MEMORANDUM

TO: Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar

FROM: Barry Currier, Managing Director
       Bill Adams, Deputy Managing Director

DATE: July 17, 2019

SUBJECT: Comment: Criteria for Programs Offered by ABA-Approved Law Schools in a Location Outside the United States

At its meeting held on May 16-18, 2019, the Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar approved for Notice and Comment proposed revisions to the Criteria for Foreign Summer and Intersession Programs Offered by ABA-Approved Law Schools in a Location Outside the United States of the ABA Standards and Rules of Procedure for Approval of Law Schools. The Criteria were circulated for comment on June 17, 2019.

After receiving an inquiry into the proposed changes to Criterion III.B.2.b., the staff discussed the retention of complaints and student evaluations as required by the Criteria. The draft circulated for Notice and Comment attempted to bring complaint retention in line with the requirements of Standard 510; however, the requirement to retain student evaluations for a period of 10 years seemed overly burdensome. The staff’s proposed revisions are below.

Criterion III.B.2.b. (Draft Circulated for Notice and Comment)

(b) The law school must retain student evaluations and a record of student complaints submitted during the most recent accreditation period. The record shall include the resolution of the complaints.

(b) The law school must retain student evaluations and any student complaints for a period of five years for review by sabbatical site teams.

Criterion III.B.2.b. (Proposed Revision)

(b) The law school must retain student evaluations for three years preceding its regular comprehensive site evaluation for review by site teams. The law school must also retain a record of all student complaints submitted during the most recent accreditation period. The record shall include, including the resolution of the complaints.