



# Survey of Kingsford Legal Centre Alumni 2007

THE UNIVERSITY OF  
NEW SOUTH WALES





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# Survey of Kingsford Legal Centre Alumni 2007

It's clear from course evaluations and anecdotal evidence that UNSW Law students who complete one of the KLC clinical courses value the experience and many students carry enormous affection for the centre and its staff. Whilst this is gratifying it raises further questions about how the course resonates with ex-students; does it impact on their career choices; do these students then go on to do pro bono work; did it impact on the way that they see the law; what did they feel was the most valuable thing that they learnt while at KLC? In semester 2 2007 we designed a very short on-line survey of 9 questions to try to answer these questions. The survey link was emailed to ex-students of KLC's clinical courses for the past 5 years (those we could find) and the survey was kept open for 2 weeks. We received 67 responses. The respondents were fairly evenly spread across the period 2002 to 2007 with most being from 2004 and 2005 (15 each).

## Survey Result Summary

### General Comments

KLC alumni carry enormous affection for the course and KLC staff. Comments such as "excellent", "fantastic", 'great experience' and the 'best experience of my law degree', "staff are awesome" were common. Many described clinical legal education at KLC as the 'highlight of their law degree'.

### About the KLC alumni

Responses to the survey were spread fairly evenly over the past 6 years with the majority coming from 2004 and 2005. There is a very even split among those respondents currently working as solicitors (49.1%) and those not (50.9%).

### Perceptions of Law

40 of the 52 respondents felt that the course changed the way they saw the law, particularly in relation to social change, delivering 'justice' and reaching out to disadvantaged people. This demonstrates that the course achieves its objective of encouraging students to think critically about the law. The exposure to disadvantaged clients and their issues fundamentally impacts on students' views of the law and the legal system.

### Why students Choose to do KLC

Ex students chose to do KLC to gain practical legal experience (84.2%) and because of their interest in community legal centres and pro bono work (70.2%). They also want to help the wider community/disadvantaged persons (66.7%) which is encouraging.

It is probably unsurprising that word of mouth i.e. recommendation from past KLC students (40.4%) continues to be one of KLC's greatest promotional tools.

### **Impact of KLC on Career Choice**

The great majority of ex students answered positively to the experience of KLC on career choice. Many had been working towards a career in public interest law before participating in clinical legal education at KLC however their experience at the Centre often affirms this direction.

### **Pro Bono Work**

46% of respondents have participated in pro bono work since leaving University. Encouraging students to recognise their obligation to contribute to the community is one of the aims of KLC which is clearly being achieved.

### **Most Useful/Valuable Thing Learnt at KLC**

Ex students overwhelmingly referred to working with clients and learning about working with disadvantaged people as the most valuable thing they learnt at KLC. They also referred to the legal skills they gained including interviewing, case management and professionalism. They learnt how to deal sensitively with people in difficult situations.

### **Pass Grade v Graded Mark**

Over 75% of respondents felt that the current pass/fail system was preferable to a graded mark. Comments included the feeling that a graded mark would increase competition amongst students and that the experiential nature of KLC would make grading difficult

### **Overall**

KLC alumni were extremely positive about the clinical legal education courses run by KLC. The opportunity to learn about community law while working with disadvantaged clients as well as gain practical experience and skills was greatly valued by ex-students. KLC also impacted on students' career choices and their participation in pro bono activities. Students had very little criticism of the courses and an overwhelming majority carry a warm affection for staff and the Centre after participating in the courses. The courses are achieving their objectives and appear to be functioning effectively in fostering critical thinking about the law, the legal system and disadvantaged clients' experience of these. They are also teaching sound legal skills and giving practical experience of the practice of law to law students which is a unique opportunity for UNSW law students.

