

# C L E A

## Clinical Legal Education Association

**CLEA REPORT  
to the  
Council of the American Bar Association  
Section of Legal Education and Admission to the Bar  
for its meeting on  
August 5, 2016**

The Clinical Legal Education Association (CLEA) is pleased to submit this report of its activities since it last reported to the Council in June 2016.

CLEA's membership is comprised of over 1,300 dues paying legal educators who teach students in a variety of real practice settings: some of us direct in-house clinics where students represent clients under our supervision; others run externship placements where students work under the supervision of lawyers in-the-field in connection with our seminar learning experience; and still others teach in an infinite variety of hybrids between the two. Our members are at the forefront of responding to and planning for the on-going changes in legal education, particularly regarding the importance and value of experiential education. We are committed to the process of innovation in clinical legal education to best train law students for practice in the twenty-first century. CLEA remains an important clearinghouse of information, communicating proposed regulatory changes and developments to our members, and providing a conduit through which these experienced educators can add to the national dialogue about the best practices in legal education.

Some highlights of CLEA's activities since our last report include:

- The CLEA Externship Committee has organized several online teleconferences for externship teachers to help orient them to the changes in Standard 304 on field placement programs. These presentations cover the new definition of field placements, including the new requirements for teaching and documentation, as well as changes to the rule on credit for compensated work. As of this report, we have delivered two sessions and will deliver at least two more early in the fall semester, reaching a total of over 70 clinicians across the country.
- The CLEA Best Practices Implementation Committee has blogged regarding specific chapters and sections of DEBORAH MARANVILLE ET AL., BUILDING ON BEST PRACTICES: TRANSFORMING LEGAL EDUCATION IN A CHANGING WORLD (CAROLINA ACADEMIC PRESS 2015). The Committee is developing a Hot Topics Proposal for the January 2017 AALS Annual Meeting and presentations for other conferences relating to using BUILDING ON BEST PRACTICES in learning outcomes and assessment work at law schools.
- The CLEA Conference Committee continues to financially support regional clinical conferences and externship conferences.

- CLEA continues to track changes in bar admission and law school regulation and to advocate for changes that move legal education in the direction of better preparing students for the practice of law.

As always, we appreciate the opportunity to participate in the Council's work as an affiliate and look forward to continued constructive engagement with the shared goal of improving legal education.

Sincerely,

/s/  
Margaret Johnson  
University of Baltimore School of Law  
Co-President, CLEA

/s/  
Maritza Karmely  
Suffolk University Law School  
Co-President, CLEA