



The University of New Mexico

School of Law
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M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: May 1, 1992
TO: Law Faculty
FROM: Leo M. Romero, Dean
RE: Faculty Meeting Agenda

Faculty Meeting
May 4, 1992
Dean's Conference Room
4:00 p.m.

1. Approval of minutes of April 20, 1992
2. Announcements
3. Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Writing Requirement

May 4, 1992

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

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PRESENT: Bergman, Browde, Burr, Desiderio, Ellis, J., Ellis, W., Fritz, Gill, Godfrey, Gonzales, Hall, Hart, Jenkins-Smith, Kovnat, MacPherson, Mathewson, Morse, Occhialino, Price, Sanders, Scheible, Schwartz, Utton, West, and Winograd.

The meeting was called to order by Associate Dean Peter Winograd.

Announcements:

- Various faculty positions are currently available at several law schools. The folder with position announcements and other information was circulated. It will also be available from Trish Bianchi.
- Gloria Valencia-Weber has indicated that she will accept the Indian Law position as a visitor if both she and her husband receive leaves of absence from their institutions. She anticipates favorable action by the institutions. Both she and Robert Weber would then be at UNM as visitors next year. Their status thereafter depends upon the results of a College of Education faculty position search, in which he would be an applicant.
- The Clinic will hire a visiting faculty member for the 1992-93 academic year in addition to the Institute for Access to Justice (IAJ) visiting position. Because the pool of IAJ applicants is approximately 65, the additional visitor will be selected from the same pool.
- The 1992 Medical/Legal Day has been scheduled for Tuesday, August 25, 1992 (the second day of Fall Semester 1992). Associate Dean Kovnat will be administering the program and reminded faculty that first-year classes will be cancelled that day.

Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Writing Requirement:

Professor Alfred Mathewson presented the Committee's recommendations and reviewed the history and process of the Committee. Two alternate proposals were offered for the consideration of the faculty, both of which would increase the degree requirements for the Juris Doctor to 89 credit hours effective with the entering class of 1992:

- 1) A three-credit required course on appellate advocacy offered in the third semester, or
- 2) A three-credit required course on legal drafting offered in the third semester.

Professor Ted Occhialino described each option in more detail and presented the advantages of each. Extensive discussion then involved the following issues: the merits of each proposal, whether a required legal writing course should be staffed primarily by adjunct instructors, how to pay for the adjuncts, the substantial time commitment required from the adjuncts, the necessary commitment of a full-time faculty member to organize and coordinate the course, and the appropriate semester in which to place the new requirement (3rd or 4th). It was moved and seconded to approve the second proposal as presented, creating a new required legal drafting course. An amendment was made and seconded to retain the current number of credit hours required for the Juris Doctor (86) rather than

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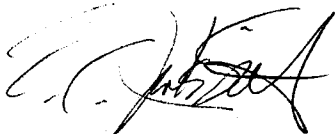
increase those hours to 89. After further discussion, the question was called. The amendment failed and the motion to approve the second proposal was again placed before the faculty.

At this time a straw vote was requested where faculty members would indicate preference for one of the two alternate proposals, or neither. The vote indicated more support for the second proposal, followed by neither proposal. The first proposal had the least support. The question was then called on approving the second proposal, and the motion to adopt a new legal drafting requirement failed by a vote of nine to ten.

Further discussion revolved around whether there was general faculty support for further exploration of devising a second-year writing requirement. It was moved that the Dean identify a faculty member within the next two weeks who would develop a proposal for possible implementation a year hence. This faculty member would be compensated by a \$7,500 summer research grant. The motion was seconded but failed to carry. Another motion was made to reconsider the vote on the adoption of the second proposal. This motion died for a lack of a second.

Associate Dean Winograd then restated the sense of the faculty that Associate Dean Kovnat be requested to poll each individual faculty member to see if any member is sufficiently interested and committed to pursue development and implementation of a second-year writing requirement. Associate Dean Kovnat will return to the faculty with this information, so that the faculty can take further action.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 PM.



E.A. Jenkins-Smith
Faculty Secretary