

# PRESIDENT'S PAGE

by Erica Moeser

**T**he Uniform Bar Examination has expanded geographically! With the recent addition of Alaska, the UBE has now been adopted in 14 states. Alaska, all 586,412 square miles of it, is a welcome addition. The state will administer its first UBE in July 2014.

In the September 2013 issue of this magazine, I included a chart showing the extent to which jurisdictions are notifying law schools about the success or failure of their graduates on the bar examination. I am pleased to share an updated version of the chart on the following page that reflects increased disclosure of name-specific information as states have recognized the need for disseminating this data.

Disclosure has become a very important consumer protection measure, especially as would-be law students assess the merits of particular law schools before plunking down tuition and committing to the student loans that will finance that tuition. At a time when law school applications are strikingly down, I hope that the temptation to fill seats will not induce any law schools to move so low in the applicant pool that the students who are recruited are unlikely to pass a licensing examination after three years of legal education, but none of us can predict how law school enrollment decisions, entering predictors such as LSAT scores and undergraduate GPAs, and applicant demand will play out.



NCBE has agreed to undertake the task of notifying law schools of July and February test results for those jurisdictions lacking the resources to perform this work internally, because getting this information into the hands of the law schools, and then on to the accrediting authorities that are assessing law school performance in accordance with the ABA Standards for Approval of Law Schools, is so important. A number of states have taken us up on this offer.

In a related—and encouraging—development, the Council of the ABA's Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar adopted a resolution at its December meeting in Washington DC calling on the highest courts of each state and territory to aid in this effort. A copy of the resolution as adopted appears on page 40.

Also in the previous issue, I included a chart using data supplied to NCBE by the ABA Section that demonstrated the extent to which law school enrollments have fallen off over the past few years. Several law schools notified the *Bar Examiner's* editor, Claire Huismann, that there were discrepancies in need of correction. Evidently the data gremlins at the ABA applied their mischief to miscalculate some of the numbers. Corrected information appears in the chart on the following page. (It is worth noting that the MBE was administered to a record number of candidates this past July—53,706. That number is sure to fall over the next few years.)

Finally, Peg Corneille’s tribute to Susan Case (see pages 2–3) serves as a nice capstone to Susan’s career at NCBE that culminated with her retirement in early November. Susan was a true change agent, and her contributions to the testing program, and particularly to the MBE and the MPRE, were enormously significant. Susan was also an effective teacher, and

many better practices have been implemented in jurisdictions because of her talents as an interpreter of measurement concepts. Susan was a cheery presence in the NCBE offices. It’s not the same without her. We wish her and her wonderful husband Bob the happiest of retirements. 📺

### Pass/Fail Disclosure of Bar Exam Results

(Updated chart from September 2013 Bar Examiner)

These jurisdictions automatically disclose name-specific pass/fail information to the law schools from which test-takers graduate.	These jurisdictions automatically disclose name-specific pass/fail information to in-state law schools. Out-of-state law schools must request the information.	These jurisdictions require all law schools to request name-specific pass/fail information.	These jurisdictions do not provide name-specific pass/fail information to all law schools.
CA	AR	AK	AL
CT	IN	AZ	FL*
GA	KY	CO	GU
IL	LA	DC	HI
KS	MA	DE	MP
MD	MN	IA	NH†
ME	MS	ID	NJ‡
MO	MT	MI	PR
NE	NC	NV	PW
NY	ND	PA	SD
OK	NM	SC	TX**
OR	OH		VI
VA	RI		WV††
VT	TN		WY
WA	UT		
WI			

\* While **Florida** furnishes name-specific information automatically to in-state law schools, it provides only aggregate data to out-of-state law schools.

† **New Hampshire** releases passing information only.

‡ If the applicant executes a waiver, **New Jersey** will release information to law schools on request.

\*\* **Texas** will disclose name-specific pass/fail information on request of the law school unless the applicant has requested that the information not be released.

†† If the applicant executes a waiver, **West Virginia** automatically discloses name-specific pass/fail information to in-state law schools and will release information to out-of-state law schools on request.

### Change in Law School Matriculants from 2010 to 2012

(Corrections to data in the September 2013 Bar Examiner)

LAW SCHOOL	Total Matriculants			% Change, 2010 to 2012
	2010	2011	2012	
UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE SCHOOL OF LAW (FORMERLY FRANKLIN PIERCE LAW CENTER)	132	146	74	-43.94%
NEW MEXICO, UNIVERSITY OF	116	113	114	-1.72%
ST. THOMAS, UNIVERSITY OF (MN)	168	171	143	-14.88%
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>52,313</b>	<b>47,187</b>	<b>42,862</b>	<b>-18.07%</b>