

Faculty Meeting Minutes
November 13, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. by Dean Sergio Pareja, once a quorum was reached. The following people were present for at least some portion of the meeting:

Faculty: Maryam Ahranjani, George Bach, Reed Benson, Camille Carey, Barbara Creel, Scott England, Steven Homer, Lucrecia Jaramillo, Joshua Kastenberg, April Land, John LaVelle, Jennifer Laws, Ernesto Longa, Nathalie Martin, Serge Martinez, Aliza Organick, Mary Leto Pareja, Sergio Pareja, Michelle Rigual, Alexandra Siek, Laura Spitz, Sarah Steadman, David Stout, Carol Suzuki, Cliff Villa, and Jeanette Wolfley, (17 needed for quorum; names that count toward quorum in bold)

Emeritus: Leo Romero, Peter Winograd, Scott Hughes

Staff: Beverly Akin, Krista Allen, Chad Covey, Hannah Farrington

Students: Erika Avila Stephanz, Jared Armijo

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Years of Service Awards: Dean Pareja handed out UNM “Years of Service Awards” to the following individuals:

Reed Benson
David Stout
Jeanette Wolfley

Senior Lawyers Division Attorney Memorial Scholarship Reception: Dean Pareja noted that the event is tonight from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the New Mexico State Bar. The Senior Lawyers Division will present four UNM School of Law third-year students with \$2,500 scholarships in memory of New Mexico attorneys who have passed away over the last year. The deceased attorneys and their families will be recognized during the presentation. All State Bar members, UNM School of Law faculty, staff, and students, and family and colleagues of the deceased are welcome to attend.

Target of Opportunity (TOP) Hire: Dean Pareja noted that he is looking into possible “bridge funding” through UNM’s TOP program for a second hire from the Civil Procedure pool. The idea with bridge funding is that we receive funding for some time period to help pay the candidate’s salary until we have a departure or retirement from the law school. The best consideration deadline for such proposals is this Thursday, November 15. Nathalie Martin will be putting a preliminary draft proposal together, which Dean Pareja will finalize. The proposal will request final approval by the law faculty before a final decision is made go forward and with which candidate.

Students Services & Career Strategies Office: Quiana Salazar-King's last day will be this Friday, November 16. We have received request for specific information regarding the reasons for her departure. HR has informed us that that is a confidential personnel matter and that we should not be discussing the reasons at a faculty meeting. Heather Harrigan will be back in the office this upcoming Monday. She initially will work on a part-time basis, five days a week, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. We are working on hiring a replacement for Quiana on an expedited basis. Vice Dean Camille also has reached out to several faculty members to assist with student advising until a replacement person is hired. If necessary, she may reach out to additional faculty members for assistance.

ACTION ITEM: Approval of Minutes from October 9, 2018 faculty meeting – Dean Sergio Pareja: A motion was made to approve the minutes from the October 9, 2018 faculty meeting. The motion was seconded, and a vote was taken. It passed with no nay votes and one abstention.

Update on Ken Starr lecture – Dean Sergio Pareja: Dean Pareja recapped the events which led up to the postponement of the Ken Starr lecture, stating that he values lively healthy debates and is a believer in the free flow of ideas generating debate. He noted that the current planned date for the event is January 23. The floor was then opened up for discussion. Some faculty expressed concerns about how the scheduling of a presentation by Starr might affect survivors of sexual assault and questioned whether the change in timing would address that concern. Other faculty members noted that, while they might not be supporters of Ken Starr, they support the plan of having the event go forward.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ACTION ITEM: Approval of Minutes from October 16, 2018 executive session faculty meeting – Dean Sergio Pareja: A motion was made to approve the minutes from the October 16, 2018 executive session faculty meeting. The motion was seconded, and a vote was taken. It passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEM: Approval of Minutes from October 30, 2018 executive session faculty meeting – Dean Sergio Pareja: A motion was made to approve the minutes from the October 30, 2018 executive session faculty meeting. The motion was seconded, and a vote was taken. It passed unanimously.

ACTION ITEM: Faculty hiring decision – Faculty Appointments Committee and Dean Sergio Pareja: Members of the Faculty Appointments Committee summarized the qualifications of the three candidates for the faculty position to primarily teach Property Law. Questions and conversation ensued. Upon conclusion of the exchange, the faculty proceeded to vote in the following manner:

1. For the first round of voting (40% acceptability round), by secret ballot, faculty members were asked to mark which of the three candidates they considered acceptable to primarily teach Property Law. All three candidates received a number of votes that exceeded the 40% threshold for acceptability.

2. For the second round of voting (ranking round), also by secret ballot, each faculty member first was asked to write down only the name of the one candidate whom s/he preferred. The one with the most votes was ranked first. From the remaining two candidates, the faculty then was asked to write down the name of the one candidate whom s/he preferred. The one with the most votes was ranked second, and the remaining candidate was ranked third.
3. The faculty had planned for a third round of voting (runoff round) if a candidate in the ranking round were to receive merely a plurality of the vote rather than a majority. That did not happen. Thus, a runoff round was unnecessary.
4. For the final round of voting (60% offer round), also by secret ballot, the faculty voted on the three ranked candidates to determine if each had the support of at least 60% of the faculty. Such 60% support is needed to extend an offer. All three ranked candidates received well over 60% support. As a result, it was decided that, subject to Provost approval, the Dean would start by offering the top-ranked candidate the position. If that person turns down the offer, the Dean would move to the second ranked candidate. If that person turns down the offer, the Dean would move to the third ranked candidate.

The meeting was adjourned by general consent at 4:47 pm