

## Indiana University School of Law – Indianapolis 2002-2003 PRAC Learning and Assessment Report

### Narrative:

Indiana University School of Law – Indianapolis is an integral part of the IUPUI campus and supports its efforts in building a university of the first rank, yet takes care to emphasize its status as an independent professional component of Indiana University. The law school is accredited by the American Bar Association (ABA). As part of the ABA re-accreditation process, the law school engaged in a self-study during the 2001-2002 school year. A diverse committee composed of fully-tenured, tenure-track faculty, clinicians, lecturers, administrators, librarians, full and part-time students, and outside appointees meet weekly over the course of the spring 2002 semester. Committee members investigated all aspects of the law school functions, and then composed, reviewed, and dissected the subjects as part of a reflective process. During the fall 2002 semester, the resulting Self-Study Report from this procedure was circulated and ultimately approved by the full faculty. An evaluative site team assembled by the ABA visited the law school during the spring 2003 semester. The ABA report and recommendations regarding re-accreditation are pending at the time of filing this report.

The 2002 Self-Study Report identified and articulated the missions of Indiana University School of Law – Indianapolis as being:

- To provide an excellent graduate and professional legal education for its students;
- To contribute through research, writing, and publication to knowledge, understanding and improvement of law, legal institutions, and legal processes;
- To serve the university, the legal and academic professions, and the wider society;
- To maintain a vibrant and humane community of persons engaged in various aspects of teaching, learning, scholarship, service, and support for those activities.

While the law school is collectively committed to these broad missions, it is also committed to fostering wide intellectual and professional freedom to its faculty. Because of the intellectual and professional freedom of its faculty, the law school has not adopted any formalized methods or requirements for assessing learning outcomes as anticipated by the Principles of Undergraduate Learning (PUL's). While a trend is developing for adapting the PUL's to legal education with a conference and publication of the Symposium issue, *Seven Principles of Good Practice for Legal Education*, 49 J. LEGAL EDUC. 367 (1999), this law school has not undertaken any consideration for their application here.

At the present time, faculty on the tenure or long-term contract track typically use the standardized course and faculty evaluation form from the Testing Center at the conclusion of each semester. The results are tabulated and reported on the faculty member's Annual Survey to the Dean of the law school for use in determining salary recommendations. The results are also included in the materials submitted to the law school's Promotions and Tenure Committee for use in determining the faculty member's progress toward promotion and tenure. A number of faculty, notably those in the law school's clinical ranks, combine the standard evaluation form with one tailored to obtain feedback related to the specific course. For example, it may ask for

input on the teaching methods employed – such as the use of simulation, role-playing, or technology-based information sharing.

In a typical law school course, assessment of student performance and learning is based upon a final examination at the conclusion of the semester. A few faculty members may give an additional mid-term test or provide a pre-exam workshop to assist students with test-taking skills. Assigning the final grade for each student in each course and reporting it to the administration is the responsibility of the faculty member. Further reporting of learning outcomes is not required or expected.

As a cumulative measure of student learning, the law school tracks performance of its graduates on the Indiana bar examination and their ability to obtain law-related occupations.

**Bar Passage Rates:**

The passage rate for the July 2002 and February 2003\* bar examinations are presented below:

Date	Total Candidates	Total # Passing	Total Pass Rate	IU-I Candidates	IU-I # Passing	IU-I Pass Rate
February 2003*	244	149	61%	82	48	59%
July 2002	515	395	77%	208	160	77%

\* This figure is subject to change following the review of failing applicants' appeals.

