

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
UNIVERSITY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
UDC RESOLUTION NO. 2016_____

SUBJECT: Institutional Aid Funding for the UDC David A. Clarke School of Law

WHEREAS, pursuant to D.C. Official Code §38-1202.06(2)(C), it is the duty and responsibility of the Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia to operate a public law school component in a manner that maintains accreditation necessary to qualify the graduates of the UDC David A. Clarke School of Law (the “School of Law”) to take the bar examinations of the District of Columbia and several states; and

WHEREAS, the American Bar Association standards require that the “present and anticipated financial resources of a law school shall be adequate to sustain a sound program of legal education and accomplish its mission”; and

WHEREAS, the School of Law’s mission requires that it recruit and enroll students from racial, ethnic and other backgrounds traditionally underrepresented at the bar, with the understanding that such students frequently come from low-income families who cannot afford high tuition rates; and

WHEREAS, the School of Law’s mission also requires that it educate public interest, public service and public policy lawyers who earn much lower than average lawyer salaries and thus cannot sustain significant student debt repayment obligations; and

WHEREAS, the School of Law’s tuition will increase by 2.6% during academic year 2017-2018 even as other law schools are lowering or freezing tuition rates as a strategy to recruit and retain more students; and

WHEREAS, nationally the applicant pool for law schools has dropped 40% since 2011; and

WHEREAS, law student transfer rates are increasing significantly as top-ranked law schools offer generous multi-year financial aid packages to recruit both competitive and less competitive students as a means to enhance tuition revenue streams, and the School of Law’s transfer rate has increased each year since 2011 in keeping with the national trend; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated the implementation of multi-year financial aid awards and targeted enrollment strategies may result in increased tuition revenue; and

WHEREAS, multi-year financial aid awards will be conditioned upon continued strong academic performance; and

WHEREAS, institutional aid will support the School of Law’s retention strategies, including the Dean’s Fellows Program (for students earning a 3.0 and above GPA) and Need-Based Aid; and

WHEREAS, to further the mission and meet the financial aid requirements of the School of Law, the Board of Trustees approved UDC Resolution No. 2006-30 authorizing the University to remit law school tuition annually in the amount of \$700,000 during each of FY 2006, FY 2007, and FY 2008; UDC Resolution No. 2008-05 authorizing the University to remit Law School tuition annually in the amount of \$700,000 during each of FY 2009, FY 2010 and FY 2011; UDC Resolution No. 2012-12 authorizing the University to remit tuition annually in the amount of \$700,000 during each of FY 2012, FY 2013 and FY 2014; UDC Resolution 2014-38 authorizing the University to remit tuition annually in the amount of \$700,000 in each of FY 2015 and FY 2016; and UDC Resolution 2015-38 authorizing the University to remit tuition annually in the amount of \$700,000 in each of FY 2017 and FY 2018; and

WHEREAS, the School of Law needs institutional aid to compete with law schools nationally that are offering three- and four-year scholarship packages to attract and retain full-time and part-time students; and

WHEREAS, the School of Law uses institutional aid to attract and retain mission-driven students who have options to attend much higher ranked and more prestigious law schools, and those who, because of family and other obligations, cannot otherwise afford to go to law school; and

WHEREAS, the amount of institutional aid afforded the School of Law since 2006 has remained constant at \$700,000 per year, and has supported enrollment and retention of a student body ranging from approximately 234 students to a high of 366 students in 2012, and, in 2015, a student body of approximately 305 students; and

WHEREAS, the School of Law will continue to track entering LSAT, GPA, UGPA, UDC GPA, retention and bar passage for scholarship recipients and will continue to provide an annual report to the President of the University to demonstrate the effectiveness of the institutional aid provided.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees authorizes the University to offer institutional aid for the School of Law in the amount of \$700,000 annually during each of FY 2019, 2020 and 2021 to further the mission and to meet the financial aid requirements of the School of Law.

