The Clinical Legal Education Association (CLEA) is pleased to submit to the Council this report of its activities since its last written report.

With more than 1300 dues-paying members, CLEA is the largest association of law professors in the nation. Through its conferences, meetings, website, and social media platforms, CLEA has created both “real” and “digital” communities of law faculty who are engaged or interested in clinical and experiential education.

These are some of the highlights of CLEA’s activities since August 2019:

- CLEA’s Committee for Faculty Equity and Inclusion’s essay, *The Diversity Imperative Revisited: Racial and Gender Inclusion in Clinical Law Faculty*, was published in the Fall 2019 edition of the Clinical Law Review (26 Clinical L. Rev. 127). Seeking to raise awareness and deepen the commitment to racial justice in law school clinics, the essay examines clinical faculty diversity and assesses historical trends in the racial and gender composition of clinical faculty from 1980–2017, using existing data. The Committee is continuing its work by gathering data on clinical faculty demographics, collecting and promoting best practices for clinical faculty hiring, and assisting the AALS Clinical Legal Education Conference Planning Committee with a plenary session on clinical faculty diversity and equity.

- CLEA’s New Clinicians Committee provided programming for new clinicians at two regional clinical teaching conferences. On Thursday, October 10, 2019, Loyola University New Orleans hosted a New Clinicians Conference before the start of the 2019 Southern Clinical Legal Education Conference. On Friday, October 18, 2019, the University of Michigan Law School hosted a New Clinicians and Fellows Conference before the 2019 Midwest Clinical Legal Education Conference. CLEA members at the University of Michigan helped organize the New Clinicians and Fellows Conference.

- CLEA’s Advocacy Committee members continue to attend ABA Council meetings and to monitor the impact of recent changes in the Council’s structure. CLEA remains concerned that this organizational change has resulted in decreased transparency by limiting the affiliates’ ability to observe the work and deliberations of the Council.
regarding the standards and rules to which ABA-accredited schools are held accountable. Separately, in response to the U.S. News & World Report's adoption of a new method for ranking clinical programs, the Advocacy Committee recommended the creation of an ad hoc committee to consider whether, and if so how, CLEA’s prior statement on the USNWR rankings, developed in October 2011, should be modified. After its review, the committee recommended a revised statement regarding this specialty ranking, which was subsequently adopted by the CLEA board and made public in October 2019 (https://www.cleaweb.org/page-1006700/8072400).

- CLEA’s Best Practices in Pedagogy Committee finished up its first year of its ongoing “Teaching Justice Webinar Series” with a webinar entitled, *Teaching Environmental Justice Through Transactional Law* (December 12, 2019). Featuring innovative faculty who present on new approaches to teaching justice in the classroom, each Teaching Justice session draws upon the wisdom of the current resistance movement and examines its intersections with criminal justice, immigration policy, racial justice, economic justice, and international human rights, among other issues. The second year of this series launched with a webinar entitled, *Teaching Justice by Keeping Families Together* (January 23, 2020). The next webinar in the series, *Beyond the Carceral State: Critically Teaching Criminal Law & Criminal Procedure*, will be held on March 30, 2020. Two additional webinars, *Teaching #MeToo* and *Teaching Critical Lawyering* are planned for this summer. For information on how to register, updates about the series, and recordings of past programs, please visit CLEA’s Teaching Justice webpage at https://www.cleaweb.org/Teaching-Justice-Webinar-Series.

- CLEA’s Externships Committee is working to support the planning and organization of the Externships 10 Conference, which will be held at Syracuse University College of Law on March 27-29, 2020. In addition, the Committee has been working to develop a follow-up survey to its paid externship survey. The Committee is also continuing to track the application of the ABA Standards to externship programs and to develop a “universal” training video for field supervisors.

- CLEA’s Social Justice Issues Committee launched a new initiative to spotlight and amplify the work of law school clinics to advance social justice. Each month, the Committee publishes a post about an ongoing social justice project or resources available within CLEA’s community. Recent posts have featured Notre Dame’s Economic Justice Clinic, Baltimore’s Family Law Clinic, the Mercer Habeas Law Project, and the Social Justice Audit. To read these and other blog posts, please visit CLEA’s News Blog (https://www.cleaweb.org/page-1006700).
CLEA’s Newsletter Committee published the most recent newsletter in January 2020. To read the newsletter, please go to this link: https://www.cleaweb.org/resources/Documents/CLEA%20Newsletter%20Winter%202019-20%20FINAL.pdf.

CLEA’s Communications Committee continues to broadcast information about CLEA’s advocacy initiatives and events through our website (https://www.cleaweb.org/) and social media platforms, e.g. Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/Clinical-Legal-Education-Association-153481815314/) and Twitter (https://twitter.com/cleaweb?lang=en).

As always, we appreciate the opportunity to work with the Council as an affiliate and to engage with Council members to improve legal education and the process of bar licensing.

Sincerely,

Kendall L. Kerew
Georgia State University College of Law
CLEA President