

**UNM SCHOOL OF LAW
FACULTY MEETING**

Tuesday, October 28, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 3:15 p.m. by Associate Dean Antoinette Sedillo Lopez, as Interim Dean Leo Romero was delayed in another meeting.

Attendance: Norman Bay, Reed Benson, Paul Biderman, Barbara Blumenfeld, Michael Browde, Sherri Burr, Louis Caldera, Chris Fritz, Sandy Gaines, Erik Gerding, John LaVelle, Antoinette Sedillo Lopez, Nathalie Martin, José Martinez, Alfred Mathewson, Jenny Moore, Daniel Ortega, Sergio Pareja, Liz Rapaport, Leo Romero, Carol Suzuki, Peter Winograd

Students: Debbie Stambaugh, Ozy Adams

Staff/Sr. Admin: Sandra Bauman, John Feldman, Bonnie Stepleton

Guests: Chamisa Pacheco, Development Recruitment and Outreach Officer, United Way of Central New Mexico

- I. UNM United Way Campaign Presentation – Chamisa Pacheco
 - a. Ms. Pacheco introduced herself and gave background information on her affiliation with United Way of Central New Mexico.
 - b. She explained how United Way’s Community Fund works, spoke briefly on how agencies are funded and encouraged faculty to contribute. Individuals can indicate agencies anywhere in the world for donation distribution. Due to corporate underwriting of overhead costs, 100% of donations go to the agencies donors designate.

- II. Announcements
 - a. Assoc. Dean Sedillo Lopez introduced 1L Faculty Rep Ozy Adams as this was the first meeting he has attended since being elected to the position.
 - b. The following announcements were distributed in print form, and were briefly highlighted by Assoc. Dean Sedillo Lopez:
 - i. The processing and indexing of Governor and Mrs. King’s collection has been completed, on time and under budget. The collection is now on site in the Law Library archive storage room, and can be found online as well.
 - ii. On September 17, 2008, the NM Supreme court approved an amendment to NMRA 15-104. This amendment, which becomes effective for the February 2009 bar exam, now requires law schools to complete a Law School Certification Form and send it to the NM Board of Bar Examiners along with an applicant’s final and complete transcript. UNMSOL is currently working on a process for complying with this new requirement.
 - iii. Judicial Selection News:

1. 2nd Judicial District: Leo will be chairing a Judicial Nominating Commission meeting Albuquerque on November 13th and 14th to fill two vacancies on the 2nd Judicial District Court.
2. Bernalillo County Metropolitan Court: Leo will also be chairing a Judicial Nominating Commission meeting in Albuquerque on November 20th to fill a vacancy on that court.
3. Court of Appeals: Professor Rob Schwartz was one of ten individuals recommended to Governor Bill Richardson by the Appellate Judicial Nominating Commission for consideration for appointment to one of three vacancies on that court.
- iv. UNM's HLC (Higher Learning Commission) accreditation site visit has been scheduled for April 6 – 8, 2009. Additional details regarding the agenda of the visit will be shared by main campus as it develops.
- v. The next Faculty Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 18, 2008.
- c. Upon his arrival, Dean Romero added:
 - i. His thanks to everyone involved with this year's Ramo Lecture. Roberta and Dr. Barry Ramo were very pleased, especially with the student turn-out.
 - ii. His congratulations to everyone involved in the recent Financial Crisis teach-in, which was a great success. He is very pleased that organization and hosting of this event originated from SOL, and that it attracted a wide range of students, and other individuals, from the Law School, across campus and the community.
- d. Professor John LaVelle announced the upcoming Indian Law Convocation on Monday, November 10, at 5:30 p.m. Everyone will be receiving more detailed invitations shortly.
- e. IPL Director Paul Biderman announced the upcoming symposium, "Exploring Collaborative Governance in New Mexico," hosted by the UNM consortium for Collaborative Public Policy on Friday, November 14. Additional information was available in the form of a printed flyer.

III. Approval of Minutes

- a. A motion to approve the minutes of the September 23rd faculty meeting was made and seconded. No discussion ensued, and upon a vote the minutes were approved unanimously with no changes or corrections.
- b. A motion to approve the minutes of the September 30th faculty meeting was made and seconded. No discussion ensued, and upon a vote the minutes were approved unanimously with no changes or corrections.

IV. Development Officer Search Report – Interim Dean Leo Romero

- a. The SOL had two applicants who were invited for interviews. However, one of the applicants recently withdrew after receiving another offer from a different University area.
- b. The second applicant was scheduled to interview on October 29th. While Dean Romero hopes everything goes well, he will not make an offer simply to fill the position, if the candidate doesn't seem to be the right fit.

