

LEGAL ETHICS

"On teaching morality to law students": a response

M I Swygert

21 *Stetson L J*, 2, Spring 1992, pp 559-564

The article responds to a criticism of the author's earlier article regarding the moral and ethical responsibilities of teaching law. The author states that his opponent has mischaracterised the philosophy of teaching he espoused. The author claims that one should not ignore or avoid discussions of claims of right and wrong or of matters concerning morality regardless of the derivation of moral and ethical principles. The author further contends that it is of utmost importance for lawyers to encompass notions of what is appropriate beyond what the law requires and that law is not morally neutral, value free or purely objective as his opponent may think.

Teaching legal ethics

S Burns

4 *Legal Educ Rev* 1, pp 141-163

The article reviews the more recent literature on the place of instruction in legal ethics in the broader context of legal education. In particular it considers the need for instruction in legal ethics, the forms of existing tuition and the alternative course structures and teaching methodologies. Included in her consideration is discussion of various course structures, teaching methodologies, and the question of the timing of the instruction in the law course.

She concludes by arguing that instruction in legal ethics should aim to sensitise students to the ethical dimensions of practice as a lawyer, provide insight into the nature of the legal profession and cultivate a willingness to engage in reflective judgment.

LEGAL PROFESSION

Competition, cooperation and legal change

D Weisbrot

4 *Legal Educ Rev* 1, pp 1-27

The author examines the inter-relationship between a number of trends in the development of the contemporary Australian legal profession. He focuses particularly on the ways in which legal change, ie. reform in the direction of achieving a greater measure of social justice, may be promoted through the development of a more cooperative relationship between academic lawyers and the private legal profession.

The author discusses these trends, which he considers are the growth in the size of the profession, the increasingly boundary-free nature of legal practice, the imperatives for private legal practice to become more competitive and "business-like", the deprofessionalisation of certain formerly lucrative areas of legal practice, the crisis in legal education caused by the very poor level of resources available to university law schools, the inaccessibility of the courts for reasons of cost and delay, and the consequent growth of alternative dispute resolution.

The article concludes with some ideas for a cooperative way forward between the academic and practising branches of the profession.

LIBRARIES & INFORMATION

Library highlights: report to law school deans, university presidents and provosts

G S Grossman

XXIV *Syllabus*, 2, Spring 1993, p 11

Article is conclusions and recommendations portion of report by the Law Libraries Committee of the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar which explores the possible reasons why microfilms, databases and library networks have had little impact on paper collections.

MANDATORY CLE

[no material in this edition]

OTHER DISCIPLINES & PROFESSIONS

A successful Rx: a new program at Ohio Northern offers a prescription for an unusual joint degree

S Goldsmith

Student Lawyer, September 1992, pp 8-9

A brief description of a joint degree in pharmacy-law commencing at Ohio Northern University.

PERSONALIA

[no material in this edition]

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

The internationalisation of legal practice and the impact on legal education in Singapore

T C Choong & E Wong

22 *HK L J*, 2, 1992, p 151-161

The article deals with the expansion of the legal realm in Singapore in response to the expansion of international trade relations with other countries. The author details several ways in which lawyers and law firms may internationalise their practices, in particular focussing on aspects of legal education. Some of the mechanisms could include the development of continuing legal education schemes, development of in-house research departments in the larger firms, expanding the law library at the National University of Singapore to include law collections of other regions which may or will be of economic benefit to Singapore, the continuation of the comparative law courses already offered at the National University, as well as an exchange program catering for both law lecturers and students between the National University of Singapore and other foreign universities.

Legal education and professional development - an educational continuum, report of the Task Force on