

March 10, 1992

Faculty Meeting Minutes
School of Law
Dean's Conference Room, 4:00 PM

PRESENT: Bergman, Browde, Burr, Cook, Cote, DeLoria, Desiderio, Ellis, W., Fort, Fritz, Gill, Godfrey, Gonzales, Goodman, Hall, Hermann, Jenkins-Smith, Kelly, Kovnat, MacPherson, Mathewson, Morse, Nathanson, Occhialino, Romero, Sanders, Scales, Scheible, Sedillo Lopez, Taylor, West, and Winograd.
Student Representatives: Carrillo and Storey.
Other Students Present: Raymond Etcitty (NALSA), James Fahl (NALSA), Cherie Gonzales (SBA), Kimberly Martus (NALSA), S. Elizabeth Moore (NALSA), Terrence Padilla (President, NALSA), and Luralene Tapahe (NALSA).

The meeting was called to order by Dean Leo Romero for the purpose of discussing the faculty position in Indian Law.

Dean Romero discussed the hiring process to date and confirmed that, based on previous practice and according to the 1986 Self Study, the elected student representatives have full voting rights in the decision-making process for faculty hiring. Evaluative comments compiled from candidate interviews were then distributed for all candidates except Robert Laurence.

Professor Ted Occhialino reported that the subcommittee was making no recommendation to the faculty regarding a preference for the Indian Law position, but was acting in an information-gathering capacity. Additional information was shared about the availability of candidates Laurence, Tsosie, Newton, Valencia-Weber, and Monikowski. Members of the subcommittee then orally reviewed information garnered from the various candidates' references. A discussion then commenced about salary, rank, and tenure options, as well as the possibility of making an offer for a visiting versus a permanent position. Dean Romero reported that Provost Risser has indicated that he will support a visiting offer if necessary to obtain the best person for the position.

At this time a lengthy discussion ensued about how to proceed and what information was relevant in making this hiring decision. Comments were shared from third-year representative Jamie McAlister (in absentia), American Indian Law Center Director Sam DeLoria, Visiting Professor Mary Beth West, and student representatives of the Native American Law Students Association (NALSA). A motion was then made and duly seconded that one designated representative of NALSA be given full voting privileges in this hiring process. The motion carried. The student representatives from NALSA indicated that NALSA President Terrence Padilla would vote on their behalf.

After additional comments about the merits of various candidates were shared, Dean Romero requested that straw votes be held to determine the top candidates. Secret ballots from those eligible to vote were collected by Associate Deans Kovnat and Winograd. Reported results indicated that there was greatest support for candidate Valencia-Weber and the least support for candidates Fausett, Monikowski, and Newton. After further discussion, a motion was duly made and seconded to extend an offer for a tenure-track full-time faculty position to Gloria Valencia-Weber. The motion carried unanimously. A second motion was made and seconded that if Ms. Valencia-Weber were not to accept this offer that Kristina Zuni be made an offer for a tenure-track full-time faculty position.

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Following discussion, a substitute motion was offered and accepted that in discussions with Ms. Valencia-Weber, Dean Romero be given the discretion to assess what type of hiring arrangement would enable her to accept a permanent tenure-track position, including an interim visiting position if necessary. The motion carried. After discussion and a further straw vote, a motion was duly made and seconded to offer Kristina Zuni a tenure-track full-time faculty position if Ms. Valencia-Weber were not to accept. The motion carried.

Dean Romero thanked NALSA for their extensive participation in this process and the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 PM.



E.A. Jenkins-Smith
Faculty Secretary