

The Future of Legal Education Conference
Georgia State University College of Law
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**Lessons from the University of New Mexico School of Law
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- I. **The Clinic Requirement** – Does the future of legal education include a clinical experience for every law student before graduation? The University of New Mexico School of Law requires every student to take a 6 credit clinic course: 120 students a year; 5 groups of 8 every fall, spring and summer; 9 faculty primarily dedicated to clinical teaching (34 total faculty); clinical faculty are tenured and also teach in the classroom.
 - a. What are the challenges of providing required clinics? Staffing five clinic sections every fall, spring and summer term; teaching students who resist the clinical method; funding the requisite number of clinical faculty members....
 - b. What are the benefits? Students are better prepared for practice at graduation; faculty members move from clinic to classroom and back, bringing the insights of practice and research to both settings; screening out of students who cannot work with clients or colleagues...

- II. **Rethinking our curriculum in light of the Carnegie Report** – The University of New Mexico was one of the schools visited during the Carnegie study and is now involved in a follow-up project sponsored by the Carnegie Foundation and Stanford Law School.
 - a. Faculty acceptance of the 3 apprenticeships – what are we asking from each faculty member? Overcoming fears.
 - b. How best to integrate the apprenticeships – the ongoing Practicum experiment.
 - c. How best to change how we assess our students – pilot projects.
 - d. Marching toward outcomes-based curriculum and assessment – Pressure from central campus.