

**UNM SCHOOL OF LAW
FACULTY MEETING**

Tuesday, February 7, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 3:09 p.m.

Attendance

Faculty: Grace Allison, George Bach, Marsha Baum, Reed Benson, Barbara Bergman, Sherri Burr, Jim Butler, Barbara Creel, Jim Ellis, Eileen Gauna, Scott Hughes, April Land, John LaVelle, Antoinette Sedillo Lopez, Nathalie Martin, José Martinez, Alfred Mathewson, Jenny Moore, Ted Occhialino, Helen Padilla, Leo Romero, Dave Sidhu, Carol Suzuki, Gloria Valencia-Weber, Kevin Washburn, Christine Zuni Cruz

Students: Julia Maccini, Brian Moore, David Odegard, Mel Panagakos

Staff: Sandra Bauman, Stephanie Grant, William Jackson

I. Announcements

- a. Dean Kevin Washburn reminded those present of his February travel schedule, and gave a recap of his recent development/recruitment trip to Farmington, NM, and Ft. Lewis College in Durango, CO.
- b. Professor José Martinez suggested the Law School do something to PLSI's receiving 2012 Raymond Pace and Sadie Tanner Mossell Alexander Award.
- c. Professor Barbara Creel announced the dates for the Native American Moot Court competition this month, and expressed thanks to professors who have been helpful and supportive of the team.
- d. Professor Sherri Burr reminded faculty of the February 8th colloquia.
- e. Professors Antoinette Sedillo Lopez and Marsha Baum provided brief ERB updates and suggested response or action on the part of individual faculty members.

II. Approval of January 24, 2012 Minutes

- a. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes, as presented, from the last faculty meeting.
- b. There was no further discussion and the motion received unanimous approval.

III. Grading Policy - David Odegard, Student Bar Association President

- a. President Odegard presented some specific ways the current 30-day and late grade policy has recently impacted students.
- b. Mr. Odegard asked the faculty to consider changing the current policy by reducing the grading period and possibly increasing the sanctions.
- c. A period of discussion followed, with the result being consensus among the faculty to refer this matter to the Student Affairs Committee for evaluation.

IV. Indian Law Visitorship - Professors Antoinette Sedillo Lopez and Christine Zuni Cruz

- a. Dean Washburn provided background on the faculty search in this area to date. While ordinarily the hiring of a visitor is within the dean's purview without needing a faculty vote, Dean Washburn expressed the desire for faculty input in this case. He indicated that he sought guidance because he was inclined to grant the offer of a visitorship but did not wish to do so over the faculty's objection in light of previous discussion of an Indian law hire.
 - b. Professor Sedillo Lopez spoke to the procedural issues that had been encountered previously, as well as the additional efforts made by both she and Professor Zuni Cruz to supplement the previous information provided on the candidate in question.
 - c. Professor Zuni Cruz fleshed out the details of the supplemental report, circulated to faculty via e-mail prior to this meeting, in the areas of teaching, references, scholarship, and teaching interest areas.
 - d. Lengthy discussion of the candidate, process, the curriculum and specifics related to the potential position being offered ensued.
 - i. A motion was made and seconded to postpone further conversation to allow faculty members additional time and interactions prior to moving forward with a decision.
 - 1. Discussion of the motion followed.
 - 2. The question was called and failed, with nine opposed to postponement, eight in favor and three abstentions.
 - ii. Dean Washburn asked faculty to vote, by secret ballot, to extend an offer of a one-year visitorship to the candidate for next school year.
 - 1. Faculty members were asked to write either yes or no to indicate their preference.
 - 2. Upon tallying the vote, a narrow majority voted against extending an offer.
 - e. Dean Washburn and the faculty will have a future discussion with regard to specific faculty searches during the 2012-2013 school year.
- V. Retention, Promotion and Tenure Committee Report - Professor Alfred Mathewson
- a. All individuals who were not tenure/tenure-track faculty members, with the exception of the Dean's administrative assistant taking minutes, were asked to leave the room for this portion of the meeting.
 - b. Separate minutes were taken.
- VI. Upon the conclusion of the previous business, remaining faculty engaged in a period of debriefing and reflective conversation regarding relational community issues arising during the course of the last few faculty meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Sandra Bauman

Administrative Assistant to the Dean