Juris Doctor (JD), LLM (General), LLM in Business and Corporate Law, LLM in Comparative Law, LLM in International Law, LLM in Taxation, and MS in Legal Studies

University *of* San Diego®

Assessment Overview & Results Summary

College/School: School of Law

Measures Used: Pursuant to the American Bar Association's ("ABA") implementation of Standards 301, 302, 314 and 315 ("ABA Assessment Standards") effective in 2016, the School of Law developed and implemented the following learning outcomes assessment process. Except for the Paralegal program, which has its own assessment methodology, all programs in the school of law began assessing the same five learning outcomes during the 2019-2020 academic year. The first year of analyzing and utilizing gathered data will be 2021-22. Year 1 assessment consists of scoring students' performance on three-to-five of sixteen school-wide performance indicators selected by the instructor that track to one learning outcome and that best fit the course. Performance indicator scoring is on the following scale: 4 Highly proficient; 3 Proficient; 2 Approaching Proficiency; and 1 Not proficient.

Process for Interpretation of Evidence: Over a three-year cycle, students are assessed in a subset of courses. The cycle consists of:
- Year 1: Instructors assess student progress on learning outcomes and share that data and their feedback on the assessment process with the School of Law's Learning Outcomes Assessment Committee ("LOAC").
- Year 2: The LOAC analyzes the data, devises and proposes changes at the curriculum or class level, and also proposes changes to the assessment process. Changes proposed by the LOAC are first reviewed by the Dean and then brought to a faculty vote for adoption.
- Year 3: The School of Law implement changes adopted by the faculty.

Law school courses have been divided into four sets of classes and during a given year one or two of those sets begins Year 1. In other words, the assessment cycle is staggered for four sets of classes:
- Set 1: All first-year courses (e.g., Criminal Law, Contracts, Legal Research and Writing)
- Set 2: All upper-division core courses (e.g., Corporations, Corporate Tax, Evidence)
- Set 3: All upper-division electives (e.g., Bankruptcy, Community Property, Constitutional Law II)
- Set 4: All skills courses, clinics and externships

How Findings are Used:
- ✓ Changes to curriculum/pedagogy
- ✓ Changes to assessment methods

Results Summary and Continuous Improvement Actions for AY 2020-2021:

As of Summer 2021, assessment results have been gathered once from all first-year courses and all upper division core courses (i.e., Set 1 and Set 2). These results will be analyzed during Fall 2021 for continuous improvement. The Learning Outcomes Assessment Committee (LOAC) is continuing to develop our methodology for using the data to gauge success and determine areas for improvement. However, this process will likely include identifying courses with an average score below "3 – Proficient" for a performance indicator and also those courses with more than a set percentage of students below proficient. In these courses, the LOAC will work with instructors teaching the course to determine ways to improve performance on the indicator.