Submitted by the Academic and Student Affairs Committee: October 24, 2016

Approved by the Board of Trustees:

November 22, 2016

Elaine A. Crider
Chairperson of the Board



Fiscal Impact Statement

TO: The Board of Trustees
FROM: Managing Director of Finance *David L. Fink*
DATE: October 11, 2016
SUBJECT: David A. Clarke School of Law Institutional Aid for FY2019, FY2020 & FY2021

Conclusion

It is concluded that there is no significant fiscal impact associated with the University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law's institutional aid proposal for FY 2019, FY2020 and FY2021 which will be \$700,000.

Background

The proposed resolution is to continue the institutional aid for FY2019, FY2020 and FY2021 at the UDC David A. Clarke School of Law. Institutional aid for the law school was first approved by the UDC Board of Trustees in 2006 and has been approved in multi-year increments ever since. In academic year 2015-2016, institutional aid in the form of partial scholarships was given to 124 students with an average Merit award of \$6,050 and an average need award of \$1,895. These students had an average LSAT of 148.75 and UGPA of 3.07. District residents received 52% of the awards.

Financial Impact

The direct financial impact from this proposed resolution is the projected average increase in revenue annually of an average of \$856,000 each year for FY2019, FY2020 and FY2021.



This is the first of the annual reports required per Board of Trustees Resolution 2015-34, Institutional Aid Support for the UDC David A. Clarke School of Law, which states: "Whereas, the School of Law will track entering LSAT, GPA, UGPA, UDC GPA, retention and bar passage for scholarship recipients and provide an annual report to the President of the University to demonstrate the effectiveness of the institutional aid provided...". This report was presented to the Academic/Student Affairs committee; Audit Budget and Finance Committee; and the fud Board during the July 2016 meetings.

Office of Katherine S. Broderick, Dean and Joseph L. Rauh, Jr., Chair of Social Justice

Memorandum

Date: July 12, 2016

To: Ronald Mason, President

From: Katherine S. Broderick, Dean of the UDC David A. Clarke School of Law

Subject: Law School 15-16 Annual Report for Institutional Aid

This memorandum is provided in accordance with Board of Trustees Resolution 2015-34, Institutional Aid Support for the UDC David A. Clarke School of Law which states: "*Whereas, the School of Law will track entering LSAT, GPA, UGPA, UDC GPA, retention and bar passage for scholarship recipients and provide an annual report to the President of the University to demonstrate the effectiveness of the institutional aid provided...*"

During academic year 2015-2016, \$700,000 in institutional aid was used to provide scholarships to support our recruiting and retention strategies, \$339,895 and \$360,105 respectively, in these times of intense competition among law schools to attract and retain law students. The School of Law Foundation provided \$662,975 in scholarships to support these strategies.

Institutional Aid supported 124 students with an average Merit award of \$6,050 and an average need award of \$1,895. These students had an average LSAT of 148.75 and UGPA of 3.07. District residents received 52% of the awards.

The School of Law hired Tajira McCoy as Assistant Dean of Admission, taking over January 1, 2016, for Dean Vivian Canty after forty years in the position. Dean McCoy is developing a new set of recruitment strategies involving increased social media and individualized recruiting to augment strategies previously undertaken. She has also been tasked with assessing the scholarship program and refining as needed to enhance results.

In light of its mission and target population, the Law School has a long-standing commitment to providing ample resources to support and encourage high risk and low performing students. Since 1996, the Law School has had an academic success program directed by a full-time, tenure-track faculty member. The program is currently directed by a tenured professor, Debra Cohen, who has taught a wide array of courses, as well as designing and directing academic success programs at three law schools. Under her direction, the academic success program has developed a comprehensive network of services that begin in the summer prior to the first year of

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law school and continue throughout the academic program and beyond to alumni who are studying for the bar exam.

Melissa Gill, an experienced bar exam instructor, is the assistant director of academic success and bar preparation programs. Prior to joining the Law School, Professor Gill was a member of the faculty at University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth School of Law where she developed a comprehensive bar exam review program and taught courses for first year students that focused on core subjects, study skills, test taking skills and lawyering skills.

