

February 4, 1993

John Feerick, Esq.
President
The Association of the Bar
of the City of New York
42 West 44th Street
New York, NY 10036-6690

Dear John:

I had hoped to be able to attend the upcoming conference on New Yorknet, but have concluded that doing so would push my number of rescheduled classes too high.

I enclose a brief report on the activities of the Institute we established at Cornell this past spring. Assuming that the notion of a network for New York lawyers will in some fashion involve major Internet connectivity (not just e-mail bridges but access to such distributed environments as Gopher, WAIS, and World Wide Web), I hope our Institute can assist. Having recently mounted a server on the Internet and set out to develop a community of users and the services that will justify use, our experience may be of value. Indeed, it might well be possible to start some of the bar's activities on our server.

One of the exciting prospects that electronic communication offers is better exchange between those in the academy and those in practice. Unfortunately, those who have, to date, set up lawyer networks under commercial auspices (ABANET, HANDSNET) have largely failed to see the value of connecting to the data highway that links academic institutions.

Sincerely,

Peter W. Martin
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