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Symposium Articles

SYMPOSIUM

Transforming
the Future of
Public Health
Law Education
through
a Faculty
Fellowship
Program

Guest Edited by
Charity Scott

I
Letter from
the Editor

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INTRODUCTION

Transforming the Future of Public Health Law Education through a Faculty Fellowship Program

Charity Scott

This special issue of the Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics is devoted to a unique faculty fellowship program, called *The Future of Public Health Law Education*, which promoted educational innovations in public health law during the 2014-2015 academic year. This article provides an overview of the fellowship program and a roadmap for understanding the common themes that cut across the ten faculty fellows' diverse curricular projects.

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Combining Accreditation and Education: An Interdisciplinary Public Health Law Course

Micah L. Berman

This article discusses an interdisciplinary and community-engaged public health law course that was developed as part of *The Future of Public Health Law Education* faculty fellowship program. Law and public health students worked collaboratively to assist a local health department in preparing for the law-related aspects of Public Health Accreditation Board review.

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Promoting Diversity in Public Health Law through Online Education

Kimberly Cogdell Boies

This fellowship project addressed the need to increase diversity in public health law. Non-traditional delivery methods of education, such as synchronous online classes and offering courses during an intersession between regular semesters and in the evenings, expanded the opportunities for diverse students to learn about the field and have meaningful internship experiences in public health law. Synchronous distance education is the wave of the future for law teaching and has particular significance in the teaching of public health law.

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Building a Public Health Law and Policy Curriculum to Promote Skills and Community Engagement

Amy T. Campbell

This article describes implementation of a longitudinal curriculum in public health law, building on doctrinal coursework with skills-based coursework and opportunities for interdisciplinary, community-based engagement and service learning. It specifically describes development of a Policy Practicum, giving an example of how law students can learn policy skills and skills of effective community coalition work through a healthy homes partnership, highlighting areas where the curriculum can incorporate interdisciplinary education. It offers lessons learned during the curriculum-building process, and concludes with a more intensive service-learning strategy through the development of a Policy Lab.

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Educating the New Public Health Law Professional

Sarah Davis

This article outlines the author's experience designing and implementing an asynchronous online course. Designed as a complement to public health law externships at any location, the course addresses professionalism and strategic lawyering. The article further describes the author's fellowship journey, which emboldened her view that faculty must attempt to live the expectations we have for our students, and also declare our professional values, especially when teaching about policymaking which is fraught with values conflicts. It concludes with a call for others to pilot innovative teaching approaches to address both the crisis in legal education and pressing societal issues, thereby contributing to the health of our legal community.

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Teaching Population Health Outcomes Research, Advocacy, and the Population Health Perspective in Public Health Law

Robert Gatter

The goal of this project was to expand an existing public health law curriculum to incorporate lessons on population health outcomes research, extra-legal advocacy, and the population health perspective. The project also created opportunities for students not only to read about and discuss concepts, but also to employ the lessons more practically through exercises and by writing white papers on public health law reform topics relevant to population health in Missouri. To do this, the project expanded an existing didactic course and created a new credit-bearing, experiential “Lab.”

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Public Health Law as a Way to Explore and Develop Professional Identity

Jennifer L. Herbst

Lawyers are most often portrayed and understood to be zealous advocates for individual clients in adversarial litigation or zero-sum transactions. Law schools provide excellent preparation for this type of lawyer role, but lawyers’ unique understanding of the law is also needed for systemic advocacy, policymaking, and legal education to solve the most difficult societal problems. An interdisciplinary public health law class is one way for law schools to provide students an opportunity to explore and develop these other professional identities.

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Expanding Interdisciplinary Learning Opportunities on a Shoestring through a Medical-Legal Partnership

Laura D. Hermer

This article describes why and how the author started a medical-legal partnership at her small law school, the curricula associated with the medical-legal partnership, and the experience she and her students have had with the curricula to date. It also provides “lessons learned” which may be useful for individuals interested in expanding interdisciplinary and experiential opportunities at institutions that presently lack traditional sources of such opportunities.