Bar passage continues to be a top priority for the law school. Students enrolled during academic year 2015-2016 have not yet had an opportunity to sit for the bar exam. Students graduating in academic year 2014-2015 have a 60.7% bar passage rate after two takings. Historical data suggests these graduates will have an overall bar passage rate at or above 75% within four takings. The school is reallocating resources to academic support along with several other strategies to increase bar passage.

Our alumni data demonstrates that more than 70% of UDC David A. Clarke School of Law graduates remain in the Washington, DC, metro area five years after graduation.

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University of the District of Columbia David A. Clarke School of Law

Enrollment & Remission 2015-2016

	Entering 1L	Continuing	Entering & Continuing
Total Enrolled During 2015-16	94	212	306
Full-time Resident	11	66	77
Full-time Non-resident	38	42	80
Part-time Resident	21	51	72
Part-time Non-resident	24	53	77
Avg LSAT	148.39	149.36	149.06
Avg UGPA	2.99	3.00	2.99
Avg Fall LGPA	2.90	2.92	2.92
Transferred In During 2015-16	na	2	2
Transferred Out	2	1	3
Separated or Withdrew	4	0	4

Graduates enrolled 2015-16	83	83
Graduates not enrolled (holdovers)		12
Total Graduates AY 2015-16		95

# Rcvd Remission	52	72	124
Full-time Resident	9	23	32
Full-time Non-resident	18	17	35
Part-time Resident	15	17	32
Part-time Non-resident	10	15	25
# Rcvd Foundation Scholarship	53	17	70
# Rcvd Remission and/or Foundation	87	86	173

Total Remission	339,895	360,105	700,000
Total Foundation Scholarships	479,777	183,198	662,975
Total Remission and/or Foundation	819,672	543,303	1,362,975

Avg Remission Award	6,536	5,001	5,645
Full-time Resident	8,299	4,460	5,540
Full-time Non-resident	7,960	6,312	7,159
Part-time Resident	4,378	3,699	4,017
Part-time Non-resident	5,626	5,822	5,744

Avg Merit-Based Remission	7,198	5,203	6,050
Avg Need-Based Remission	1,455	2,138	1,895

Remission Recipient Avg LSAT	148.22	149.13	148.75
Remission Recipient Avg UGPA	2.95	3.16	3.07
Remission Recipient Avg Fall LGPA	2.85	3.16	3.03

Graduate Bar Passage

	Graduated in AY		
	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Sat for the Bar	78	101	61
Passed a Bar Exam	60	76	37
Passed Bar on First Attempt	43	47	28
Overall Bar Pass Rate*	76.92%	75.25%	60.66%
First Time Bar Pass Rate	55.13%	46.53%	45.90%

* The overall bar pass rate tends to increase with each of the 4 exam opportunities following graduation. Graduates in 2015 have had only 2 exam opportunities.

Race/Ethnicity
Asian/Pacific Islander
Black/African American
Hispanic/Latino
Puerto Rican
Two or More
White/Caucasian
Unknown/Not Reported

Enrolled 2015-16	
#	%
17	5.56%
139	45.42%
30	9.80%
2	0.65%
13	4.25%
92	30.07%
13	4.25%
306	

Rcvd Remission 2015-16	
#	%
9	7.26%
53	42.74%
13	10.48%
1	0.81%
5	4.03%
37	29.84%
6	4.84%
124	

Rcvd Foundation 2015-16	
#	%
1	1.43%
34	48.57%
9	12.86%
2	2.86%
4	5.71%
16	22.86%
4	5.71%
70	

Rcvd Remission &/or Foundation 2015-16	
#	%
10	5.78%
72	41.62%
20	11.56%
2	1.16%
8	4.62%
52	30.06%
9	5.20%
173	

Office of Katherine S. Broderick, Dean

TO: Board of Trustees Finance Committee
FROM: Shelley Broderick
RE: Proposed Resolution No. 2016 ____
DATE: October 7, 2016

This memorandum will provide some background and context for the School of Law's request for approval of Resolution No. 2016__. Since 2006, the UDC Board of Trustees has approved a series of resolutions permitting the use of \$700,000 annually in institutional aid. Institutional aid is a mechanism by which the School of Law is permitted to collect a reduced amount of tuition from students, including those who are highly competitive likely bar passers, have offers of admission from more prestigious schools, have received offers to transfer to other schools and who demonstrate significant financial need due to high levels of student debt from college, family responsibilities and other reasons.

