



PRAVNO EKONOMSKA
KLINIKA
OSIEK



LEGAL
ECONOMIC
CLINIC

Potentials and perspectives

Short history....

- Legal clinics, as well as teaching students through legal clinics is well-known and recognized concept of education of law students around the world
- Roots of clinical education Wilson (2009) finds in USA, where students asked for more practical knowledge
- In USA legal clinics are indispensable part of training of future lawyers
- To the expansion of this type of education in Europe contributed various US donors, such as Ford Foundation and Open Society Institute

What is clinical education?

- The term has several definitions, but basically the term refers to „any kind of practical teaching with the use of interactive method to teach practical skills
- Clinical legal education represents a method of teaching, which draws on experiential learning
- Clinical education encourages the adoption of new content with simultaneous development of personal skills
- In the broader sense, clinical legal education encompasses both formal and informal educational programmes that practical-oriented, student-centred and problem-based methods

Why clinical education?

- Enables teaching skills like legal analysis and reasoning, legal research, factual investigation, communication, counselling, negotiation, litigation and alternative dispute resolution procedures, organization and management of legal work and recognizing and resolving ethical dilemmas (Hovannisian, 2004)
- New methodology has enabled a shift from the old curriculum that was content-focused, towards one that better serves the need of the labour market – outcome-focused programme of instruction

Clinical legal education and entrepreneurship

- Various types of legal clinics, usually solving social issues
- All clinics provide *pro bono* advice to the groups that can not afford legal advice (can not be competition to other sources of legal help)
- Complexity of today's problems demands combination of skills and knowledge of different roles – of new type of professionals (i.e. both economist and lawyers at the same time), co called „hybrid professionals“
- Growing number of small business clinics – clinics that provide help to startup entrepreneurs

Legal economic clinic in Osijek

- Joint project of the Faculty of Law and the Faculty of Economics in Osijek
- Founded in November 2013, through signing of an Agreement on Cooperation between Faculty of Law in Osijek, Faculty of Economics in Osijek, Business Incubator BIOS Ltd. and Center for Entrepreneurship
- Both institution are actively involved in the work of the Legal economic clinic – providing space for working, but also enabling students to see and feel the „real world“ while mentoring student teams

Organization of the Clinic

- Students work in mixed teams – from both faculties
- Every team has two mentors – with law and economic background
- Opportunity to get multidisciplinary approach
- Working in a clinical setting with entrepreneurs

What students can get....

- Multidisciplinary approach
- Solving problems while using the knowledge of other profession
- Skills: interviewing, data collection and analysis, teamwork, networking, consulting to entrepreneurs and writing reports on activities and cases
- Learning from practioners: lawyers, judges from the Commercial Court, counselors from Croatian Employers' Association Osijek, employees from business support organizations
- „window into the real world“

Some statistics at the end...



Where you can find more info...

- Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/pravnoekonomskaklinikaunios/>
- Media – T-portal, HRT, RTL, Nova TV, Slavonska TV, Osječka TV,...
- Articles:
 - Delić, A., Oberman Peterka, S. (2014) How and why to teach entrepreneurship interdisciplinary? Case of Josip Juraj Strossmayer University Legal-Economic Clinic, M-Sphere Conference Book of Papers, Zadar
 - Delić, A. (2016) Position of legal economic clinic on the map of business support institutions in Croatia, ICUBERD Conference, Book of Papers, Pecs, Hungary

Comments, questions, suggestions...

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