



Cornell Law School

Lawyers in the Best Sense

Clinical Tenure

April 15, 2020



Cornell Law School



Key Moments in Clinical Legal Education

ABA Standard 405(c) (1996): “A law school shall afford to full-time clinical faculty members a form of security of position reasonably similar to tenure, and non-compensatory perquisites reasonably similar to those provided other full-time faculty members.”

NYS Bar Pro Bono Requirement (2012): Applicants who successfully pass the bar examination in New York State must demonstrate that they have performed 50 hours of qualifying pro bono service before applying for admission to practice. (NY Court of Appeals Rule 520.16)

Carnegie Report (2014): “Most law schools give only casual attention to teaching students how to use legal thinking in the complexity of actual law practice. Unlike other professional education, most notably medical school, legal education typically pays relatively little attention to direct training in professional practice. The result is to prolong and reinforce the habits of thinking like a student rather than an apprentice practitioner.”

- Key recommendation: Make clinical education more central to legal pedagogy.

NYS Skills Competency Requirement (2015): Applicants must establish that they have acquired skills and professional values necessary to competently practice law through one of five curricular or apprenticeship pathways. (NY Court of Appeals Rule 520.18)

ABA Experiential Requirement (2016): Six credits of experiential learning required for JD degree.

Evolution of Clinics at Cornell Law School: Clinics in 1999-2000

- Capital Punishment Clinic
- Legal Aid Clinic



Evolution of Clinics at Cornell Law School: Clinics/Practicum Courses in 2019-2020

