



SYLLABUS

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Proposed Changes to the Bar Pass Standard and to Foreign Site Visit Requirements

The Honorable Rebecca White Berch
Arizona Supreme Court (retired)
2015-2016 Council Chair

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Council Business: Proposed Changes to the Bar Pass Standard and to Foreign Site Visit Requirements



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Council Chair

The Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar has both accreditation functions and “section” functions. Although most of the attention the Council receives relates to its accreditation work, the “section side” has been quite active. I encourage you to read Erin Ruehrwein’s excellent article in this *Syllabus* for an update.

The Council has been busy as well. Most notably, the Council has published for notice and comment changes to the “bar pass” standard, Standard 316. The proposed new Standard provides as follows: **At least 75% of a law school’s graduates in a calendar year who sat for a bar examination must have passed a bar examination administered within two years of their date of graduation.**

How does this differ from the existing Standard? First, it is simpler, clearer, and more straightforward. The existing Standard is a page and a half long, single-spaced, and contains exceptions and opportunity for delay. The proposed one is one sentence. It effectively looks at a school’s ultimate pass rate for a class two years after its graduation. While consumers will certainly be interested in initial bar pass rates, they will continue to have access to that information because it is – and will continue to be – a required disclosure under Standard 509.

The revision eliminates existing exceptions and effectively shortens the time for determining whether a school is in compliance with the Standard. It also dispenses with the need to determine how a school’s pass rate compares to a statewide average. Under the current rule, a school can show compliance with Standard 316 if its passing score is within 15 percentage points of the statewide average. But some states have only one or two law schools. In such jurisdictions, a school’s test-takers likely *set*, or play a large part in setting, the statewide average, making it virtually impossible for those schools ever to fail to meet Standard 316, even if their students pass the bar at a very low rate. Such a standard, in these situations, has no rigor at all.

The existing Standard also takes a long time before enforcement can commence. It permits a school to show that scores for classes in three out of five years achieved a 75% passing rate. [316(a)]. If a

school falls below this pass rate, it may then have as much as two years to bring itself into compliance. [Rule 14(b)]. Even then, additional time may be granted for “good cause shown.” [Standard 316(c), Rule 14(c)]. This effectively gives a noncompliant law school more than five years to come into compliance. Such an extended grace period may not be unreasonable if a school’s pass rate hovers just below 75% or is trending up. It is quite another thing – and ineffectual oversight on our part – if the school’s pass rate falls well below 75% and shows no signs of improvement.

So the proposal remedies two defects in the current rule: it eliminates situations in which a school simply cannot fail to meet the Standard because the school sets or substantially contributes to the statewide pass rate, and it reduces the time for determining compliance from more than five years to two years.

Expecting graduates of ABA-approved law schools to be able to pass a bar exam within two years is reasonable. Data show that those who fail the bar exam more than once persist in taking the bar exam at a rate of less than 5%. In fact, most stop taking the bar exam after two tries, though nothing in this proposal prevents applicants from taking the exam as many times as the most generous jurisdiction permits. But waiting until all but the most perseverant take the exam to judge a school’s compliance is not effective regulatory practice. If potential law school applicants are to be protected, the Council and the Accreditation Committee must initiate timely action against schools that are not satisfactorily preparing graduates to pass the bar exam.

To those who worry that the two-year period for coming into compliance has been removed: relax. Rule 14(b) continues to exist and sets forth the process for seeking an extension.

As written, the proposed Standard does not require law schools to account for 100% of their graduates or even 100% of their graduates who sit for the bar. We recognize that in every class there may be some who don’t wish to practice law and so choose not to sit for any bar exam and a few others who are simply difficult to track down. Instead, the schools need only show that 75% of graduates have taken and passed the bar exam.

