Section Releases Curriculum Survey

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Curricula Changes Highlighted in 2010 Study

The result of a two-year project conducted by the Section’s Curriculum Committee, A Survey of Law School Curricula: 2002–2010 builds on an empirical study the Section conducted in 2002. It uses the 2002 survey as a baseline to track changes and observe trends in law school curricula during the period between surveys. The 2010 Survey results reveal a renewed commitment on the part of faculties to review and revise their curricula to produce practice-ready professionals.

View the executive summary. Copies of the Survey can be ordered from the ABA Web-store. Enter product code: 5290104.

The Survey's editor, Professor Catherine Carpenter of Southwestern Law School, will present the findings on Saturday, August 4, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Swissotel, 323 East Wacker Drive, during the ABA Annual Meeting in Chicago. Badges are not required for this event.
Professor and Dean Emeritus at Saint Louis University School of Law is 29th Award Recipient

Jeffrey E. Lewis, dean emeritus and professor at Saint Louis University School of Law (SLU Law), is the 2012 recipient of the Robert J. Kutak Award. Professor Lewis served as dean of SLU Law for 11 years until his return to teaching full-time in 2010. Under his leadership, the law school experienced exceptional advancement: investment in the law school grew, the number of full-time tenure-track faculty grew dramatically, increasing the student-to-faculty ratio from 23:1 to 17:1; resources for faculty scholarship grew as did scholarship assistance for full-time students. The size of the legal clinics tripled and they now provide nearly 300 students annually with invaluable legal training while providing valuable services to the community. As dean, Professor Lewis also created the 1843 Scholars, a program that awards full-tuition scholarships to deserving students.

Professor Lewis earned a bachelor's degree from Duke University and a law degree from Duke University School of Law. He began his academic career in 1970 as an assistant professor at the University of Akron College of Law. Two years later, he took a position as an assistant professor at the University of Florida College of Law. In 1977, he became a full professor and was named the school's Outstanding Professor. He was named associate dean in 1982 and in 1988 became dean of the law school. Professor Lewis held that position for 8 years until he became dean of SLU Law in 1999.

Over the years, Professor Lewis has served as the chair and as a member of dozens of ABA and the Association of American Law Schools site evaluation teams. He also served on the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar’s Council, Accreditation Consistency Committee, and Accreditation Committee, serving as its chair from 1996 to 1999. Professor Lewis is currently the chair of the Section’s Standards Review Committee. He is also a fellow of the American Bar Foundation and served as a Master of the Bench of the Chester Bedell Inn of Court.

Professor Lewis will receive the award at a reception on Friday, August 3, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at the Swissotel in Chicago during the ABA Annual Meeting. For more information, visit the Kutak Award.
Section Schedule-at-a-Glance

Section Headquarters Hotel
Swissotel Hotel
323 East Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60601
312.565.0565

Thursday, August 2
Chair’s Dinner (by invitation)
6:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.
University of Chicago Gleacher Center
621 Executive Dining Room, 6th Floor

Friday, August 3
Section Office
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
St. Moritz Room, Ballroom Level

Council Meeting (Closed and Open Sessions)
7:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Zurich A/B, 1st Floor, Event Centre

Kutak Award Reception
6:30 p.m. -8:00 p.m.
Lucerne Ballroom, Ballroom Level
Jeffrey E. Lewis, dean emeritus and professor at Saint Louis University School of Law, will receive the 29th annual Robert J. Kutak Award.

Saturday, August 4
Section Office
8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
St. Moritz Room, Ballroom Level

ABA/AALS/LSAC Deans’ Breakfast
8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
St. Gallen 2 & 3, Second Floor

A Survey of Law School Curricula: 2002-2010
10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
St. Gallen 1, Second Floor

A Survey of Law School Curricula: 2002-2010 debuts this summer. In this program, the Survey’s editor, Professor Catherine L. Carpenter of Southwestern Law School, will present the major findings of the Survey.

Annual Business Meeting
11:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m.
St. Gallen 1, Second floor
Election to be Held Saturday, August 4 in Chicago

The election of Council officers and members will take place at the Section’s Annual Business Meeting, Saturday, August 4, 11:30 a.m. at the Swissotel, 323 East Wacker Drive, Chicago.

The following names have been placed into nomination.

