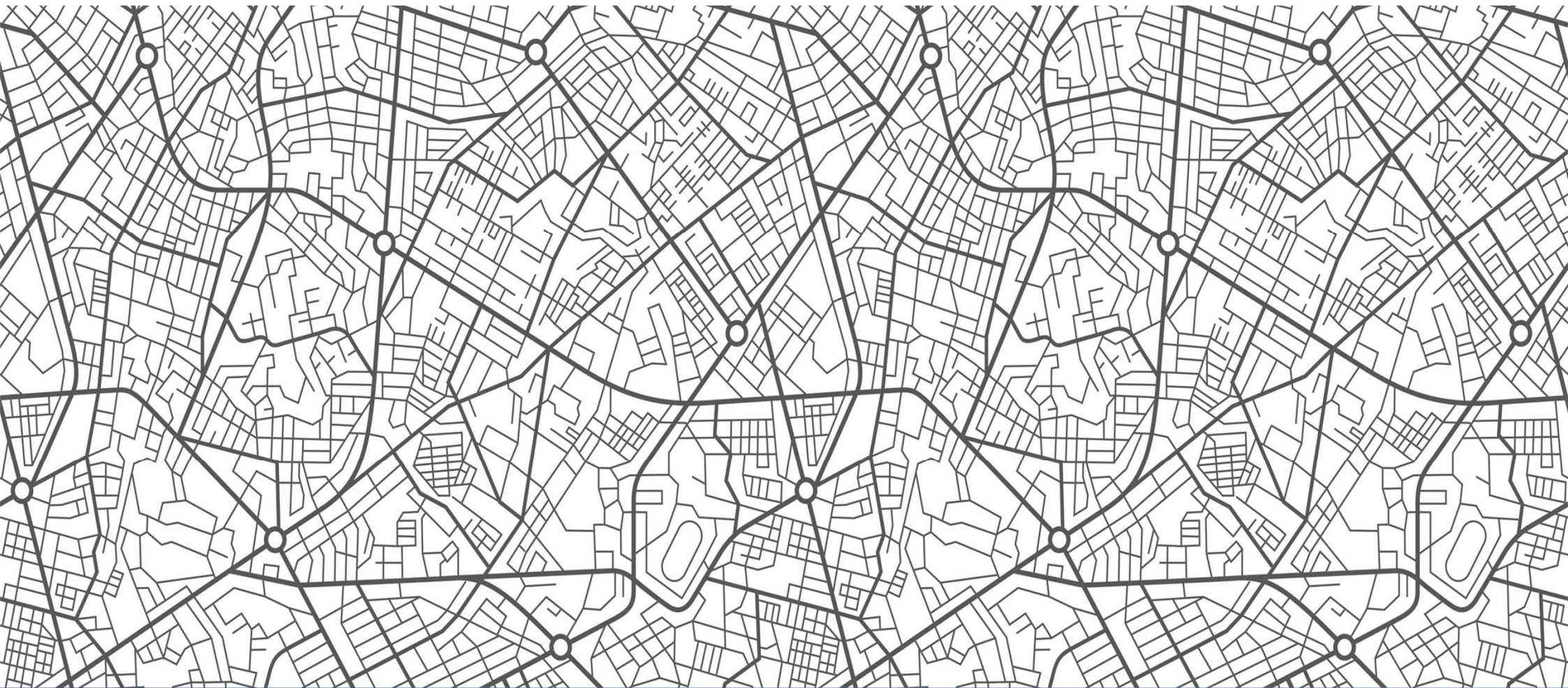




Legal Education Ecosystem (L.E.E.)

