

UNM School of Law
Faculty Meeting
September 18, 1978
4:00 p.m., Conference Room

MINUTES

Present: DuMars, J. Ellis, W. Ellis, Fink, Flickinger,
Goldberg, Gonzales, Hart, Hermann, Kovnat,
MacPherson, Minzner, Muir, Norwood, Occhialino,
Parnall, Romero, Schwartz, Senescu, Simson,
Stelzner, Teitelbaum, Winograd, Utton;
Student Representatives Blackburn, Dumas, Moore;
Visitor Olson

Dean Hart called the meeting to order. Minutes of the meeting of August 28, 1978, were approved.

Goldberg moved that Sig Olson, President of the Student Bar Association, be invited to attend faculty meetings, excluding those in which the matters of a particular student are involved. Carried.

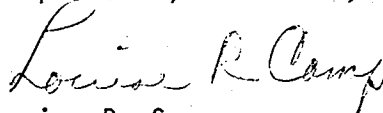
Dean Hart introduced and welcomed the new student representatives to faculty meetings.

There was discussion on the matter of selection of a dean. The UNM provost, in conversation with Dean Hart, outlined the composition of a selection committee: three members of the law faculty chosen from a list of six to nine names, the provost to make the selection; one law student; one representative of the state bar who is an alumnus; one regent of UNM; one main campus person to chair the committee; and possibly a separate committee of law students to interview those who are invited to the campus.

To clarify their position, the faculty approved the principle that the committee be composed of at least four faculty members and that law faculty members constitute at least 50% of the committee, that the faculty members of the committee be selected by the law faculty, that the committee report to the law faculty and that the faculty make suggestions to the President, and the search committee consult with the faculty on a regular basis throughout the search. The faculty directed that a letter be sent to Provost Hull, drafted by a committee of DuMars, Teitelbaum, Goldberg, and Utton. (See attached letter.)

Next meeting: September 25. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,


Louise R. Camp
Sec'y

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO

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September 20, 1978

Provost McAllister H. Hull, Jr.
Scholes Hall 226D
University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM 87131

Dear Provost Hull:

At the most recent meeting of the Law School faculty, Dean Hart described the proposed composition of the Dean Search Committee. The members of the faculty asked me to communicate to you their grave concern and dissatisfaction with certain elements of this proposal:

- (1) It is our understanding that you envision a Committee of approximately seven to eight members, only three of whom will be members of the Law School faculty. The small representation of Law School faculty is inappropriate for the following reasons. First, the interests of the Law School community, which the faculty represents, are of substantially greater importance than minority representation on the Committee would reflect. Secondly, the size and diversity of the Law School community make it impossible for three persons adequately to represent these different interests. At least four faculty members, constituting no less than one-half of the total Committee, seem to us minimal representation on the Search Committee.
- (2) It is our understanding that you propose to select the faculty representatives on the Search Committee from a slate submitted by the Law School. This procedure also is inappropriate. Members of the Committee who represent the Law School faculty should be selected by that faculty.
- (3) Finally, we are concerned about the lack of explicit procedures clearly establishing the necessary consultation between the Committee and the faculty with respect to recommended candidates. All candidates considered by the Search Committee for submission to the President should be interviewed by the Law School faculty, who should have the right to disapprove any candidate, to express its opinion of the relative merits of candidates who are proposed to the President, and to recommend any candidate to the President for Selection as Dean. The Committee

should also consult regularly with the faculty throughout the search.

We do not raise these matters lightly. We are concerned that the proposed composition of the Dean Search Committee not only fails to recognize the legitimate interests of the Law School faculty, but also fails to satisfy the accreditation requirements of both the American Bar Association and the Association of American Law Schools. It is the unanimous desire of the faculty that I convey to you the views expressed above.

Very truly yours,



Albert E. Utton
Professor of Law

cc: President William E. Davis
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