

# The Justinian

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## The Justinian

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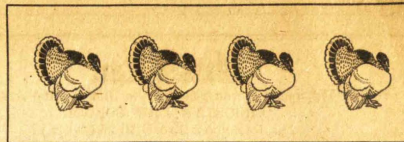
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## Evaluations Evaluated

With pre-registration time here again BLS students are once more groping their way through the swamp of electives and professors. As usual, the only official guidance is the short paragraph on bar exam topics provided with the elective sheet.

Last spring an attempt was made to evaluate the semester's courses and professors. The study, which was done under the auspices of a student-faculty committee, involved a forty-eight multiple-choice question punch card and a sheet for additional written comments. The questions were detailed but still omitted crucial aspects of evaluation.

The survey suffered from other critical failings as well, which led to a disappointingly low response and hence little usefulness. These included distribution of the forms in the last week of the semester, a complex report understandable to computer scientists only, and, most important, an obvious means of identifying the student author of all responses.

"Clearly, the lack of anonymity created a strong fear of retaliation, whether justified or not," commented Fred Mittelman, a member of this year's SBA Grading and Evaluations Committee which is charged with creating a

new evaluation. "A shorter, simpler, anonymous form must be devised. We must decide whether the purpose of the evaluation is to aid students in their course choices or to aid the faculty in tenure and hiring practices." The *Justinian* has been informed that the faculty will not use student evaluations for any purpose.

At the *Justinian's* request, Mittelman prepared a chart of two of the most salient questions on the questionnaire, "Would you recommend to a friend that he or she take a course from the instructor?" and "Would you recommend to a friend that he or she take this course from the instructor?" (The responses indicated on the following chart reflect a grouping into three categories of answers given by students solely to questions thirty and thirty-one of the questionnaire.) Mittelman strongly urges that the chart only be used as a very rough approximation and guide, as the samples have no statistical or intrinsic probative value. Copies of the evaluation forms and results are available for examination in the SBA office and the library.

Evaluations Chart  
Printed on Page 2

## BALSA/PRLSA Host Minority Day

On November 2, 1974, the Minority Recruitment Program cosponsored by BALSA (Black American Law Student Association) and PRLSA (Puerto Rican Law Student Association) was held at Brooklyn Law School. The funds for this program were received through the ABA/Law Student Division grant and an equal contribution from Brooklyn Law School. Much of the organizational work was done by John Chaney and Wilfredo Lopez, both second-year day students at BLS.

The program featured speakers Judge Gilbert Ramirez and Judge Juan Carro, both graduates of Brooklyn Law School. Judge Ramirez, a Brooklyn Family Court Judge who is now completely blind, graduated from Brooklyn Law School Evening Division in three years. He directed his speech to the current need for minority lawyers. Judge Carro, a Bronx Criminal Court Judge who also teaches a course in the Administration of Justice at City College, directed his discussion towards the rigid requirements of most law schools in their admissions of minority students.

After lunch a representative from the Puerto Rican Legal Education and Defense Fund, Celeste Medina, lectured on the technique of completing a law school application. The Fund, located at 815



Wilfredo Lopez, Judge Ramirez, Judge Carro and participant.

Second Avenue, N.Y., provides auxiliary services to students in their applications to law schools.

During lunch about 70 catalogues and applications to Brooklyn Law School were distributed. Information was supplied about the Brooklyn Law School program by Edgardo Lopez and Ramon Pagan, both second-year students at Brooklyn Law School.

The law day represented a culmination of efforts directed at circulating among New York City colleges and universities invitations to apply to Brooklyn Law School in an effort to increase the

minority enrollment at the school. The sponsors hope these efforts have been fruitful and will result in an increase of minority students which will more fully represent the surrounding community of the school.

### CHRISTMAS PARTY

The SBA is sponsoring a party and mixer on December 13 at 8 P.M. in the cafeteria. BLS students will be admitted free. All others will need a two dollar bill. Beer and two bands will be there, too.