# SURVEY QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES

## Question 1: When were you at KLC?

	Session 1:	Session 2:	Summer:	Response Count
2002	27.3% (3)	<b>36.4% (4)</b>	<b>36.4% (4)</b>	11
2003	0.0% (0)	20.0% (1)	<b>80.0% (4)</b>	5
2004	<b>53.3% (8)</b>	40.0% (6)	6.7% (1)	15
2005	20.0% (3)	26.7% (4)	<b>53.3% (8)</b>	15
2006	<b>71.4% (5)</b>	0.0% (0)	28.6% (2)	7
2007	<b>100.0% (12)</b>	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	12
<i>answered question</i>				<b>65</b>
<i>skipped question</i>				<b>2</b>

## Question 2: Why did you choose to do KLC? (you may choose more than one answer)

	Response Percent	Response Count
<b>To gain practical legal experience</b>	<b>84.2%</b>	48
Help the wider community/ disadvantaged persons	66.7%	38
Interest in community legal centres and pro bono work	70.2%	40
Recommendation from past KLC students	40.4%	23
Better alternative to other law courses offered	26.3%	15
Other (please elaborate in general comments section)	0.0%	0
<i>answered question</i>		<b>57</b>
<i>skipped question</i>		<b>10</b>

### Question 3: Are you currently working as a solicitor?

	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	49.1%	28
No	50.9%	29
	<i>answered question</i>	57
	<i>skipped question</i>	10

### Question 4: Has your experience at KLC impacted on your career choice?

	Response Count
	54
	<i>answered question</i> 54
	<i>skipped question</i> 13

### Comments

1. Yes absolutely - it led me to working at a community legal centre (specialist children's legal service) and later the Legal Aid Commission. I have now gone to the Bar.
2. No but it has made me want to volunteer at a CLC
3. Gave an alternative to large city law firms.
4. It has made me aware that there are a vast number of jobs outside traditional law firms.
5. Definitely opened my eyes to the community-focussed legal opportunities that existed for solicitors. The workshops on Wednesday night which considered other forms of legal education were very good.

6. KLC experience is different from any other legal course offered in that it provides hands-on experience to deal with practical legal problem as well as how things are done in a legal office. After the experience, I could confirm with myself that legal career is my way to go.
7. Despite shortages in community law I was continually turned down when applying for such positions. as a result I have retrained in another discipline entirely
8. I had always been interested in working in a CLC and advocating for disadvantaged communities - it provided valuable experience in terms of practical legal experience, but also in making me more aware of the work that CLCs do (e.g. CLE, policy, law reform)
9. Well, it has shown me the importance of having community awareness. I've worked at a corporate firm and its helped me to see the differences between two worlds. It's made me see what is important to me - that my career isn't about how much the pay packet is but the satisfaction of helping people
10. My experience at KLC was a positive one of working in the public interest. This was a career goal I already held at the time and it has continued to influence my choice of employment.
11. I work as a commercial lawyer however I am currently considering a career change largely because of my experience at KLC.
12. I have decided to practice in the area of employment law.
13. KLC confirmed my interest in pursuing a legal career by giving an opportunity to see its practical application whilst at university. It also gave me a wider perspective of legal practice compared to just that of commercial/corporate law.
14. Made me better understand the need for the provision of legal services and advice for people who have modest means.
15. Made me more open to CLC career options
16. It made me consider different career options from just working in corporate law.
17. Furthered my interest in criminal law matters, which I now teach. furthered my interest in access to justice and human rights issues
18. I really wanted to work in an area of law helping the wider community and disadvantaged people - this has not happened yet but may do some day.
19. I did not consider a career in community legal centres straight after graduation. Reason being, my current employer finance my postgraduate studies and I was hoping to gain some commercial experience first.
20. Throughout my years of study I have found that law subjects have not prepared me for working with real clients. I was not at all prepared to go into the real world and work with clients, however with my experience at KLC I have gained valuable knowledge, I have had the opportunity to work with clients, establish professional skills and gain a more comprehensive understanding of CLCs and their important role in our communities.