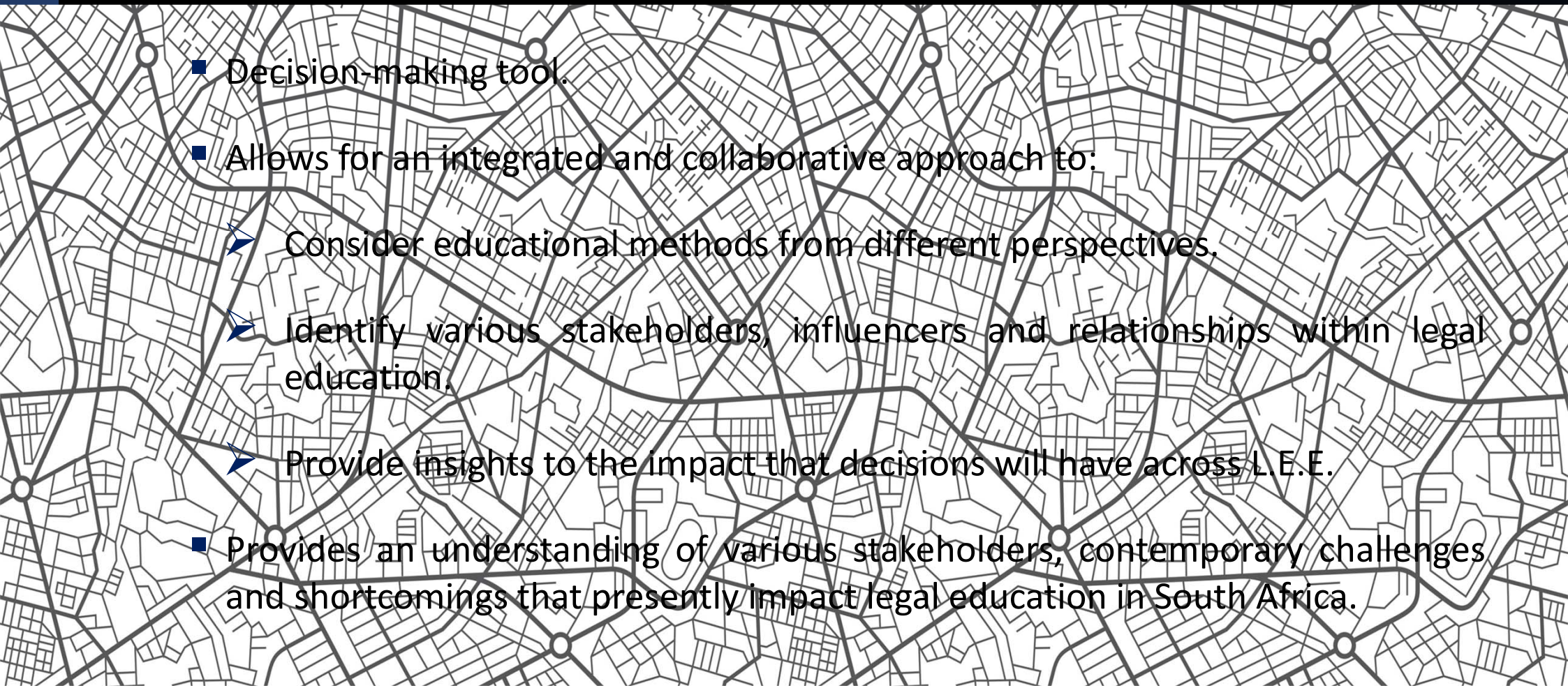
Presented by: Michele van Eck

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Influences in the legal education ecosystem

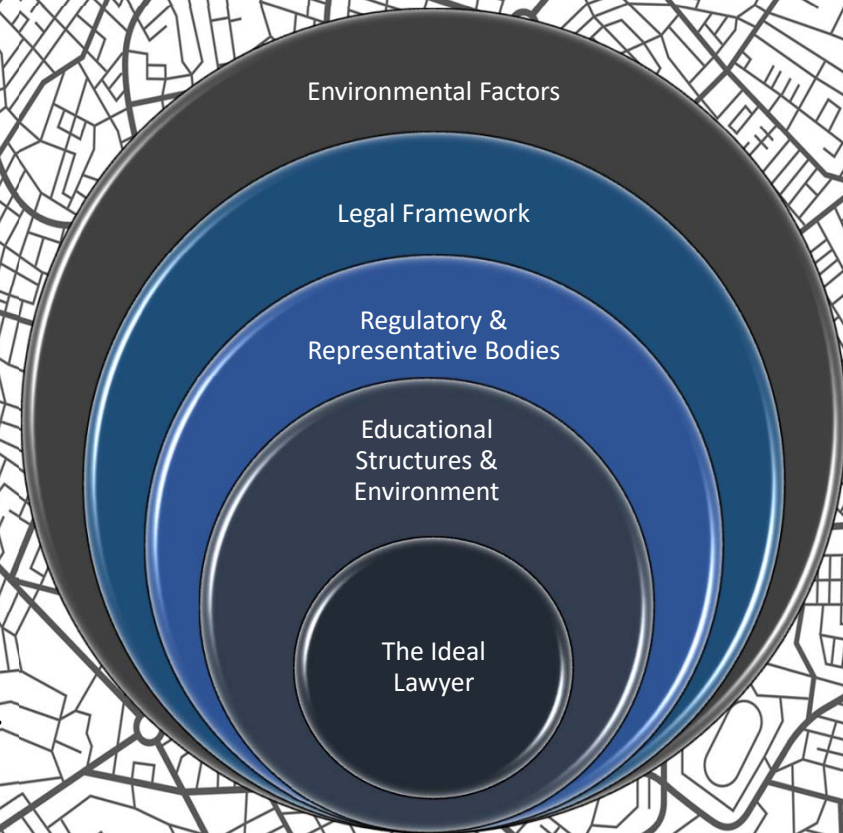
- “No person is an island” ~ John Donne.
- Education does not operate in a silo, but is influenced by:
 - Various relationships and influences.
 - Stakeholders.
 - Components and other factors.
- Fragmented decision-making inhibits addressing contemporary challenges in legal education.
- Rather consider the cohesive whole (taking into account all influences) within legal education.