Finally, a word about diversity. The 75% passing standard applies to law schools, not to individual applicants. Thus, the proposal should not affect the chance for any applicant to practice law. It does not change the pass rate in any state and has no effect on the number of times an applicant may sit for the bar exam. Those matters are left to the jurisdictions to determine. It simply says that, for purposes of determining law schools’ compliance with Standard 316, the Council and the Accreditation Committee will look only at the ultimate pass rate two years out. Students are free to keep trying to pass the bar.

As noted, the pass rate remains at 75% under the new proposal. That rate was chosen years ago for a number of reasons, and it reflects a considered judgment by the Council that balances the need for rigor in enforcement of legal education standards with the need to foster diversity in the profession. So the 75% rate was retained as a reasonable accommodation of these competing interests.

Some may worry that “schools of opportunity” – that is, those whose mission includes offering opportunity to become a lawyer to members of historically underrepresented groups – will be disadvantaged. But that should not be the case. The Council must balance the provision of opportunity against the need to protect from exploitation applicants who do not appear reasonably capable of

satisfactorily completing a school's program of legal education. See Standard 501. We endorse the vision of these schools. But it is important that in offering opportunity, we do not permit students who do not have a realistic chance of actually becoming lawyers to be taken advantage of. We want these students to be well educated, to be able to pass a bar exam, and to actually join the profession. So if the new Standard encourages schools who admit students with low academic indicators to do more to help their students succeed – whether through academic support, mentoring, or otherwise – isn't that a positive outcome?

The proposed revisions, along with explanations, are published on the [Notice and Comment page](#) of the Section's website.

Foreign Program Site Visits

At the June 2016 meeting, the Council voted to eliminate site visits to a school's foreign summer programs if those programs are offered only to the school's own students. The Council reasoned that the annual questionnaire and sabbatical school visits – and the school's own interests – should ensure adequate oversight of such programs. Moreover, the Council has suspended foreign site visits to foreign programs that have been twice reviewed and have had no significant issues. These changes should save schools money and the time and effort of preparing for such visits. We thank the Accreditation Committee and its chair, Professor Rebecca Hanner White, for their work in bringing this proposal to the Council.

2016 Kutak Award

Finally, the Council wishes to congratulate former Council member and liaison Pauline Schneider who has been selected as this year's winner of the [Robert J. Kutak award](#). Kudos, Pauline. The award and recognition are well deserved.

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From the Managing Director: Report on the Status of the Accreditation Project



Barry Currier
Managing Director

This is a report to the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar members on the status of the Council's authority as the agency recognized by the United States Department of Education to accredit law school J.D. programs. I hope this will clear up some of the reports and commentary that were published in the wake of the Council's appearance before the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI) in late June.

Like ABA-approved law schools, the Council's authority to be an accrediting agency is periodically reviewed. That process begins with the agency filing a petition for re-recognition – which we did. It ends with a determination by the senior Department official at the United States Department of Education that the agency's authority should be continued, continued with an obligation to report back, or terminated. There has been no such determination.

Steps along the way in this process include a review and recommendations of the agency's petition by the professional staff in the Department of Education's Office of Post-Secondary Education, Accreditation Group, and consideration and a recommendation by NACIQI.

In our case, the staff recommendation was that the Council's petition demonstrated compliance with all of the core requirements for recognition, but that we needed to respond to some technical deficiencies that were noted and report-back on our corrective action in a year. That is all within the ordinary and typical flow of an accreditation process. The final staff report is public and [available on the Department's website](#).

The staff conclusions are then presented to NACIQI during a hearing at which we appear. NACIQI, then, makes a recommendation to the senior Department official. That recommendation should be based on facts and the evidence in the record, which in this case is our petition, the staff report, and a hearing at which we appeared.

NACIQI was created in the Higher Education Act. Its primary function is to provide recommendations to the Secretary concerning whether accrediting entities' standards are sufficiently rigorous and effective

to ensure that the entity is a reliable authority regarding the quality of the education or training provided by the institutions or programs it accredits. NACIQI is a political body, comprised of 18 members, one-third each of which are appointed by the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, the President pro tempore of the U.S. Senate, and the Secretary of Education. The appointments are for varying terms. It is a group that, along with many of the accrediting agencies it recognizes, finds itself in the middle of the current, sometimes contentious, public discussion about the role, performance, and regulation of post-secondary education in the United States.

