

University of New Mexico
School of Law

Faculty Meeting Minutes
August 30, 2005
3:30 p.m.

In attendance:

Faculty: Em Hall, Jose Martinez, Sergio Pareja, John LaVelle, A.J. Ferrara, Antoinette Sedillo-Lopez, Elizabeth Rapaport, Jennifer Moore, Michael Norwood, Ted Occhialino, Sheryl Wolf, Norman Bay, Daniel Ortega, James Ellis, Sherri Burr, Cynthia Aragon, Stephen Homer, Chris Fritz, Carol Parker, Barbara Blumenfeld, Joseph Freedman, Carol Suzuki, Ron Wheeler, Kip Bobroff, Gloria Valencia-Weber, Suellen Scarnecchia

Students: Brendan O'Reilly (2L representative) and Shelby Bradley (3L representative)

Staff: Assistant Dean Susan Mitchell, Faculty Support Supervisor Krista Allen

The meeting was called to order at 3:41 p.m. on Tuesday, August 30, 2005. Dean Scarnecchia thanked all in attendance for being there.

I. Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the 3/22/05 meeting were unanimously approved with no corrections.

II. Dean and Associate Dean's Reports:

A. Dean Suellen Scarnecchia:

1. Dean Scarnecchia welcomed all new visiting professors, and new faculty members Sergio Pareja and Laura Gómez. Evan Hobbs has been hired as a tax clinic attorney through a federal grant received due to the hard work of Antoinette Sedillo-Lopez and her staff. Karelitz Visiting Professor Gary Conine will teach two Oil/Gas courses. Attendance for this class has increased as compared to previous years. Although it is dependent on future funding, we hope to have Professor Conine return each year. Justice Yazzie has returned to teach one Indian Law course each semester. Charles Daniels will teach ETP this fall. Cynthia Aragon will teach in the Southwest Indian Law Clinic all year. Joseph Freedman will teach International Environmental Law all year. Funding for this was obtained through the sabbatical program at the Environmental Protection Agency. Lisa Torroca is a visitor in the DA clinic again this year. Stewart Paley is teaching Commercial courses all year. A.J. Ferrera is teaching an adjunct class next semester and is also very kindly volunteering in the Law Clinic.
2. The new faculty committees have been formed for the new academic year. Dean Scarnecchia e-mailed the URL to everyone today so they can access the committee list on the intranet. Thank you to all committee chairs for agreeing to serve this year.

The specific charges of each committee will be added to the intranet website soon. Most faculty members are serving on two committees unless the committee is particularly time-consuming; then they may be assigned to just one. Associate deans are all assigned to three committees.

3. Administration and Faculty have come together and coordinated academic support for the new academic year. Thank you to everyone who is involved in this ongoing process. The new ad hoc academic support committee is charged with designing a long-term academic support program for us.
4. The IPL search committee is now close to recommending selected candidates to be interviewed.
5. The Outreach Community, formerly known as the Santa Fe Presence Committee, is exploring a part-time program at the Law School.
6. The Strategic Plan Review Committee is meeting again to assess progress on the plan, reevaluate priorities, and recap the Law School's accomplishments over the past three years.
7. Dean Scarnecchia reported that \$25,000 of the Law School's prior debt has been made up in this past fiscal year. This is the first time in five years that the debt has not increased. In the future, the Law School may need to reduce the number of visiting and adjunct professors.
8. The Dean's Circle recently met and recruited a record-breaking 54 members. Membership in the Dean's Circle requires an annual contribution of \$1,000, which will raise steady revenue for the Law School.
9. "The Venue" has now been remodeled into a convenience store. We will now have more input on item selection and can advise Aramark if changes are needed in the types of items sold there. We are still determining current needs.
10. There will be three presentations in the "Difficult Dialogue Series." The series was created to assist students in learning how to discuss sensitive or controversial issues with other students in a professional forum.

B. Susan Mitchell, Assistant Dean for Admissions and Financial Aid

1. Admissions for the class of 2008 were very good. The Law School was able to admit a few people from the waiting list this year. Further statistical data was outlined in a handout provided to meeting attendees.
2. The Admissions Office is still reviewing Ad Hoc Admissions from last year, and will continue their recruiting efforts. Dean Scarnecchia thanked Assistant Dean Mitchell for all of her hard work.

C. Antoinette Sedillo Lopez, Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs

1. The Tax Clinic is pleased to have Professor Evan Hobbs on board. The Tax Clinic is part of the Law School's Economic Development program
2. The tax advocate office will visit from 9/06 through 9/08 and will help set up a grant for the Tax Clinic.
3. The SE/ SW People of Color Conference will be held on April 6-9 in Santa Fe. UNM faculty members will likely receive calls to review papers and to be a discussant and to work with untenured people on the papers.
4. Professor Alfred Mathewson and Associate Dean Sedillo Lopez will attend a national conference in Lake Arrowhead in late October.