Purpose of the legal education ecosystem

- 
- Decision-making tool.
 - Allows for an integrated and collaborative approach to:
 - Consider educational methods from different perspectives.
 - Identify various stakeholders, influencers and relationships within legal education.
 - Provide insights to the impact that decisions will have across L.E.E.
 - Provides an understanding of various stakeholders, contemporary challenges and shortcomings that presently impact legal education in South Africa.

Approach Undertaken

- Several components within L.E.E.
 - Internal and external factors.
 - Living and non-living components.
- Stakeholders within L.E.E. (e.g., primary, secondary and tertiary stakeholders).
- Different available approaches to map L.E.E.
- L.E.E. is based on a character-driven bottom-up approach.



First Component

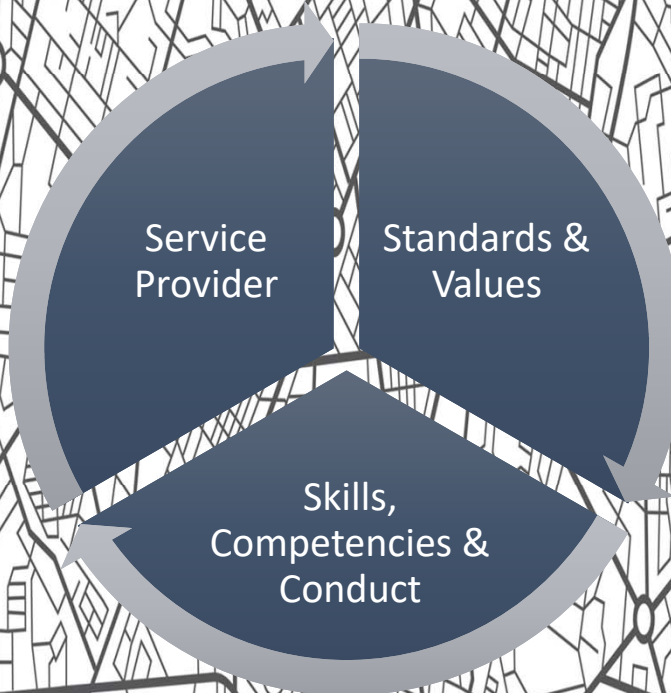
(The Ideal Lawyer)

- The product of legal education is the “Ideal Lawyer”.
- Legal education is greater than knowledge.
- Includes other factors, such as, service provider, standards of conduct, values, skills and competencies.
- Stages of legal education:
 - Preliminary.
 - Secondary.
- Changing profile of the “Ideal Lawyer”.
- What type of lawyer is legal education producing?

First Component

(The Ideal Lawyer)

