

A2J AUTHOR AND COURSES

WHAT IS IT?

One of this decade's biggest legal practice innovations is the development of document assembly software. CALI, in partnership with the Center for Access to Justice & Technology (CAJT) at Chicago-Kent College of Law, has developed A2J Author[®]. This software not only allows for document assembly and form completion, but it also creates guided interviews in easy to understand language. It is currently in use by dozens of legal aid organizations.

LAW SCHOOL COURSE INTEGRATION

CALI is currently sponsoring a project with law school courses to train law students in this technology. The mission of an A2J Course is two-fold: to introduce law students to the skills required by a 21st Century law office, and to produce A2J Guided Interviews® and other technical resources that statewide legal aid organizations can use to lower the barriers to justice for low-income people.

Students will research the underlying law for common forms in use by courts. They will then create guided interviews with A2J Author® for a partner Legal Aid Organization to use. Faculty in these courses will be creating "course kits" detailing their syllabi and readings. CALI will distribute these kits so that these courses can be more easily replicated by other schools. A sample course kit can be viewed at: http://a2jclinic.classcaster.net/

PARTICIPATING FACULTY

- Robert C. Blitt and Valorie K. Vojdik (University of Tennessee College of Law),
- Alyson Carrel (Northwestern University School of Law),
- Jennifer A. Gundlach (The Maurice A. Dean School of Law at Hofstra University),
- Carrie Anne Hagan (Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law),
- Michele R. Pistone (Villanova University School of Law),
- Michael J. Robak (University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law), and
- Rebecca S. Trammell (Stetson University College of Law)