LEARNING FROM AN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY CLINIC

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1. Opening disclaimers and ritual apologies

   - The spreading IP clinic movement in American legal education
   - This presentation as a partial and unabashedly personal account of the development of one clinic and some lessons partially learned
   - The history of the WCL clinic -- a reckless bluff and its consequences

2. What we knew going in (thanks to our clinical colleagues)

   - Clinical legal education at the Washington College of Law – promoting skills training and reflectiveness for 30 years
   - The learning model -- students as lawyers, professors as coaches. clients as teachers
   - Promotion of client-centered lawyering
   - Serving the underrepresented and promoting the public interest

3. A fit or a stretch – adapting the clinical model to IP subject-matter

   - Some mechanics – credit hours, grading, etc.
   - Staffing an IP clinic – the importance of subject-matter expertise
   - Student selection – valuing experience v. providing opportunity
   - Assigning students to cope with a diverse case load
   - Where do the cases come from, anyway?

4. The good, the bad and the ugly -- mysteries of balanced case election

   - Small matters and large matters – a hard-won organizing principle
   - Unlike politics, not all IP clinic representation isn't local

- Rights acquisition – a clinic mainstay
- Client counseling and the mysteries of fair use
- Early hubris and limits on litigation capacity
- Making the most of *amicus* opportunities
- Joys and terrors of legislative advocacy
- Special projects (and when our reach exceeds our grasp)

5. The heart of the heart of the matter – supervision and rounds

- What happens (or should happen) in supervision
- Student agenda-setting
- Status memos as an essential tool
- Weekly rounds and working as a firm
- From rounds to informal cooperation

6. And now for something completely different -- the classroom component

- Simulation – sometimes more real than real
- Developing skills and self-confidence through simulation exercises
- Our wonderful scenario – an eternal work-in-progress

7. What's it all about, anyway? (Answer: Training the next generation of self-conscious IP practitioners)

- Promoting honest self-assessment – while there's still time
- Building story-telling skills
- Inculcating respect for facts, however refractory
- Teaching collaboration
- Coping with time-management issues
- Helping students to develop personal visions of the public interest