

In Remembrance of Gary Palm
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Gary Palm died on Valentine's Day at the young age of 73. It is a terrific loss for legal education. He was a member of the Council for 6 years and was the first clinician to serve on the accreditation committee. He taught at University of Chicago College of Law as a professor and the Director of the Mandel Legal Clinic starting in 1970 and retiring in 2000. As a lawyer he focused on impact litigation and community-based litigation. As a legal educator his focus was on impact and community as well. He was the first person to create a trial practice clinic in which students argued cases under a student practice rule. He was one of the first advocates for clinical education. Long before others saw the need and importance of teaching students how to be socially conscious lawyers, Gary was a loud and forceful voice and was often not adequately appreciated for his contributions. He was sometimes a curmudgeon but always retained his sharp wit and sense of humor. He moved this Council to recognize the status of clinicians, to ensure that they had a place at the table. He pressed for accreditation standards that ensured that clinical education was required at all law schools. After he served on the Council, he remained an active participant. He was the first to alert clinicians of proposed standards that benefitted or threatened experiential education. He pressed those that followed him into the ABA to be courageous. Few of us could match Gary's courage, vision and energy. He was the first to push us to do more and the first to praise us for our efforts. He changed our world and we owe him a great deal. As we move forward now with experiential education a critical part of legal education, we should always remember and thank Gary and marvel at what is possible.