

Faculty Evaluation Plan Reviewed

In the course of four meetings, the Student Evaluation Committee has evolved a plan which should be of continuing benefit to the Law School through the years. Starting with the Statement of Objectives, down through the drafting of the questionnaire, the methods for distribution and collection, and a set of by-laws, the Committee has attempted to propose a responsible and workable method to implement a student evaluation program.

The Statement of Objectives printed below should leave no room to doubt the sincerity of the effort which will go into the evaluation:

For the purpose of opening the channels between the administration of the Law School and the students; so that all students will have the opportunity of voicing their own opinions of the quality of instruction and to comment on the Law School curriculum; in view of the fact that the students at a professional level are often in an advantageous position to evaluate the effectiveness of professors, text books and exams, it would be advantageous for instructors and the administration to have access to those opinions; therefore, it is the will and intent of the SBA in establishing such an evaluation system, not to brazenly and

contumaciously embarrass, but rather the will and intent of the students is to establish a sensible system through which constructive and responsible student criticism can be communicated in good faith to the administration and to the instructor. The objective will be to make a sincere effort to improve on a continuing basis, the level of instruction in the Law School.

The reports will be confidential and the results will be given to the dean of the Law School and professors interested in the results from their courses. Space will be provided for individual student suggestions and comments which, it is hoped, will be helpful to instructors and administrators. Permission will be requested to punish certain findings which are of a general nature.

Modeled after the undergraduate system here at the College, but adapted to the Law School's needs, the questionnaire allows for student comment on the professor's method of teaching, on exams, and on reading materials for the courses. This section of the evaluation has been adapted to a computer which will compile the results into a meaningful form. Adequate space is left for student comment on the courses and on other programs of the Law

School. The Committee will take the results of the comments and compile them into short essays which will show areas of consensus and trends which appear. The Committee recognizes that its questionnaire is not perfect and for this reason has provided space for comment on the "questionnaire" itself. It is thus envisioned that the evaluation will continually be changing and bettering itself on the basis of these suggestions.

Three copies of the computer findings and individual comments will be printed. One will be given to the instructor, one to the Dean of the Law School, and one will be retained by the Chairman of the Committee in strictest confidence, to be passed on to his successor.

Just as soon as the final stamp of approval is given to the program, questionnaires will be printed and distributed among the law students and first semester 1967-68 will be used as a trial semester. What is then needed is full participation in the program by the students of the Law School. The student evaluation represents an opportunity for each student to voice an opinion which can benefit each professor, aid the administration, and ultimately aid the Law School in maintaining a high caliber of instruction, reflective of the needs and desires of the students