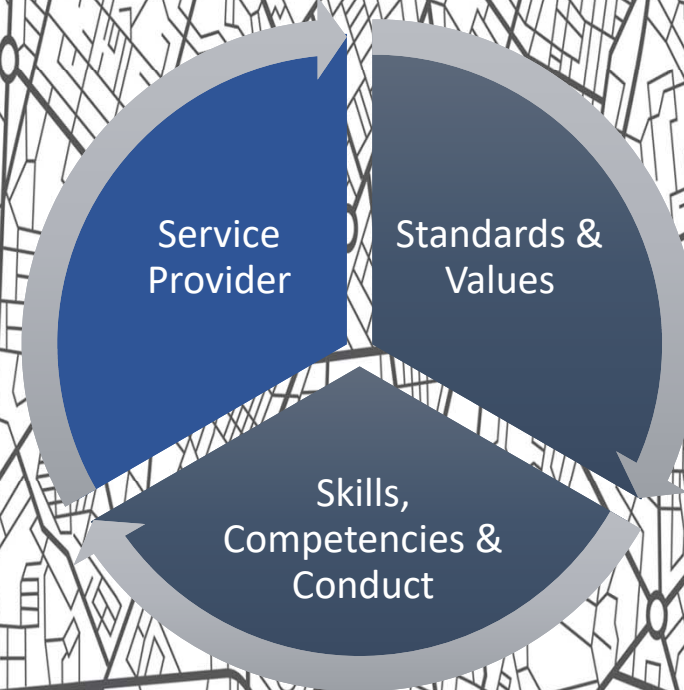
- What type of lawyer is legal education producing?



First Component

(The Ideal Lawyer)

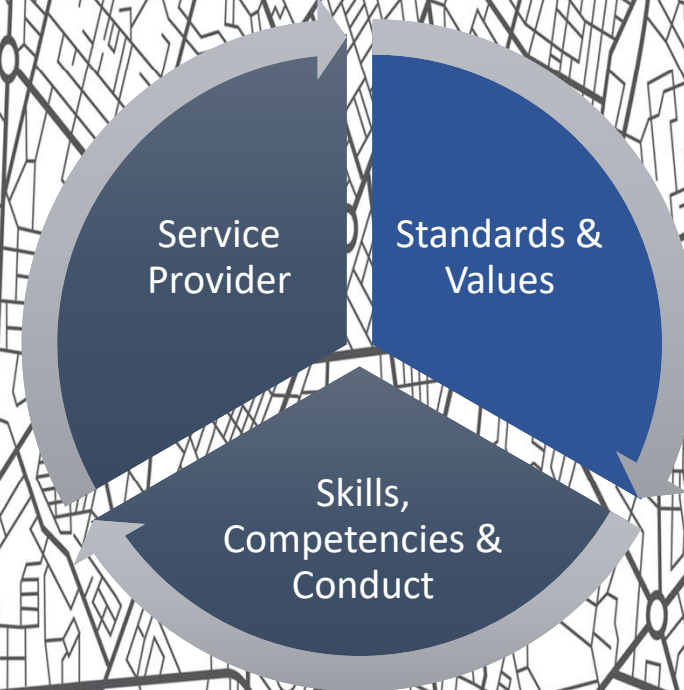
- What type of lawyer is legal education producing?



First Component

(The Ideal Lawyer)

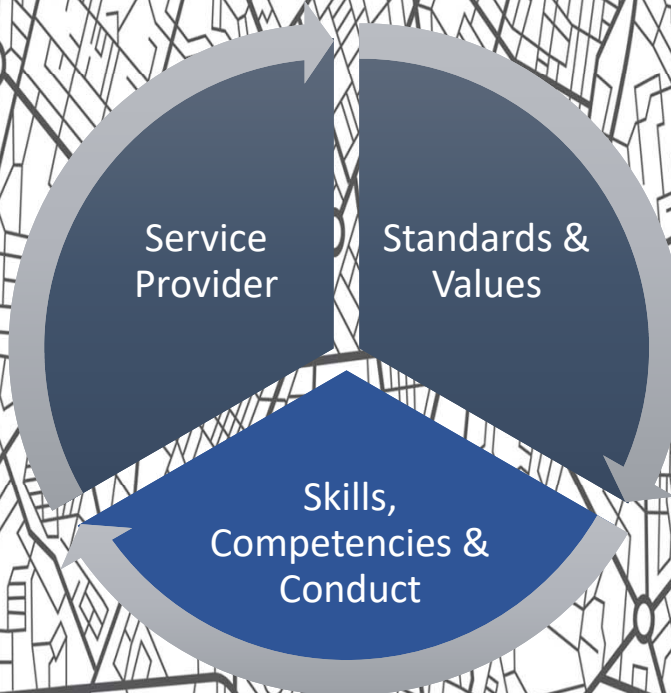
- What type of lawyer is legal education producing?



