I would like to start this Editorial by highlighting that in summer 2024 it will be our 10 year anniversary of being online. Since the IJCLE has been online more than 100,000 papers have been downloaded with an average of over 700 downloads per paper! We think this milestone should be celebrated with a bumper Summer 2024 edition. Further details on this will follow soon and we will invite you to be part of that. Meanwhile, in this edition, we have papers which offer valuable recommendations on how clinical legal education can be developed to further benefit our students, the wider community and those who supervise in clinic. There is a flourish of ideas which link across continents.

We begin with Anne Hewitt and Natalie Skead’s fascinating article on ‘The Resource Implications of Work Integrated Learning and Legal Clinics in Australian Legal System: managing workload, system support and recognition.’ The article explores the resources required to deliver Work Integrated Learning and the authors present survey data on how this is being accommodated by Australian law schools. Work Integrated Learning is a term used to describe learning experiences where students engage with workplaces as part of their legal studies. The authors conclude that there are positive aspects to the workload allocation of such Work Integrated Learning programmes,
however concerns are raised in relation to both the level of recognition for the external engagement and administration and valuable recommendations are put forward.

Students gain valuable work experience when they undertake the Student Law Office Law in the Community module at Northumbria University in the UK, which is the focus of our next article ‘The Law in the Community Model of Clinical Legal Education – Assessing the Impact on Key Stakeholders’ by Lyndsey Bengtsson and Bethany A’Court.

In this module the students conduct volunteer work from the offices of their local Citizens Advice as part of their law degree. Drawing on data from student focus groups and semi structured interviews with the Citizens Advice supervisors, the authors explore how this model impacts upon law students, Citizens Advice and the local community. It was found that there are clear pedagogical benefits to the students and to Citizens Advice with regards to the service they can provide to the local community. The students obtain first-hand experience of the access to justice challenges faced by their local community. However, issues were raised which included how to ensure an equivalent clinical experience for students and effective feedback is provided. The authors put forward important recommendations as to how to overcome these issues.

In our next article ‘Forming Lawyers who can Contribute to Equitable Access to Justice in South Africa’ by Melanie Walker and Christopher Rawson, the researchers interviewed candidate attorneys across six University Law Clinics in South Africa to understand the contribution of university legal education and University Law Clinics to
professional formation, and the access to justice challenges faced. The authors propose that clinical legal education should be evaluated in light of contributions to wellbeing and agency freedoms.

From our From the Field section Hannah Franz reflects on the sessions she observed whilst attending the 2022 European Network for Clinical Legal Education conference at Brescia University in Italy. She concludes by highlighting the importance of international collaboration, so that we can continue to all learn from each other and overcome challenges. We also have a piece from Alina Kislova who discusses the barriers which exist in Russia which prevent Clinical Legal Education and she compares this to the European Union and the United Kingdom. She provides an interesting insight from both a social justice and educational perspective.

Finally, we look forward to seeing you at the upcoming 9th European Network for Clinical Legal Education (ENCLE), entitled ‘Enhancing Clinical Legal Education in Europe: 10 years of ENCLE and – reflections and what is yet to come!, on 17th and 18th July 2023 in Liverpool. We also look forward to seeing many of you (and hearing about your research in progress) at our upcoming IJCLE Intensive Research Workshop on 20th and 21st July 2023 at the Law Society in Ireland.