



The Dean's Laptop



Dean Bruce P. Elman

Good plans shape good decisions. That's why good planning helps to make elusive dreams come true.

Lester Robert Bittel

Inside this issue:

The Dean's Laptop	1
Assistant Dean	2
Law Library	3
Dates to Remember	4

Think About those Course Selections

Towards the end of my first year at Dalhousie Law School, all students were required to fill out a two year course selection form and hand it in to the Associate Dean for approval. The first page of the form indicated your choices for the next year while the second page indicated those courses you intended to take in third year (although, in truth, you were not bound by these selections). By requiring students to choose courses for two years, Dalhousie was, effectively, forcing us to think seriously about our future careers and select a sequencing of courses that would enable us to achieve our aspirations. I have always thought that this was an excellent approach and students, nowadays, should do this voluntarily even though we do not require it. Try it! It may help you.

Anyway, on the way to the Associate Dean's Office, you were usually stopped by Professor Art Foote. Art Foote was a legend at Dalhousie. He was a Rhodes Scholar and a brilliant man. He was also completely un-athletic. Indeed, he was a chain smoker. I took Conflicts from him and he didn't stop smoking the entire class. When he applied for the Rhodes, his fellow students believed that he needed to have some major athletic accomplishment to round out his application and so they concocted the Great Dalhousie Law School Mile Race. Before the Race all of the other competitors spent a long evening in a local drinking establishment. One version of the legend is that only Art was fit enough to run the Mile the next morning, and he won, or was declared the winner of the first (and only) Great Dalhousie Law School Mile Race.

But I digress. Professor Foote suggested that it might be a good idea if he had a look at my course selections. He looked at my forms intently, seemingly unaware that cigarette ash was falling on his tie and jacket. He picked his head up, stared straight into my eyes and

said: "No. This will not do. There is no corporate law, commercial law, or tax in your timetable either this year or next. You need to take two of the three." I asked "why? I'm not planning to be a lawyer." Still staring at me, he said: "Because it is important for the development of your mind." So I took Commercial Law and Business Associations and have no regrets. In fact, I did my LL.M. thesis at Harvard for Robert Braucher on a comparison of the Sale of Goods Act and the Uniform Commercial Code.

I'm a bit "old school" about course selection. I certainly subscribe to the view that students should take a very healthy mix of courses – foundational, theoretical, "boutique", policy oriented, perspectives, and skills based. But I am a firm subscriber to the Art Foote school of thinking – you need to take fundamental doctrinal courses (which, by the way, are almost never exclusively doctrinal) not because the firms want you to have these courses or because you will be tested on these subjects in the Licensing Exams but rather because they are invaluable in developing the legally trained mind. As an added bonus, these courses also prepare you for almost any career. Some of my colleagues might dispute my list but, these days, I recommend Business Associations, Conflicts, Evidence, Judicial Review, Public International Law, Sales, Secured Transactions, Trusts, and Tax. This amounts to about one year of courses and, deducting eight credits for Torts and Civil Procedure, you are still eligible to take another six or seven courses to define your career aspirations.

My advice: Speak to Francine Herlehy, our Assistant Dean (Student Services), ask your favourite professor, and speak to other students or graduates. But once you have received all the advice, you still need to sit down and think seriously about your career aspirations, and the best way to achieve them. Good luck and best wishes for an exciting summer!

Student Services Office



Assistant Dean
(Student Services)
Francine Herlehy

As we begin the registration cycle, we devote this issue of Windsor Law (Here &) Now to registration. Here are some things you should consider before you start:

1. **Program Requirements:** It is your responsibility to ensure that you meet the requirements for advancement each year and graduation at the end of law three. There are required courses and there are credit requirements that must be met for each academic term and overall for each academic year. Check your Degree Audit Report on the SIS. Review the Registration and Course Selection Materials.

2. **Mix it Up:** In his comments in “The Dean’s Laptop”, Dean Elman suggests that you take a very healthy mix of courses – foundational, theoretical, “boutique”, policy oriented, perspectives, and skills based courses. This is great advice! There are courses that, while not formally required, are generally recommended of most law students. Again, review the Registration and Course Selection Materials.

3. **Pre-Requisites, Anti-Requisites and Co-Requisites:** You must consider pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites when selecting courses. This requires some element of planning. For example, if you want to take Estate Planning and Administration, you must ensure that you will have completed Wills and Succession in advance. Plan for the future!

4. **Preparation for Licensing:** each Provincial Law Society has a different model of licensing. In Ontario, the Licensing Process is self-contained but in some provinces, completion of certain law school courses is required for enrollment. In Ontario, students are examined on entry level competency in a number of substantive areas of law. Many students undertake courses in those areas while in law school so that they have context when entering the Licensing Process.

5. **Career Development:** Your career goals can influence your course selection. For example, there are certain courses that hold greater interest to someone interested in a commercial practice than for those interested in an advocacy based practice. You should have some flexibility to respond to opportunities that are presented for summer, articling and beyond.

6. **Timetable and Examination Schedule:** By the time you reach this step, you will have a list of courses that you are interested in. Some are offered more than once. Consult the Timetable and Examination Schedule to work out a schedule that works best for you and does not create conflict. You must also consider the Examination Schedule.

7. **Counselling:** Remember that there are others who can assist you in this process. I am available to provide academic counselling, in person, by email or by telephone. Just reach out and ask for help. I can be reached by telephone at (519) 253-3000, extension 4230, by email at herlehy@uwindsor.ca or by stopping in G112.

Be prepared, review the Registration and Course Selection Materials thoroughly, check the website frequently for updates, keep updating your list of possible courses in order of priority, utilize the waitlist process and by September 16, 2008 when the registration period ends, you should be all set for another great year.