## Moot Court Team Takes Third Place In Regionals

The Brooklyn Law School National Moot Court Team finished third in the 1974 Regional Round of the National Moot Court Competition. The team, Carl Koerner, Stephen Messenger, and Laurence Urgenson, defeated New York Law School and Fordham Law School on November 7, the first day of competition. In the semifinals on November 8, the BLS team lost to New York University Law School on a 2-1 decision by a panel of judges.

The case argued this year, *Howard A. Lincoln v. Sweetwater College, Robert Ore and The Film Foundation*, involved a racial discrimination action alleging violations of the Fourteenth Amendment in a college admissions policy. Lincoln, a black student, lost

his seat in the incoming freshman class at Sweetwater College, a private Southern institution, because the College had replaced him with a white student in order to qualify for Flim Foundation funding. The foundation required the college to adopt an affirmative action program which would end the historical exclusion of white students from the College.

The New York City Regional Rounds, involving ten area law schools, was sponsored by the Association of the Bar of the City of New York. This year's winner and runner-up, New York University and St. John's, will argue in the final rounds of the National Moot Court Competition to be held at 42 West 44th Street on December 2, 3, and 4.



Laurence Urgenson, Carl Koerner, Stephen Messenger.

## Students Groan About NYHEAC Loans

Many students at BLS find it necessary to secure loans through the New York Higher Education Assistance Corporation in order to finance their study of law. These loan applications are made directly to participating lending institutions. After approval, but before release of any funds, the student must sign a promissory note which will mature nine months after completion or termination of the course of study. The interest rate applied to the loan is 7% with up to ten years allowed for repayment.

Sometime after August 1, the lending institution sends the student a check made jointly payable to the student and to BLS. NYHEAC began including the law school as a joint payee two years ago. Since that time, it has been the policy of BLS to apply the amount of the loan towards both semesters' tuition before remitting the balance to the student. The check cannot be cashed or banked without the law school's signature.

William Hambrecht, Assistant Dean for Administration, is aware of student dissatisfaction with this procedure. Dean Hambrecht feels that the crux of the problem relates to NYHEAC's designation of BLS as a joint payee. The law school gains no interest from the money advanced for the spring semester's tuition because BLS deposits it into a checking account. Dean Hambrecht expressed the opinion that the school was perfectly happy with the former situation where BLS was not listed as a payee on the loan check, and the student was free to manage the money as he saw fit. Dean Hambrecht remarked that there must be some reason behind NYHEAC's procedural change in

the way their checks are made payable. However, he did not know what that reason might be.

Because of this change, BLS feels an obligation to oversee the disbursement of the loan funds and has chosen to do so by collecting the full years' tuition immediately. Dean Hambrecht reiterated several times that if someone would "take our name off the check," there would be no problem. As long as BLS is listed as a payee, it is given the discretion — but is not mandated — by NYHEAC to proceed as it does.

Dean Hambrecht suggested two possible courses of action for the

student with a NYHEAC loan. First, he can write directly to NYHEAC at 50 Wolf Street, Albany, N.Y. 12205, to try to convince them that BLS should not be listed as a joint payee on approved loan checks. Second, since NYHEAC loans are generally granted for the full academic year, the student could elect to apply for two separate loans, one for the fall and one for the spring semester. If BLS were presented with such a half-year loan check, then it could only take out the fall semester's tuition. This procedure would then be repeated for the spring term.

## To Catch a Thief

The recent rash of thefts at BLS has for the most part occurred in the library. The suspected thieves are believed to be outsiders posing as students. The items stolen have included purses, wallets, casebooks and notes. A typewriter had been removed from the 8th floor but it was subsequently recovered after it apparently was abandoned by the would-be thief.

If you are victimized, you should see Mr. Hudson. He is located on the 10th floor. You might even discover that what you thought had been stolen merely had been misplaced. If you can properly identify your lost possession as being one of those within the "Found Articles Locker," it's yours. Among the items waiting to be claimed are texts and coats.

Suggestions: keep your eyes open. Report anything suspicious to the guards or to the library staff. By all means take with you

any tempting valuables when you leave your desk. Identify your books on the outside, as well as on the inside.

