

Not b/w
for A Rev.
job is it
1207

NEWSLETTER

SPECIAL EDITION APRIL 1990

Editor: Sandy Oglivy
Telephone: (713) 639-1027
Fax: (713) 639-1049

Thurgood Marshall School of Law
Texas Southern University
3100 Cleburne
Houston, Texas 77004

TASK FORCE TO HOLD HEARING IN ANN ARBOR ON THURSDAY AFTERNOON

The Task Force on Law Schools and the Profession: Narrowing the Gap of the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar will conduct a hearing on Thursday afternoon, June 7th, immediately following the conclusion of the AALS Clinical Teachers Conference in Ann Arbor, Michigan. If you will be attending the Conference, please try to arrange your travel plans so you can stay to observe and participate in these proceedings.

The Task Force is chaired by former ABA President Robert MacCrate. He will preside over the hearing in Ann Arbor, assisted by Roy Stuckey, Mike Norwood and other members of the Task Force. The Task Force is in the process of studying the perceived gap between the education received by law students and the actual knowledge, skills and values needed by newly admitted lawyers to practice law competently. Eventually, it intends to make appropriate recommendations to improve the educational programs in American law schools, increase the schools' impact upon the legal profession and thereby help the profession better to serve the full range of demands placed upon today's lawyers.

The Ann Arbor hearing will allow clinical teachers to have direct input into the deliberations of the Task Force. Among the questions which the Task Force will ask clinical teachers to address are: To what extent are newly admitted lawyers prepared to practice law competently without supervision? What should law schools be teaching (or teaching better or more of) than they are now? When and how should students obtain supervised live-client practice experience? What are the obstacles which hinder your school's ability to improve the preparation of its graduates for the practice of law? What can the Task Force do to help schools overcome those obstacles?

Selected clinical teachers will be invited to submit written comments to the Task Force and to speak for 5 to 7 minutes at the hearing. There will also be time set aside for unscheduled speakers. Anyone who would like a scheduled time to speak during the hearing should contact the chair of the subcommittee on hearings, Professor Robert McKay, NYU School of Law, 40 Washington Square South, New York, New York 10012 (212/998-6189). He will also send a copy of the specific questions to be addressed at the hearing to anyone who wants to submit written comments to him.

This NEWSLETTER is a forum for the exchange of points of view. Opinions expressed here are not necessarily those of the Section on Clinical Legal Education and do not necessarily represent the position of the Association of American Law Schools.