At the conclusion of the hearing, NACIQI adopted the following motion:

NACIQI recommends to continue the agency's recognition as a nationally recognized accrediting agency at this time, limit the scope of the agency's recognition to exclude the accreditation of any new institutions and programs, and require the agency to come into compliance within 12 months with the criteria listed in the final staff analysis, and in addition, sections 602.19(b) and 602.20, and submit a compliance report due 30 days thereafter that demonstrates the agency's compliance.

The Council believes, and believes that its petition reflects, that it is operating in compliance with the recognition criteria. The process provides an opportunity for both the agency and the staff to comment on NACIQI's recommendation. We have filed our comment, urging the senior Department official to accept the staff recommendation and to not accept the additional conclusions that NACIQI added. The next step is for a senior Department official to make a decision. Ninety days are allowed for that decision to be made, and there is even further process available following that decision.

The Council believes that it is in compliance with the core recognition criteria and that the record supports that conclusion. Further, the record is devoid of credible facts to support a contrary conclusion on the particular criteria NACIQI cited. We are hopeful that the senior Department official will agree with our position and accept the original staff recommendation. If not, we will take the steps necessary to address the concerns NACIQI expressed and file our report in a year. Because the action taken by NACIQI was based on the discussion at the hearing and not on anything in the written record, there are some uncertainties about the coming year in the action that NACIQI took that we will address with the Department if the senior Department official accepts NACIQI's report.

I trust that this outline makes clear that we are in the middle of a process and that no conclusion has been reached about the Council's ongoing authority, contrary to the implication in some articles and blog postings. Again, we believe that we are operating in compliance with the recognition criteria and look forward to demonstrating that fact at the appropriate time, as required.

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Section Programming Update: Experiential Learning Webinar, Law School Development Conference and Associate Deans Conference



Erin Ruehrwein
Section Director

The ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar is committed to delivering programming that provides valuable and relevant content to its members and the legal education community. The Section presented its first substantive webinar on experiential learning in May, and delivered two of its much anticipated conferences, the Law School Development and Associate Deans Conferences, last month.

On May 4, the Section presented a complimentary webinar entitled “Integrating Experiential Learning in the Classroom.” The webinar was moderated by Kelly Terry of University of Arkansas at Little Rock William H. Bowen School of Law and featured speakers Robert Jones of Northern Illinois University College of Law, Jeffrey Thaler of University of Maine School of Law, and Spearlt of Texas Southern University School of Law. The webinar focused on how to successfully utilize and incorporate experiential learning techniques in the classroom in order to develop students' knowledge and skills in preparation for practice. The materials and webinar recording are now available [online](#) for your convenience and reference.



The Section hosted the 2016 Law School Development Conference May 31-June 3 in San Diego. The conference, co-chaired by Daniel Rodriguez, dean of Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law, and Trishana Bowden, vice president for advancement at Goucher College, brought together over 200 law school deans and development professionals as they addressed the conference theme, “Fostering Engagement and Investment in a Time of Change.”

The conference opened with a welcome reception and keynote dinner address moderated by Deanell Tacha, dean of Pepperdine School of Law, and featured Dr. John Sexton, president emeritus of New York University, and Kurt Schmoke, president of the University of Baltimore, as they engaged in an in-depth

discussion on the current landscape of funding legal education and higher education and the issues that will challenge development initiatives going forward.

The conference sessions were engaging and covered topics such as the changing landscape of legal education and the impact on philanthropy, building a G.O.L.D. pipeline, crowdfunding, major gifts, planned giving, social media strategies, and how to operate with reduced resources, to name a few. There was also a session for new deans and development officers. Attendees had numerous opportunities to network with one another during breaks, meals, and evening networking receptions.

The [Law School Development Conference materials](#) have been posted online.