21. It enhanced my interest in pro bono work and I currently do volunteer my service at a legal centre. I would like to in future work in a sector focusing on public interest.
22. It has given me a whole new perspective of working in the legal profession and strengthened my decision to choose being a solicitor a career choice
23. You can see how job satisfaction isn't limited to financial reward.
24. Instead of finding an alternative non-legal career path, I decided to do College of Law and would like to be involved in community legal work now that I have been admitted.
25. Cemented my desire to work in field of social justice.
26. Understood how to apply principles of "justice" and "fairness" into my work and advice.
27. Whilst I'm working in private practice at the moment, my plan is to get a job at a community legal centre or legal aid after I gain a few years experience. I really enjoyed my time at KLC and would like to return to that kind of work.
28. I worked in the student advocacy service. I am now at the bar.
29. It gave me an opportunity to experience the work of a solicitor. I also facilitated many interviews with clients, which was very helpful to my career as a solicitor.
30. Good practical experience
31. It exposed me to the practical/ client orientated side of legal work and inspired me to enter into legal practice. This was a choice I had not previously considered.
32. It has helped me get the basic legal experience to get my first paid legal job and move on upwards from there! :o)
33. Helped me to make career choices, introduced me to professional role models.
34. I'm not sure it had. I had already decided I would be interested doing government/community work and KLC did not give me a bad experience to turn me away from that thinking.
35. Prior to the experience at KLC, I was not aware of my career options other than private and government sector. Since completing the KLC, I have decided to work for the community organisations.
36. Yes. I'm still trying to get into a similar type of legal environment that directly works towards assisting those types of disadvantaged persons.
37. Strengthened my interest in social justice
38. It has impacted my sense of contribution to the community. This has not necessarily manifested in pro bono or volunteer legal work, but general community assistance and research.
39. No
40. Got a taste of what's it like being a community lawyer rather than just having a foamy picture in the head. Have decided to become gov lawyer/ community lawyer but want to try out private practice/law firms first.

41. Good insight into the community legal services side of legal practice
42. To be honest, I don't think I can do community legal work as a career, but certainly I do it as a volunteer. I think it's provided more to what we would do as a lawyer in our every day jobs. It's like a hobby, but at the same time, it's a useful hobby, you are providing some assistance to others.
43. My experience at KLC gave me an in depth insight into the life, experiences and skills required to be an excellent lawyer and therefore confirm my career choice that I wanted to practice as a solicitor.
44. Provided me with a good introduction to court process and dealing with difficult clients
45. I have learnt a great deal from the summer placement at KLC including interviewing clients, file management and court work. It has definitely assisted me in making my career choice.
46. It has made me realise I would be interested in doing some form of pro bono work
47. It perhaps made me realise that I'm not well equipped to handle areas of law that were emotionally taxing
48. Not at all
49. Confirmed it.
50. Gave me a real insight into working in a law practice
51. Confirmed areas of interest
52. I was not interested in employment law before working at KLC, and am now working in employment law. In the future, when my personal circumstances allow, I would like to work in a CLC.
53. Confirmed for me the need for pro bono work in the wider community, and so strengthened my commitment to do as much pro bono work as I can, once I start as a practising lawyer.
54. It hasn't really: I was working before and during completing my law degree and have continued in government legal practice as I always intended.

**Question 5: Have you done any pro bono work since leaving KLC? If yes, where did you do pro bono work?**

	<b>Response Count</b>
<i>Answered YES</i>	<b>25 (46%)</b>
<i>Answered NO</i>	<b>29 (54%)</b>
<i>Total Responses</i>	<b>54</b>
<i>skipped question</i>	<b>13</b>

**Comments**

1. Yes - volunteer solicitor and management committee member at Campbelltown Legal Centre.
2. Not yet
3. Yes- volunteer solicitor also at KLC
4. No
5. No.
6. I've done some pro bono work in a UK law firm during my secondment in London.
7. No
8. I am currently working in a CLC
9. No I haven't done any pro bono work.
10. Yes, at CLC advice nights; for individual refugees; for various organisations.
11. Yes, I have recently returned to KLC as a volunteer solicitor.
12. No, not yet.
13. Yes, whilst I practice at a commercial law firm I volunteer at once a month at a community legal centre.
14. No
15. No
16. No.
17. No
18. No
19. Yes, Women's Community Centre in Surry Hills but they've since closed down.

