The Millennium Law School:
Building Technology and Innovation into the Legal Education Framework

Overview

Historically many law schools have been viewed as disconnected entities having little interaction with the local community and offering almost no reason for a business, government or group to reach out to the school. It is incumbent on the law school to establish the connections - to be minimally current with the law and its impact and communicate their findings beyond the confines of an education paradigm. To facilitate these changes the law school must identify with technology innovation relevant to the study of law and - by use or extension - to their outside constituencies. Technological development can provide the opportunity as well as a functional reason for law schools to create new relationships with small businesses, multinational corporations and beyond.

This proposal sets forth the concept that the law school can adopt a stance that provides the necessary leadership to assess cutting edge legal issues and educate the global and local communities as to immediate and future impact. By creating WebEx On-line meetings and TelePresence consultations via Cisco, websites, blogs and other technological methods to disseminate information, law schools can effectively and economically communicate and possibly create new income streams. By effective utilization of advanced technology the law school is subsequently integrated into the business community establishing professional bonds and elevating the law school’s presence and voice in the community. Technology will enable the law school global reach. In turn, law schools can benefit from these relationships by inviting businesses to become actively involved in the legal institution through participation on advisory boards, providing financial support to the law school and eventually employing students and graduates.

The Program

The Program is a business legal think thank developed to provide cutting edge analysis of current legal trends, cases and legislation to businesses for value. This information can be disseminated by any number of methods including personal consultation, webinars, text alerts and a traveling seminar conference.
**Benefits**

This proposal comes as close as a process can by offering benefits to all participants with little or no risk to either party. Within the law school the benefit is motivational to all students by engaging them in the process of identifying technologies that may apply and to the more advanced students identifying cases, opinions challenges and developments and of course the law professor that marries the issues and provides guidance or development, the law librarian who provides the road map for research and the law dean who takes the concept beyond the walls of the law school and presents these ideas to the end user.

This process concept initiates a new bridge for the law school members to utilize as well as a cause for the development of the relationship between the law school and the end user. Once the relationship is found and developed then the possibility of greater benefit becomes a reality. Whether it takes the form of student internships and placements, faculty endowments or capital development participation – every major transaction has an underlying relationship. The law school needs to recognize their obligation to initiate contact and develop that relationship.

**Constituencies and April 2011 Goal**

The constituencies are divided into two groups:

1.) Law School Dean, faculty, law librarians
2.) Law Students and Corporate Partners.

The April 2011 goal is to:

1.) Implement a study group of law librarians and faculty to survey possible topics, specific technologies and corporate partners.
2.) Create a timeline for project launch.