

University of New Mexico School of Law
Faculty Meeting Minutes
August, 22, 2006

Present: Chamiza Atencio-Pacheco, Marsha Baum, Norman Bay, Barbara Bergman, Barbara Blumenfeld, James Ellis, Denise Fort, Eileen Gauna, Erik Gerding, Evan Hobbs, Steven Homer, Scott Hughes, April Land, John LaVelle, Antoinette Sedillo Lopez, Nathalie Martin, Jose Martinez, Alfred Mathewson, Margaret Montoya, Jennifer Moore, Mike Norwood, Daniel Ortega, Sergio Pareja, Carol Parker, Liz Rapaport, Leo Romero, Suellyn Scarnecchia, Carol Suzuki, Gloria Valencia-Weber, Peter Winograd, Christine Zuni Cruz

Students: Brendan O'Reilly, Ed Perea

Staff: Susan Mitchell, Bonnie Stepleton, Sandra Bauman

The meeting was called to order at 3:40 p.m. on Tuesday, August 22, 2006. Dean Scarnecchia welcomed everyone. She then thanked those involved with orientation, especially noting Eileen Gauna, Margaret Montoya and Scott Hughes who taught on Friday, and Bonnie Stepleton for her excellent organization of the event.

I. Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Minutes of the May 9, 2006, faculty meeting with one correction noted. The motion passed upon a vote.

II. Announcements:

A. Dean Scarnecchia:

1. Welcomed new faculty: Erik Gerding, Eileen Gauna, and Chamiza Atencio-Pacheco, as well as Gary Conine, who will now be a regular half-time faculty member.
2. Welcomed returning professors: April Land, Denise Fort and Barbara Bergman. (Professor Ellis spoke briefly in regard to Professor Bergman's performance during her year in Washington, DC.)
3. Identified those on leave for either part or all of the current school year: Ted Occhailino, Sherri Burr, Em Hall, Kip Bobroff, Margaret Montoya and Rob Schwartz.
4. Announced staff changes: Bill Uher is the new Director of Development and Alumni Affairs. Melissa Lobato has been promoted to Faculty Support Supervisor, and Nancy Huffstutler to Coordinator of OCSS. Sunne Spicer is a temporary employee currently filling the faculty support position vacated by Nancy Huffstutler.
5. Announced and encouraged participation in upcoming events: the August 26 Albuquerque Bar Roast; the September 14 Indian Law Convocation, honoring Gloria Valencia-Weber and Sandra Begay-Campbell; the October 26 Ramo International Justice Lecture, featuring Lord Harry

Woolf, former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of England and Wales; the October 20 Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award Banquet, honoring John Echohawk, Art Beach, Pat Bryan, and Toby Grossman; the Faculty lunch Colloquia throughout the year, organized by Professors Gomez and Rapaport; and a conference on terrorism and related issues on a date yet to be determined, which will be organized by Jenny Moore, Norman Bay, and Liz Rapaport.

6. Informed faculty that, after the intensive conversation on the topic of turning grades in on time, everyone's grades were submitted on time to the delight of Registrar Pat Trainor and the students.
7. Offered position of SOL representative to the AALS annual meeting to anyone who might like to have it, but also indicated she would be happy to continue in the role. It was agreed that she would continue in the role.
8. Drew attention to the UNM approved 2007 Legislative Priorities handout to highlight the Law School's two new items: the Corinne Wolfe Children's Law Center and the Utton Center UNM Water Consortium. SOL remains in the priorities for all of the areas of continued funding, as well.
9. Pointed out the "Goals for Academic and Student Affairs and Research – 2006-2007" handout, given to the faculty for their information and to consider if they see particular areas of connection.
10. Discussed the "Areas of Marked Opportunity and Areas of Public Engagement" handout as another informational document. There are people on campus designated to bring folks together around these issues, which are where campus-wide grants will focus, and the dean can facilitate connection. Daniel Ortega and Claire Conrad are focusing on proactively developing grants where appropriate. Various staff members are in the process of learning what is involved in the management and administration of grants received.

