

## Group 4 Report from Discussion #1

Question under consideration:

In applying the principles of the Singapore Declaration and the Madrid Protocol, how do we evaluate ourselves, and aid third parties in their assessment of our educational program?

We started our discussion by considering the model described by Ricardo Sanchez Irrazabal for accreditation by the American Bar Association for law schools in Chile. We thought there was scope to adapt this model for IALS members in implementing the Madrid protocol.

We envisaged an external review of around 3 days by an international panel of 2 to 3 members. To gain maximum benefit from such an external and international review, we saw this as happening in conjunction with any internal university quality exercise. Ideally if the IALS international review preceded the internal process, then the outcome from the review could be incorporated within the university evaluation. In this way the review could both help and influence the internal university process in assessing the quality of the educational program.

We thought that it would be appropriate for the IALS review to take place around every 10 years and that it might evolve from a regional to a global or international system.

In terms of the experience or expertise of panel members, we thought the presence of Emeritus Deans on the panels would provide credibility and authority. As the review process developed, it would be important for the panel assessors to develop consistency in comparative evaluations and to use the process to draw out lessons for the broader community of law schools. Similarly, if the law school undergoing review was willing, we thought that there could be considerable value in sharing the IALS panel report with other IALS members.

Mindful of costs of the review process, one suggestion was that richer law schools might be willing to donate staff time in nominating suitable panel members.

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