The Section hosted the Associate Deans Conference, June 16-19, in Minneapolis. The conference was co-chaired by Jackie Gardina, vice dean for faculty at Vermont Law School, and Ngai Pindell, vice provost for faculty affairs at the University of Nevada-Las Vegas William S. Boyd School of Law. Last held in 2012, the conference focused on the theme of “Adapting to a Changing Landscape,” and had over 120 attendees from law schools across the U.S.

Robert J. Grey, Jr., president of the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity and ABA president from 2004 to 2005, set the tone for the conference with an inspiring keynote address during the welcome dinner that included an interactive discussion on how to create a diverse group of next generation leaders in the law.



Conference sessions focused on topics such as solutions to complex management challenges, the opportunities and challenges created by the changing student population, and a full day of workshops on assessments and outcomes.

The [Associate Deans Conference materials](#) are now available on the website.

We look forward to continuing to produce high quality and relevant programming – including additional convenient distance learning opportunities via webinar. This is just the beginning, so if you weren’t able to attend our recent programs, we hope you will have the opportunity to attend our upcoming programming.

As we look to develop new conference and webinar topics, I encourage you to reach out to me directly at Erin.Ruehrwein@americanbar.org with your ideas and suggestions.

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Nominating Committee Announces 2016-2017 Council Slate

The Nominating Committee, chaired by the Honorable Solomon Oliver Jr., chief judge of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio, presented the following slate to the Council. The election of Council officers and members will take place at the Section's annual business meeting, Saturday, August 6, 10:15-11:15 a.m., at the Park Central San Francisco during the ABA Annual Meeting.

One or more additional nominations may be made for any designated seat on the Council, including officers of the Council (except Chairperson and Immediate Past Chairperson), by petition signed by not less than 50 members of the Section in good standing, not more than 10 of whom are residents of any one state. A person so nominated shall be called the "petitioner". The petition shall specify which nominee the petitioner is challenging and shall state that the petitioner has agreed to the nomination and meets the criteria for the position being sought. The petition shall be delivered in person or by mail to the Section Office at the Association headquarters and must be received no later than July 15. The Secretary shall thereupon confirm that such individual is eligible to serve if elected. If additional nominations are made, the Chairperson shall distribute to the membership a final notice of nominations as soon as practical but no later than July 22.

Chair (automatic under the Bylaws)

Gregory G. Murphy

Billings, Montana

Gregory Murphy has been practicing law in Montana for more than 35 years. After being awarded a B.A. with high honors at the University of Montana, he earned a J.D. at Notre Dame Law School where he was a Thomas and Alberta White Scholar and served as associate editor of the *Notre Dame Law Review*. After graduation, he served a law clerkship with the Honorable John F. Kilkenny of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit before returning to Montana to practice law.

Mr. Murphy has long been active in bar admissions and legal education. He has served as chair of the Montana Board of Bar Examiners, chair of the National Conference of Bar Examiners (NCBE), and chair of the Multistate Bar Examination Committee. For approximately a decade he served on the Multistate Performance Test Drafting Committee. He has served on and chaired numerous other committees and boards. He is currently serving as chair of the NCBE Uniform Bar Examination Committee.

Mr. Murphy was elected to the Council in 2010, served as vice chair from 2014 to 2015, and currently serves as chair-elect. His service to the Section also includes a term as chair of the Accreditation Committee. He is an elected member of the American Law Institute and has received numerous awards for his leadership and service in bar admissions and his community.

Chair-Elect**Election to a one-year term****Maureen O'Rourke****Dean****Boston University School of Law**

Maureen O'Rourke is the dean and Michaels Faculty Research Scholar at the Boston University School of Law. Dean O'Rourke joined the law school faculty in 1993 after working at IBM Corporation, where she handled software licensing issues. At the law school, her scholarship is focused on the intersection of intellectual property law and other fields, such as contract and anti-trust law. Dean O'Rourke is co-author of a leading copyright casebook, *Copyright in the Global Information Economy*. She has published articles in the law reviews of Columbia, Duke, Iowa, and Minnesota and the technology journals of UC-Berkeley, Harvard, and Boston University. She was the associate reporter on the American Law Institute's Principles of Software Contracting Project, is a past chair of the Association of American Law Schools' sections on the Law School Dean and Computers & The Law, and a past member of the Boston Bar Association Council. She currently serves on the Access Group's board of directors.

