

**Parker, Carol A.**

**From:** Winston, Selesia **Sent:** Tue 1/25/2011 6:49 PM  
**To:** Committee - Law Reviews and Journals; Parker, Carol A.  
**Cc:** Zuni, Christine  
**Subject:** Journals Cmt: Tribal Law Journal Student Proposals  
**Attachments:**

Committee Members,

On behalf of the Tribal Law Journal, I have included my response (in **bold**) to the questions proposed late last year. If you have any questions please let me know.

Thank you,

Selesia Winston  
 2010-2011, Managing Editor  
 Tribal Law Journal  
 UNMSOL Class of 2011

### **Student Proposals**

1. Make a proposal on the question of how many credits should be received for service on their respective journals (both as staff and later as board members).  
**The credits that students receive for services performed on the Tribal Law Journal should remain the same. Staffers receive 1 credit and Editors receive 2 credits. Although these current credits do not accurately reflect the actual amount of work we do on the Tribal Law Journal (since we do a lot more work), the tension between required credits and elective credits has pushed us to decide that we want to have some flexibility to take other electives, so that the journal credits do not consume too much of our total credit hours. Thus, keeping the credits the same allows for students to be on the journal without having to miss out on other classes offered at UNMSOL. To ensure that this flexibility has not increased the demand on students by adding more course work to their already heavy journal work, Professor Zuni Cruz has moved to the peer review of professional pieces from student/faculty review to only faculty review. This move has helped to lessen the burden initially carried by the student editors.**
2. Make a proposal on the question of whether or how a journal writing requirement might satisfy the current upper level seminar paper writing requirement.  
**The current option offered by the Tribal Law Journal to satisfy the upper level seminar paper writing requirement should remain the same. Currently, second year students enrolled in the Tribal Law Journal must also complete the co-requisite course, Law of Indigenous People (offered only in the Fall semester). Law of Indigenous People requires students to produce a written paper at the end of the semester to receive credit. This paper may be a tribal profile, which details the legal and governmental operation of a tribe, or the student may choose to write on a specialized topic pertaining to the internal laws of an indigenous tribe. The specialized paper must be approved by Professor Zuni-Cruz and it may be used to satisfy the upper level seminar paper**

**writing requirement. The tribal profile cannot be used to satisfy the upper level seminar paper writing requirement. However, both the tribal profile and the separate paper are considered for publication in the Tribal Law Journal, and if accepted, published if the student agrees.**

3. Share with the committee the reasons current students decided to serve on their respective journals—what are the typical motivations for a modern law student.  
**The two most common reasons for serving on the Tribal Law Journal, as stated by the students, were to gain Bluebook and scholarly writing experience. Students also mentioned that being part of the journal added to their involvement and professional development in the area of Indian Law. Students mentioned that participating in the Tribal Law Journal offered a unique opportunity to work with Indian Law practitioners and/or scholars. Finally, students stated that they joined the journal to build their resumes.**
4. Suggest changes that could be made to ensure journal service remains an attractive option for students, given all of the competing co-curricular options now available. For example perhaps change production processes sufficiently so that each cohort gets to complete an entire issue to obtain more of a sense of ownership for the finished product (and perhaps reduce feeling burdened with the previous cohort's unfinished backlog).

**The Tribal Law Journal strives to remain an attractive option for students, especially those seeking the Indian Law Certificate, by complimenting and accommodating the Indian Law Program at UNMSOL. For example, any Tribal Law Journal credits earned may go toward the Indian Law coursework requirement for those students wishing to participate in the Indian Law Certificate Program.**

**Also, an attractive option for students interested in Indian Law and wishing to network within the Indian Law community, the Tribal Law Journal currently works to bring in local/national/international Indian Law Scholars. Last semester the journal brought Professor Frank Pommersheim to the law school to present on his scholarly writing experience and his experience as a tribal appellate judge. I feel that the journal could make it a yearly habit to bring more writers/authors so that students could gain different perspectives about the writing and publishing process.**

**To encourage self-development and to allow students to obtain more of a sense of ownership for the journal work they do, students are given the option to publish their tribal court profiles and/or their writing requirements in the journal. Furthermore, the journal seeks to expand that sense of ownership by requiring the students to be responsible for publishing an entire issue they have worked on the year they serve as Students Editors.**