

University of New Mexico School of Law  
Faculty Meeting Minutes  
September 12, 2006

Present: Chamiza Atencio-Pacheco, Marsha Baum, Norman Bay, Paul Biderman, Barbara Blumenfeld, Michael Browde, Eileen Gauna, Evan Hobbs, Scott Hughes, April Land, John LaVelle, Antoinette Sedillo Lopez, Nathalie Martin, Alfred Mathewson, Jenny Moore, Mike Norwood, Sergio Pareja, Carol Parker, Liz Rapaport, Michelle Rigual, Suellyn Scarnecchia, Carol Suzuki, Gloria Valencia-Weber

Students: Brendan O'Reilly, Ed Perea

Staff: Sandra Bauman, Cindy Nee

Guests: Jack McIver, Denise Wallen

The meeting was called to order at 3:40 pm on Tuesday, September 12, 2006.

I. Approval of Minutes:

The minutes of the August 22, 2006, faculty meeting were unanimously approved with no corrections noted.

II. Announcements

A. Dean Scarnecchia:

1. Reminded faculty of the upcoming Indian Law Convocation on Thursday, September 14, honoring Gloria Valencia-Weber and Sandra Begay-Campbell.
2. Encouraged everyone to attend the October 26 Ramo International Justice lecture featuring Lord Harry Woolf. Dean Scarnecchia stressed the importance of encouraging students to attend, especially those studying constitutional law and rights.
3. Announced the NM Bar passage rate of 95% for UNM students who took the test for the first time. This high passage rate says a lot about the Law School community's efforts on students' success: the faculty's teaching, the students' hard work, and the preparation efforts by the Office of Career and Student Services.
4. Announced Hispanic Business Magazine's rating of UNM SOL as the #1 law school for Hispanics this year. Dean Scarnecchia thanked the Senior Administrative staff for their excellent work on answering the survey this year. She also recognized last year's stellar student body, and hopes this rating is beneficial in future recruitment efforts.

B. Assistant Dean Carol Parker presented a slide pictorial regarding the upcoming planned renovation of the library's circulation desk area. This project can be done

this fall due to the contribution of \$80,000 from the physical plant. She thanked Marsha Baum for laying the ground work for relationship with those at the physical plant. The time-line for the renovation project will announced school-wide shortly.

- C. Professor Jenny Moore presented some detail for the October 5 “Virtual Teach-In” on Guantanamo Bay, describing how and where broadcast sessions will take place, and the plan for a live panel discussion afterwards. A draft program is available, and she is still recruiting volunteers to be on the panel. She asked that faculty encourage students to attend the sessions as they can. More information is available from Professor Bay and Professor Rapaport as well.
- D. Professor Bay commented that JAG will be on campus to recruit students on September 18, and he would like to set up an amelioration table. He asked for and received volunteers to sit at the table and offer information to students.
- E. Professor Barbara Blumenfeld spoke on the two current openings (SILC and LRRW) posted by the recruitment committee. She indicated that any known candidates should be encouraged to apply soon since the closing date is September 30, and that it is very important that an applicant has experience relevant to the specific position.
- F. Dean Scarnecchia informed faculty of the Staff Awards which were announced at the previous day’s staff luncheon. Special Awards were received by: Gloria Gomez and Barbara Jacques for their help with the People of Color Conference; Janet Roupas for her work on making the SOL’s website accessible within ADA guidelines; and Theresa Montoya for her ongoing excellent support of the faculty recruitment committee. A formal award of \$600 was presented to Cindy Nee recognizing her efforts on behalf of students with disabilities, much of the work done on her own time.

### III. Research Funding Opportunities – Dr. Jack McIver and Dr. Denise Wallen

- A. Dean Scarnecchia introduced both Dr. McIver and Dr. Wallen with brief bios, saying their presence was at her invitation to speak about research and grant opportunities.
  - 1. Dr. Wallen, Director of Research Development
    - a. Provided copies of the “Guide for Principal Investigators” to any who were interested in having one, and left extras which can be obtained by contacting Claire Conrad.
    - b. Explained that Research Development Services (RDS) was the place for faculty to go to talk about projects, and briefly described some examples that are currently going on.
    - c. Detailed some of the functions RDS supplies in regard to working to put together consortiums as leverage for funding, utilizing databases to locate funding sources, and reviewing and giving input on proposals.
    - d. Mentioned upcoming information and training sessions on October 5 and 23.
  - 2. Dr. McIver, Senior Associate Vice President for Research and Economic Development

- a. Described his roles in dealing with university compliance issues, and the processes involved in pre-award, negotiation and acceptance of awards.
  - b. Discussed UNM's interest in moving the University forward in research, both scholarly and scientific, and is currently working to identify questions and topics which will be big in the future. These topics include ethical, legal and moral issues as well as hard science. UNM is interested in growing a broad spectrum of expertise in all areas.
  - c. Listed several items of importance to UNM which have been identified:
    1. policy, as it pertains to southwest and arid regions;
    2. environment, as it pertains to national labs;
    3. nuclear issues;
    4. security technology;
    5. sustainable futures;
    6. renewable resources;
    7. addictions;
    8. health disparity: medical services and policy implications;
    9. water environment; and
    10. college prep.
  - d. Spoke briefly on collaboration with other NM universities, technical schools and national labs in the effort to devote more resources to organize some way to move UNM forward in these areas, and continue to identify funding sources – specifically from Washington.
3. Dean Scarnecchia thanked Dr. Wallen and Dr. McIver for coming and opened the floor to any immediate questions. She encouraged the faculty to look at this as a real opportunity for the SOL, both to build a more robust budget as well as promoting interesting research and interdisciplinary involvement.

IV. Self Study Plan – Professor Scott Hughes and Associate Dean Mike Norwood  
(Both referred to the Self Study Calendar hand-out.)

A. Professor Hughes

1. Indicated the Self Study process began late last spring, and a successful completion depends greatly on the faculty's help. Described the two-track method being used to complete the Self Study.
  - a. 1<sup>st</sup> track, asking questions in the following areas:
    - i. Admissions.
    - ii. Academic Support and Advisement
    - iii. Practicum and Senior Writing Requirements
    - iv. Student Affairs
    - v. Certificate Programs
    - vi. Potpourri – What's working; what's not?
  - b. 2<sup>nd</sup> track, drafting of self study during the fall.

2. Explained that beginning in January the Self Study committee will meet to edit the report. The Self Study Calendar hand-out defines three cycles of input from the faculty. The timeline described is based on a planned early fall visit.
- B. Associate Dean Norwood
1. Described the context of the self study. The self study is designed to be a document produced by the faculty of the Law School.
  2. Spoke to the need of the faculty to identify strengths, take a realistic look at goal setting, including a timeline for achieving how “we become the law school we want to be.”
  3. Explained the use of the scheduled Deans’ Hours to involve faculty in discussion sessions based on the areas outlined by Professor Hughes. The 4:00 – 5:30 Tuesday afternoon time slot was chosen intentionally because full-time faculty have no scheduled classes.
  4. Opened the floor for any discussion, input or questions.
- C. Dean Scarnecchia thanked Professor Hughes and Associate Dean Norwood and commented that she would be especially interested in the “What’s working; what’s not?” conversations, as these might bring up issues that tend to be under the radar.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Bauman  
Administrative Assistant to Dean Suellyn Scarnecchia