**Comenius University / International Journal of Clinical Legal Education Conference**

**ENCLE - IJCLE 2019 Improving the Future: Using Clinical Legal Education to Educate Lawyers for a Just Society**

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| Title of Proposal | Virtue Ethics and CLE |
| Summary of Proposal | CLE aims to go beyond skills training by challenging students to engage with wide ranging social and legal issues. This can help foster professional ethical development in a practical context. This paper will argue that virtue ethics can provide a framework particularly suited for developing the ethical sensibilities of students engaged in clinical legal education. |
| Abstract Proposal | CLE aims to go beyond skills training by challenging students to engage with wide ranging social and legal issues. This can help foster professional ethical development in a practical context. This paper will argue that virtue ethics can provide a framework particularly suited for developing the ethical sensibilities of students engaged in clinical legal education.  Virtue ethics has received renewed focus in the work a range of philosophers working in the neo Aristotelean tradition. Drawing on the work of Martha Nussbaum and others this paper will outline current developments in virtue ethics approaches and explore their application to professional education. It will argue that a focus on character formation within clinical legal education programmes can offer a valuable counterweight to the current orthodoxy of applying rule based approaches to the teaching of ethics. |