**Chair:** (automatic under the Bylaws)
Kent Syverud
Dean
Washington University School of Law

**Chair-Elect:**
The Honorable Solomon Oliver, Jr.
Chief Judge
U.S. District Court, Northern District of Ohio

**Vice Chair:**
Joan S. Howland
Associate Dean and Professor
University of Minnesota Law School

**Secretary:**
Raymond C. Pierce
Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP
Raleigh, North Carolina

**Council Members:**
James M. Klein
Distinguished Visiting Professor
Charleston School of Law

Cynthia Nance
Dean Emeritus & Professor
University of Arkansas School of Law (Fayetteville)

Antonio García-Padilla
Dean Emeritus & Professor
University of Puerto Rico School of Law

The Honorable Jequita H. Napoli
Special Judge
Cleveland County District Court
Norman, Oklahoma

**Nominated for re-election:**
The Honorable Rebecca White Berch
Chief Justice
Arizona Supreme Court

Tracy Allen Giles, Esq.
Giles & Lambert, P.C.
Roanoke, Virginia

Maureen A. O’Rourke
Dean
Boston University School of Law

**Law Student Division Member:**
Erika Robinson
University of South Carolina School of Law
J.D. Candidate, 2013

**House of Delegates Representatives**
The Honorable Ruth V. McGregor (retired)
Phoenix, Arizona

Biographies of the Nominees
Comments Invited for Upcoming Law School Site Visits

Interested parties wishing to comment on current compliance with accreditation standards of law schools undergoing site visits in fall 2012 are encouraged to submit signed, written comments. Law schools undergoing accreditation site visits in fall 2012 are:

- Atlanta's John Marshall Law School
- Belmont University College of Law
- University of California-Irvine, School of Law
- Faulkner University Thomas Goode Jones School of Law
- University of Georgia School of Law
- University of Nevada-Las Vegas William S. Boyd School of Law
- Oklahoma City University College of Law
- Regent University School of Law
- Samford University Cumberland School of Law
- University of Tennessee College of Law
- Washington University School of Law

Written comments must be received by September 1, 2012 and sent to Shirley Gonzalez, American Bar Association, Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar, 321 N. Clark Street, Chicago, IL 60654.

Note: Your comments must be signed. Comments, with the signatures redacted, may be provided to the law school and to members of the site team reviewing the law school. Only comments directly relating to the ABA Standards and Rules of Procedure for Approval of Law Schools will be considered.
Member News

The Virginia State Bar’s Section on the Education of Lawyers in Virginia has established an award to honor William R. Rakes of Gentry Locke Rakes & Moore, LLP, for his long-standing and dedicated efforts in the field of legal education, both in Virginia and nationally. This award recognizes an individual who has demonstrated exceptional leadership and vision in developing and implementing innovative concepts to improve and enhance the state of legal education, and in enhancing relationships and professionalism among members of the academy, the bench and the bar within the legal profession in Virginia. The inaugural award was presented to Mr. Rakes in conjunction with the 20th Anniversary Conclave on the Education of Lawyers in Virginia in April. Mr. Rakes served as chair of the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar from 2007-2007 during which time he convened three legal education conclaves.

Athornia Steele, dean of the Shepard Broad Law Center at Nova Southeastern University (NSU) was elected to the position of chair-elect of the Law School Admission Council (LSAC) at its 2012 Annual Meeting and Educational Conference held May 30 -June 2 in Florida. Dean Steele has been active with Law School Admission Council since the 1997, serving three terms on its board of trustees and as member of the organization’s Minority Affairs Committee, served as its chair from 2005 to 2007.

The Environmental Law Clinic at the University of Maryland Francis King Carey School of Law is the 2012 recipient of the ABA Award for Distinguished Achievement in Environmental Law and Policy sponsored by the Section of Environment, Energy and Resources. The clinic represents the Waterkeepers Alliance in a suit alleging Perdue Farms, Inc. is polluting a nearby waterway. The case drew national attention when the Maryland legislature threatened to cut funding due to the lawsuit. A resolution reaffirming ABA support for the independence of law school clinical programs and opposition to attempts to interfere in the activities of such programs was proposed by the Section and adopted by the ABA House of Delegates in 2011.

Former Cook County Judge George Leighton, a noted civil rights attorney, was honored recently when the Cook County Criminal Court Building in Chicago was renamed the Honorable George N. Leighton Criminal Court Building. Judge Leighton was the first African-American to serve on the Illinois Appellate Court and served more than 10 years as an U.S. District Court judge. He served as chair of the Section in 1976-1977.
Positions Available in Bahrain and Egypt

The ABA's Rule of Law Initiative is recruiting for two legal specialist positions: a human rights legal clinician to travel to Bahrain for five months and a legal education expert to assist with developing a contract drafting course and legal clinic in Egypt for two months.

See the attached position descriptions for more information and to apply.

Human Rights Legal Clinician: Bahrain

Legal Education Expert: Egypt