At a recent library staff meeting it was proposed that access to the 2nd floor be limited to the inner library stairwell. This would mean that the doors opening on the 2nd floor would be locked and converted to fire exits. Thus everyone using the library would have to pass by the front desk. Additionally, I.D. cards might be required for admittance. Alumni and others entitled to use the library would be issued I.D. cards.

Other suggestions have included I.D. checks of all persons entering the building, and briefcase checks for all those departing.

It should be noted that at present, BLS is physically one of the most openly accessible of all the law schools in the metropolitan area.



## Justinian

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### Editors

Robert Heinemann John O'Reilly

### Associate Editors

Copy ..... Susan Alexander  
Galley ..... Elyse Lehman  
Photography ..... David S. Sprafkin  
Production ..... Joseph Supp

### Contributors

Mary Cheasty Jay Hashmall Ira Salzman  
Alan Chevat Anne Hunter Jan Schoenhaus  
Victor Davich Kim Jubase Matthew Trachtenberg  
Joyce Balaban David Ken Raphael Cliff Weber

## NYHEAC Loans

No student enjoys taking out a NYHEAC loan to help finance his or her legal education. It is not an obligation entered into frivolously, but a burden accepted out of necessity. The management of the money acquired from such a loan should be within the control of the indebted student.

It is the individual student who must sign the promissory note and accept the responsibility of repayment. Brooklyn Law School does not sign the promissory note. BLS has never been held jointly liable for repayment, nor has any attempt to bind it ever been made.

NYHEAC does not demand that BLS take out both semesters' tuition as a condition to co-signing the loan check. BLS is made a joint payee and it may take a full year's tuition at once if it so desires, but it is within their discretion not to. The fact that the school does withhold both semesters' tuition demonstrates a lack of consideration for students. A dissatisfied student may apply for two separate loans from NYHEAC in a given year, one for each semester, but that only adds a Catch-22 element of absurdity to the problem. This would merely preserve the status quo, with some added inconvenience and delay thrown in for good measure. Similarly, advising students to try to convince NYHEAC to stop listing BLS as a payee cannot be accepted as a serious or intelligent attempt at a solution. The school has the simplest remedy within its power. BLS can take the fall semester tuition from the loan and remit the rest to the student. A "Why should we?" attitude is incomprehensible.

At present, a student who is able to pay tuition without resorting to a loan is required to pay for one semester at a time. A student with a NYHEAC loan is forced to pay for both semesters in August. In a practical sense, this ties up hundreds of dollars of much needed ready cash, bars any possibility of interest, and deprives the student of the use of loan money which he alone has to repay. There is no reason why this policy should continue.

## Letters:

To the Editor:

After reading that the SBA and the Alumni Association of Brooklyn Law School feel justified in spending twenty-five thousand dollars to redecorate the third floor lounge, I feel compelled to write.

Have I missed the point or is it my "cultural deprivation"? I thought and felt that there is more to the study of law than Contracts, Corporations, and Negotiable Instruments.

I am involved in academics, home, and social interests (not necessarily in that order). I realize that this is not a school of social work. However, is there no duty to broaden our scope? Introduction to new ideas and a re-evaluation of old ones are as much a part of learning as Torts.

I recognize and deeply feel the ramifications of pollution, poverty, injustice in the legal system, drug addiction, poor education, inefficient health care, juvenile delinquency, old age, inflation, recession, and depression. (Choose two out of three.) Does the SBA or the Alumni Association recognize them?

Does my dubious status of being the only black woman in the second-year day class give me some unexplainable perception? Or is it because I live in Central Harlem?

Spending twenty-five thousand dollars on the student lounge in these times is decadent in light of the many needed courses and needy students in this school. Why are there no health law projects, juvenile law projects, geriatric law projects or any law projects

in the school? Why aren't there more scholarships, more minority students (If two white women transferred out after the first year would there be one white woman left?) and more clinics? Why is there no full-time professor for legal research? (If you don't think it's important, wait until you're told to write a memorandum.)

Wall-to-wall carpeting, stereo systems and new furniture are not needed. I know, I know, there will always be problems. Each decade brings them. But is it the decade or man's indifference to previously existing problems?

