

Faculty Meeting Minutes May 2, 2017

The meeting was called to order by Dean Sergio Pareja at 4:06 pm

Faculty: George Bach, Reed Benson, Kip Bobroff, Sherri Burr, Camille Carey, Barbara Creel, Scott England, Steven Homer, Scott Hughes, April Land, Ernesto Longa, Serge Martinez, Alfred Mathewson, Jennifer Moore, Aliza Organick, Daniel Ortega, Mary Pareja, Sergio Pareja, Michelle Rigual, Alex Ritchie, David Stout, Carol Suzuki, Sherri Thomas, Peter Winograd, Christine Zuni Cruz

Staff: Beverly Akin

Announcements

Carol Parker, a law school faculty member and UNM's Senior Vice-Provost for Academic Affairs, has been appointed Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at the University of Texas at El Paso, effective July 1, 2017.

Dean Pareja will be departing for the law school's four-week, five-credit summer law program in Madrid, Spain near the end of the month. Because of time change and the intensity of the program, Dean Pareja has requested that, should you need to reach him, please be sure to use his individual email address (pareja@law.unm.edu). While he will not be checking e-mail as frequently as usual while in Spain, he is more likely to check that e-mail address while there.

The class of 2017 would like to invite faculty and staff to the "Woody Awards Ceremony" on Thursday, May 11, 2017, at 5:00 p.m., on the back patio. Please join us for food, fun, and laughter to celebrate our time together. Family members are welcome to attend.

The Association of American Law Schools' (AALS) 40th Annual Conference on Clinical Legal Education and Clinical and Experiential Law Program Directors Workshop will be happening in Denver from May 5 through May 9, 2017, and UNM School of Law is taking a leading role. Professor Carol Suzuki is Chair of the Planning Committee for the Conference and Workshop, and she will give the introduction on May 7 to welcome attendees to the conference. Dean Alfred Mathewson and several of our faculty members also will be there. Associate Dean Aliza Organick will be on the panel that will examine "Cementing the Core of Clinical Programs."

The graduation committee is still in need of faculty volunteers to participate in helping in the hooding process. Presenters are also needed. If you would like to participate, please contact Nancy Huffstutler.

Dean Pareja reminded the faculty that, as we approach the time to grade our students, they should double check all grading computations for accuracy.

ACTION ITEM: A motion to approve the April 11 faculty meeting minutes was made. It was seconded with no discussion. The motion passed - 25 votes in favor with 3 abstentions.

Discussion Regarding Law Library Lecturer Promotion Policy — Professor Michelle Rigual:

Two documents were distributed via email. One is the *Amended Draft Policy on Lecturers on the Law Library Faculty Appointment, Review & Promotion, April 2017*. The other is a redlined version comparing that document with the similar policy that the faculty recently adopted with respect to lecturers on the law faculty (legal writing faculty). Professor Rigual explained how the draft policy was crafted. The first draft that was distributed at the last faculty meeting was an attempt to capture the practices that have been in place; however, this revised draft reflects the feedback on the first draft and a collaboration with the Deans for consistency while looking at ABA and university policies and attempting to comport with both. Professor Rigual went through the various changes on the draft. As it is now written, the Dean(s) will consider the written recommendation or the Library Director and take into account the recommendations of the appointment committee, the faculty vote, and any other relevant information. This is not an Action Item for today, but it will need to be voted on in August. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Professor Rigual for clarification.

ACTION ITEM: Grading for MSL Program - Deans Alfred Mathewson and Sergio Pareja:

The MSL program is not intended to prepare students to be lawyers. However, students who successfully complete the program should have a better understanding of law than people who have not. Because the MSL program is a graduate program, rather than a professional program like our J.D. program, questions have been raised about differences in grading standards between the two programs. Will MSL students be graded just like law (J.D.) students? Alternatively, should we separate out MSL students to indicate that they are not JD students at the time of grading exams and papers? Should the SOL create an entirely separate grading standard (other than A, B, C, D, F), which would probably need to be approved by main campus? There was much discussion among the faculty as to how the grading process would work for the MSL students. Ultimately, a motion was made to do three things:

First, professors would be told which exams and papers belong to graduate students as opposed to J.D. students. All graduate students from any discipline would be grouped together for this purpose.

Second, professors shall adjust their grading scale for graduate students to comport with the graduate school grading scale.

Third, the law school will include the following language on the transcript that the law school issues for MSL students: “MSL students are graded on the graduate school curve because it is a graduate program and not a professional school program. They are not graded on the J.D. curve. Graduate students should only receive a grade of less than a B in very rare circumstances.”

The motion passed with two opposed and two abstentions.

Hiring Plan – Deans Alfred Mathewson and Sergio Pareja: Sherri Burr is retiring at the end of July, and Kevin Tu's line was lost with his departure. We also will be losing John Whitlow in January. At the moment our thought is to request one hire who ideally would be able to teach intellectual property and business courses. Absent a motion to the contrary we will move forward with that plan when we make our hiring request over the summer. No motion was made.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:18 pm