Dean O'Rourke graduated *summa cum laude* with a bachelor of science degree from Marist College and earned a J.D. from Yale Law School. In May 2000, she became Boston University's sixth recipient of the Metcalf Award, the school's highest teaching honor. She served as acting dean for two years prior to becoming the dean in 2006. Dean O'Rourke was elected to the Council in 2010 and is the current vice chair.

Vice Chair**Election to a one-year term****Jeffrey Lewis****Dean Emeritus and Professor****Saint Louis University School of Law**

Jeffrey Lewis joined Saint Louis University School of Law as dean in 1999 and served in that capacity for 11 years. He returned to full-time teaching in 2010 with the title of dean emeritus and professor. He began his law teaching career in 1970 at the University of Akron School of Law. He served on the law faculty at the University of Florida from 1972 to 1999, and during his tenure at Florida he served as associate dean for seven years and dean for eight years. Dean Lewis earned both his bachelor's degree and law degree from Duke University.

Dean Lewis teaches Evidence, Remedies and a seminar entitled Famous Trials. Over his career he has also taught Civil Procedure, Federal Courts and Conflict of Laws. He has always favored procedure courses because of their trans-substantive nature and the mix of the practical and theoretical thinking that they require for mastery.

In 2012, Dean Lewis received the Section's Robert J. Kutak Award, which is given annually to honor an individual who has made significant contributions to the collaboration of the academy, the bench, and

the bar. He is also the recipient of the Outstanding Professor Award at the University of Florida College of Law.

Dean Lewis has been active with the American Bar Association and the Association of American Law Schools throughout his career. He previously served on the Council from 1999 to 2004. He also chaired the Accreditation Committee and the Standards Review Committee, served on the AALS Accreditation Committee, and chaired or served as a member of more than 20 ABA/AALS site evaluation teams. Dean Lewis currently chairs the Section's Appeals Panel and Kutak Award Committee.

Secretary

Re-election to a two-year term

Edward N. Tucker

Ellin & Tucker, Chartered

Baltimore, Maryland

After 40 years as a senior director, officer and stockholder of Ellin & Tucker, Chartered, as of January 1, 2009, Edward N. Tucker became a consultant to the Maryland-based accounting and consulting firm. He was a Certified Public Accountant for 45 years and held the Accredited in Business Valuation credential awarded by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. His practice specialties included management advisory services, particularly involving mergers, acquisitions, divestitures, general business advice, strategic business planning, human resources, real estate development, dispute resolution, investments, syndication, business valuation and litigation support. In 2015, after 45 years of practice and six years as a consultant to the firm, Mr. Tucker elected to place his Maryland CPA license on inactive status.

Mr. Tucker received a bachelor of science degree in business administration from the University of Maryland in 1963. He continued his education in the fields of accounting, business valuation, forensic accounting, damage analysis, and related topics through annual course study. Mr. Tucker is a Life Member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Maryland Association of Certified Public Accountants. He serves on the board of the Association for the Accreditation of Human Research Protection Programs; chairs the board's audit committee, and serves on its finance committee.

He served as a public member of the Section's Accreditation Committee for six years and currently serves as a public member of the Council. In addition to his position as secretary of the Council, Mr. Tucker chairs the Finance Committee. He has served on two site review teams and had served as visitor to fourteen foreign summer programs of U.S. law schools.

