

Faculty Meeting Minutes

September 18, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 pm by Dean Camille Carey once a quorum was reached. The following people were present for at least some portion of the meeting:

Faculty: Camille Carey, Alexandra D'Italia, Shaw Drake, Elizabeth Elia, Vinay Harpalani, Steven K. Homer, Joshua Kastenber, April Land, Jennifer Laws, Nathalie Martin, Serge Martinez, Matthew Murrell, Gabriel Pacyniak, Nadine Padilla, Mary Pareja, Sergio Pareja, Jazmine Ruiz Johnston, Alexandra Siek, Paul Spruhan, David Stout, Carol Suzuki, Samuel Winder, Natalie Winters, Peter Winograd (*17 needed for quorum; names that count toward quorum in bold*)

Staff: Beverly Akin, Krista Allen, Renee Ferrell, Melanie Fitzsche, Alejandra Gallegos, Stephanie Grant, Courtney Holmes, Ernest Tafoya

Student Representatives: Ryan Hardman (2L)

Announcements:

Recognition of Peter Winograd and Retirement of Judge Browning - Dean Camille Carey:

Dean Carey announced that October 1, 2026 marks Peter Winograd's 50th anniversary at the School of Law and encouraged faculty to recognize his contributions. Dean Carey also circulated a retirement card for Judge Browning.

Madrid Summer Law Institute - Professor Mary Pareja, Chair of Curriculum Committee:

The Curriculum Committee is welcoming course proposals for the 2027 Madrid Summer Law Institute.

Spring 2027 Course Schedule - Vice Dean Steven Homer: Vice Dean Homer reported that a draft spring schedule would be distributed soon for faculty review.

Artificial Intelligence and Professional Ethics - Professor Joshua Kastenber: Professor Kastenber discussed the ethical use of artificial intelligence and recent disciplinary actions involving AI-generated information.

Action Item: Approval of minutes from August 21, 2026, Faculty Meeting - Dean Camille

Carey: A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the August 21, 2026, meeting. There was no discussion. The motion passed with 18 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 4 abstentions.

Bar Passage Report - Patrick Lopez, Director of Bar Exam Success: Director of Bar Exam Success Patrick Lopez presented recent New Mexico Bar Exam results, demographic trends, bar preparation data, MPRE outcomes, and information on the NextGen Bar. Faculty discussed bar passage outcomes, student advising, grading practices, curriculum planning, academic support,

course availability, and alternative pathways to licensure. In light of the low bar passage rate for the July 2026 exam, Dean Carey asked the Curriculum Committee to consider whether the School of Law should adopt a grading policy and, if so, to develop a proposed policy for faculty consideration. Dean Carey also indicated that she would establish a bar passage task force and invite faculty members to volunteer to serve.

Action Item: Vote on Primary and Alternate Representative to AALS House of

Representatives - Dean Camille Carey: Dean Carey asked for volunteers to serve as primary and alternate representatives to the AALS House of Representatives. A motion was made and seconded to approve the nominees, with Professor Carol Suzuki as the primary and Professor April Land as the alternate. The motion passed unanimously.

Action Item: Proposal to offer Civil Procedure I in the Fall and Criminal Law in the Spring

- Professor Mary Pareja, Chair of Curriculum Committee: Professor Mary Pareja presented the Curriculum Committee's proposal to move Civil Procedure I to the fall semester and Criminal Law to the spring semester. Faculty discussed curricular alignment, scheduling considerations, and upper-level course impacts. A motion was made and seconded to approve the proposal. The motion passed unanimously.

Update on Faculty Hiring - Vice Dean Steven Homer, Chair of Faculty Appointments

Committee: Vice Dean Homer provided an update regarding faculty hiring searches, applicant pools, finalist selection timelines, candidate visits, and faculty participation expectations during the hiring process.

The meeting was adjourned by majority vote at 3:52 p.m.