D. Michael Norwood, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs

1. The first-year law students seem to be a happy group; student feedback is good. Special thanks to Professors Laura Gómez, Antoinette Sedillo Lopez, Marsha Baum and Em Hall for presenting a mini-course during student orientation. The mini-course received rave reviews from students and was a real success.
2. Faculty luncheons will be held every Wednesday at noon, starting August 31st. Associate Dean Norwood is trying to adhere to the Wednesday time so it will be a set, dependable schedule by which faculty members can plan to attend.
3. As part of the advanced writing requirement, the Law School is planning to provide a seminars list two years out for students.
4. Admiral John Hutson, Dean of Franklin Pierce Law School, will give a lecture at 2:30 p.m. on September 6th regarding an intellectual property exchange program. Then at 4:00 p.m., Admiral Hutson will give a public lecture regarding legal careers in the military, the “don’t ask, don’t tell” policy, and the topic of torture as an intelligence-gathering tool.
5. The Faculty Affairs Committee will meet to review the process for mid-probationary reviews, of which there are currently two.

C. Carol Parker, Law Library Director

1. The Faculty Senate met last week and will attend a retreat on September 9th at the Embassy Suites hotel to discuss promotion and retention.
2. The Law Library has a new visiting research librarian, who will also work half time in the Utton Center.
3. The Library Services team has processed an incredible amount of requests in the past 8 months, including 742 document requests, 333 faculty search requests, and 45 instruction requests. Professor Ellis voiced his sincere appreciation to the Law Library research staff for their “tremendous help” with the Goodman brief.
4. Two Advanced Legal Research classes will be held this fall, with two more scheduled for the spring.
5. Ron Wheeler will travel to Farmington as part of a Law Library outreach program.
6. Lotus Law has now been placed in the branch libraries.
7. The remodeling project for the new King Room is now underway. The dedication ceremony is planned for April 2006.
8. More artwork will be displayed in the Law Library in mid-October.
9. The Law Library was the fortunate recipient of a one-time \$247,000. appropriation this year, along with an additional \$7,000. in GO bond money. Dean Scarnecchia mentioned that she is working for senate and house support to make the \$250,000 appropriation a recurring one. Professor Parker also recognized the generous gifts received from Law School faculty members.
10. On September 1st access was opened to the federal reports and databases.
11. Professor Parker is currently doing a comparison of other law library collections with peer groups in surrounding desert states.
12. As part of a new preservation initiative to digitize material, the Law Library has now installed a high-speed book scanner.
13. As part of the Access to Justice project, the Navajo Code will be included on CD Rom for those volunteers who agree to accept the cases through the Native American

Access to Justice Project. Associate Dean Sedillo Lopez requested assistance in recruiting members of that network.

III. Faculty Appointments Committee Update:

- A. Gloria Valencia-Weber, Chair of the Faculty Appointments Committee
 - 1. The committee has been working hard to advertise faculty positions at the Law School and narrow down prospective candidates. Subsequent to the committee's report, AALS released a report with a core of 660 names of people seeking law school teaching positions.
 - 2. The committee has placed postings on websites and list-serves, including access to non-AALS affiliated list-serves. The committee also tried to post information with 8 "conservative" organizations and 7 "liberal" organizations. The committee sent a special letter to the Supreme Court justices, Tenth Circuit judges, and New Mexico Federal Court judges.
 - 3. The committee hopes to have the screened list by 11/10/05, and will prepare the shortest list by the end of December.

- B. Dean Suellyn Scarnecchia
 - 1. Dean Scarnecchia thanked Professor Valencia-Weber for all of the hard work of the Faculty Appointments Committee.
 - 2. Dean Scarnecchia reiterated that the Law School has done more outreach to "conservatives," and is open to lateral recruitments as well.
 - 3. She requested that the 2L and 3L student representatives work out a process by which students representatives could be involved in the candidate interviews. Dean Scarnecchia suggested that student representatives work with the Student Bar Association on this process. Professor Valencia-Weber advised that a determination needs to be made regarding the kind of forum, also.

At 4:32 p.m. all attendees were excused except for those involved in the Order of the Coif.

IV. Order of the Coif

- A. Motion (Burr), seconded (Sedillo Lopez), to approve the list of proposed new members of the Order of the Coif, as prepared by the Registrar's Office. Second motion (Norwood), seconded (Occhialino), to vote into the Order of the Coif all faculty who are not currently members. All being in favor, none opposed, the motions to approve the list and to vote in all faculty who are not currently Order of the Coif members were both passed. Those new members shall be made full and permanent members of the Order of the Coif.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Krista Allen
Supervisor, Faculty Support