Members-at-Large

Re-election to a second three-year term

Roger Dennis

Dean & Professor

Drexel University Thomas R. Kline School of Law

Roger Dennis is the founding dean of the Thomas R. Kline School of Law at Drexel University in Philadelphia. He was formerly the provost at Rutgers University-Camden as well as the dean at the Rutgers-Camden School of Law. He clerked for Judge Richard McLaren of the U.S. District Court in Chicago before working in the Antitrust Division of the U.S. Department of Justice and practicing at Skadden Arps in Washington, D.C. Dean Dennis has published widely with a particular focus on the application of modern financial theory to corporate law, strategic corporate behavior, and securities regulation. His teaching currently focuses on the federal regulation of the purchase and sale of securities, the raising of capital, and the operation of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in light of changing economic and political environments.

Dean Dennis is a member of the board of the United Way of Greater Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey and past chair of the board of the United Way of Camden County. He was selected for membership on the national United Way Membership Accountability Committee. He also serves as a trustee of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society (NMSS) and board chair of the Greater Delaware Valley Chapter of NMSS.

He earned a B.S. in speech from Northwestern University and is a *magna cum laude* graduate of Northwestern University School of Law where he was selected for the Order of the Coif. Dean Dennis has held an elected seat in the American Law Institute since 1991 and has served in leadership positions on numerous committees of the ABA's Section on Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar as well as the Association of American Law Schools.

Election to a three-year term

David Byers

Administrative Director of the Courts

Arizona Supreme Court

David Byers is the Arizona Supreme Court's Administrative Director of the Courts. He is responsible for overseeing the operations of the Arizona Court system with over 10,000 employees and a total budget of \$740M. The system also operates both juvenile and adult probation and 13 juvenile detention

centers. Mr. Byers began his career with the court in 1978 as the first director of the Foster Care Review Board. Before being appointed administrative director by the Arizona Supreme Court in 1992, Mr. Byers was the director of the Program Services Division, director of Adult and Juvenile Probation, and deputy director of the Arizona Supreme Court.

Mr. Byers has also served as chairman of the \$34B Arizona State Retirement System; and is currently a member of the State Bar of Arizona, the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission, the Arizona Prosecuting Attorney's Advisory Council, the Governor's Drug and Gang Policy Council, and the Department of Justice Global Advisory Committee. He is the founder and first president of the National Association of Foster Care Reviewers, and cofounder of the Arizona Friends of Foster Care Foundation.

Mr. Byers earned a B.A. from Northern Iowa University and a master's degree from Arizona State University. He was honored with the 2012 Gabe Zimmerman Leadership Award, the 2013 Warren E. Burger Award, the National Center for State Courts' Distinguished Service Award, the Arizona Supreme Courts Distinguished Service Award, the State Bar's Award of Appreciation, and the Cedar Falls, Iowa 1970 Man of the Year Award.

Joseph K. West

Partner and Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer

Duane Morris LLP

Washington, D.C.

Joseph West is the lead trial counsel on behalf of Fortune® 100 companies in complex litigation and significant class action matters. His areas of concentration include insurance and coverage issues, environmental, land use, employment, contractual disputes, and catastrophic injury.

Mr. West frequently speaks and conducts training on litigation and case management, outside counsel management, law department metrics and the business of diversity and inclusion. As chief diversity and inclusion officer at Duane Morris, he chairs the firm-wide inclusion committee and manages all firm-wide inclusion initiatives with an emphasis on the recruiting, retention, mentoring, training, and advancement of minority and women lawyers. Mr. West also advises firm clients on diversity and inclusion issues and assists clients with developing meaningful diversity and inclusion programs and metrics.

Mr. West was appointed by ABA President Paulette Brown to the ABA Commission on Diversity and Inclusion 360, was a member of the ABA Task Force on the Financing of Legal Education, and has served on the ABA Commission on Racial and Ethnic Diversity in the Profession. He is also a member of the Association of Corporate Counsel's ACC Value Challenge Steering Committee. Mr. West formerly served on the Arts Council of New Orleans and the Walton Arts Center Corporate Leadership Council. Additionally, former Louisiana governor Kathleen Blanco appointed him to chair the Louisiana State Museum Board.

