

FACULTY MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, October 30, 2012

Called to order: 3:10 p.m.

Attendance

Faculty:

George Bach, Barbara Bergman, Sherri Burr, Yael Cannon, Camille Carey, Chris Fritz, Eileen Gauna, April Land, Antoinette Sedillo Lopez, Nathalie Martin, Alfred Mathewson, Max Minzner, Jennifer Moore, Aliza Organick, Sergio Pareja, Liz Rapaport, Alex Ritchie, Leo Romero, Dave Sidhu, David Stout, Carol Suzuki, Kevin Tu, Peter Winograd

Students:

Jesse Allen, Consuelo Gonzales, Ashley Funkhauser

Sr. Staff/Staff:

Hannah Farrington Parker, Kelli Grady, Heather Harrigan, Cyndi Johnson, Bonnie Stepleton, Raylene Weis

- I. Announcements
 - a. Assistant Dean Bonnie Stepleton:
 - i. Meeting with students – tables are being set up in the Forum area if you'd like to stop by
 - b. Professor Sherri Burr
 - i. Art project update – replacement of existing pictures and artwork. Would like to highlight staff artists (i.e., Barbara Bergman photography).
 - c. Professor Eileen Gauna
 - i. Sending out the survey to Associate Deans regarding teaching plans for the upcoming 2 years.
- II. Approval of October 2, 2012, Faculty Meeting Minutes
 - a. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes, as presented, from the last faculty meeting.
- III. Dean's Report – Interim Dean, Barbara Bergman
 - a. Overview of direction as interim dean
 - b. Curriculum - Steve Holton – chair of committee re: writing seminars, getting feedback
 - c. Washington D.C. Semester Program – currently have 20 appl for next fall
 - d. GTOR / Madrid – students enthusiasm for the Semester Abroad has generated much excitement. There has been much talk amongst the students regarding the program.
 - e. Dean Bergman has a “3 C's” *principles* of her leadership style during her tenure as Interim Dean:
 - i. Curriculum – *has always been (first and foremost favorite subject)*

- ii. Community –talking about tough issues, and continue to work through them and not have it fade away. Mediator – Kathy Isaacson – continue working with us to help move ideas forward
- iii. Communication – talking to each other.
 - 1. Finding out many activities staff is doing.
 - 2. Creating a Communications & Marketing position - help find out what everyone is doing, how to not only communicate internally, but get info out
 - 3. Adam resigned as webmaster –

Professor Alfred Mathewson has agreed to chair the search committee that has been formed to fill the Communications & Marketing position. This role will help fulfill the need of not only finding out what each of us are doing, but communicating that information externally – potential students, the community, our alumni/ae.

- f. Open door policy – Dean Bergman has an open door policy – she encouraged both staff and students who have questions, comments or suggestions to please stop by and discuss. She commented on the great group of deans, associate deans and administrative staff that the Law School has.
- g. Provost Chaouki Abdallah will be at the faculty meeting on November 13 to report on the search committee for a new Dean of the Law School, and the process of that search.

IV. Other Items of Business:

- a. Professor Liz Rappaport – Clinical Candidate search and Indian Law scholar search. The Committee’s approach has been to “vet” the candidates first.
 - i. Clinical Candidate search
Update on interviews of the Clinical Candidates. Storms in the northeast have delayed the October 29 interview and rescheduled to November 8.

All interviews will be completed with potential candidates on November 8, and would like to reserve time at the faculty meeting on November 13th to vote on which candidate to extend an offer.

Dean Rappaport was well pleased with the work of the Clinic sub-committee and the time that was spent on the interview process. She thanks everyone for the high level of faculty participation. These are high-quality, sought after candidates and our clinic is good enough to recruit them, but it is equally important for them to feel the interest and welcome from our faculty.

Candidates were chosen from the (_____) Conference in Washington D.C.

- ii. Indian Law Scholar search –
This process is not as far along as the Clinical candidate. This posting took longer to get the ad posted and dispersed. There wasn't the expectation for the annual DC conference to be productive for this search, but there were very good candidates. The volume of candidates has increased and applications are being assessed. There will be a meeting this week to consider looking at applications from lateral candidates.

An update will be given at the next faculty meeting.

Dean Bergman issued a round of thanks to the Committee – they have been working very hard at contacting references and reading the writing samples submitted to vet applicants.

b. Multi-Year Lecturer Contracts

- i. Dean Bergman readdressed the subject and reported on her findings. Back in 2006 discussions started regarding long term contracts for writing instructor. By April 2008 the policy had been approved and sent to Main Campus for approval. Findings show that the request was to offer 5-year renewal contracts for Writing Instructors that had been here for a minimum of 4 years. Currently, contracts are renewed for one year.

Main Campus has adopted a new category for multi-year contracts – those who qualify for “principal lecturers” – but are only in 3 year terms, not 5 year as had been requested.

- ii. ABA Inspection – will help with the job security for long term writing instructors. This is a “self inspection” report.

We don't have a structure for formal process in place for multi-year contracts. If we approve, a letter will be sent to the Assistant Provost requesting multi-year contracts and having it move forward.

Professor Antoinette Sedillo Lopez commented on the evaluation. She suggested that the evaluation be incorporated as part of the process. Dean Bergman commented that the structure had been built in and referenced the notes from 2006. She offered to circulate the research notes.

Assoc Dean April Land addressed that the issue had been tied to another process – that things technically needed to be tweaked. It was adopted as a policy of the Law School but never integrated. It would be tied to the 3 year contracts instead of 5 year as requested.

Dean Bergman stated that subject to a motion and approval of the faculty, she would put together a small committee and would appoint someone to negotiate with Main Campus.

Professor Eileen Gauna stated that if anybody was interested in looking at and revisiting the policy to make comments or suggestions to the committee.

A motion was made by Prof Max Minzner and seconded by Prof Liz Rapaport to form a small committee to revisit the policy and negotiate with Main Campus to institute a 5-year renewal contract.

c. AALS House of Representatives

A faculty representative needs to be nominated by November 30th. The next AALS conference is scheduled for January 5 and 6, 2013.

Professor Peter Winograd commented that oftentimes an issue generates differing opinions at the conference and that having a representative there to bring that information back to the faculty. An agenda is generated in advance.

A request for two volunteers was made – both a Representative and an Alternate – Antoinette Sedillo Lopez volunteered to be the Alternate and Professor Sherri Burr made a motion to nominate Aliza Organick as the Representative.

d. Upcoming Clinic interviews

Professor Liz Rapaport announced that a sign-up sheet for interview slots would be available in the Library, as well as notebooks containing writing samples of the candidates. Students were also encouraged to meet with the candidates as they would be teaching them.

A request to Faculty to help fill the “gap time” – from 4pm until dinner – and encouraged to spend time with the candidates during that time.

As there was no other business or announcements, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Professor Sherri Burr and seconded by Nathalie Martin; the meeting adjourned at 3:32 pm