**Making Law Students Client-Ready: A New Model in Legal Education**

Much has been written about the need to improve both legal education and evaluation. The Daniel Webster Scholar Honors Program (DWS), at the University of New Hampshire Franklin Pierce School of Law, has done both. Started in 2005, graduates of the program achieve admission to the New Hampshire bar based upon demonstrated mastery of practical legal skills and substantive legal knowledge. Students create electronic portfolios of their work and meet repeatedly with bar examiners in what is a two-year, rather than two-day, bar examination. It is the only bar examination in the United States that uses standardized clients to test basic interview competency prior to becoming a lawyer. The program has been featured in both the Wall Street Journal and the New York Times. It was the subject of an independent two-year study by the Institute for the Advancement of the American Legal System published in 2015 called “*Ahead of the Curve – Turning Law Students into Lawyers*.” In that study, DWS was called “…a landmark innovation in the preparation of lawyers.” The program was a 2015 recipient of the ABA’s prestigious E. Smythe Gambrell Professionalism Award because it “…stands as a national model of committed collaboration between law institutions, with the active involvement of [the law school, Supreme Court, Bar Examiners and Bar Association.]”