20. Not yet, but will be a top priority.
21. Yes, at Caxton Legal Centre in Brisbane.
22. No
23. No.
24. I began assisting with the editing of a publication for Caxton Legal Centre (Brisbane) outsourced from the Women's Legal Centre in Brisbane.
25. Evening volunteer solicitor at Redfern Legal Centre and currently in a voluntary position at a women's rights/law reform NGO in Thailand.
26. No
27. I did some volunteer work at the Refugee Advice and Casework Service while finishing my studies. I also did my PLT at the Public Interest Advocacy Centre. I haven't done any pro bono work since being admitted but this is mostly because I'm not confident I have much to offer until I gain a bit more experience.
28. Yes. Aboriginal Legal Service.
29. No
30. At Minter Ellison
31. No
32. No, but I have applied to be a volunteer solicitor...
33. Not legal work - but have been more involved with other community organisations and local issues.
34. Yes. At Eastern Area Tenants Service on their tenancy hotline.
35. I am currently working at not-for-profit organisation providing free legal advice to the public.
36. No...need to first get an unrestricted licence. But once in that position, Pro Bono work is on my agenda...always has been a goal for doing law.
37. No
38. Only in other disciplines.
39. Yes, I have done two pro bono matters through a Sydney law firm.
40. Yes - on exchange in San Francisco Legal Centre in the court house and also homeless centre.
41. Yes PILCH, NSW Young Lawyers/Law Society of NSW
42. Yes I volunteer my time with a community legal service within the Willoughby City Council, although not a legal centre, there is some provision of preliminary legal advice
43. No
44. No, but would like to.
45. No
46. No

- 47. Yes, via the pro bono programs at the firms I have worked at
- 48. No
- 49. No.
- 50. I have not completed college of law yet so cannot. Have assisted a range of different groups to get pro bono assistance though
- 51. Yes - at the Inner City Legal Centre
- 52. No.
- 53. Yes - while working as a graduate solicitor at Freehills, I had the management of the pro bono matters my supervising partner took on. One of the reasons I chose to work for that partner was his commitment to pro bono work. I have also had the chance to do some research for the Oxford Pro Bono Publico group (which focuses on research for big cases and parliamentary hearings rather than community-type work).
- 54. No - which is embarrassing really. But I had kids, if that's any excuse.

**Question 6 – Did your experience at KLC change the way you see the law? E.g to achieve social change, to deliver ‘justice’, reaching out to disadvantaged persons etc**

	Response Count
<i>answered question</i>	52
<i>skipped question</i>	15

**Comments**

- 1. Absolutely = disadvantaged people, their legal issues, and the way that lawyers can help.
- 2. No - I already thought of law in that way but it did make me aware of a broader range of issues.
- 3. Yes- access to justice is very important and CLC's provide this.
- 4. No - I already held quite strong views about social justice and the need to assist the more disadvantaged in society
- 5. Yes. I encountered many issues which I hadn't dealt with before or had exposure to earlier.
- 6. yes, realised the importance of social organisations to the wider community

