Licensure Pass Rate Task Force
Preliminary Report on the College of Law

BOT Special Committee on the College of Law
June 3, 2020
Task Force

Formation
• Established October 2019.

Programs Under Review
• Law
• Nursing
• Pharmacy
• Physical Therapy

Charge
• Conduct an in-depth evaluation of each program and generate actionable recommendations to facilitate increased and sustained performance on licensure exams.
• Provide ongoing monitoring and evaluation of outcomes and goal achievement for each program.
Task Force

Current Membership

Maurice Edington (Chair)
Nicky Boothe (Law)
Reginald Mitchell (Law)
Cynthia Hughes Harris (Allied Health Sciences/Physical Therapy)
Dawn Brown-Cross (Physical Therapy)
Mary Graham (Nursing)
Sevilla Bronson (Nursing)
Uloma Onubogu (Nursing)
Johnnie Early (Pharmacy)
Jocelyn Spates (Pharmacy)
Sundra Kincey (Academic Affairs)
Beverly Barrington (Strategic Planning, Analysis and IE)
Melanie Wicinski (Assessment)
Lewis Johnson (Academic Affairs)
Genyne Boston (Academic Affairs)
Kelley Bailey (Faculty Representative)
Naquita Manning (Faculty Representative)
Task Force

Areas of Review (for College of Law)

1. Admissions
2. Recruitment
3. Retention
4. Curriculum
5. Academic Support/Bar Prep
6. Organizational Structure
7. Professional Development
8. Student Experience
9. Culture/Environment
10. External Stakeholder Engagement
11. Financial Resources
12. Key Performance Indicators
Final Report

1. 70+ recommendations for program improvement.
2. Will be finalized by Task Force at next meeting.
3. Will assist new Dean in developing Program Improvement Plan.
Preliminary Recommendations

Highlights from Report

Admissions

1. Increase the median LSAT and GPA to better align with targeted bar passage rate goals.
2. Limit the size of newly enrolled cohorts.

Recruitment

1. Develop a strategic recruitment and enrollment management plan to expand the College’s recruitment footprint across the country to identify highly-credentialed students.
2. Allocate additional resources to the College for scholarships to attract top students.
Preliminary Recommendations

Highlights from Report

Retention

1. Allocate additional funding to provide incentives for retaining high-performing students, such as offering retention scholarships for second-year students.

2. Increase the use of predictive analytics to identify at-risk students and provide targeted academic support services to ensure effective acclimation to law school and bar study.

Curriculum

1. Bar preparation activities should be ongoing and incorporated into the curriculum beginning with the first year.

2. Enhance the function of the College’s curriculum committee to provide more effective ongoing oversight of course content and pedagogy used by faculty in courses that are intended to prepare students for the bar.
Preliminary Recommendations

Academic Support/Bar Prep

1. Increase investments in staffing and other services for at-risk students.

2. Incorporate more mandatory bar-prep courses into the curriculum.
   - Note: ABA now allows 4-credit courses to facilitate inclusion of bar-prep efforts into course curricula.

3. Best practices, such as wrap-around services, should be evaluated and implemented as appropriate.
   - Provide personalized academic coaching to assist students in preparing for the bar (writing and critical analysis skills).

4. Incorporate the expertise of doctrinal faculty into all areas of bar preparation.
Key Performance Indicators

Highlights from Report

Admissions
• LSAT: median; 25\textsuperscript{th} and 75\textsuperscript{th} percentile
• GPA: median
• Class size
• Scholarship awards

Retention
• First semester and first year GPA
• Attrition
• % of 3L students assessed as ‘bar ready’
• Student/faculty ratios in critical courses

Post-Graduate Outcomes
• Bar passage rates
• Percent of cohort sitting for the bar
• Job placement

Stakeholder Perceptions
• Student survey/focus group data
• Alumni survey data
• Clinical site survey data
• Employer survey data
Next Steps

Key Activities

June
• Finalize Task Force Report
• Expand engagement with Barbri (bar prep)
• Engage external consultant

July
• Deidre Keller begins tenure as dean
• Keller implements Action Plan (30-day; 60-day; 90-day)

August
• Coordinate with Barbri on implementation of expanded bar-prep initiatives
• Finalize Program Improvement Plan

September
• Presentation of Program Improvement Plan to BOT Special Committee
“At FAMU, Great Things are Happening Every Day!”