During academic year 2015-2016, institutional aid supported 124 students with an average Merit award of \$6,050 and an average need based award of \$1,895. The \$700,000 in institutional aid was used to provide scholarships to support our recruiting and retention strategies, \$339,895 and \$360,105 respectively. The School of Law Foundation provided an additional \$662,975 in scholarship aid to support these strategies. The average award amounts have historically shown UDC David A. Clarke in the middle of the pack among its peers.

The School of Law has adopted multiple new strategies designed to increase enrollment and retention of students from racial, ethnic and other backgrounds traditionally under-represented at the bar, including low-income residents of the District of Columbia and others who are interested in pursuing careers in social justice and public interest law. These strategies include increased scholarship support, deployment of new staff to implement a robust enrollment plan and enhanced academic and student services.

Scholarship support has been increased radically by law schools across the country. In order to be competitive, the School of Law has augmented the \$700,000 in institutional aid by adding \$200,000 from new Title III HBG1 funds and with funds raised as part of the newly launched Change Lives! Scholarship Campaign. With a goal of raising \$1,000,000 by 2019, the plan is to increase current funds available for scholarship aid by \$100,000 per year.

This year, the School of Law will field a larger and millennial-focused admission team. Assistant Dean of Admission, Tajira McCoy replaced Dean Vivian Canty who retired after 39 years on the job. Dean McCoy's team includes an Assistant Director and two new positions:

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An Admissions Specialist funded by repurposing the former Office Manager position in the Office of Admission joined the team in August and a Community Outreach staff member who will be added with new Title III HBG1 funds by the end of the calendar year. , rounds out the team.

The new admission team will implement a robust enrollment plan using an all hands on deck approach. The plan includes micro-targeted campaign strategies to increase enrollment from UDC and other proven feeder schools and HBCUs, activists, Capitol Hill staffers, and veterans among others. Faculty have put a shoulder to the wheel by launching the “Come Learn With Me” pilot program focused on providing individualized outreach and engagement with candidates for admission who have expressed interest in their particular social justice and public interest subject matter areas. Admissions professionals, faculty, administrators, alumni and students are participating in recruitment activities and receptions in DC and across the country including, for example, a Capitol Hill event in the House of Representatives and the Second Annual HBCU Pre-Law Summit, in Atlanta, Georgia. New social media efforts are underway highlighting faculty excellence; the judicial clerkship initiative; the highly ranked clinical program; cutting-edge service learning as part of the Cuba Initiative and in conjunction with the Immigration and Human Rights Clinic work and the Civil Rights in the 21st Century course. The School of Law’s Pathways to Profession strategy is in the last stage of development with the addition of alumni photos and endorsements and a host of new experiential learning opportunities. These and other elements of the recruitment plan are expected to increase the applicant pool and ultimately the size of the entering class.

Finally, the School of Law is assessing and improving academic programs with a goal of increasing retention of low performing students and enhancing the experience and opportunities for all students. Participation in the 2015-16 Law Student Survey of Student Engagement (LSSSE) is a key step. The LSSSE Survey focuses on teaching, learning, and interactive methods that extensive research concludes are linked to student performance. The results will be used to develop, enhance or terminate programs and services in the School of Law. The Bar Passage Task Force has developed and implemented programs and activities ranging from early intervention to individual counseling and wrap around academic support designed to increase retention and bar passage. The faculty is engaged in a cutting-edge multi-year assessment project which is also aimed at improving student outcomes.