Teaching Students to Practice Intellectual Property LL.M. and Certificate Programs

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I. The "big bang" in intellectual property-related LL.M. Programs circa 2000

5 IP LL.M. programs prior to 2000

20+ IP LL.M. programs by 2006

Several general LL.M. programs with IP concentration

After General and Tax LL.M.'s, IP LL.M. is most popular LL.M. offering (virtually tied with International/Comparative Law)

15+ IP Certificate Programs

II. Who takes the LL.M. degree?

International students

Career switchers

Resume enhancers

Skill builders

Budding academics

IP geeks

III. Who earns a Certificate?

Attempt to signal: "I like IP"

IV. What is the worth of an IP LL.M. or a Certificate?

Traditional View

- o International students: graduate education
- o U.S. students: skepticism

Current View

- o International students: still valuable graduate education
- $\circ\quad \text{U.S.}$ students: good education; hit or miss employment value

Future View

- o Law becomes a doctoral level degree outside U.S. (e.g., Japan)
- o More international IP LL.M. offerings
- o IP LL.M. programs go on the road
- Exchange programs
- o Value tied to U.S. leadership in IP?
- o More competition but more credibility?

V. Thoughts on LL.M. curriculum

Should LL.M. curriculum differ from J.D. curriculum?

Deeply theoretical, deeply practical

Teaching the IP core subjects

- o Individual courses?
- o Light survey?
- o Intensive survey

Advanced theory

IP in relation to other laws (e.g., anti-trust; tax)

IP in relation to non-law disciplines (e.g., economics)

IP in industry (e.g., software; biotech)

IP in practice (licensing; litigation; prosecution; legislation)

- o Clinics
- o Externships