

In 1960, few attorneys practiced “higher education law,” and few colleges and universities used attorneys on a regular basis—either as in-house or outside counsel. The expansion of the regulation of higher education, and the application of old laws and precedents in new ways—by all three branches of state and federal government—began at about the same time that the National Association of College and University Attorneys was founded in 1960. This article identifies ten broad areas of change that have affected the practice of higher education law over the past fifty years. For each of these areas, the article looks backward as well as forward, attempting to summarize how we got to where we are now, and where the practice of higher education law seems to be going.