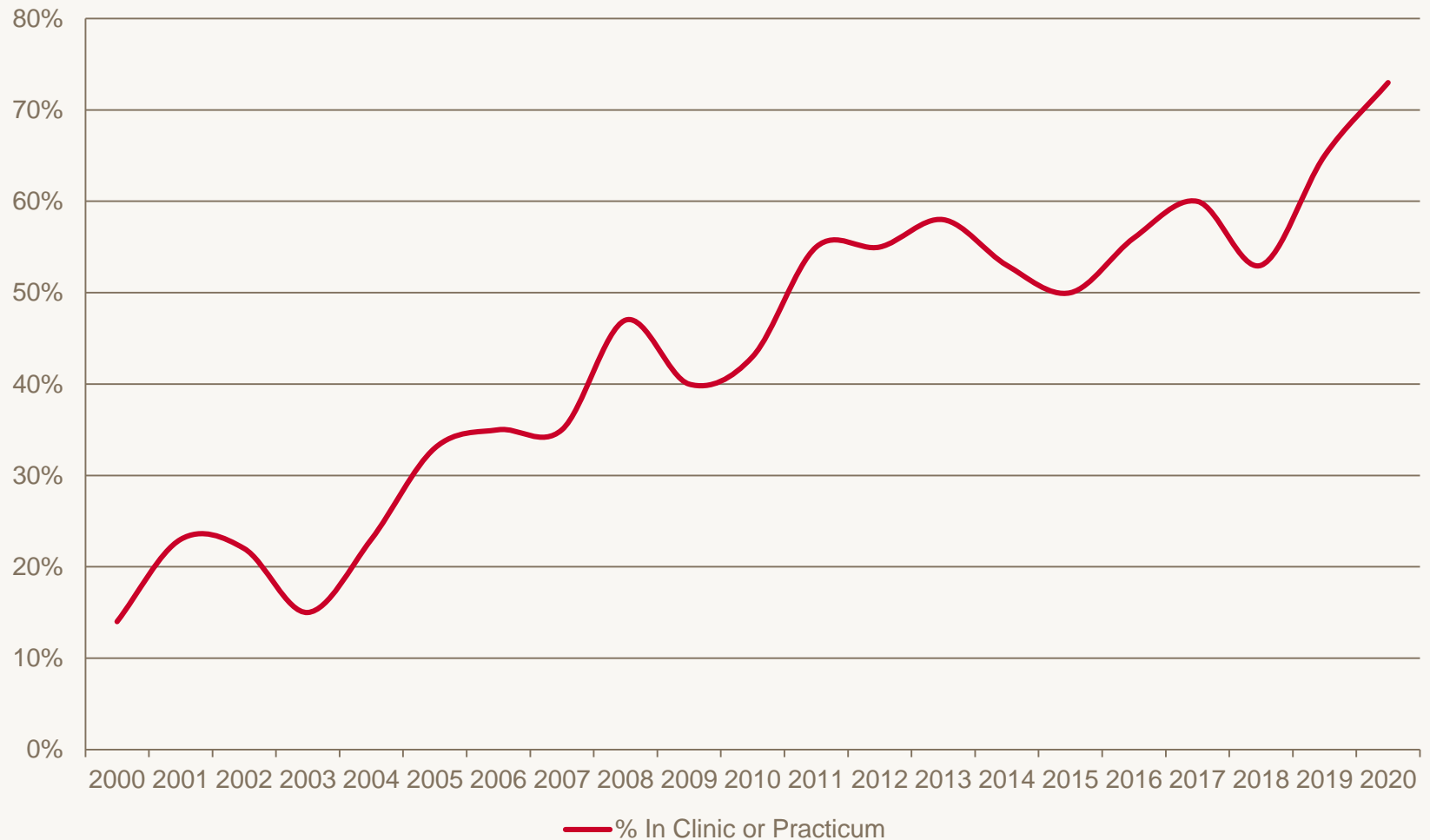
CLINICS

- Asylum & Convention Against Torture Appellate
- Capital Punishment
- Child Advocacy
- Entrepreneurship
- Farmworker Legal Assistance
- First Amendment
- Gender Justice
- Immigration Law
- International Human Rights: Litigation and Advocacy
- International Human Rights: Policy Advocacy
- Labor Law
- Securities Law

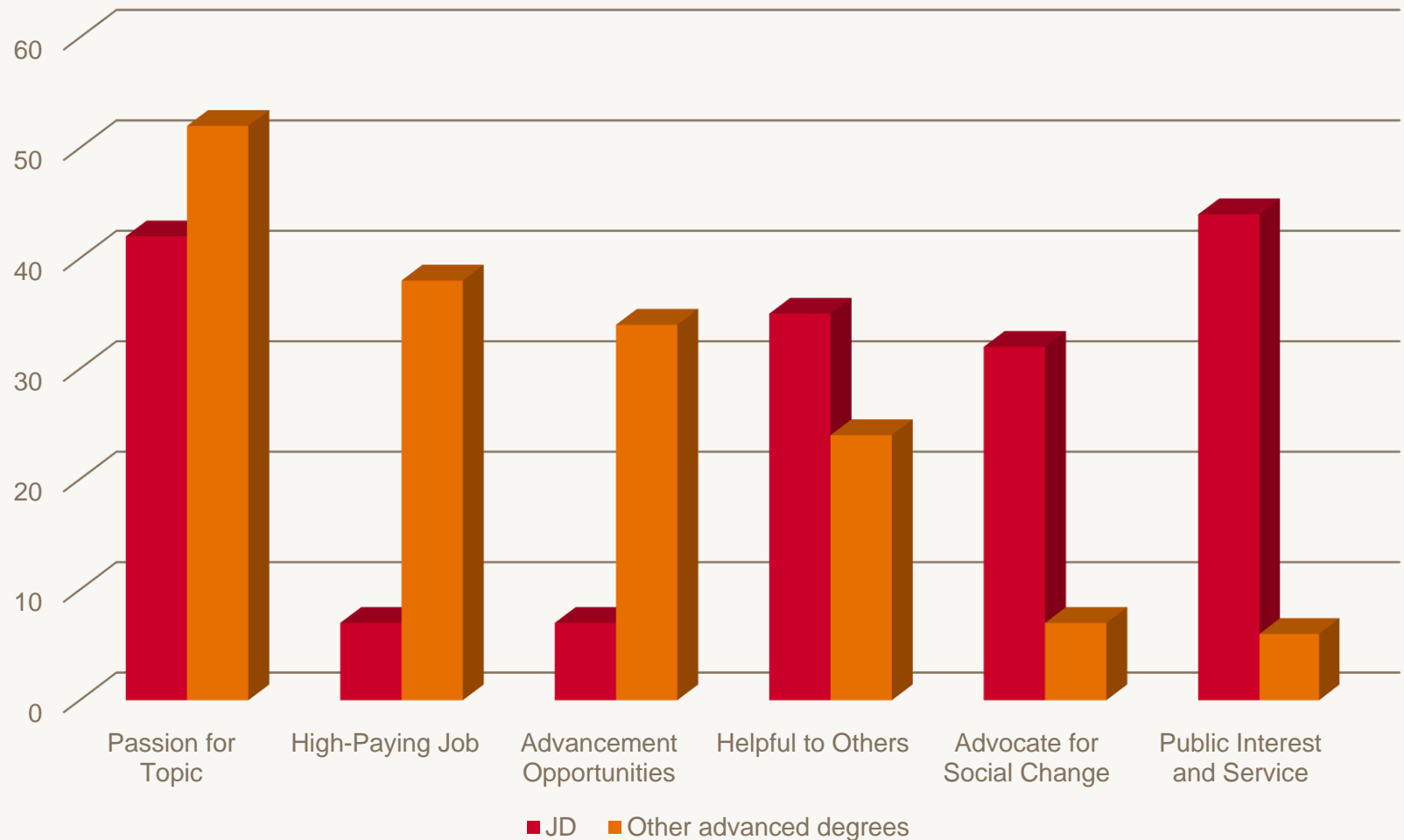
PRACTICUM COURSES

- Advocacy for LGBT Communities
- Campus Mediation
- Criminal Defense Trial - Local Court
- Estate Planning
- Low-Income Taxpayer
- NY Attorney General
- Protest & Civil Disobedience
- Racial Justice
- Saginaw-Chippewa Disenrollment
- Women's Decarceration