Mr. West is a 1986 graduate of Tulane University Law School and earned a B.A. in journalism from Southern University. He has served as an adjunct professor of trial advocacy at Tulane's law school.

**Election to a one-year term
Law Student Division Member**

Mayra Salinas-Menjivar
University of Nevada-Las Vegas
William S. Boyd School of Law
JD Expected: May 2017

Mayra Salinas-Menjivar is a student at the University of Nevada-Las Vegas, William S. Boyd School of Law, where she serves as the secretary to the Child Advocacy Law Association, and is an active member of the Public Interest Law Association, Nevada Justice Association (law student chapter), and La Voz (Hispanic Law Student Association).

Ms. Salinas served as the Circuit Governor for the 14th Circuit of the ABA's Law Student Division for the 2015-2016 term. In addition to her service to the Law Student Division, Ms. Salinas is a member of the ABA's Business Law Section, Section of Litigation, Section of Science & Technology Law, Tort Trial and Insurance Practice Section, Section of International Law, and the Law Practice Division.

Ms. Salinas is always seeking to improve the law student experience at her school. Her efforts include participating in meetings with her law school's administration to address mental health awareness, addressing and promoting student participation, and creating lasting partnerships with local professional organizations.

Ms. Salinas has worked as an office manager and paralegal for a boutique criminal defense law firm working on capital criminal cases. She has also worked as a legal intern at Caesars Entertainment Corp., and as an intern to the Honorable Cathleen Delaney, district court judge in the Eighth Judicial District Court in Clark County, Nevada. Currently, Ms. Salinas works as an intern to the Honorable Gloria Sturman, district court judge in the Eighth Judicial District Court in Clark County, Nevada; and as a law clerk at Donath & Medrala PLLC. Ms. Salinas holds a bachelor of science in business administration degree from the University of Nevada-Las Vegas.

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Pauline Schneider is 2016 Robert J. Kutak Award Recipient



Pauline Schneider, who served as the Section Council's Chair from 2003 to 2004, is the 2016 recipient of the Robert J. Kutak Award. Ms. Schneider has been involved in numerous bar and law-related activities and organizations. She previously served as both secretary and president of the District of Columbia Bar and a member of its board of governors. She served as a representative of the District of Columbia Bar in the ABA House of Delegates (HOD) and represented the Section as its HOD delegate for six years. She also served as a member and chair of the Accreditation Committee.

Additionally, Ms. Schneider is a former member of the ABA Board of Governors where she chaired its Executive Compensation Committee and served on its executive committee. She has served as a member of the ABA Nominating Committee, its Standing Committee on the Federal Judiciary, and chaired the Standing Committee on Election Law and the Accreditation Committee.

In Washington, D.C., she currently chairs the Federal Law Enforcement Nominating Commission, created by Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton to assist in screening applicants for the Federal Court, U.S. Marshal, U.S. Attorney, the U.S. Parole Commission, and executive director of the District's Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency.

Ms. Schneider recently retired from the full time practice of law. While in private practice, she served as counsel to numerous municipal issuers, underwriters, and borrowers of tax exempt and taxable bonds. Prior to her retirement, she was special counsel in the Washington, D.C. office of Ballard Spahr LLP and practiced public finance at Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe and Hunton & Williams. Before entering private practice in 1985, Ms. Schneider served in District government for four years and the Carter White House for almost three years.

A 1977 graduate of Yale Law School, Ms. Schneider also earned a master's degree in urban studies from Howard University and a bachelor of arts degree from Glassboro State College (now Rowan University) in New Jersey. She also did graduate study in international relations at Syracuse University.