First Component

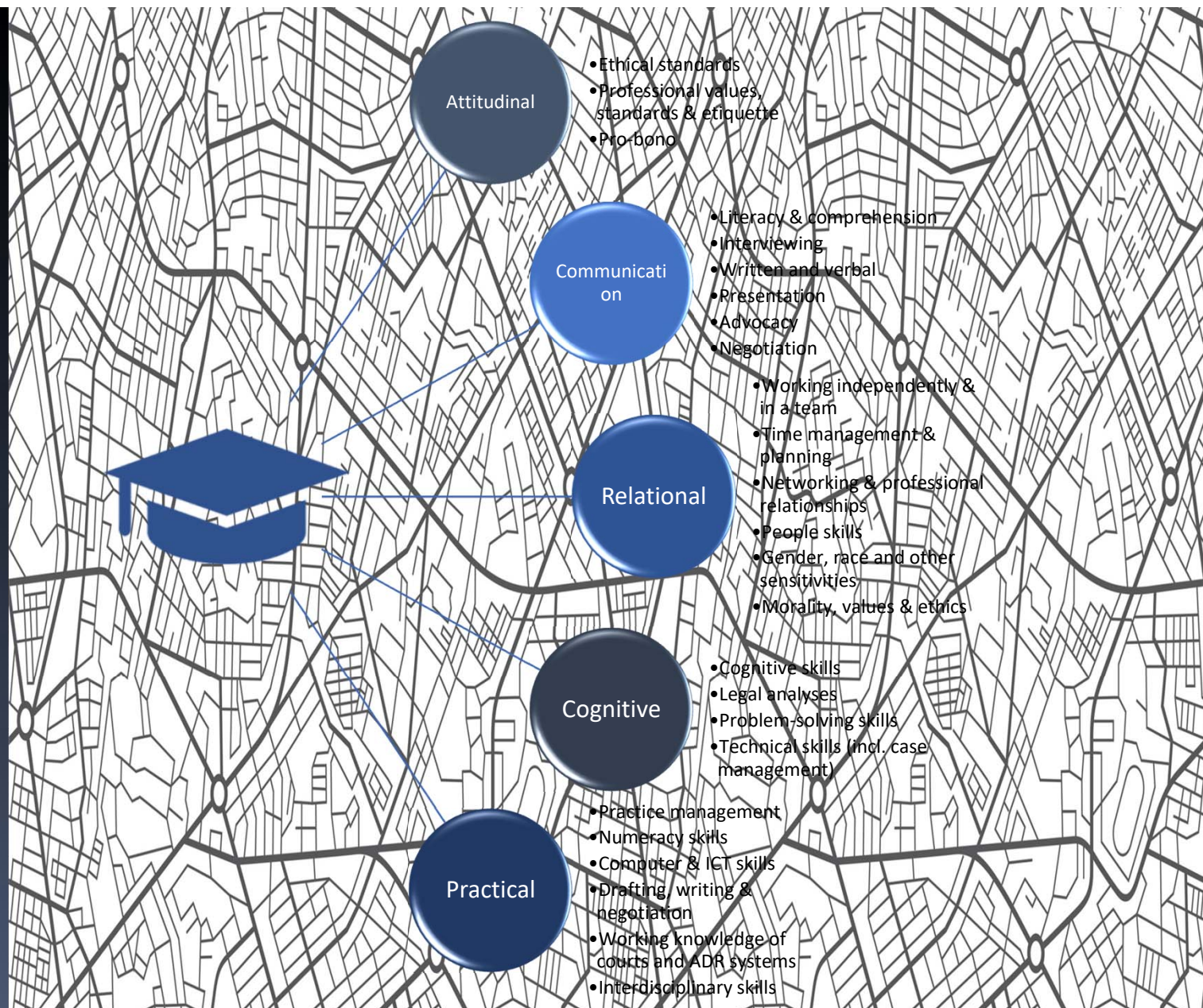
(The Ideal Lawyer)

- What type of lawyer is legal education producing?



First Component

(The Ideal Lawyer)



Second Component

(Educational Structures & Environment)

- Different educational approaches, methodologies and content.
- Educational structures and environment.
 - First layer: Universities.
 - Second layer: LSSA.
 - Third layer: Law Firms & Courts.
- First and second layer has a structured (uniform) approach.
- Third layer is not as structured (uniform) in their approach and depends on the type of law firm and the type of work undertaken.
- Various stakeholders impact this component.