7. Yes, it gave me first hand experience on how the law and other policies impact greatly on people, particularly disadvantaged people. Working at KLC provided not only legal experience, but also skills on how to communicate with wide range of people from community and to be aware of injustices that exist (that are not so obvious)
8. Yes, that the law does actually help people who are in need. It's made me change my view of lawyers, that not all lawyers are heartless.
9. It confirmed the way that I saw the law - as set out in your examples - but also showed me some of the law's limitations in doing so.
10. Absolutely; access to justice is the driving force behind community legal centres. My experience at KLC confirmed my view that there exists real and substantial barriers for certain groups in society.
11. Yes, it was most certainly an eye-opening experience.
12. Gave me a wider perspective of the application of law and in doing so saw its importance to real people.
13. No
14. Made me more aware of access to justice barriers
15. Yes. Social justice is something that is more important to me after my time at KLC. Whilst I am not involved in it or in pro bono work at the moment, it is something that I intend to do later in my career.
16. It confirmed the ideas I had about the way the law functioned, and gave me some insight into the fraught and disempowering relationship that many members of the public have with legal issues that impact their lives. I learnt how important it is to be aware of the personal issues that clients are going through.
17. Yes - I saw it as very frustrating but rewarding
18. Yes, most definitely and especially issues like workplace agreements (I did employment law at KLC).
19. In many ways. I want to work with real people, not big companies and do all that I can to ensure people are given the opportunity of justice. I want to be able to ensure that everyday people have some equality in the world, the legal profession and life, not the hobnobs controlling everything and everyone.
20. Yes it did. Coming from a developing country I saw this as an opportunity to providing services to the disadvantaged group in the society.
21. Legal services can be accessible to the public at a grass roots level
22. Yes it did, I realised that the law is accessible if people are willing to make an effort. A lot of the work was helping people help themselves and showing them the path, but they have to be proactive.
23. No, but it gave me an idea of the sort of obstacles which could face a client coming into contact with the legal system for the first time and a more practical perspective.

24. Realised that delivering justice/effecting change is a very slow process, and it made more obvious the extent to which disadvantaged people have difficulty in accessing the law.
25. From the outset I saw law as a tool to achieve social change, though KLC showed how to achieve a positive social change,
26. Yes. There isn't much emphasis on this in most of the other uni subjects on offer, so KLC was a refreshing change.
27. Yes. I saw the inequities in who is able to access legal service.
28. There are many people out there that need free legal help, though these people that need non-legal help.
29. A bit
30. I chose to study law in order to achieve social change. KLC helped me to see how this could be achieved on a local scale, rather than from a more macro level which I had been exposed to in theoretical courses.
31. Not really...
32. Yes - better understanding of access issues, better understanding of social issues as they impact legal profession and service delivery, introduced non-firm options.
33. No.
34. Yes, I view the law as a strong tool in protecting the less privileged people in our community.
35. Yes. The experience gave me first hand observation while showing me there are community orientated legal centres that help the disadvantaged. That is, the community doesn't just have to rely only upon those who lobby for social change/delivering 'justice' or do Pro Bono.
36. No was already interested in achieving those ends
37. Absolutely. I didn't realise the importance, the need, the lack of resources and the small dedicated group that push for social change and justice.
38. Yes, it showed me how unfair the law can be to financially disadvantage people and how intimidating it can be for these people. How important it is, and often how unfair it is.
39. Yes, before never realised that most of the time law is about the nitty-gritty and that 'justice' to each individual is really particularised.
40. Yes
41. Not really, I think many social issues are driven by other factors, the legal profession is just another profession that should be rendering assistance when necessary. Can we achieve social change? I am unsure, but if it means our time and efforts can at least help someone, that is sufficient.
42. Since my experience at KLC, I have a greater appreciation for community legal centres and law firms that provide a pro bono service as I understand the impact they are having on disadvantaged persons and the community in need.

43. No, it was what I expected.
44. It gave me an opportunity to work with disadvantaged clients and understand going to court is not necessarily the best option to deal with certain situations.
45. Yes, it was valuable to see how to apply the law to assist the disadvantaged in so many different areas of the law.
46. A little in that it made me realise access to legal advice is not a given
47. No
48. No.
49. I think it just reinforced the way I see law
50. I became more sensitised to the large barriers to accessing justice which are faced by disadvantaged persons. I also became more aware of the limitations of the law as a means of helping disadvantaged persons, and of the need for other social services to be provided along with legal help.
51. Not really - simply confirmed some of the views I had before.
52. I have always worked in legislation/policy and my time at KLC gave me practical insight into the effects of these things on some people's lives.