**Employment Statistics:**

The employment statistics for the most recent reporting period are provided below:

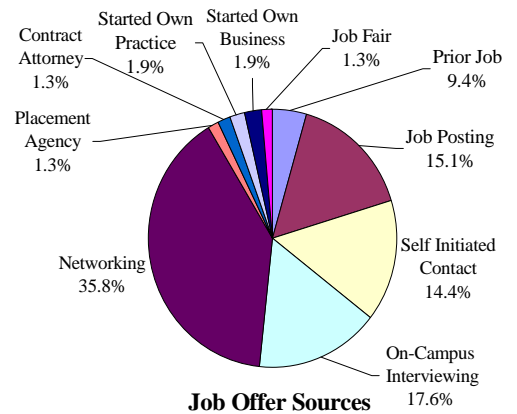
**2002 EMPLOYMENT SURVEY**

(Students graduated in December 2001, May and August 2002)

Employed	229	93.1%
Unemployed, Seeking Work	15	6.1%
Enrolled in Degree Program	2	0.8%
<b>Total Class of 2002</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>100%</b>

**EMPLOYMENT CATEGORIES**

<b>Private Practice</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>51%</b>
Law Firms	114	49.8%
Started Own Practice	3	1.2%
<b>Business</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>14.4%</b>
In-House Legal Management	13	5.6%
Other Business	10	4.4%
<b>Government</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>19.2%</b>
<b>Judicial Clerkships</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>5.8%</b>



<b>Public Interest</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2.2%</b>
<b>Military</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1.3%</b>
<b>Academic</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2.6%</b>
<b>Unknown Type</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3.5%</b>

**EMPLOYMENT LOCATIONS**

Employed Out of State	33	14.4%
Employed in Indiana (outside Indianapolis)	37	16.2%
Employed in Indianapolis	159	69.4%

**AVERAGE STARTING SALARY**

Of the 229 employed graduates, 127 reported salary (54%).

The overall average starting salary for these graduates is **\$57,693**.

**Law Firms** **\$67,974**

2-10 lawyers	\$46,626
11-25 lawyers	\$50,556
26-50 lawyers	\$67,722
51-100 lawyers	\$74,778
101-250 lawyers	\$81,346
251-500 lawyers	\$95,000

**Business** **\$53,436**

In-House Legal Management	\$54,545
Other Business	\$38,000

**Government** **\$38,594**

Federal	\$46,000
State	\$35,086
Local	\$37,895

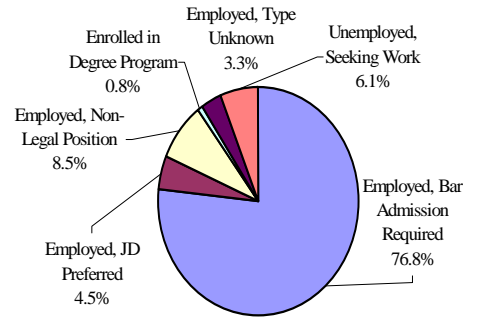
**Judicial Clerks** **\$47,178**

**Public Interest** **\$27,000**

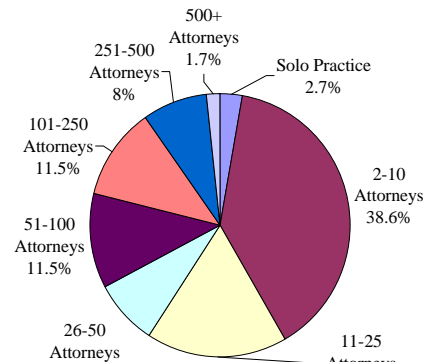
**Indianapolis** **\$58,749**

**Indiana (outside Indianapolis)** **\$47,889**

**Out of State** **\$66,514**



**Employment Status**



**Law Firm Sizes**

The above figures are reported starting salaries or estimates by new practitioners for their first year income. These figures do not include bonuses, fringe benefits, raises, fees for special cases, revenue from bringing in new clients, etc.

**Conclusion:**

Recently, the law school has established a Teaching Committee which has engaged faculty members in dialog related to teaching issues. The Teaching Committee encourages the sharing of teaching methods and is open to suggestions about improving the quality of teaching. The Teaching Committee may be the logical vehicle to generate discussion about the principles of good practice for legal education in the future.