

## **Memo**

**From:** Erich Schanze, professor II UiB

**To:** Study Committee, Law Faculty

**Ref. : Course evaluation JUS 270-2-A** Schanze/ Rubinfeld „Economic Analysis of Law”, block August **2010**

The joint course covering theory and applications of economic analysis of law attracts steadily increasing participation, and has reached a solid size and intellectual level for this type of elective interdisciplinary course. The class attendance was excellent. The interest of the students is also reflected by fact that almost all attendants took the three hour closed book exam. Generally, the assignments and handouts (Rubinfeld, second section: antitrust law) and published lecture slides and assignments to the Polinsky textbook (Schanze, first section: general theory, tort, contract and corporate law) were well understood. This year, the amount of outstanding exams was smaller which led to a slightly lower average grade level in the exams. However, the failure rate was very low. In a number of cases a certain deficiency in written technical legal English was noticeable. It is difficult in a specialist subject raising the general language proficiency. Nevertheless, the technical terminology was largely available, even in weaker exams – a very positive result in view of the relevance of legal English in future practical work in the area of business law. It is unfortunate that still relatively few Norwegian advanced students take this interdisciplinary foreign language course.

The service from administration was diligent and helpful. For users of laptops for slideshows some lecture rooms in the old building are inadequately equipped. Here, technical assistance is usually needed for setting up the slide show. I should note that this form of teaching is not only international standard but also helps improving the competence in legal /economic English.

In sum and in retrospect to the last three years, I would rate the course offer as an innovative and successful part of the Bergen law curriculum. It also serves as a good preparation for the advanced course “International Business Contracts” taught in spring.

11. January 2011

Erich Schanze