### Question 7: What was the most useful/valuable thing that you learnt at KLC?

	Response Count
<i>answered question</i>	54
<i>skipped question</i>	13

### Comments

1. There is a real ability to help disadvantaged people. For example, I acted for a person from the stolen generations who sued the state government.
2. The client interview skills I learnt have been very useful.
3. Client contact/communication skills
4. Working with the various solicitors and observing differing approaches to matters and observing their interactions with clients.
5. Case management. Practical applications of employment law.
6. Even community lawyers need to be professional. They have the same attitude as any lawyer in a city law firm.
7. You need to work within the system that exists to help people in the here and now, aspirational changes are separate and come later.
8. See above

9. I think doing interviews with people, and getting to know the KLC staff who are fantastic to work with.
10. The power that simply being a solicitor (or even a law student) has in the mind of the client.
11. The value of good record keeping.
12. Interaction with clients, mentoring from the hard-working solicitors at KLC, working with other like-minded solicitors.
13. I learn about public policy, great interviewing skills, and research and analytical skills.
14. Practice at taking statements importance of good record keeping demonstration of the ubiquitous reach of the law appreciation of the value of community legal centres
15. Plea in mitigation was a valuable exercise.
16. Client contact, how to deal with people from different backgrounds
17. Client contact
18. To try and keep emotions in check
19. The practical skills acquired and the client interaction.
20. Developing better people skills and learning to read people better.
21. The understanding and willingness required to work in such an environment.
22. Communicating with clients and case management
23. That Susan's car might still have baby spiders crawling around in it... Seriously the most valuable thing I learnt was that sometimes for you to do your job, someone else needs to do theirs, therefore, if you are persistent enough at bugging them to do what you need them to do, you WILL get your job done.
24. Interaction with clients (e.g interviews) and working out how to assist them in a practical way.
25. The most useful thing I learnt was in relation to the practical aspects of legal practice - ie legal ethics in practice, keeping of files etc.
26. Methodical approach to work - seeking to achieve outcomes and not just correct legal advice.
27. The most valuable skill I learnt was definitely interviewing and dealing generally with clients. The most valuable thing I learnt was that you can use your law degree for good rather than evil, and that job satisfaction and earning lots of money often don't go hand in hand.
28. Student Advocacy at Waverley.
29. Learning how to deal with clients.
30. How to interview clients

31. It is difficult to pin point one thing. However the importance of taking file notes is one thing I remember that has helped me. Dealing with difficult clients and those from non-English speaking backgrounds was also invaluable.
32. Good file keeping and management skills!
33. Practical skills - confidence that I could work as a lawyer, values that are important in a work place.
34. That those most legally disadvantaged are also the ones who tend to be burdened with many other socio-economic disadvantages and come with personal issues that make them a hard group to assist legally. So working in this environment requires much compassion and patience and self-awareness to avoid burnout and destructive cynicism.
35. The rewarding feeling of helping another person.
36. Most useful: First hand observation of the practical application of what was previously theoretical. (eg legal practice and ethics) Most valuable: Pulling in different areas of law and the application of them to case matters (particularly noted when dealing with delegated case files).
37. Client contact was educational
38. That I could actually contribute to social change, even being a student. It has made me more passionate and more open and willing to be involved in lobby and social justice groups.
39. How lucky I am. And how the government needs to fund more initiatives that help the underprivileged in regard to the law. That perhaps social welfare programs could very easily be tied in with legal aid and clcs.
40. Professionalism and time management, client contact skills.
41. Assisting in the provision of legal advice to the disadvantaged.
42. Dealing with people and working in community legal service doesnt mean you have to be "nice" it just a different service with different markets. Volunteers are not miracle workers, but at least we try.
43. I really enjoyed being able to take instructions from clients and providing quick legal advice - I felt like I was really helping people.
44. Talking to/interviewing clients
45. Dealing with sensitive issues such as sexual harassment - file management
46. Practical legal experience
47. See above
48. General skills - particularly re dealing with disadvantaged people.
49. Practical experience in the process of providing legal advice.
50. Actually working for clients and drafting affidavits etc. you get valuable insight when helping people who wouldn't normally have legal representation
51. Practical experience

- 52. I think the most valuable thing I gained from KLC was the experience of working with disadvantaged people, and seeing the reality of the law for these people.
- 53. It's hard to say, really, but probably the very practical exposure to the real world (as opposed to, say, the corporate world) was the most valuable part of my experience.
- 54. Probably practical interviewing skills. And not to believe everything people tell you!