My priorities are much different than those of the SBA and Alumni Association. I sincerely hope there are other students, faculty, and alumni who feel the same.

I refuse to fiddle while Rome burns.

Jacquelyn Bullock

To the Editor:

We feel compelled to respond to the recent editorial regarding the redecoration of the lounge, (Nov. 6, 1974), if only to correct the impression fostered therein which characterized our attitude toward student participation in the project as high-handed and cavalier.

After soliciting volunteers to work on the committee upon its inception, December 13, 1973, through the medium of delegate announcements in each section and receiving not a single interested response, after requesting students' suggestions for the redecoration in a notice posted on the bulletin board of the main lobby, which hung for two weeks for all to see, and receiving only two replies from a student population of over one thousand, we proceeded

## Movie Brief

By Victor "Jake" Davich

### MURDER ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS

Paramount, 1974

Facts: The mystical Orient Express, epitome of elegance and intrigue, speeds towards Calais. Amidst the crystal and fur, the champagne and caviar, a brutal murder upsets the canapes. *C'est dommage!* Although the *mens rea* doesn't seem to be aboard, M. Poirot, the unknown Belgian detective, feels *au contraire*.

Issue: Can a world famous detective find the killer among the world famous cast?

Decision: For Poirot, and a whodun-it with class.

Rule: Punishment is justice for the unjust.

Applic: A film like this is a hard act to follow: with a cast consisting of (among others) Albert Finney, Lauren Bacall, Tony Perkins, Jacqueline Bisset, and Richard Widmark; with a plot based on Agatha Christie's renowned M. Poirot; with opulence and suspicion oozing out of every compartment on the Orient Express.

Wrap it up with a complex mystery plot that isn't contrived to let you down, a most intriguing study of justice, revenge and murder with a bewildering dose of morality — and you've got one of the best films of the year.

I highly recommend this film. For Christie fans, it's a must.

## MUD

Like the various sized grains That are submerged in the muck Of some Junior High School Science class experiment Instructing the captives in The formation of sedimentary rocks,

The law student anxiously descends Through the murky depths of abstraction

Hoping his inert intellectual mass Will place him on the sediment's top; Cream for the blindfolded Greek Goddess

Fuel for the fires of Moloch. A.C.

ed to work on a project approved by the student body of Brooklyn Law School through their elected representatives. To have this lack of student concern and disinterest twisted by the editorial and interpreted as a purposeful attempt by us to keep students from participating in the project adds insult to injury.

It is not the practice of the decorator to keep his client uninformed, nor is it the committee's intention to be presented with a fait accompli. The existing furniture in the lounge will be rearranged to conform with the new floor plan and a three-dimensional drawing of the redecorated lounge will be displayed so that no one is kept from knowing the progress of the project.

For three years we have heard complaints about the lounge's ugliness and lack of comfort and idle talk about doing something. Now, something is finally being done to alleviate the antiseptic and unappealing atmosphere prevalent at Brooklyn Law School, perhaps itself a contributing cause of student apathy.

Significantly, this change comes about as the result of the cooperation among the various groups constituting the law school community and the support being given a student group by the administration and faculty and the Board of Trustees. Rather than questioning the merits of this project at this juncture, perhaps it would be more profitable to the student body as a whole to take this project's success as an indication that change can be accomplished here at Brooklyn Law, painlessly, by means of tact and perseverance.

Katherine Timon  
Ralph Siciliano

## Faculty Evaluations

### Spring 1974

Key: I—Would you recommend to a friend that s/he take a course from the instructor?

II—Would you recommend that s/he take this course from the instructor?

