Perspectives on Legal Education: Latin America

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Introduction
Lawyer: caveat
Law Professor: quiz

Proposal for group discussion
A Shift in Priorities

Group discussion topic
Legal Education in Latin America 101
Section I

Introduction
“It is easy to fall into the trap of thinking that shared language equals shared values equals shared behaviours”

*Jamie Gelbtuch*
Question 1

- Where is the busiest land border crossing in the world?

A. China-India
B. Canada-U.S.
C. Indonesia-Malaysia
D. Somewhere else
D: The busiest land border crossing is San Ysidro, CA
Question 2

Where is the largest U.S. consular operation in the world?

A. Canada
B. Germany
C. Japan
D. Other
D: “With an Embassy, seven Consulates General, and two Consulates, Mission Mexico has the largest consular operation in the world”

Embassy of the United States in Mexico

“Almost 1 out of every 5 new Foreign Service Officers works in Mission Mexico's consular section”

Embassy of the United States in Mexico
Question 3

- Who is the richest person in the world?

A. Warren Buffett
B. Bill Gates
C. Michael Bloomberg
D. Other
Answer 3

- B: The richest person in the world is Bill Gates
- Carlos Slim (Mexican) is #2, but was #1 until 2013
Which is a typical Mexican breakfast?

A. Tacos
B. Burritos
C. Nachos
D. All of the above
E. None of the above
Answer 4

- E. None of the above
- Thomas English Muffins, and
- Weight Watchers Yogurt
“Consumers may be surprised to learn that brands they are familiar with, like Entenmanns, Sara Lee, Thomas English Muffins, Boboli Pizza Crust, Borden Milk, Weight Watchers Yogurt, Mission Tortillas, Ready-Mix Cement, Tracfone cell phones, Saks Fifth Avenue stores, and even The New York Times, are supported by Mexican investment—as are the U.S. jobs those companies provide”

Christopher E. Wilson

Section II

Proposal for Group Discussion
U.S. - Mexico Trade Quantity

- Mexico is \textbf{2d} largest destination of U.S exports (after Canada)

- Mexico is \textbf{3d} largest source of imports (after China and Canada)
U.S. - Mexico Trade Quality

- **40%** of the content of imports from Mexico was made in the U.S.
  - U.S. and Mexico build goods together
  - 40% of the $ spent by U.S. consumers on Mexican goods goes to U.S. companies and workers
  - Mexican imports contain **10 times** more U.S. content than Chinese imports (4%)
U.S. - Mexico Trade Implications

- 6 million U.S. jobs depend on trade with Mexico
- 1 in every 24 U.S. workers depend on trade with Mexico
States - Exports to Mexico

- Mexico is #1 export destination for 5 States

  Texas  35%
  Arizona  32%
  New Mexico  28%
  New Hampshire  24%
  California  15%
States - Exports to Mexico

- Mexico is **#2** export destination for **17 States**

- Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, Wisconsin
U.S. Metropolitan Areas Exports

- City economy depends on trade with Mexico:
  - Laredo 81%
  - El Paso 75%
  - Tampa 43%
  - Detroit 38%
  - San Diego 31%
In brief ...

- The U.S. and Mexico “are now two deeply integrated economies whose future is also linked”

*Christopher E. Wilson*
In contrast ...

- “The level of academic, technical and scientific exchange between Mexico and the U.S. cannot be compared with the intensity of its trade and political relationship”

_Bilateral Forum on Higher Education, Innovation and Research_
Weak Academic Exchange

Signals of the weak academic exchange:

- **A.** Students in general
- **B.** Law Students
- **C.** Law Programs
Weak Academic Exchange

Signals of the weak academic exchange:

- A. Students in general
820,000 foreign students in the U.S.
Incl. graduate and undergraduate, all fields of study, all program durations

50% from 3 countries
China, India, South Korea

Mexico country of origin #9
2% of students from Mexico

Brazil #11, Colombia #22, Venezuela #23
U.S. Students Abroad 2013

- 283,000 U.S. students abroad
  Incl. graduate and undergraduate, all fields of study, all program durations

- 50% to 7 countries
  U.K., Italy, Spain, France, China, Germany, Australia

- Mexico was country of destination #15
  1% of U.S. students to Mexico

- Costa Rica #8, Argentina #11, Brazil #14, Ecuador #16, Chile #19, Peru #24
Trade in Goods vs Academic Exchange

- #2 destination of U.S exports
- #15 destination of U.S. students
- #3 source of U.S. imports
- #9 country of origin of students
Weak Academic Exchange

- 4,000 U.S. students going to Mexico
- 14,000 Mexican students coming to the U.S.
- 18,000 moving in both directions
- 40,000 U.S. students going to Latin America
- 64,000 Latin American students coming to the U.S.
- 104,000 moving in both directions
Signals of the weak academic exchange:

