

Faculty Meeting Minutes

February 13, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 3:03 pm, once a quorum was reached. The following people were present for at least some portion of the meeting.

Faculty: Maryam Ahranjani, George Bach, Marsha Baum, Kip Bobroff, Sherri Burr, Barbara Creel, Scott England, Scott Hughes, Joshua Kastenberg, April Land, John LaVelle, Jennifer Laws, Ernesto Longa, Nathalie Martin, Justin Goodman, Serge Martinez, Alfred Mathewson, Aliza Organick, Daniel Ortega, Gabe Pacyniak, Mary Pareja, Sergio Pareja, Michelle Rigual, Leo Romero, Alexandra Siek, Sarah Steadman, David Stout, Gloria Valencia-Weber, Cliff Villa, Kevin Washburn, Peter Winograd, **Christine Zuni Cruz** (17 needed for quorum; names that count toward quorum in bold)

Students: Ben Osborn

Staff: Beverly Akin, Krista Allen, Hannah Farrington, Heather Harrigan, Chad Covey, David Pallozzi

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Dean Pareja announced that there will not be a lunch drawing this month.

Dean Pareja announced that Reed Benson has decided to stay at the School of Law. There was an enthusiastic round of applause at this announcement.

Heather Harrigan announced that on February 22, 2018, at noon in room 2401, there will be Tutor Collaborative Learning Training. All are welcome to attend.

Dean Mathewson announced that, although the UNM mock trial team did not win the Western Regionals, they made it to the finals. Dean Mathewson also thanked Hannah Farrington, Heather Harrigan, Nancy Huffstutler, Carmen Rawls, and the student, staff, and alumni volunteers for all their work in making the competition a success!

ACTION ITEM:

Approval of Minutes from January 16, 2018 faculty meeting: A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as circulated. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed with no no votes and one abstention.

Art Committee report – Emeritus Professor Sherri Burr: The School of Law 2018 Artist-in-Residence Program opening reception will be held on Tuesday, February 20, 2018, from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. in the Forum. The theme for this year, *New Mexico on Canvas or Print*, features work from fourteen artists that include alumni, faculty, staff, students, friends, and family. If you are interested in buying any of the pieces prior to the opening, pre-sales can be arranged. Contact Emeritus Professor Sherri Burr directly if interested.

Discussion of proposed changes to 1L curriculum for 2018-19 – Associate Dean Marsha Baum, Chair of Curriculum Committee: Associate Dean Baum described a draft proposal of the proposed curriculum, which is based in part on input that the Curriculum Committee has received from faculty and students as well as from the Experimental Learning Committee’s report. Any changes to next year’s 1L curriculum will need to be voted on at the March faculty meeting. Associate Dean Baum asked that any comments or input be sent directly to her before then. She will pass any input she receives on to the Curriculum Committee. The basic proposal gets rid of CHLP as a mandatory requirement and converts Practicum from a one-credit to a three-credit course, which would contain a heavy focus on experiential, pre-practice learning. In lieu of CHLP, students would have to take a course that satisfies a “Perspectives” requirement before the end of their 2L year. If these proposed changes are adopted, the 1L curriculum would look as follows:

Fall 2018

Contracts
Torts
Criminal
ELA I
Practicum (3 credits)

Spring 2019

Civ Pro I
Property I
ELA II
Con Law
Perspectives/Elective (2-3 credits)

Here are some courses that potentially could satisfy the “Perspectives” requirement:

Perspectives

CHLP (an elective)
International Law
Study Aboard
Poverty Law in Practice / Social Justice Lawyering

Professor Organick informed the faculty that the committee would be meeting on Friday to put the proposal together and stated that the committee was open to any thoughts they may have.

There was much discussion among the faculty as to the type of classes that need to be taught and when law students should take them. Emeritus Professor Leo Romero, suggested that a course on legal history, like CHLP, should be taught during the first semester to give context to the other courses. Professor Bach stated that Legal Research should be taught to 1Ls, and Professor Rigual noted that the library faculty members have differing views on whether Legal Research should be taught in the 1L year.

Discussion regarding proposed amendments to the student suspension and readmission sections of the Bulletin & Handbook of Policies – Professor April Land, Chair of Student Retention, Suspension & Readmission Committee: Based on a review of the class of 2017 data, the Task Force continues to recommend that the faculty consider a change to the *Bulletin and Handbook of Policies* as follows:

Mandatory Academic Advising. Students who have a cumulative GPA above 2.25 but below 2.5 must attend an academic advisement session with the Academic Dean or the Academic Dean's designees during the subsequent term's enrollment period to discuss future course selection.