Third Component

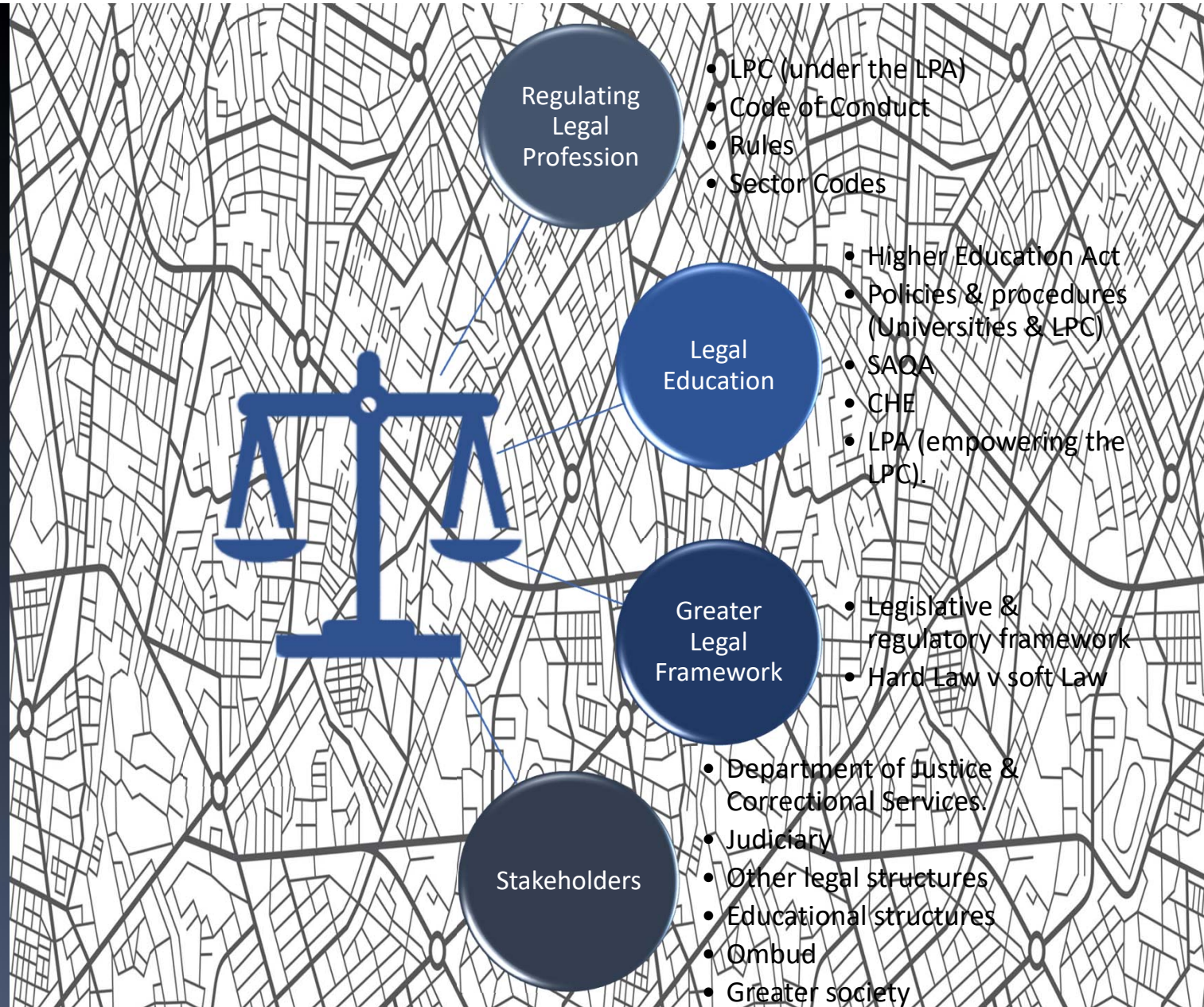
(Regulatory & Representative Bodies)

- The LPC and the courts holds a regulatory role and LSSA holds a representative role within the legal profession.
- Various stakeholders.



Fourth Component

(Legal Framework)



Fifth Component (Environmental Factors)

- Indirectly impacts legal education.
- Influences educational structures, environments and stakeholders.