Percentage of Cornell Law Students Participating in Clinical Courses: 2000-2020



AALS/Gallup Study: Why Students Go to Law School



Law Schools Ranked by Clinical Program

School	Clinical Program Rank	Clinical Tenure	Unitary Tenure	US News Rank
Georgetown	1		Y	14
American	2		Y	76
CUNY	2		Y	107
NYU	2	Y		6
Yale	5	Y		1
Maryland	6		Y	47
Northwestern	6			9
Stanford	8	Y		2
UC Berkeley	8	Y		9
UC Irvine	8	Y		27
Denver	8		Y	74
Michigan	8			9
UDC	8		Y	unranked
Cornell	44			13

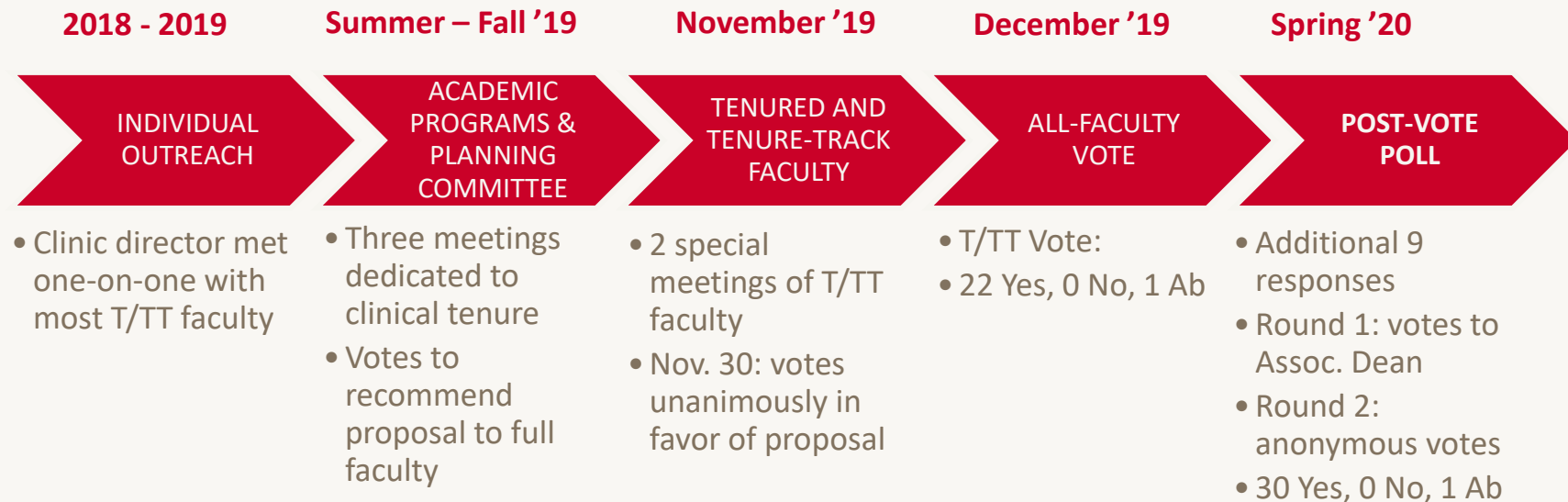


Top Law Schools With Top Clinical Programs

School	Clinical Program Rank	Clinical Tenure	Unitary Tenure	US News Rank
Georgetown	1		Y	14
NYU	2	Y		6
Yale	5	Y		1
Northwestern	6			9
Stanford	8	Y		2
UC Berkeley	8	Y		9
Michigan	8			9
Cornell	44			13



LAW SCHOOL PROCESS 2018-2020



Law School Vote

40 T/TT law faculty eligible to vote at the December meeting.

December 4 meeting: 22 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain.

2 TT/T faculty on leave, 1 recused from the issue, and 2 in the process of leaving Cornell, bringing the pool of TT/T faculty reasonably expect to vote on this issue down to 35.

Including the non-attendees canvassed after the meeting, **new vote total: 30 yes, 0 no, and 1 abstain.**



THANK YOU