

AALS Annual Meeting 2006
“Choosing Balance: Alternative Approaches”

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What do you teach?

What is the lesson of Buffalo Creek?

Arizona Bench and Bar Survey

Asked AZ lawyers and judges to assess the importance of an array of legal knowledge, professional skills, and professional values for success in law practice at a small or medium sized firm.

Categories of knowledge, skills, and values rated as “Essential” or “Very Important” by at least 70% of the respondents.

| Legal Knowledge | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 87 | Civil procedure |
| 82 | Professional responsibility |
| 80 | Contracts |
| 74 | Evidence |

| Professional Skills | |
|----------------------------|--|
| 96 | Legal analysis and reasoning |
| 96 | Written communication |
| 94 | Legal research (print and electronic) |
| 92 | Drafting legal documents |
| 92 | Listening |
| 92 | Oral communication |
| 90 | Working cooperatively with others |
| 88 | Factual investigation |
| 88 | Organization and management of legal work |
| 87 | Interviewing and questioning |
| 87 | Problem solving |
| 77 | Recognizing and resolving ethical dilemmas |

| Professional Values | |
|----------------------------|--|
| 99 | Honesty and integrity |
| 97 | Reliability and willingness to accept responsibility |
| 97 | Provide competent, high quality legal work for each client |
| 95 | Treat clients, lawyers, judges, staff with respect |
| 90 | Diligence and ethic of hard work |
| 90 | Maturity, autonomy, and judgment |
| 88 | Self-motivation and passion |
| 88 | Self-confidence and earn others' confidence |
| 82 | Commitment to professional growth and development |
| 82 | Tolerance, patience, and empathy |
| 77 | Critical self-reflection |
| 75 | Commitment to personal growth and development |
| 75 | Engage in healthy stress management |
| 73 | Promote justice, fairness, and morality |
| 71 | Creativity and innovation |
| 70 | Commitment to a balanced life |

What do I teach?

Making values part of the core of legal education

Institutional Commitment

Curriculum

Faculty

 Infusion

 Explicit

 Modeling

What do we teach?