



SECTION ON

CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATION

May 1, 1978

Reply to: Prof. David Barnhizer
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MEMORANDUM: Clinical Teachers and Law Deans
FROM: David Barnhizer, Chairperson AALS Clinical Section
SUBJECT: Clinical Developments

AALS Clinical Teacher Conference Funded:

At its April board meeting CLEPR approved a grant of \$54,000 to the AALS to fund a series of three annual conferences for clinical law teachers. The first conference will be held between July 30 - August 5, 1978 at the University of Minnesota. The week will include both large and small group instruction similar to that of the 1977 National Conference held in Cleveland, but will also concentrate on the process of individualized teaching with the conference participants having several opportunities for performance of clinical teaching with evaluation. The applications for the conference will be distributed within the next two weeks and enrollment will be restricted to 60 clinical teachers with applicants being admitted generally on the basis of the earliest date of application. The faculty for the conference are: David Barnhizer, Director; Paul Boland, UCLA; Bob Condlin, Virginia; Bill Greenhalgh, Georgetown; Joe Harbaugh, Temple; Judy Potter, Maine; Dean Rivkin, Tennessee; and Mark Spiegel, Pennsylvania. Since there were more than three times as many applications for last year's conference as there were places available, I strongly urge those of you who wish to participate this year to send in your applications early.

Title XI and the Vanderbilt Conference:

The final due date for submitting applications for Title XI funding is May 24, 1978. You should all have received materials and application forms and I hope are planning on applying. An additional \$5,000,000 is being sought for Fiscal 1979, but there is no certainty of Congressional approval.

The AALS Conference on the Funding of Clinical Legal Education was held March 3-4, 1978 at Vanderbilt Law School. Approximately 90 clinical teachers and deans were in attendance to participate in discussions and presentations led by Bill Pincus, Millard Ruud, James White, John Scarlett, Shepherd Tate and others. Perhaps the highlight of the two day conference was the talk given by Dr. Donald Bigelow of HEW, who has the responsibility of administering the current Title XI grant funds. Dr. Bigelow revealed a clear understanding of the needs of legal education and the pitfalls still confronting clinical educators in their efforts to contribute toward substantial beneficial change in legal education.

Most of you should have, by now, received materials from John Kramer, Associate Dean at Georgetown, urging you to communicate your support for Title XI to your Congressional representatives. The new appropriation for Title XI will be acted on within the next month so it is important you undertake whatever communications may be helpful.

The AALS - ABA Guidelines Project

The Guidelines Project Committee met March 10-11, 1978 in New York. During the meeting the structure of the study was established and a list of potential project consultants was prepared. Substantial progress was made by the Committee which will hold its next meeting June 19-20, 1978 in Aspen, Colorado.

As part of the Project, Steve Leleiko and myself are meeting with clinical teachers throughout the United States. Plans include meetings in Washington, D.C., New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, and the west Coast. Additional meetings will be set and discussions will be held with representatives of rural programs during the August Clinical Conference in Minnesota.

Preparation for the Annual Meeting Program

It is not too early to begin planning for the next Annual Meeting in Chicago. I remind you the AALS meeting format has been changed, effective for this next meeting, with the meeting being held the first week in January, 1979 rather than the traditional Christmas- New Years break. Several people have contacted me offering to present Section programs and if there are others who have interest please contact me in the near future.

Need for a Clearinghouse on Clinical Education

A number of clinical teachers have recently indicated a need for some kind of clearinghouse for teaching materials, readings on clinical education and sharing of information about the special problems and needs of clinical teachers. I have not pursued this idea as yet but it seems there may be several ways to accomplish this end. There are initial questions about obtaining even minimal funding but it may be possible to raise money by initiating membership dues for the Clinical Section. I would appreciate it if anyone with ideas about how the clearinghouse should function could send them to me.

Continuation of CLEPR

There has been a meeting between program officers at the Ford Foundation and the members of the special AALS Committee established to pursue the possibility of continued funding of CLEPR. The members of the Committee, Fred Hart, Norman Redlich and Albert Sacks, were not encouraged by the Ford response but have indicated additional steps will be taken to further pursue the funding issue. At present, CLEPR is scheduled to terminate at the end of 1979.

Legal Services Institute Proposed

Gary Bellow has recently submitted a proposal to The Legal Services Corporation for funding of an Institute to deal with issues of client service, access, and quality of representation provided by legal services lawyers. The Institute, to begin operation in January of 1979, will combine client representa-

tion, education of third year law students, advanced training of legal services lawyers, research and policy analysis in an attempt to create a model of education and practice.