

**UNIVERSITY OF WINDSOR**  
**UNIVERSITY PROGRAM REVIEW (UPR)**  
**REPORT ON: Law**  
**UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS**  
**February 2018**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**Review Preparation**

In preparing this document, the Program Development Committee reviewed the following: Law’s Self-Study (SS) (June 2016), the report of the external reviewers (ER) (January 2017), and the response from the Dean (DR) (June 2017) to the above material. The external reviewers were: Dr. Ian Holloway, Faculty of Law, University of Calgary, Prof. Lisa Philipps, Osgoode Hall Law School, York University, and Dr. Lydia Miljan, Department of Political Science, University of Windsor.

**Undergraduate and Graduate Programs**

The Faculty of Law offers a Juris Doctor (JD) and a Canadian-American Dual JD program, with emphasis on access to justice, social justice, and transitional law. The Faculty also partners with the School of Social Work and the School of Business to offer a concurrent JD/MSW program and an integrated JD/MBA program.

At the graduate level, the Faculty offers a Master of Laws. First launched in Fall 2016, this program is outside the timeframe of this review.

**Enrolments**

**Undergraduate**

	Fall 2013	Fall 2014	Fall 2015	Fall 2016	Fall 2017
JD Full-Time	469	459	464	467	463
JD Half-Time	3	5	7	5	4
Dual JD Full-Time	158	181	216	234	238

**Concurrent Programs**

	Fall 2013	Fall 2014	Fall 2015	Fall 2016	Fall 2017
JD/MSW Full-Time	14	18	14	11	11
JD/MSW Half-Time	0	0	0	0	0

*JD/MBA: Students in this integrated offering are counted in the Business total enrolment while taking courses in the MBA and counted in the Law total enrolment numbers when taking courses in the JD.*

**Graduate**

	Fall 2013	Fall 2014	Fall 2015	Fall 2016	Fall 2017
LLM Full-Time	---	---	---	4	4
LLM Part-Time	---	---	---	0	0

**Human Resources**

**Faculty/Instructors**

Tenure/tenure-track faculty	34 (including the Dean, the Associate Vice-President, Academic, and 2 vacancies)
Sessional Instructors	over 40 for the period under review
Faculty members involved in graduate program delivery	5

**Full/Part-time Staff**

Academic Coordinator	1
Assistant Deans	2
Assistant to the Academic Coordinator	.7
Career Services Officer	1
Clinical Therapist	1
Communications Coordinator	1
Coordinator Indigenous Legal Studies	.7
Coordinator Student Services/Dual JD Program	1
Director of Mediation Services	1
Law Alumni/Fund Development Officer	1
Major Gift Officer	.6
Technical Support Assistant	1
Secretaries	11
Social Justice Career Coordinator	1

**FINAL ASSESSMENT REPORT (with Implementation Plan)****Significant Strengths of the Programs**

Law offers quality undergraduate programming in the form of a JD and a unique Dual Canadian/American JD program, delivered by faculty with strong research productivity, many of whom are also recipients of numerous local, provincial, and national recognitions and teaching awards. The Law School also provides additional rich learning opportunities to its students by availing itself of legal professionals to teach as sessional instructors. Students benefit from the practical experience and expertise that legal professionals bring to the classroom. Further, these sessional instructors help students develop their professional networks, and contribute to the academic and intellectual life of the Faculty, through their participation on panels, in workshops, and at alumni events. (SS, pp.169-176)

Distinctive elements of the JD include “the first year Access to Justice course and the mandatory credit in Transnational Law. Recent curricular innovations have enhanced the opportunities for hands-on learning and skills development”. (ER, p.5) The Law School also is strongly committed “to thoughtful strengthening of the Indigenous law curriculum and to bringing a range of theoretical and socio-legal perspectives into the classroom”. (ER, p.5)

**Opportunities for Program Improvement/Enhancements**

The External Reviewers noted that “after many decades of relative certainty and predictability, legal education in Canada finds itself in a dynamic moment. What this means is that every law school in Canada is trying to anticipate a future whose parameters are uncertain. In our view, Windsor’s law school is better situated than many – thanks to its geography (viz, next door to Canada’s principal trading partner at what might prove to be the dawn of a challenging era in Canada-US relations) and its well-articulated access to justice mission. But we also feel that an openness to continuous evolution is going to be an essential ingredient for institutional flourishing in the years to come.” (ER, p. 10)

Additionally, the External Reviewers encouraged the Faculty to develop “new forms of co-operative, clinical or course-based experiential learning” to meet rising student expectations for experiential learning opportunities and “to keep the program competitive with other law schools that are ramping up experiential learning opportunities.” (ER, p.5, p.6)

Further opportunities for program improvements are captured in the recommendations listed below.

## IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

### Recommendations (in priority order)

*(Final recommendations arrived at by the Program Development Committee, following a review and assessment of the External Reviewers report and the Dean's response.)*

**Recommendation 1:** That the Faculty submit curriculum maps for each of its programs, program-level learning outcomes for the Dual JD program and the JD/MBA program, and course-level learning outcomes and assessment methods for each of its courses that clearly correspond to the program-level learning outcomes.

**Agents:** Department Council, Head, CTL, Vice-Provost, Teaching and Learning

**Completion by:** Fall 2019

**Recommendation 2:** That the Faculty proceed to develop, implement, and report on its plan to provide more Experiential Education opportunities to students for academic credit.

**Agents:** Department Council, Head, CTL, Co-op, Career and Employment Services

**Completion by:** Fall 2019

**Recommendation 3:** That the Faculty review aspects of its Dual JD Program, and provide a report addressing:

- (i) how the Access to Justice mission could be extended to the Dual JD program;
- (ii) what more could be done to ensure that all those who enroll in the Dual JD program can afford to complete it;
- (iii) how to ensure more consistent quality in the Canadian law modules;
- (iv) whether there is potential to recruit more U.S. students into the program; and
- (v) how to realize the program's comparative law vision.

**Agents:** Department Council, Head, Partners at UDM, CTL, Vice-Provost, Teaching and Learning

**Completion by:** Fall 2021

**Recommendation 4:** That the Faculty develop and report on its facilities and space plan so that it can move ahead with its strategic priorities and planning, and keep pace with advances at other law schools in the province.

**Agents:** Head, Provost

**Completion by:** Fall 2019

**Recommendation 5:** That the Faculty develop, implement, and report on a plan for orienting and mentoring early career faculty, such as ensuring that each of its pre-tenured faculty members are able to draw upon the advice and support of one or more senior faculty members.

**Agents:** Head, Faculty Members

**Completion by:** Fall 2019

**Recommendation 6:** That the Faculty report on efforts to build additional capacity in advancement to raise external contributions for major building renovations, as well as increased student assistance.

**Agents:** Head

**Completion by:** Fall 2021