B. Miscellaneous Announcements

1. Brendan O'Reilly, 3L Faculty Rep
 - i. Appointed this summer to serve as 15th Circuit ABA Student Division Chair of Resolutions and Bylaws. Currently in process of developing Student Bill of Rights to go before ABA House of Delegates next year, specifically for students with disabilities, but may be able to address broad scale diversity concerns.
 - ii. Is in the process of interacting with various blind lawyers' and other disability lawyers' listservs asking for perspective about things that will enhance disabled students' law school experience. Asking for input from faculty on accessibility issues as well.
 - iii. Dean Scarnecchia thanked and congratulated Brendan, as well as Bonnie Stepleton for all her work in increasing accessibility at SOL.
2. Daniel Ortega announced August 25 lunch meeting promoting study abroad programs and invited anyone interested to attend and speak on their experiences in this area.

3. Susan Mitchell reminded faculty that she needs to be made aware of students hired as research assistants in order to get them on the payroll.
- III. Admissions Report – Class of 2009 - Assistant Dean of Admissions, Susan Mitchell, briefly described a handout which details incoming class statistics. Dean Scarnecchia thanked everyone who was on last year's admissions committee.
- IV. 2006-07 Priorities and Committee Charges
- A. Strategic Plan
 1. Dean Scarnecchia referred to handout, which was created by looking at last year's Strategic Plan Committee document and annotating the strategic plan to make it more compact. The annotated document is being made available today for information and future discussion purposes. It helps define the connection between committee work, the strategic plan and the self-study. The dean is relying on committees to do background and investigation to help the self study committee describe where we've been, where we are and where we should go from here.
 2. The dean sees quite a lot of accomplishments. However, she questions the idea of developing an LLM program (after reviewing responses from committees last year), and thinks committees should discuss and consider whether or not to drop those provisions from the plan.
 3. Some areas need more focus, and the dean would like committees to develop more specific goals to enable measuring specific progress.
 4. Are there any new goals to consider? Feedback in any area can come from any individual within the SOL community, but weight will be given to what comes from committees. The dean would like to have several conversations during the course of the year which will benefit committees' preparation of self-study proposals.
 - B. Committee Charges
 1. Specific committee make-up and charges are listed on Committee Memo handout. By providing the information in this format, Dean Scarnecchia thinks everyone will be able to better understand what each committee is doing and this will facilitate better communication between the committees.
 2. Dean Scarnecchia is aware of how hard working and involved each member of the faculty is, and this makes assigning committees difficult. She is open to any feedback or concerns about the assignments, however, would very much appreciate willingness to serve.
- V. Discussion of Hiring Lateral Faculty Candidates
- A. Dean Scarnecchia opened the meeting to the topic of the process of hiring lateral faculty candidates. She indicated she would like to begin to have this discussion before the faculty was actually in the process of such a hire in order to alleviate recurring tension and confusion in the midst of a hiring decision. This was simply a period of discussion; no ultimate decision or vote would be made at this meeting.

- B. Discussion ensued regarding the current search process, the desire for flexibility, the possibility and feasibility of offering look-see visits, the wording of advertisements, suggestions of areas to either review or change, evaluation of types of hires SOL would want to make in the near future (experienced vs. entry level), and the ability to make both decisions (hire and tenure) at one meeting.
 - C. Dean Scarnecchia would like this to be an ongoing discussion, with suggestions and feedback being directed to either Associate Dean Norwood or her.
- VI. Order of the Coif.
- A. Students were invited to leave as confidential matters were to be discussed. Faculty was reminded that only members of the Order of the Coif could vote.
 - B. Based on a list of students provided a motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to admit the first 12 listed students to the Order of the Coif.
 - C. A motion was made, seconded and carried unanimously to admit all full-time faculty members into the Order of the Coif who were not already members.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Bauman
Administrative Assistant to Dean Suellyn Scarnecchia