- **B. Law Students**
Weak Academic Exchange

- Legal studies represents a **very small proportion** of international students.
- 9,955 international law students in 2013.
- **1.2%** of all international students in the U.S.
- No information on the places of origin of law students.
Weak Academic Exchange

Signals of the weak academic exchange:

- C. Law Programs
Semester and Year-Long Programs

- 80% 2 countries
  70% England
  10% China

- 20%
  10% Australia and New Zealand
  10% Japan
Foreign Summer Programs

- **80%** 2 regions
  - 64% Europe
  - 18% Asia

- **20%**
  - 13% North America, Latin America and the Caribbean
  - 04% Africa
  - 01% Oceania
Foreign Summer Programs

- **80%** 5 sub-regions
  - 21% Northern Europe
  - 20% Western Europe
  - 18% Southern Europe
  - 13% Eastern Asia
  - 07% South America

- **20%**
  
  Eastern Europe; Western, Southern, South-Eastern and Western Asia, Central and Northern America and the Caribbean, Africa and Oceania
Foreign Summer Programs

- 50% 6 countries
  - 13% England
  - 10% China
  - 08% Italy
  - 08% Spain
  - 06% France
  - 05% The Netherlands
Possible Answers

- Language
- Legal tradition
- Undergraduate vs Postgraduate level
Partially True

- Language
- Legal tradition
- Undergraduate vs Postgraduate level

are also natural barriers to legal education between the U.S. and countries like China, Italy, Spain or France
Other Possible Answers

- The Mayan Prophecy
- “Distant Neighbors” (Alan Riding)
- Lack of understanding
- Lack of imagination
A Shift in Priorities

- Postulated by Governments
- Required by the business and trade community
- Needed by the law firms that serve that community
- Expected from law schools
A Shift in Priorities: Postulated by Governments

- **100k Strong in the Americas, 2011**
  100k students moving in each direction by 2020

- Partnerships with:
  - Governments
  - Organizations
  - Universities
  - Private sector
Partnerships with Governments

- Scholarships, visas and other assistance
- FOBESII
- 100+50 Strategy
  100k Mexican students in the U.S. + 50k U.S. students in Mexico, by 2018
- COMEXUS
  Mexico-U.S. Commission for Educational and Cultural Exchange, 1990
Partnerships with Organizations

- NAFSA
- Partners of the Americas
Partnerships with Universities

- First grantees announced Feb’14
- University of Arizona & Católica de Perú & Católica de Chile
- University of Rhode Island & Católica de Valparaiso
- Other partnerships
Partnerships with the Private Sector

- Contributions to support scholarships
- Founding Circle
  - ExxonMobil
  - Santander Universities (Santander Bank)
- Contributing Partners
  - The Coca-Cola Foundation
  - The Freeport-McMoRan Cooper & Gold Foundation
  - The Ford Foundation
Get Involved!

- 100k Strong in the Americas Innovation Network
  
  www.partners.net
The U.S. and Mexico “are now two deeply integrated economies whose future is also linked”

Christopher E. Wilson
A Shift in Priorities: Business and Trade Community

- All Eyes On Mexico: Energy Reform Creating Opportunities Across Oil And Gas Supply Chain

  “US executives frequently bandy about words like ‘excited’ and ‘excitement’ to describe the eagerness with which they look forward to doing business in Mexico.”

  
  Mark Druskoff & Adriana Curiel

Druskoff, Mark and Adriana Curiel. All Eyes On Mexico: Energy Reform Creating Opportunities Across Oil And Gas Supply Chain. Forbes posted on 4/17/2014 @ 12:06PM

A Shift in Priorities: Needed by Law Firms

- Experts in Trade Law
  - Trade in Goods
  - Trade in Services
  - Investment
  - Financial Services
  - Energy
  - Intellectual Property
  - International Taxation
  - Antitrust
A Shift in Priorities: Law Firms

- Experts in IBT
  - Corporations
  - Mergers and Acquisitions
  - Sales and other International Contracts
  - Dispute Settlement
  - Choice of Law
  - Enforcement of Foreign Judgments
  - Mediation and Arbitration
A Shift in Priorities: Law Firms

- Skillful Lawyers
  - Legal Spanish
  - Legal English
  - Legal Writing
  - Legal Research
  - Comparative Methods
  - Negotiation
  - Soft Skills
A Shift in Priorities: Law Firms

- Versed in other Fields
  - International Project Finance
  - International Financial Reporting
A Shift in Priorities: Expected from Law Schools

- Provide legal knowledge
- Develop legal skills
- Build connections
Section III

Topic for Group Discussion
## Legal Education in Latin America 101

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Argentina</th>
<th>Brazil</th>
<th>Colombia</th>
<th>Chile</th>
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Thank You!

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Sources

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