

---

**From:** Brian BP. Purtill <bpurtill@empirecollege.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 3, 2022 1:04 PM  
**To:** Leonard, Natalie; Mitch Winick  
**Cc:** Sherie Hurd; Roy Hurd  
**Subject:** RE: Follow Up questions regarding the MCL/Empire Proposal

Hello, Natalie, and Happy New Year. I hope you had a well-deserved rest over the holidays. Here are the answers to your questions, as best we can provide them now. We are waiting to hear back from Empire's attorneys on the ACICS/DOE issues.

1. Please provide the communication you have had with ACICS and the Department of Education as to this plan. Have they approved it in concept?

We have asked the Empire attorneys to provide this information and it will be forwarded to the CBE as soon as it is received.

2. The law school intends to create a branch starting in summer 2022. Can you please clarify in more detail the entity that will be housing and operating the JD/Masters program?

It is proposed that MCL will be housing and operating the JD/Masters program for both programs starting in July 2022. It will be providing the curriculum (using its already approved JD/MLS program) for the "teach-out" Empire students under an Academic Service Agreement between Empire College School of Law (ECSL) and MCL through the Empire College of Law (ECL) branch campus. It is anticipated that the dual ECSL and ECL programs will be maintained for approximately 18 months starting in July 2022 in order for the currently enrolled ECSL students who are utilizing Title IV federal student loans to complete the MLS portion of the JD/MLS program. (Note: ECSL students are only eligible to use Title IV loans for the MLS portion of the degree program.) Upon the ECSL student's completion of the MLS portion of the JD/MLS program, these students will be eligible to transfer from ECSL to ECL to complete their JD degree without interruption.

Under this approximate 18-month "teach-out" agreement, one of two scenarios will be used depending on ACICS/DOE preference. Option 1 will be that the ECSL faculty members for the teach-out courses will remain as ECSL faculty until the ECSL students complete the MLS portion of their degree program. Under Option 2, the same ECSL faculty will be offered new MCL contracts to teach the JD/MLS courses during the "teach-out" period. In both scenarios, the curriculum will be the same whether a student is enrolled in the ECSL or ECL JD/MLS program. In fact, starting in Fall 2022, it is anticipated that ECSL and ECL students may be enrolled in the same courses since the curriculum for both the ECSL and ECL JD/MSL programs will be the same.

Please note that the above only applies to the limited number of ECSL students who are enrolled in the ECSL JD/MLS program while utilizing Title IV federal loans. All ECSL students who are using private pay or non-Title IV federal loans will be eligible to transfer to the ECL branch campus program in July 2022 and all new students will be enrolled as ECL branch campus students. Although Empire and MCL are requesting a January 28, 2022 approval of the major change request by the committee, until the opening of the ECL branch campus in July 2022, all ECSL courses will continue to be operated by ECSL and taught by ECSL faculty during the Spring/Summer 2022 Semesters.

3. Will Monterey College of Law use its current JD curriculum at the new branch during the transition period?

All courses for Spring/Summer 2022 will continue to be offered by ECSL. Starting in Fall 2022, all courses will be offered by ECL following the MCL curriculum, including courses for the ECSL "teach-out" students.

4. Will students at the JD/Masters entity continue with the Empire College of Law curriculum or will it be changed to match the Monterey College of Law curriculum?

The curriculum for both schools is already very similar. However, starting in July 2022, all curriculum will follow the MCL curriculum.

5. Please provide the in-person staffing level that is intended for the branch (temporary COVID adjustments aside).

The in-person staffing for the branch campus will include the following: dean (with JD), associate dean of academics (with JD), assistant dean of admissions, assistant dean of faculty, campus administrator, assistant registrar, student loan advisor, assistant business manager, and administrative assistant.

6. The current registrar will be taking on the registrar duties for the new branch and the transition entity. Will there be additional support provided to them?

The current MCL Registrar will continue to have primary responsibilities for all MCL students at all locations and the Hybrid Online JD program. All student registration and records are centralized in the law school's online Populi student management system. However, the Registrar will be supported by an assistant registrar located at the Empire campus. FYI, the campus administrators at the SLOCL and KCCL campus locations also serve as assistant registrars to support the MCL Registrar.

Please let me know if there are any other questions from the Committee, or if any additional information is needed. Thank you so much.

Brian Purtill

-----Original Message-----

From: Leonard, Natalie <Natalie.Leonard@calbar.ca.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, December 29, 2021 11:05 AM

To: Mitch Winick <mwinick@montereylaw.edu>; Brian BP. Purtill <bpurtill@empirecollege.com>

Subject: Follow Up questions regarding the MCL/Empire Proposal

Dear Deans Winick and Purtill:

Thank you for this request. Below are several follow-up questions that will be helpful for the Committee review:

1. Please provide the communication you have had with ACICS and the Department of Education as to this plan. Have they approved it in concept?
2. The law school intends to create a branch starting in summer 2022. Can you please clarify in more detail the entity that will be housing and operating the JD/Masters program?
3. Will Monterey College of Law use its current JD curriculum at the new branch during the transition period? After the transition period when the JD/Masters program concludes?
4. Will students at the JD/Masters entity continue with the Empire College of Law curriculum or will it be changed to match the Monterey College of Law curriculum?
5. Please provide the in-person staffing level that is intended for the branch (temporary COVID adjustments aside).
6. The current registrar will be taking on the registrar duties for the new branch and the transition entity. Will there be additional support provided to them?

Looking forward to your responses, which will help to determine the best available scheduling.

Thank you and happy new year!

Natalie

-----Original Message-----

From: Mitch Winick <mwinick@montereylaw.edu>

Sent: Monday, December 20, 2021 11:00 AM

To: Leonard, Natalie <Natalie.Leonard@calbar.ca.gov>; Brian BP. Purtill <bpurtill@empirecollege.com>

Subject: January 28th Agenda?

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Natalie,

I understand that you had the opportunity to take some time off. I hope that it was for fun and enjoyment.

I am checking in on whether we can get confirmation that our Empire/MCL Major Change request will be placed on the January 28th CBE agenda. As outlined in our request, the timing is important for our proposal to initiate branch campus classes starting Fall 2022 at the end of July.

Brian and I are available to provide any additional information for you and/or the Committee as you review our November 15, 2021 request.

We look forward to discussing this exciting proposal for our two schools.

Mitch

Ne tantum superesse, vigemusque!

Sent from my iPhone. Please excuse any Siri typos.