A—High or general recommendation

B—Recommended with reservations

C—Not recommended

Course	Prof.	Response I			Response II		
		A	B	C	A	B	C
Acct.	Hauptman	2	0	1	3	0	0
Bus. Org. II (Day)	Brandt	3	0	0	2	1	0
Bus. Org. II (Eve)	Brandt	22	3	2	21	5	2
Bus. Org. II	Crea	6	12	6	7	10	11
Bus. Org. II	Hauptman	7	14	6	7	9	8
Civil Lib.	Holzer	3	0	0	3	0	0
Civil Lib.	Trager	11	1	0	6	6	0
Civ. Pro. II (Eve)	Berger	4	6	3	6	4	3
Civ. Pro. II	Berger-Farrell	13	14	5	13	13	7
Civ. Pro. II	Comerford	19	14	3	17	15	2
Civ. Pro. II	Chase	15	0	0	10	1	1
Cons. Crdt.	Yonge	0	1	0	0	1	0
Con. Law	Fink	11	30	25	9	27	17
Con. Law	Holzer	10	15	7	13	11	13
Con. Law	Trager	3	8	5	2	8	3
Contracts	Gilbride	24	7	1	27	5	2
Contracts	Habl	39	5	1	40	3	3
Contracts	Ronayne	8	5	0	7	8	0
Corp. Tax	Schenk	6	3	0	5	3	1
Crim. Law (Eve)	Ronayne	3	5	3	4	4	3
Dom. Rel.	Fink	3	0	0	3	1	0
Dom. Rel.	Palomino	27	4	0	24	4	0
Dom. Rel. Sem.	Gershenson	3	0	0	3	0	0
Dom. Rel. Sem.		4	1	0	4	1	0
Empl. Discrim.	Landau	0	0	1	1	0	1
Evidence	Prince	20	0	0	19	0	0
Evid. Sem.	Prince	2	0	0	2	0	0
Fed. Sec. Reg. II	Karmel	2	4	0	3	4	0
Est. Gift Tax	Comerford	18	10	10	19	11	10
Insurance	Habl	6	2	0	4	2	0
Intl. Law	Lisle	2	1	2	2	0	2
Labor Law II	Landau	2	2	2	3	0	2
Land Fin.	Meehan	4	4	0	4	1	3
Law Social Change	Clark	5	1	0	5	1	0
Leg. Pract. Clinic	Schwartz	11	0	0	9	0	2
Legislation	Palomino	4	3	0	4	2	1
Med. Jur.	Dr. Di Maio	4	7	5	3	8	5
Mil. Just.	Gershenson	2	0	0	1	0	1
Neg. Inst.	Allan	6	2	4	5	2	4
Neg. Inst.	Yonge	8	6	0	6	6	0
N.Y. Crim. Pro.	DeMeo	10	9	6	11	7	4
N.Y. Pract.	Chase	1	0	5	1	0	6
N.Y. Pract.	Farrell	3	0	0	2	1	0
N.Y. Pract.	Schwartz	20	0	0	20	0	0
Patent Law	Palmer	4	1	2	4	1	2
Prob. Con. Law	Holzer	2	3	0	4	1	0
Prop. I	Nightingale	2	6	4	2	6	3
Prop. II	Johnson	44	19	4	39	20	9
Prop. II	Nightingale	1	5	7	4	4	9
R. E. Pract.	Maloney	7	2	2	7	2	2
R. E. Pract.	Meehan	11	0	0	9	0	0
Surety	Herrman	15	4	1	13	4	2
Torts II	Crea	8	17	9	13	12	11
Torts II	Leitner	44	3	1	42	2	2
Torts II	Nightingale	4	6	3	7	3	4
Trial Advoc.	DeMeo	4	3	1	3	4	0
Trusts	Glasser	13	2	1	13	2	1
Trusts	Meehan	5	5	1	5	4	2
Trusts	Wein	18	14	3	17	9	8
Urban Land Prob.	Wein	1	2	1	1	1	2
Wills-Adm.	Leitner	14	3	2	13	3	3
Wills-Adm.	Herrman	10	2	0	11	2	0
Wills-Adm.	Hoffman	5	5	0	4	5	0
Women & Law		6	0	0	7	0	0
Clinics:							
Civil	Schultz	3	1	0	4	1	0
Crim.	DeMeo	1	1	1	0	1	2
Fed. Judges	Trager	0	0	0	1	0	0
P.D.	Ronayne	1	1	0	1	1	0
US Att.	Trager	1	0	0	1	0	0



JUSTINIAN hero sees the writing on the wall at Cozzoli's