guidelines for JLPE Special Issue Proposals and Guest Editor Responsibilities

Thank you for your interest in publishing a special issue in the *Journal of Law and Political Economy*. These guidelines provide an overview of what the *JLPE* editorial team requires in a special issue proposal and your responsibilities as the guest editor(s) throughout the process.

A typical special issue of *JLPE* consists of 4-8 articles, plus an introduction or foreword written by the guest editor(s) and any book reviews, whether placed by the *JLPE* team or solicited by the guest editor(s). The guest editor(s) of a *JLPE* special issue is responsible for constructing the special issue proposal, soliciting authors, overseeing the peer review process, and writing the issue's foreword or introduction.

Throughout the process, the *JLPE* team will be available for feedback and support. We encourage guest editors to reach out regularly with updates. Our Managing Editor, Chloe Reichel, jlpeManagingEditor@gmail.com, is the point of contact for all inquiries regarding the special issue process.

Special Issue Proposals

Below are the steps involved in developing and submitting a special issue proposal for consideration to the *JLPE* editorial board. *JLPE*'s editorial team reviews proposals on a rolling basis.

1. **Statement of Interest.** The first step in the proposal process is a one paragraph statement of interest from you as a potential guest editor(s), briefly describing the theme of your special issue, its relevance to Law and Political Economy, and ideas on whom you might plan to invite to write for the special issue.

JLPE is interested in themes and authors that align with the journal's intellectual mission. Applicants can find more information about *JLPE*'s objectives and overall vision here: <https://escholarship.org/uc/lawandpoliticaleconomy/about>.

Please email your statement of interest to jlpeManagingEditor@gmail.com. The *JLPE* editorial team will review your statement of interest and invite you to submit a full proposal if the topic and tentative plan are approved.

2. **Proposal.** If you are invited to submit a full proposal, that proposal must include: (1) a fully developed description of the special issue theme (ideally, no longer than three paragraphs); (2) a list of potential and/or confirmed authors; (3) a proposed timeline for the issue, including any solicitations for papers or anticipated conferences or workshops; and (4) a schematic account of the proposed peer-review process. The *JLPE* editorial team will then make a final decision on your special issue proposal.
 - a. **On the authors:** Proposed authors need not have all agreed to write for the special issue. However, we strongly encourage you to solicit several pre-committed or "anchor" authors among the full list of proposed authors. The proposal should identify each, briefly describe the likely topic or focus of their contribution, and indicate whether they are already committed or still to be invited.
 - b. **On the timeline:** Bear in mind that the peer review process can be slow. On average, the entire process from statement of interest to publication of a special issue takes approximately one to one-and-a-half years.

- c. On conferences/workshops/paper solicitations: Conferences or workshops on the topic of your proposed special issue are a great way to build interest and community among the participants. If you plan to hold such a conference or workshop, please indicate in the proposal when and where it will take place. If you plan on publicly soliciting papers for the issue, please indicate when a call for submissions will occur and the window in which you will accept submissions.
- d. On the peer review process: The purpose of the peer review process is to provide authors with honest and constructive feedback from other experts in the field. An article submitted to *JLPE* on its own receives written feedback from two anonymous reviewers. For a special issue, anonymity is not required. The purposes of peer review can be met in several ways.
 - i. *Round-Robin Review*. Under this model, each author agrees to give and receive feedback from one or more other authors. This feedback should be written and include enough detail to provide the authors with a useful path toward revision.
 - ii. *Guest Editor Review*. Under this model, the guest editor(s) provides written feedback to each author. This model works best if there is more than one guest editor providing feedback, or if the guest editors have access to staff editors in their organization.
 - iii. *Outside Review*. Under this model, the guest editor provides a list of potential reviewers for each article to the *JLPE* editors; the guest editor and/or *JLPE* team will then follow up with review invitations.

Special Issue Development and Publication

If your proposal is accepted, the guest editor(s) will meet with the *JLPE* editorial team to discuss the timeline for the issue's development in greater detail. During this meeting, the *JLPE* editorial team and the guest editor(s) will discuss the process and come to a mutually agreed upon plan, including a schedule for regular updates on the issue's progress, an understanding of how many articles will comprise the issue and their target length, and whether the guest editors will write a foreword or an introduction (please see below for details). Please keep the following guidelines in mind:

1. Until all articles have been peer reviewed, revised by the authors, and turned over to the *Journal*, the guest editor(s) will be the point of contact for authors. We look to guest editors to manage common problems such as untimely responses from authors or peer reviewers, authors withdrawing from the special issue, and authors requesting extra time, although *JLPE* editors are happy to provide advice or suggestions to the guest editors.
2. Be sure to provide all authors with a copy of our style sheet and to let them know that their final submission should conform to *JLPE* style. Manuscripts submitted in Bluebook or MLA style will be returned to the authors.
3. The guest editor(s) and the *JLPE* editorial team will decide whether, once the articles have been revised in light of the peer reviews, the articles will be submitted to *JLPE* in a single batch or on a rolling basis. *JLPE* reserves the right to reject any articles that do not meet the *Journal's* standards for originality, length, and/or quality.
4. Introduction/Foreword. The guest editor(s) is responsible for writing a foreword or introduction to the special issue. At a minimum, a foreword provides an overview of the special issue and briefly describes each contribution. The guest editor(s) may instead wish to write a longer Introduction, reflecting in greater detail on the themes of the issue and incorporating the editor(s)' own scholarship, as well as describing each author's contribution.

Forewords and Introductions are not peer reviewed, but may receive substantive edits from the *JLPE* editorial team.

5. Once the revised articles and the Foreword or Introduction have been received by *JLPE*, they will be copy edited, formatted, and proofread by Journal staff prior to publication. Authors can expect from this point on to interact directly with *JLPE*'s Managing Editor, who will also solicit author agreements for publication.

We hope this document provides some guidance on the *JLPE* special issue process. Again, we thank you for your interest, and we are here to help you with any questions or concerns.