# Mission Statement

In the Jesuit tradition of academic rigor, pursuit of justice, and service to others, the College of Law will educate future members of the Bar to be skilled advocates and sensitive counselors-at-law committed to ethical norms in pursuit of dignity for all.

## Objectives/Goals:

1. Prepare graduates for success on the bar exam and to become effective and ethical members of the bar through rigorous law curricula which is continuously reviewed and revised to ensure that the needs of the students are met.

2. Increase the entering credentials of the student body by attracting high caliber students through enhanced scholarship offerings while maintaining the size of entering class at the level sufficient to support law school operations.

3. Enhance student Academic Support Services to provide additional one-on-one counseling for students considered at risk.

4. Increase Bar Exam passage rate of law graduates.

5. Expand and enhance the Law Clinic to ensure that all law students have the substantial opportunity to participate in pro bono and live client experiences.

6. Reorganize the College of Law administration to promote efficiency and to redesignate the offices of Law Skills and Career Services to focus on experiential learning while integrating their activities with the Law Clinic to ensure that law graduates will have the practical skills necessary to practice law successfully upon graduation.

7. Institute programs with local city and parish governments with cost-sharing arrangements to place students in clerk positions in their offices.

8. Provide performance-based reviews of student actions in live client and courtroom settings

9. Increase the number of international programs offered at the College of Law.

10. Increase the number of graduates with a study abroad experience.

11. Ensure that the College of Law maintains a highly competent and productive faculty to provide the educational experience for the law students.

12. Ensure that the Law Library maintains a collection sufficient to support the scholarly research of the law faculties and the research and study needs of the student body.

13. Ensure that the College of Law maintains a highly competent and productive staff to support the law faculty, administration and students.

14. Increase alumni contributions in number and amount and increase the active involvement by alumni with the College of Law.

15. Increase the number of employers interviewing on-campus.

16. Increase the number of out-of-state employers interviewing on-campus.

## Student Learning Outcomes

17. Law graduates who complete the law curriculum will have the knowledge and understanding of substantive law, legal theory and procedure to successfully pass the state bar exam in their desired jurisdiction.
18. Law graduates will have the competency and professional skills of legal analysis, critical thinking, legal research and written and oral communication to compete nationally for positions in the legal field.

19. Law graduates will have the competency to exercise professional judgment consistent with the values of the legal profession.

20. Law students will have the practical skills necessary to be able to engage in the practice of law successfully upon graduation.

21. Law graduates will possess the knowledge and understanding of the values of ethical responsibilities, justice, fairness, professionalism and the responsibility to ensure that adequate legal services are provided to those who cannot afford to pay for them.

22. Law graduates in their professional legal careers will espouse the Jesuit values of serving as men and women for others.

**ASSESSMENT (What assessment tools are you using and how do they address the objective/goals cited above?):**

1. Louisiana State Bar Association (primary jurisdiction) bar exam results – Goals/Objectives 1, 2, 3, 4, 17, 18, 19, 21
2. Bar exam results from of other jurisdictions – Goals/Objective 1, 2, 3, 4, 17, 18, 19, 21
3. Analysis of student progress in law school and bar exam results by law faculty curriculum committee – Goals/Objectives 1, 2, 3, 4, 17, 18, 19, 21
4. Law Admissions reports on applications, offers and matriculants – 2, 4
5. Law School Admissions Council reports – 2, 4
7. Student exit surveys – Goals/Objective 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16
8. NALP reports on placement in public interest careers – 22
9. Law Library statistics on inter-library loans and KPIs – 12
10. Review of the progress of students enrolled in the Academic Support Program by ASP faculty - 3
11. Student evaluations and feedback on courses offered in the Law Skills and Experiential Learning program – 6, 8, 18, 19, 20, 21
12. Performance based review of students by faculty advisors and city/parish attorneys – 7, 8, 18, 19, 20, 21
13. Performance based review of students enrolled in the Law Clinic by clinic faculty – 5, 8, 18, 19, 20, 21
14. Student evaluation and feedback on experiences of students participating in the Law Clinic, city/parish attorney placements and internship placements – 5, 7, 8, 18, 19, 20, 21
15. Senior exit surveys and surveys of recent law graduates – 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22

**WHERE ARE THE ASSESSMENTS LOCATED?**

All assessments, survey results and reports are located within the office of the Law Dean in the College of Law and on the College of Law Intranet.

**EVALUATION METHODS (How were the assessments evaluated?):**

1. Bar results from Louisiana and other jurisdictions are compiled and analyzed by law faculty curriculum committee and are distributed to law faculty during scheduled meetings – Goals/Objectives - 1, 2, 3, 4
2. Continuous review of law curricula by the faculty curriculum committee to revise course requirements and suggested progression to move at-risk students to intensive support – Goals/Objective 1, 2, 3, 4
3. Evaluation of employment and graduation statistics from exit surveys Goals/Objectives – 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21
4. National Association of Law Placement reports prepared by Career Development and Law Practice – Goals/Objectives 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21
5. Continuous review by the law faculty of student course evaluations of courses and faculty - 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22

**RESULTS/OUTCOMES:**

The law faculty held a retreat on March 19, 2010 to consider major changes to the law curricula in light of disappointing bar exam results. Retreat culminated with in the following:

- Electives are no longer categorized in the Law Bulletin. The Associate Dean of Academic Affairs will decide which electives are in the best interest of the students, giving priority to subjects tested on the
Directed freshmen in the bottom quartile of the class ranks at the end of their first semester to enroll in the Academic Support Program and take the new course Principles of Legal Analysis in the second semester thereby delaying the Moot Court class until the spring semester of their 2nd year.

Directed students in the bottom quartile of the class ranks at the end of their first year to enroll in the Academic Support Program and take additional required courses based on their major (Civil Law or Common Law).

Directed students in the bottom quartile of the class ranks at the end of their second year to enroll in the Academic Support Program and to take the new course Consolidated Legal Analysis in the 3rd year.

The College of Law expanded the Academic Support Program in response to the disappointing bar results to the current staffing level of four full-time instructors.

USE OF RESULTS (What modifications, adjustments were made based upon the evaluation of the assessment materials?):

The law faculty made major revisions to the curriculum in order to provide additional support to at-risk students – Goals/Outcomes – 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21

The Academic Support Program started in 2007 was expanded for 2011-2012 with the addition of two full-time instructors – Goals/Outcomes – 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21

The enhancement of scholarship offerings is being studied by the faculty Admissions and Scholarship Committee – Goals/Outcomes – 2, 4

RESOURCES/TIMELINE/APPROVALS (Based upon the modifications/adjustments included in the USE OF RESULTS section, identify the timeline, resources and approvals required to implement the change.):

Law faculty and administration will continue to monitor the results of the bi-annual bar exams to determine the level of improvement experienced and determine if further changes to the curriculum are required.

Efforts are underway to connect with law schools in other countries to establish cooperative programs in those countries.

The new Law Dean is making contact with existing benefactors and is exploring new constituencies to improve our fundraising and alumni outreach.

Law Career Services continually makes contact with local and national employers to expand the pool of recruiters visiting Loyola.

SIGNATURE: DEPT. CHAIR/DIRECTOR  SIGNATURE: DEAN/VICE-PRESIDENT

Name:

Date:

Final Approval:

Name:

Date:

Implementation Date: