

**UNM SCHOOL OF LAW
FACULTY MEETING**

August 21, 2007

Dean Scarnecchia called the August 21, 2007, Faculty meeting of the UNM School of Law to order at 3:06 p.m.

Attendance: Megan Argo, Marcia Baker, Norman Bay, Barbara Bergman, Barbara Blumenfeld, Kip Bobroff, Michael Browde, Sherri Burr, Louis Caldera, Barbara Creel, Chris Fritz, Sandy Gaines, Eileen Gauna, Erik Gerding, Laura Gómez, Steven Homer, Scott Hughes, April Land, John LaVelle, Antoinette Sedillo Lopez, Nathalie Martin, José Martinez, Alfred Mathewson, Margaret Montoya, Jennifer Moore, Mike Norwood, Ted Occhialino, Daniel Ortega, Sergio Pareja, Carol Parker, Michelle Rigual, Leo Romero, Suellyn Scarnecchia, Rob Schwartz, Carol Suzuki, Gloria Valencia-Weber, Christine Zuni Cruz

Students: Joshua Allison, Esteli Juarez

Staff: Sandra Bauman, Peggy Lovato, Susan Mitchell, Bonnie Stepleton, Bill Uher

I. Staff Introductions – Dean Suellyn Scarnecchia

Dean Scarnecchia introduced the new faculty members: Megan Argo, Legal Research and Writing; Barbara Creel, Southwest Indian Law Clinic; Louis Caldera; Sandy Gaines, Utton Center Director; Helen Padilla, American Indian Law Center Director; Marcia Baker, Library; and Ernesto Longa, Library

II. Memorial Motion – Professor Rob Schwartz

Professor Schwartz introduced a motion to adopt a Memoriam statement to send to former Professor Leo Kanowitz' family on the event of his death over the weekend. After he read his drafted statement, Professor Margaret Montoya recommended adding verbiage regarding Professor Kanowitz' work in the area of gender equity. Upon a vote the amended motion passed unanimously.

III. Recommendation for Law School Vision – Dean Suellyn Scarnecchia

- a. Dean Scarnecchia presented a PowerPoint presentation detailing her vision for beginning the strategic planning process once the ABA Self Study and Site Visit are completed. She detailed the following points:
 - i. Focusing Our Vision
 - ii. Her View in 2002
 - iii. Unresolved Conflicts in 2002
 - iv. Time to Move Beyond the Conflict

- v. Assumptions
 - vi. Why Is This Important?
 - vii. Why Now?
 - viii. Our Academic Indicators Are Weak
 - ix. Weak Academics Impact Recruitment
 - x. We are Losing Strong Applicants
 - xi. What We Need to Do
 - xii. Tell Our Story Better
 - xiii. Vision Thing
 - xiv. Best Professional Legal Education
 - xv. In the Southwest
 - xvi. Most Affordable Price
 - xvii. Measures
 - xviii. Benefits
 - xix. Next Steps
- b. Dean Scarnecchia invited brief discussion at the conclusion of her presentation.

IV. Announcements

- a. Dean Scarnecchia referred the faculty to the hand out detailing the upcoming UNMSOL events scheduled for the fall, and encouraged individuals to consider participating in as many as possible. She asked that faculty members indicate which events they feel they can attend so she will be able to determine SOL representation. She also provided some detail on the Weihofen Chair Celebration, honoring Professor Jim Ellis this year (next year will be Professor Schwartz' turn), scheduled for October 25. Tony Amsterdam has agreed to come and will sit on a panel with Professor Schwartz discussing how one lawyer can impact social issues.
- b. Bonnie Stepleton (who was introduced with her new title: Assistant Dean for Student Services, reflecting the division of duties within the Office of Career and Student Services):
 - i. reported that 1L Orientation went well, thanking Associate Dean Norwood for his help, Professor Bay for speaking, and the faculty who came to the pinning ceremony;
 - ii. spoke briefly regarding graduation plans, and introduced the different speaker nomination process, which will ask students, staff and faculty for nominations and allow the Dean to review and prioritize the nominations;
 - iii. Thanked the faculty for their work on judicial clerkship application recommendation letters, and asked them to continue to encourage judges within their circles to interview and hire SOL students.

V. Faculty Appointments Committee Report – Professor Leo Romero

Professor Romero identified the open Natural Resource position and asked faculty to forward any recommendations to him for processing. The deadline for best consideration is September 30, 2007, however the committee will continue to accept applications beyond that date. The Committee plans to interview in Washington, DC, in late October. Shortly

thereafter they hope to have a list of candidates for on-site interviews, with finalists to be selected after that point. The Committee's hope is to have the process finished in early December, or the end of January at the latest.

VI. Budget Report – Dean Suellyn Scarnecchia

- a. Dean Scarnecchia provided some detail to a hand-out which reflects the change in budget over time. She pointed out that SOL is still in the process of paying off debt, which has so far been allowed by gradual reduction. She and School Administrator Peggy Lovato believe SOL will be able to pay off the entire deficit by the end of this year. She also emphasized that it would be in the best interest of SOL to get to the point where it is not depending on the use of salary savings to meet budget requirements.
- b. Dean Scarnecchia invited discussion. At the conclusion of the conversation she thanked Karen Talley for her help with the earlier PowerPoint presentation.

VII. Order of the Coif

- a. Everyone not a member of the Order of the Coif was asked to leave the meeting at this point.
- b. The list of potential inductees was distributed and discussion ensued.
- c. The motion was made and seconded to admit those on the list, with one amendment to it based on the discussion's outcome, which passed unanimously upon a vote.
- d. A motion was made and seconded to admit all new faculty members to the Order who were not currently members, and who wished to be included, which passed unanimously upon a vote.

The meeting adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Bauman
Administrative Assistant to the Dean