

# Call for Papers

4<sup>th</sup> ENCLE Conference 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> October 2016 Faculty of Law, University of Valencia Valencia (Spain)

# "Clinical Legal Education and Access to Justice for all: from asylum seekers to excluded communities"

The European Network for Clinical Legal Education (ENCLE) will host its annual conference at the Faculty of Law, University of Valencia, Valencia (Spain). The conference aims to bring clinicians together from across Europe to discuss all aspects of teaching and learning, learn from each other and share best practices on how to improve the access to justice to, in particular, vulnerable persons, through clinical legal education.

Given the on-going influx of refugees in Europe and the fact, that more and more law clinics are focusing their work on the support to refugees and asylum seekers, ENCLE is particularly encouraging papers dealing with CLE and access to justice for refugees and asylum seekers.

The conference will include a range of sessions including workshops, paper presentations, plenaries and panel discussions. The sessions will be designed to encourage participation, stimulate discussion, share best practices and enhance the clinical movement across Europe.

# ENCLE invites proposals for papers and workshops in the following themes:

• Clinics and refugees – how are refugees transforming the CLE in Europe and how clinics react to influx of refugees?

Presentation and papers are invited to consider the diversity of support provided by law clinics to refugees and asylum seekers. In particular, papers may consider best practices but also the difficulties and challenges that legal clinics may face in this very specific area of activity (such as for example: cultural or psychological challenges, etc.). Papers may also focus on the necessary collaboration that such legal clinics have to create in this area.

#### Improving access to justice through legal clinics

Presentations and papers are invited to consider the impact of legal clinics on improving the universal access to justice. Papers may wish consider how clinics contribute to access to justice and what measures can be applied to maximize the effect. Papers may also consider the problems clinics encounter in relation to the access to justice, for example, is there an inherent conflict between external stakeholders (such as law firms or state authorities) and improving the access to justice, or does it bring any educational concerns.

## • Legal clinics and marginalized, excluded or vulnerable clients (communities)

In many countries, publicly funded legal aid systems have gaps which leave some vulnerable parts of population without legal aid in complicated legal situations. Legal clinics often help these groups, but it can bring important issues regarding the social justice mission of the clinic, educational goals, relations with professional groups, reflecting the specifics of vulnerable groups and their special needs, preparing students to engage in certain types of cases or situations. We encourage the presentation or papers reflecting on these issues and how they influence the design of legal clinic and the methodology used, or simply how they are addressed in particular clinical settings.

#### • The role of clinics in Higher Education

Presentations and papers are invited to consider the role of legal clinics in Higher Education. Over a number of years, legal clinics have started to enter the mainstream of legal education in many jurisdictions, whilst in other jurisdictions they remain at the fringes. Papers may wish to consider how legal clinic becomes the mainstream and the role they play in the modernisation of legal education. Papers may also wish to consider the role of legal clinics in the law school curriculum and role of clinical supervisors within the context of Higher Education – academics, practitioners or a hybrid of both?

#### • Teaching methodology

Presentations and papers are invited in relation to the various methodologies used within clinical teaching, sharing of the best practices and addressing the problems connected to clinical methodology. This stream aims to consider how the student experience and performance can be enhanced through the best academic practices.

## • Legal professions and Clinical legal education

Presentations and papers are invited to discus the relationships amongst CLE and the different legal professions, which would include the relationships with pro-bono and lawyers in general; prisons; police officers; prosecutors and others. The idea is to reflect upon the kind of professionals we are training and the kind of professionals we are working with and learning from, what are the mutual benefits of the relationship.

## • Clinical impact

Presentations and papers are invited to demonstrate the impact of clinical legal education across Europe. Sessions should look at the impact of clinical activities on students, stakeholders and the wider community. The use of empirical data is encouraged to evidence the impact.

## Submission of proposal of paper or workshop

Proposals for either paper presentations or workshops should be sent to encle.info@gmail.com.

Proposal should include the following information:

- Name(s) of presenter(s)
- Affiliation of presenter(s)
- Nature of session (paper presentation/workshop)
- Abstract of proposal (500 words)
- Duration of session

Deadline – proposals should be submitted by 31<sup>th</sup> August 2016

ENCLE encourages sessions that are interactive and collaborative. Where possible, presenters are encouraged to (and may be asked to) collaborate with colleagues from other jurisdiction