V. Faculty Search Report – Professor Alfred Mathewson

- a. Professor Mathewson presented the following details:
 - i. The committee is currently conducting telephone interviews.
 - ii. There are 23 interviews scheduled at the November AALS Recruitment Conference.
 - iii. The committee has reviewed approximately 90 candidate files on the AALS website.
 - iv. 50 applications have been received and the committee is selecting individuals for telephone interviews.
 - v. The committee hopes to bring finalists to campus beginning the week of November 17th.
 - vi. There are more Clinical applicants than Indian Law applicants, but both are strong pools.
- b. Discussion ensued.

VI. Report on the University's "Belt-Tightening" Plan – Interim Dean Leo Romero

- a. Dean Romero presented the following information based on Deans' meetings with President Schmidly and Provost Ortega over the past week:
 - i. Due to projected state budget short-falls, the Governor has ordered all state agencies to freeze 5% of their budgets for the current year.
 - ii. There is some speculation that the state legislature will ask for a rescission of 5% of 2008-09 appropriations for higher education.
 - iii. This week's two meetings outlined the tentative plan of President Schmidly and the Regents by defining a number of steps to "pause" spending and accumulate cash in the event legislature does call for a rescission.
 - iv. President Schmidly assured everyone there would be no layoffs. There will be a "pause" in hiring, position reallocations/analyses and pay adjustments. This will particularly affect staff.
 - v. All money saved will be held to be returned to the original sources should no rescission occur.
 - vi. UNM Deans asked the president about current ongoing hiring searches. President Schmidly's answer was that the searches should proceed, as they may not get to the offer stage until more information is known from the legislature. There will still be room to make arguments for 'critical' hires even should a permanent freeze go into effect.
 - vii. The funds affected are I & G and special project funds (SILC, the Library, and probably minor capital projects, for example), but probably not contracts, grants or tuition funding. UNM will impose a 10% reduction in travel and operating money that falls under I & G funds.
- b. Discussion ensued.

VII. AALS Faculty Representatives

- a. A motion was made and seconded to elect Interim Dean Leo Romero as the primary representative of UNMSOL to the AALS House of Representatives. Upon a vote, the motion passed unanimously.
- b. A motion was made and seconded to elect Associate Dean Antoinette Sedillo Lopez as the alternate representative. Upon a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

- VIII. Assessment and Teaching Committee Report – Associate Dean Antoinette Sedillo Lopez
- a. Assoc. Dean Sedillo Lopez presented the report on behalf of Professor Marsha Baum, chair of the committee.
 - b. She expressed thanks from both of them to the faculty for responding to the survey the committee sent out.
 - c. The committee has decided to continue the project, so faculty who have not yet been interviewed, or didn't have the opportunity to respond to the survey, will be contacted.
 - d. The committee will be setting up and using an internal "wiki" to share ideas and enhance or access the creativity currently happening among the SOL faculty. The committee is very impressed with how many things are currently going on at UNMSOL which are in tune with "Best Practices."
 - e. One of the committee's goals is to promote, both internally and externally, the great things happening here. At some point the committee will bring a proposal to the faculty for approval regarding releasing information about our methods to the external teaching community.
 - f. The topic of one of the November Faculty Lunches will be assessment. The November 25th Deans' Hour will also be devoted to teaching.
 - g. UNM is adopting a new student evaluation questionnaire. Some of the law professors are piloting it this semester and will share the outcomes with the faculty at a later date.
- IX. Proposed Changes to Summer Grants (Discussion Item) – Interim Dean Leo Romero
- a. Associate Dean Laura Gómez would like the faculty to look over the proposal for discussion at the next meeting, as she was unable to attend this one.
 - b. Dean Romero gave a brief background of the proposal and highlighted some items.
 - i. The proposal provides for both research grants and summer teaching grants, with the major support going to research.
 - ii. The proposal reflects that grants should be equal among faculty rather than based on salary.
 - iii. The proposal attempts to achieve some equity in terms of the awards of each grant and provide accountability.
 - c. Some discussion ensued, however Dean Romero encouraged everyone to hold their questions and thoughts for the next meeting's discussion of this topic.
- X. Report on Minzner Chair Fundraising – Interim Dean Leo Romero
- a. Dean Romero summarized the funding goals and where we stand currently:
 - i. The ultimate goal is \$1.5 million.
 - ii. The legislature will provide a matching \$600,000 when we raise the same amount; we have \$400,000 so far.
 - iii. The legislature has appropriated an additional \$100,000 for the Chair.
 - b. There will be a fundraising event on November 10th in Washington, DC, hosted by Anne and Senator Bingaman. Alumni, and friends and schoolmates of the Minznors have been invited. Faculty who know of anyone in DC that should be invited should notify Dean Romero.

- c. All the judges who served with Justice Minzner on both the Court of Appeals and the Supreme Court are planning to give a gift towards the Chair. Dean Romero encouraged the entire faculty who worked with her to consider giving as well.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Bauman
Administrative Assistant to the Dean