**Question 8: Were you happy to receive a “pass” grade for KLC or would you have preferred a graded mark?**

	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
<b>Happy with pass grade</b>	75.4%	43
Prefer graded mark	24.6%	14
	<b><i>answered question</i></b>	<b>57</b>
	<b><i>skipped question</i></b>	<b>10</b>

**Question 9: General comments**

<b>9. General Comments</b>		<b>Response Count</b>
	<b><i>answered question</i></b>	<b>27</b>
	<b><i>skipped question</i></b>	<b>39</b>

**Comments:**

- 1. I thoroughly enjoyed my time at KLC.
- 2. I was there in early 1990's and Simon Rice is someone who is a great mentor and I respect him enormously.
- 3. An overall excellent experience and one of the best parts of my entire law course.
- 4. Whilst it's hard to judge, it may have encouraged a different standard of work from the students who chose to do it.

5. Definitely the most useful part of law school. Unfortunately legal qualifications do not lead to legal industry jobs for most- a lot of talent therefore is wasted. Either cut the number of places or take the time to train more graduates.
6. Great to be at KLC, I wish I could do it again in the future!
7. KLC should definitely be encouraged and supported at UNSW.
8. Really needed more work given to students, or if this is not possible, then to have less students taken on.
9. I LOVED my experience at KLC, it was one of my highlights of law school, and gave me a chance to learn skills that you can't learn in a classroom situation. I also learnt a lot from the staff and their approach to their work.
10. The environment is fantastic; a great opportunity; I would have preferred greater client contact.
11. The best experience of my entire law degree... The staff are awesome and I wish I could have done more with KLC.
12. I appreciated the assistance from the staff and other students at the centre during my placement and it provided me with an opportunity to experience work outside a legal practise.
13. I think KLC's project works is a good way to ensure that broader issues are addressed. It allows KLC to have a plan on how to address social injustice.
14. 8 units KLC should be discontinued to allow more students to take up 16 units KLC, because you don't get as much out of the 8 units course.
15. Excellent experience
16. Doing an internship at KLC over the summer was one of the best things I have ever done. It was wonderful to be exposed to such amazing and dedicated staff members and the chance to speak to volunteers from different legal backgrounds was a wonderful way of getting an idea of the different jobs that are available to law grads. I particularly enjoyed getting a chance to spend time with Anna Cody who was incredibly inspirational and helpful to me during my time at KLC.
17. There was a perception amongst the students that taking KLC was a 'bludge' so perhaps introducing a graded mark may encourage those who are there to learn and contribute.
18. The "KLC Experience" provides a hands on experience while being mentored and assisted by professionals. Personally being a "hands on" type of person, I found this a faster, enjoyable and more in depth method of learning that "stuck" with me when compared to just attending classes.
19. I think KLC provides an excellent service to the community and to UNSW students.
20. KLC was a great experience!
21. Keep up the good work!

22. KLC was the best subject I took in my entire law degree. Not only did I benefit from the practical experience as it set me up for life as lawyer, but I enjoyed meeting other students from UNSW law school. Keep up the good work KLC!
23. I thought it was useful experience
24. Enjoyed my time. Good group of people with high commitment.
25. Get course keep up the good work
26. KLC was a very rewarding experience, and I recommended this to my friends at the time. I was at KLC only one day a week - in hindsight; I would have preferred to have been at KLC for two days per week.
27. Just a comment on the grading question, as I'm quite surprised to see it there: I don't think it is possible to grade something as experiential as KLC. If you were to start a grading system, there would be the risk that students would get quite competitive about the number of clients they interview and otherwise interact with, which clients, and so on - even if this had nothing to do with the grading system.







Survey of Kingsford Legal Centre Alumni 2007