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College of Law profile data inquiry identifies discrepancies in three additional years

Report to recommend audit protections

URBANA — In an investigation into the past 10 years of College of Law test scores and grade point averages (GPA), the ongoing University-initiated review has determined that inaccurate data were reported for four of those years. The findings indicate inaccurate data were entered that improved the Law School Admissions Test (LSAT) and GPA information describing the enrolled classes of 2011 through 2014.

Upon receiving reports of inaccuracies in data for the current year, President Michael J. Hogan immediately launched an investigation, which is ongoing and is probing the circumstances that resulted in the inaccuracies. Additionally, the University will take action and implement new processes to ensure that all future data are beyond reproach. It has already been determined that one of those changes will be to enlist an independent monitor to verify the data in future years. A final report and additional recommendations will be released at the conclusion of the inquiry.

“Reporting erroneous data is absolutely unacceptable. The University, the campus and the College of Law place the highest priority on accuracy and integrity, and we will take measures to ensure that this never happens again,” Hogan said.

Medians for both Law School Admission Test (LSAT) scores and grade point averages (GPA) were found to be inaccurately disseminated for the classes of 2011 through 2014. The accurate, verified median data reported in accordance with applicable guidelines are:

		Actual	Reported
Class of 2011	LSAT	165	166
	GPA	3.6	3.6
Class of 2012	LSAT	165	166
	GPA	3.7	3.8
Class of 2013	LSAT	167	167
	GPA	3.6	3.8
Class of 2014*	LSAT	163	168
	GPA	3.70	3.81

* Reporting guidelines indicate GPAs are reported in 1/10th increments but the promotional materials reported in 1/100th increments.

For the Class of 2014, the information was disseminated through College of Law promotional materials though not reported to the ABA or rankings organizations. The 2011–2013 data had been shared both with the ABA and with *U.S. News & World Report*. The University has been in contact with the ABA and *U.S. News*, which ranks law schools.

The University first learned of the possible inaccuracies in class profile data last month and immediately began an inquiry with the assistance of outside legal counsel, the law firm Jones Day, and forensic analysts Duff & Phelps. Forensic analysis was conducted on the original LSAT and GPA data that had been provided by the Law School Admissions Council (LSAC), the national clearinghouse for law school admissions, to determine and verify the accurate profile data. Senior-level administrators in the College learned of the inaccuracies and the related findings during the course of the investigation.

The initial report of possibly inaccurate data was made to the University Ethics Office, and University Counsel immediately partnered with the ethics officer and the University leadership, including the Board of Trustees to engage the assistance of outside legal counsel and forensic analysts to investigate the report.

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