Ms. Schneider is the recipient of numerous awards including the Margaret Brent Women of Achievement Award from the ABA Commission on Women (1999), Woman Lawyer of the Year Award from the Women's Bar Association (1995), Women Who Shape the Future from the Women's Legal Defense Fund (1994), Women of Genius Award from Trinity College (2000), President's Award from the

National Association of Women Lawyers (1998), Charlotte E. Ray Award from the Greater Washington Area Chapter of the Women Lawyers Division of the National Bar Association (1999), Woman of Achievement Award from the Anti-Defamation League (2001) and the Outstanding Alumni Award from Rowan University (2001). Each year since 2004, she has been named one of the Best Lawyers in America. She also has been included since 2007 on the annual Washington D.C. Superlawyers list. In 2005 she was named by the *Legal Times* as one of the “go to” real estate lawyers in the Washington area.

Ms. Schneider will receive the award at a reception on Friday, August 5 at the Park Central Hotel in San Francisco during the ABA Annual Meeting.

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Section Headquarters Hotel
Park Central San Francisco
50 Third Street
415.974.6400
Section Schedule

Thursday, August 4

Navigating the Waters of Student Debt

2:30-4:00 p.m.

Marriott Marquis

780 Mission Street

Sponsored by

the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar and the Law Student Division

Chair's Dinner

6:00-9:30 p.m.

Clift Hotel

495 Geary Street

By Invitation

Friday, August 5

Council Meeting

8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Park Central/ Metropolitan I

Kutak Award Reception
6:30-8:00 p.m.
Park Central/Metropolitan III

Saturday, August 6

[Deans Breakfast](#)

8:00-10:00 a.m.
Park Central/Metropolitan I

Annual Section Business Meeting
10-15-11:15 a.m.
Park Central/Olympic

ABA Standards Review Hearing
12:30-4:00 p.m.
Park Central/Olympic

The Future of Legal Services: Closing the Access Gap
Final Report of the ABA Commission on the Future of Legal Services
2:00-4:00 p.m.
Marriott Marquis, Golden Gate Ballroom C3

[Register for the ABA Annual Meeting](#)

Check the Section's [website](#) for updates.

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New Dean Appointments

American University Washington College of Law

Camille Nelson

Appalachian School of Law

Interim Dean Sandra McGlothin

Brigham Young University J. Reuben Clark Law School

Gordon Smith

University of California-Berkeley, School of Law

Interim Dean Melissa Murray

University of California Hastings College of the Law

Acting Chancellor and Dean David Faigman

Chapman University Dale E. Fowler School of Law

Matthew J. Parlow

University of Chicago Law School

Thomas Miles

CUNY School of Law

Mary Lu Bilek

Cleveland State University, Cleveland-Marshall College of Law

Interim Dean Lee Fisher

University of Colorado Law School

James Anaya

University of Denver Sturm College of Law

Bruce Smith

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Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law
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University of Virginia School of Law
Risa Goluboff

Whittier Law School
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Third Party Comments Invited for Law Schools Undergoing Accreditation Site Visits in Fall 2016

The law schools listed below are scheduled for sabbatical, provisional, or full approval site evaluation visits in Fall 2016. Any additional visits scheduled after this notice will be posted on the Section's [website](#).

Consistent with Internal Operating Practice 3(a), written comments related to current compliance with the Standards for the Approval of Law Schools may be submitted to the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar. Comments on law schools with visits in Fall 2016 should be sent by August 15, 2016. Please click on the link to submit [third party comments](#).

Law schools undergoing accreditation site visits in Fall 2016 are:

- Barry University (Sabbatical)
- University of California-Berkeley (Sabbatical)
- University of California-Irvine (Three-Year Interval)
- Concordia University (Provisional Two-Year Interval)
- Creighton University (Sabbatical)
- University of Florida (Sabbatical)
- Houston College of Law (formerly South Texas College of Law) (Sabbatical)
- Indiana University-Indianapolis (Sabbatical)
- Judge Advocate General's School (Sabbatical)
- Lincoln Memorial University (Provisional Two-Year Interval)
- Marquette University (Sabbatical)
- Northern Kentucky University (Sabbatical)
- Pepperdine University (Sabbatical)
- Texas A&M University (Sabbatical)
- William & Mary College (Sabbatical)
- Vanderbilt University (Sabbatical)

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