

**UNM SCHOOL OF LAW  
FACULTY MEETING**

**Tuesday, November 20, 2007**

The meeting was called to order at 3:10 p.m.

Attendance: Megan Argo, Marsha Baum, Norman Bay, Barbara Blumenfeld, Kip Bobroff, Sherri Burr, Laura Gomez, Steven Homer, Scott Hughes, April Land, Antoinette Sedillo Lopez, Jose Martinez, Alfred Mathewson, Mike Norwood, Ted Occhialino, Sergio Pareja, Carol Parker, Leo Romero, Suellyn Scarnecchia, Carol Suzuki

Students: Joshua Alison, Brian Close

Staff: Sunne Preston, Bonnie Stepleton, Bill Uher

- I. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes of the September 11, 2007, faculty meeting. Upon a vote the minutes were approved with no corrections or additions.
  
- II. Announcements – Dean Scarnecchia
  - a. Presented the revised schedule for upcoming faculty meetings: Wednesday, December 12, at 3:00 p.m.; and Thursday, December 13, beginning at 10:00 a.m. The second meeting may not be held, as the only agenda item for both meetings is the Natural Resources faculty appointment, which may be wrapped up during Wednesday's meeting.
  - b. Recommended faculty utilize support staff to make facilities arrangements such as booking rooms for review sessions or make-up classes.
  - c. Notified faculty that using the Outlook calendar to maintain their schedules allows others within the system to see availability (or non-availability) for ease of scheduling appointments.
  - d. Provided feedback on recent ABA Accreditation Site Visit:
    - i. In general the Site Team (Team) complimented our hospitality, friendliness, quality of staff, and the quality of facilities made available. They really liked the King room, which was set up well. Dean Scarnecchia thanked staff at today's lunch for all the work to make visit successful.
    - ii. Detailed the feedback, by section, which was shared with President Schmidly (and his responses) as well as the additional comments the Team made to the Dean.
    - iii. Invited questions; there were none
    - iv. Thanked everyone and especially self study committee
  
- III. Faculty Appointments Committee Report – Professor Romero
  - a. Reminded everyone of the upcoming on-campus candidate interview schedule and logistics.
  - b. Stated that the library has materials available for review for each of the candidates.
  - c. Solicited suggestions and questions

- d. Announced committee will propose processes for faculty approval or modification regarding how to make tenure decision if a decision is made to make an offer to one of the lateral candidates. They hope to distribute the process for review before next faculty meeting. Dean Scarnecchia explained that she had asked the committee to try to develop general policy in order to avoid figuring out tenure issues on individual basis. She also iterated that while it would be in SOL's best interest to do so early, there is no need to "rush" the decision.
- e. Was asked for and provided a brief description of the process used to narrow field down to the five final candidates.
- f. Dean Scarnecchia thanked the committee for all their work, and encouraged faculty involvement in the hiring process.

#### IV. Academic Support Committee Report – Professor Mathewson

- a. Provided brief updates on three key items:
  - i. Practice Exam Workshop – The committee is still working out kinks in identifying struggling students. Everyone currently identified has been contacted and offered assistance, with varying levels of acceptance. Another workshop will be attempted during spring semester.
  - ii. Academic Advisors – Details of the current state of the program, as well as the intended policy changes were provided. A faculty training workshop will be held on Tuesday, January 15, which will provide familiarity with the Faculty Advisement handbook in the process of being produced. The committee is proposing to have Law School advisement luncheons (one for 1Ls and one for 2Ls) during spring semester.
  - iii. Website – Information regarding courses, course planning, paths towards graduation will be available online.
- b. The committee is arranging to bring in Larry Krieger (whom Associate Dean Norwood described as a Florida State professor who has written extensively in the areas of academic support, advisement and career planning) to SOL in March – possibly the week before spring break. It is hoped he will be able to present to both the faculty and students, as well as spending some time with the committee.

#### V. Library and Instructional Technology Report – Law Library Director Parker

- a. Instructional Technology:
  - i. Explained that the Dean has \$25000 to invest in library and classroom upgrades. The committee is currently working to prioritize short term recommendations, and will eventually look to long term upgrades. This will be a multi-year process.
  - ii. Described the main, immediate focus to be the big classrooms (2401, 2402, 2405, 2406), but solicited input (via e-mail) regarding both short and long-term upgrades, including courtrooms.
  - iii. Expressed the desire to finalize and distribute short-term report, hopefully before all the money is allocated, in order to possibly accommodate ideas generated from those outside the committee.
  - iv. Commented on her attendance at Professor Mathewson's workshop at the federal courthouse, and how impressed she was by the presenters. The committee has arranged for them to show SOL some of new technology that has been installed in

the courthouse. On Friday, December 7, at 2:00 p.m., SOL will have a private showing of the new technology installed in Rio Grande courtroom. She asked anyone interested in attending to let her know.

- v. Announced that on Stephen Wright (the individual in charge of the 10<sup>th</sup> District Circuit Court's mandatory electronic filing system) will be here to present to 1Ls. She would like to arrange w/him a shorter session to the faculty. He is also responsible for training attorneys on how to use the system.
- b. Library:
  - The committee is in the process of drafting 2 policies, on which they are asking faculty to offer feedback and/or ideas.
  - i. Use of D space for student scholarship
  - ii. The collection of archives within the Law Library (Should we collect any at all, and if so what?)
- c. Discussion ensued regarding all the items Professor Parker presented.

#### VI. Forum Design – Dean Scarnecchia

Dean Scarnecchia provided a brief description of where in the Forum re-design process SOL currently stands.

#### VII. Pipeline Committee – Professor Pareja

- a. Detailed previous efforts aimed at interesting and preparing young students for law school, beginning in elementary school
- b. Charged this year to focus on undergraduate populations, primarily UNM. Professor Pareja explained the continued work with high schools, as well as efforts with undergraduate populations.
- c. Invited anyone interested to come to meetings and asked for suggestions and ideas.
- d. There was a brief period of discussion and question-and-answers.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Bauman  
Administrative Assistant to the Dean