Academic Warning:

1. Any student whose cumulative law school GPA falls within the range of 2.00-2.25 will be given an Academic Warning by the Dean or the Dean's designee.
2. Students who receive an Academic Warning will be encouraged to seek support from the Office of Student & Career Services and the Director of Academic Success in order to improve their academic standing. Additionally, students who receive an Academic Warning must attend an academic advisement session with the Director of Academic Success during the subsequent term's enrollment period to discuss future course selection.

Additionally, the Committee requested feedback on its proposals which include the creation of a process for the Committee to hear Petitions for Readmission to law school by students who seek to return to the law school after an absence, a change to allow three Petitions for Relief from Suspension and one for extraordinary circumstances, and some edits which will clean up the language and structure of the section of the Handbook.

The Task Force is encouraged that the Student Retention, Suspension and Readmission Committee is currently examining the proposal and plans to bring it before the full faculty in the spring semester.

Announcement regarding process for requesting approval to hold events at the law school – Deans Mathewson and Pareja: Because of the large number of events that the School of Law has been asked to participate in, we are in the process of putting a new event request procedure in place. The process will work very simply and will be on-line. Chad is still working on this and hopefully will have something to show you within a few weeks. The on-line system will allow you to request that the law school support the event. The system will then ask several questions: if parking will be needed, what marketing will be needed, will audio/visual be needed, who will be in charge of the event (the name of a faculty member, staff, or student), what the cost will be, etc. Once the questions are answered, the deans will get input from senior staff and then make a determination regarding whether to have the event at the law school.

Kellogg Committee report – Associate Dean Aliza Organick, Chair of Kellogg Committee: In this “mini-report” Associate Dean Organick, focused on two aspects of the committee’s work. First, she noted that the Kellogg Grant is a law school grant, and we need to treat it as such. It is a large grant, and there is quite a bit involved in understanding what our role is at this law school and what we need to do to support the work that our grant request requires. The second year of this grant ends on March 31. At that time, we will move forward with a report that will talk about what we have done in the last year. In the inaugural year, there was not a lot to report of any substance. Beth Gillia has done an amazing job putting into place relationships, outreach, and conferences, but this year will really be about us, who we are, and what we have done at the law school. Right now, we are in the reporting phase and gathering data so we can get the report prepared shortly after March 31.

Second, we need to identify what we are doing in our classes that should be included in our grant report. Where in the curriculum (anywhere, big or small) do we talk with our students about children in poverty, family justice, or racial inequality? A member of a subcommittee will be reaching out to you soon, not through a survey but, rather, to engage in a one-on-one discussion. The purpose is for us to learn about ways in which these things are being incorporated into your classes. Thank you in advance for participating and helping us gather this information.

Update and further discussion regarding 2018-19 faculty hiring plan – Deans Mathewson and Pareja:

The deans ideally would like the faculty to make a decision by April regarding the faculty hiring plan for next year. Currently the School of Law appears to have the funds to hire five faculty members, which could be permanent hires or some combination of permanent and visitors. This determination assumes that Alex Ritchie, John Whitlow, and Yael Cannon are not returning, and it does not factor in Dean Mathewson's or Association Dean Baum's anticipated retirements later this calendar year. It also does not consider the fact that some funds are available to go toward the salary of a person holding an Oil & Gas Chair, assuming that Professor Ritchie leaves the law school for good.

A new opportunity recently arose that the faculty may want to consider. A full-time faculty member in Africana Studies has expressed interest in becoming a faculty member at the School of Law. This faculty member has expressed an interest in teaching in the areas of Constitution Law, Constitutional Rights, Criminal Procedure, and Family Law. The Provost has informed us that, while he needs to look into it, there may be a path to move the faculty member into one of the five available tenure-track positions at the law school, should the law faculty want to do that. We told the Provost that such a move could only happen through an interview, including a job talk, and a vote of the faculty. If the faculty member were to be hired by the law school as one of our five hires (with an August 2019 start date) we would be left with four hires for this fall. At the next faculty meeting, assuming we get Provost approval, we plan to ask the faculty to vote on whether they would like to pursue this opportunity. If so, the faculty member would be invited for an interview in April to be considered for a position at the law school. If people want to consider the faculty member, the interview would likely occur in early April so that we could vote on whether to extend an offer at the April faculty meeting. If our faculty at the law school do not wish to pursue this opportunity, the faculty member from Africana Studies would need to apply for one of the regular faculty positions in the fall recruiting season.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ACTION ITEM:

Prof. Jeanette Wolfley promotion and tenure vote – Professor Scott Hughes, Chair of Faculty Retention, Promotion & Tenure Committee:

All individuals who were not tenure stream faculty members or emeriti, with the exception of the deans' administrative assistant who was taking minutes, left the

room for this portion of the meeting. As a confidential personnel matter, separate minutes were taken that are not included in this public record.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. It passed by general consent. The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.