



**COUNCIL OF LEGAL EDUCATION**  
**HUGH WOODING LAW SCHOOL**  
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**Presentation to the Barbados Bar Association**  
**Whitsun Weekend Law**  
**Inaugural Conference**  
**June 2-4, 2017**

1. Historical review and appreciation of the history of legal education in the Caribbean.
  - Validation of motivation and vision of the founding fathers in the context of then prevailing circumstances.
  - Appreciation of the value and impact of the governance structure and funding model that was established.
2. Acknowledgement of the accomplishment of this system and the positive impact it has had on Caribbean landscape.
  - Development of rule of law and jurisprudence.
  - Political, social and economic impact.
3. a) Recognition of need for continuous review and improvement lead to the Council of Legal Education's (Council) own review of its offerings.
  - Marshall Report
  - Barnett Reportb) Note the areas identified for review and improvement by the Council's own review body.
  - Curriculum Review
  - Teaching methodologies etc.
4. Identify/acknowledge changes in the external environment which have directly impacted legal education and the speed at which these changes have occurred and continue to occur. Consider the impact of technology.
5. Assess the ability of the current governance structure and funding model to respond to changes identified at (4) above.

6. Assess the current environment of legal education.

- Market place better supplied than in 1960s and 1970s; distribution to be considered.
- Roles played by graduates of existing model.
- Current needs of the region with regard to specialisation of services.
- New and emerging suppliers of legal education.
- Environment of accreditation.
- Changes in education technology.
- Profession's need for continuing legal education.
- Aging plant and physical infrastructure.
- Unsustainability of current funding model.

7. Need for reforms in at least two critical areas.

- Governance structure.
- Funding model.

8. Governance Structure.

- To allow for more efficient and more effective responses to environmental factors.
- To facilitate more efficient adaptation and development of modern teaching, learning and assessment methodologies.
- To be more responsive to emerging economic, and social realities; nationally, regionally and globally.
- To pursue more robust admission guidelines.
- To be able to fulfil accreditation guidelines.
- To enable realisation of human capital needs in industrial relations, human resources needs and functions, records management, administrative services, student services.

9. Funding Model.

- Reliance on governments not viable.
- Need to assign staff/consultants to develop a more viable model.
- Establishment, sensitising and educating of alumni in their role in activation and maintenance of model.

10. Benefits.

- More effective policies
- More efficient administration