PRESENTATION TO CELT WORKSHOP

ALBANY LAW SCHOOL, SEPTEMBER 9, 2014

Report on “What The Best Law Teachers Do: Educators In Action”
WHAT THE BEST LAW TEACHERS DO

- What is exceptional learning in law school?
- What personal qualities do the Best Law Teachers Possess?
- How do the best law teachers relate to their students?
- What do the best law teachers expect from their students?
- How do the best law teachers prepare to teach?
- How do the best law teachers engage students in and out of the classroom?
- How do the best law teachers provide feedback and assess students?
- What lasting lessons do students take away?
BEST TEACHER AND TEACHING METAPHOR

You learnt the most from?
Left you with Lasting Lessons
What made that teacher so effective?
What metaphor would you use for teaching?
THE BEST LAW TEACHER

- Quiet command
- **Passion for materials**
- Sense of humor
- **Preparedness**
- Simple and accessible language
- **Good listener**
- Extremely interactive
- **Set high expectations**
- Respect for students
- **Not afraid to take risks**
- Practical applications
- **Teaches to different styles**
TEACHING METAPHORS

- Coaching
- Music (being a conductor)
- Trees (growing things)
- Being a tour guide
- Cooking
- Drummer
- Running a three-ring circus
"Studying Best Law Teachers"
"How to Teach the Socratic Method with a Heart"
Building an Integrated Learning Community: A Law & Public Policy Model"
"Teaching Deliberately: From Course Design to the Classroom and Beyond"
"Enhancing Teaching/Scholarship Synergy"
"Ill-Structured Simulations in Law School"
Full schedule at: http://www.law.northwestern.edu/research-faculty/conferences/teachers/schedule/
I. Why I once thought the Socratic method was a tool of oppression.

II. Why I was wrong

III. The Socratic method done badly

IV. The Socratic method done well

V. Why nothing substitutes for liking and respecting the people you teach
TEACHING/SCHOLARSHIP SYNERGY

- The Doctrinal

- The Theoretical

- The Methodological

- The Professional