Macro-Level Influencers

Historical

International & Local Government

Economy

Societal

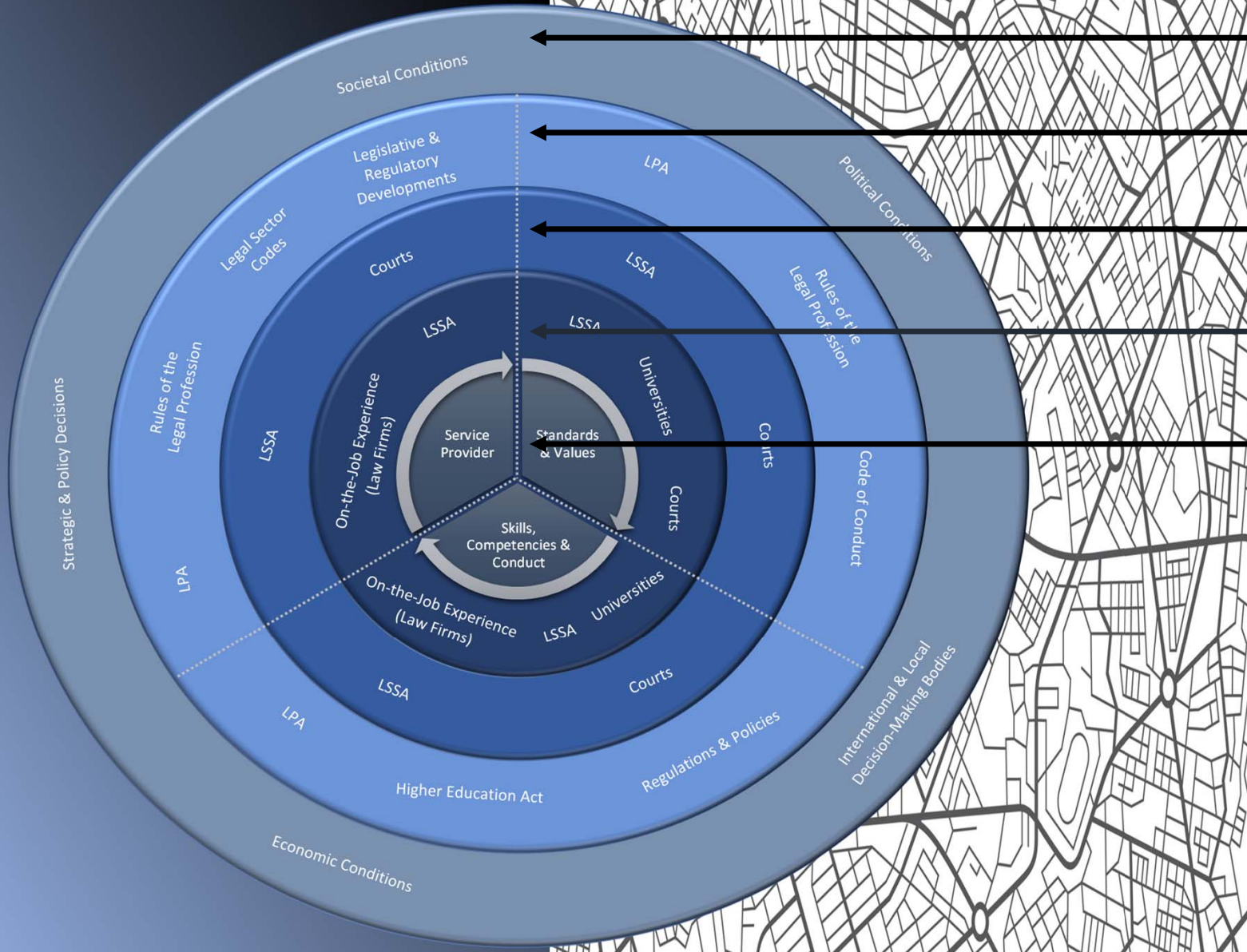
Political

Strategic and Policy Decisions

BBBEE

Equity & Transformation Strategies

Employment & Employability



Fifth Component
“Environmental Factors”

Fourth Component
“Legal Framework”

Third Component
“Regulatory & Representative Bodies”

Second Component
“Educational Structures and Environment”

First Component
“Ideal Lawyer”

Changing landscape of legal education

- L.L.E is not stagnant.
- The landscape of legal education is changing and evolving:
 - The content of what is taught and learnt.
 - The teaching methodologies and approaches.
 - The skills and competencies required of a Lawyer.
 - The function of a Lawyer.

- In the words of Corsens (2015:17):

"The law students of today are the keepers of the rule of law for tomorrow. At some point upholding the rule of law will be in their hands and this responsibility will be theirs."



Legal Education Ecosystem (L.E.E.)

Presented by: Michele van Eck

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