

UC San Diego and California Western School of Law Launch Joint MAS Degree in Health Law

New Degree Takes Innovative Approach to Emerging Field of Practice; Applications Accepted for April 2007

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Combining the academic strengths of UC San Diego and California Western School of Law, the two schools are launching a joint master's degree in Health Law. The only program of its kind the western U.S., the program equips graduates with a more complete understanding of the best scientific, ethical, regulatory, and management practices in both professions, with a goal of establishing compatible solutions in policy and practice. Information from individuals interested in applying to the 2007 program is now being accepted.

"This joint degree with UCSD will bring lawyers and doctors together to evaluate, and help resolve, some of the most important questions in health care delivery, bioethics, and health law," said Dean Steven R. Smith of California Western School of Law. "A better understanding between lawyers and the medical field can only improve the quality of services we provide."

Led by faculty from the School of Medicine at UC San Diego and California Western School of Law, the rigorous graduate-level curriculum is designed to orient professionals to the common activities, philosophy of practice, and challenges of the companion discipline in healthcare or law. The program focuses on training practitioners in both fields to become leaders in providing integrated, sensitive solutions to every-day practice.

"Graduates with a MAS degree in Health Law will be better able deal with and solve the complicated medical issues that are arising in our global environment," said Bryan Liang, Associate Professor of Anesthesiology at UCSD and Professor of Law at California Western. "Coursework will delve into the controversy around issues such as the U.S. drug supply and safety, online pharmacies, medical malpractice, and access to Medicare-everywhere medicine and law interface."

The Master of Advanced Studies (MAS) is a fully accredited, 36-unit master's degree conferred jointly by UCSD and California Western School of Law. A third partner is UCSD Extended Studies and Public Programs, which administers the program and provides student advising. For more information including graduate admission requirements and application procedures, visit hlaw.ucsd.edu or call 858-964-1313.

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