Remember, classes start on **Tuesday, September 2, 2008**. Stay safe and see you then.

Planning is bringing the future into the present so that you can do something about it now.
Alan Lakein, writer

WEEK	DATES	ACTIVITY
One Year III	Monday, July 7 at 8:30 a.m. until Sunday, July 15 at 11:59 p.m.	Third year students will be permitted to register for two courses in the Fall term and two courses in the Winter term. <i>Registration will be closed to second year students.</i>
Two Year II	Monday, July 14 at 8:30 a.m. until Sunday, July 20 at 11:59 p.m.	Second year students will be permitted to register for two courses in the Fall term and two courses in the Winter term. <i>Registration will be closed to third year students.</i>
Three Year III	Monday, July 21 at 8:30 a.m. until Sunday, July 27 at 11:59 p.m.	Third year students will be permitted to register for their remaining courses in both the Fall and Winter terms. <i>Registration will be closed to second year students.</i>
Four Year II	Monday, July 28 at 8:30 a.m., Sunday, August 3 at 11:59 p.m.	Second year students will be permitted to register for their remaining courses in both the Fall and Winter terms. <i>Registration will be closed to third year students.</i>
Five	Monday, August 4 at 8:30 a.m. until Tuesday, September 16 at 11:00 p.m.	All students will be permitted to drop/add courses.

Law Library

A common question is: How long do I have access to QL (or WeC) this summer? See the Law Library web site: <http://www.uwindsor.ca/lawlibrary> - at the top of the page, click on: "Summer Access to QL, WeC, CCH".

The University's year is May 1st to April 30th, and having just finished it, the Paul Martin Law Library has completed its annual statistics (which are reported to various organizations, for insurance purposes, etc). A total of \$684,841 was spent on books, electronic sources, and binding. The collection now numbers 351,241 volumes and volume equivalents (188,664 vols in paper and 162,577 vol. equivalents in microforms). The circulation desk also experienced an increase with 12,141 people contacts, although total circulation was down a bit with 6,202 reserve & regular circulation transactions. Interlibrary loan activity saw a slight increase with 129 transactions for our law students and law faculty (15 articles; 114 books) and 180 transactions (24 articles; 156 books) for other universities & libraries borrowing our material. The 2 computer labs were a bit busier this year with 17,783 sign-ons, with Lab A being more popular than it was last year (77% Lab B; 23% Lab A). The 2 computer technicians responded to 4,461 requests and student computer helpers added a further 457 contacts. The library's professional staff presented 33 training sessions (an increase over last year due to the 2nd reference librarian, Cathy Cotter) for a large increase of 595 law students in total. Overall, there were fewer visits into the library with 94,301 "entrances" over the course of the year. There were 1,322 reference contacts (compared to 1,381 the year before).

The "top circulating" books not on reserve, in the year, were:

Lawyers and ethics: professional responsibility and discipline. (20 charge outs)
Fiduciary duties in Canada. (14 charge outs)

Human rights of persons with intellectual disabilities (12 charge outs)

Newberg on class actions. (11 charge outs)

Contract theory (10 charge outs)

Canadian securities regulation (10 charge outs)

Oxford handbook of comparative law (9 charge outs)



The Law Library is open during the summer!

Beginning Tuesday April 29, the Law Library's Hours of Operation will be:

Mon - Thurs	8:30 AM - 4:20 PM
Fri	8:30 AM - 12 noon
Sat & Sun	Closed

We will be closed for the following holidays:

Mon May 19	Victoria Day
Tues Jul 1	Canada Day
Mon Aug 4	Civic Holiday
Mon Sep 1	Labour Day

Important things to remember regarding registration:

- It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the proper number of credits for each academic term and academic year.
- You cannot register in courses that overlap or conflict in either the timetable or the examination schedule.
- All students must successfully complete: Torts I and Civil Procedure in second year; one legal perspectives course during their second or third year; and one research paper course during their second or third year. Some courses satisfy both the research paper and perspectives requirements.
- Course registration begins on Monday, July 7, 2008 and runs until Tuesday, September 16, 2008.
- We recommend that you check the registration system (SIS) regularly throughout the registration period if you have not been able to register in a course. As students add and drop courses, places open up throughout the registration period.
- Faculty Biographies can be found on our website at www.uwindsor.ca/law, in the Calendar or in the Prospectus.

DATES TO REMEMBER FOR THE 2008-2009 ACADEMIC YEAR

2008

September 1	Labour Day (statutory holiday). University closed
September 2	Classes begin for 2nd & 3rd Year Law.
September 2-5	Mandatory Orientation for First Year Law
September 8	Classes begin for First Year Law
September 16	Last day for course changes in Law
October 13	Thanksgiving Day (statutory holiday). No classes.
October 24	Classes cancelled for 11 th Colloquium on Professionalism
October 25	Fall Convocation
December 1	Last day of classes for Fall Semester
December 4	Examinations begin in Law
December 24 to 31	University offices closed for December Holiday recess

2009

January 1	New Year's Day (statutory holiday). University closed
January 2	University offices reopen
January 5	Winter Semester classes begin
January 16	Last day for course change in Law
February 16	Family Day (statutory holiday). University Closed
February 20	University Offices closed, except Education and Law
February 23 - 27	Study week in Law
February 27	Law offices closed
March 1	Last day to file an application for Spring graduation
April 9	Last day of classes in Law
April 10	Good Friday (statutory holiday). University Closed
April 13	Winter Semester final examinations in Law begin
May 18	Victoria Day (statutory holiday). University closed
June 19	Spring Convocation
July 1	Canada Day (statutory holiday). University closed
July 6 – 17	Special/Supplemental Examination Period
August 1	Last day to file application for Fall graduation