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Seminar in Public Health Law and Policy in an Interprofessional Setting: Preparing Practitioners for Collaborative Practice at the Macro Level

Heather A. McCabe

The author created a new course, called “Seminar in Public Health Law and Policy in an Interprofessional Setting” to address the need for interprofessional education (IPE) to equip graduate and professional students for collaborative practice at the systemic and policy (i.e., macro) levels in the health care and public health fields. Despite important work being done at the clinical practice level, limited existing IPE models examine larger systemic issues. The course is designed specifically to enable students in social work, law, and public health to recognize the reciprocal relationships between policy and interprofessional collaborative practice, including the need for understanding of the impact of team-practice work at the system and policy levels.

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Teaching Prevention: An Interdisciplinary Approach to Improving Population Health through Law and Policy

Elizabeth Tobin Tyler

This interdisciplinary course, which included students from medicine, public health, law, and public policy, explored the concept of “prevention” and the role of law and public policy preventing disease and injury and improving population health. In addition to interdisciplinary course content, students worked in interdisciplinary teams on public health law and policy projects at community organizations and agencies.

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Tearing Down the Silos: An Interdisciplinary, Practice-Based Approach to Graduate School Education

Elizabeth (Bjerke) Van Nostrand

“Law in Public Health Practice” is an interdisciplinary, practice-based course in which the University of Pittsburgh’s Graduate School of Public Health, its School of Law, and the Allegheny County Health Department work collaboratively to identify an issue needing the expertise of multiple disciplines. For the first iteration, students in over four disciplines explored the possible regulation of tattoo parlors. The lessons learned are adaptable to any topic that engages students in more than one discipline to address real-world public health problems.

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C O N T E N T S

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Reflections on Mentoring

Mary Crossley and Ross D. Silverman

Reflecting on their service as mentors in the fellowship program, the authors describe their experiences and offer thoughts on lessons learned about mentoring, individuals' roles in institutional changes, their own professional growth, and implications for and evaluation of legal and interprofessional education.

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The Importance of Including the Deans

Diane E. Hoffmann

This article describes the benefits of including institutional leadership (the deans) in a faculty fellowship program where faculty were tasked with implementing a curricular innovation at their home institution. These benefits included: (1) serving as an ally, advocate, and defender for the faculty fellow; (2) seeing the bigger picture and how the fellowship can be leveraged to benefit the institution in other ways; and (3) assisting to ensure the fellowship project will be ongoing at their institution.

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Polishing the Apple: A Holistic Approach to Developing Public Health Law Educators as Leaders of Change

Debra Gerardi

The RWJF public health law faculty fellowship provided an opportunity for legal and public health scholars to come together to develop innovative approaches for teaching public health law in schools of law, public health, medicine, and social work nationally. The fellowship program emphasized the importance of integrating individual change (personal and professional development) with organizational change as twin pillars of the core competencies necessary for advancing public health law education. This article describes the curriculum and learning formats used throughout the fellowship to guide the fellows' development in the areas of leading change, managing conflict, building collaborative partnerships, and maintaining personal resilience.

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Best Practices for Teaching Public Health Law: Two Online Resource Libraries

Stacie P. Kershner

Georgia State University College of Law, through the Center for Law, Health & Society, developed a pair of online libraries for faculty teaching public health law in schools of law or public health. Development of these libraries was funded by a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation as part of *The Future of Public Health Law Education: Faculty Fellowship Program*. This article describes the goals of the program addressed by the libraries, the development process, the resources included, and how faculty may benefit from the materials and provide materials benefitting other faculty across the country.

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Innovation in Higher Education: Lessons Learned from Creating a Faculty Fellowship Program

Nancy J. Kaufman and Charity Scott

This concluding essay offers reflections on core components of the faculty fellowship program, its outcomes and results, and program design and administration. Amid the current calls for reform in legal and other professional education, the lessons we learned and perspectives we gained during this fellowship program may be relevant to any faculty members and university administrations that are seeking to create more effective and engaged professional and graduate school programs, whatever may be their subject-matter discipline.

Symposium articles are solicited by the guest editor for the purposes of creating a comprehensive and definitive collection of articles on a topic relevant to the study of law, medicine and ethics. Each article is peer reviewed.

Independent articles are essays unrelated to the symposium topic, and can cover a wide variety of subjects within the larger medical and legal ethics fields. These articles are peer reviewed.

Columns are written or edited by leaders in their fields and appear in each issue of *JLME*.

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Ethical and Legal Issues in Pediatrics

A Symposium Guest Edited by Robert M. Sade