


The University of New Mexico

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MEMORANDUM

TO: LAW FACULTY

FROM: LEO M. ROMERO, DEAN 

DATE: February 7, 1994

SUBJECT: FACULTY MEETING AGENDA

**Faculty Meeting
February 7, 1994
Dean's Conference Room
4:00 p.m.**

1. Approval of Minutes of January 24, 1994
2. Dean's Report
3. Report from Faculty Appointments Committee
4. Attendance, Grading and Ranking Policies
5. New Business

February 7, 1994

Faculty Meeting Minutes

School of Law

Dean's Conference Room, 4:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Anspach, Bergman, Browde, Burr, Desiderio, Fort, Gill, Godfrey, Hall, E., Hand, Hart, Hermann, Kelly, Kovnat, Mathewson, Montoya, Occhialino, Pearson, Price, Romero, Sanders, Scales, Scheible Wolf, Taylor, Utton, Valencia-Weber, Winograd, Zuni.

ABSENT: Anspach, Cook, Ellis, J., Ellis, W., Gonzales, Hall, J., MacPherson, Martinez, Norwood, Schwartz.

Student Representatives: Alaniz, Leavengood.

The meeting was called to order by Dean Leo Romero.

After proper motion and second, the minutes of the January 24, 1994 meeting and the January 31, 1994 meeting were approved as written.

Dean's Report:

Kathleen Sena has accepted the position of registrar at the School of Law and will begin March 1.

There are four bills currently before the legislature which directly affect the law school: SB 609 (UNM Southwest Law Clinic), SB 839 (UNM Law School Facility), SB 874 (UNM Graduate Student Computers), and SB 523 (Law School Library - Indian Collection).

The Deans' Council has asked the Provost to ask the Regents to continue the Voluntary Retirement Program.

There is a salary compression problem at UNM, especially at the full professor level. The law school is the worst in the comparison with national figures at this level, and the Provost has said the problem needs to be addressed.

Melissa Harrison has accepted a visiting professor position for next year. Lew Solomon has withdrawn his application, and Gerry Beyer will be contacted and offered the other visiting position. Dean Romero stated there may be room for one more visiting professor next year, and asked Associate Dean Ruth Kovnat and Maureen Sanders to recommend names to him from the applicant pool.

The Navajo Supreme Court will hold oral arguments at the UNM School of Law on April 8.

Professor Sherri Burr is writing a column for The Southwest Sage called "Ask Professor Burr on."

The North Carolina Central University has announced its search for a new dean. Additional information about this and other positions are available in the Dean's office.

The 1994-95 Budget Request has been submitted to the Provost's office. Dean Romero will also be meeting with the Provost to discuss the request. Copies of the budget request are available in Dean Romero's office and in Peggy Lovato's office if faculty members wish to read the request and offer suggestions.

Faculty Appointments Committee:

Interview visits have been set up with Jean Montoya and Nancy Cook for the week of February 14. The Committee is still working on scheduling interview visits with Maria Tai Wolff, Margaret Montoya, and Elizabeth Rapaport.

Professor Desiderio recommended that the Committee start to go down the list of alternates to call for interviews. After proper motion from Fred Hart and second by Maureen Sanders, the motion carried.

Attendance, Grading and Ranking Policies:

Associate Dean Ruth Kovnat asked for discussion to provide guidance to the committee that Dean Romero will appoint to come up with recommendations to improve these policies.

Attendance: The law school requires regular and punctual class attendance which is to be enforced by the faculty.

Grading: In order to avoid disparity between sections of the same class, it was suggested that professors communicate with each other as to the curve they will use. It was also suggested that the committee look at a presumptive/mandatory curve for grading.

Ranking: Because the GPAs are so close, our system of ranking is not very informative and can be misleading. It was suggested that we look into the Utah bar graph system and what methods are used at other universities to rank students.

Also discussed were problems with the academic probation policies and with the way we deal with students at the bottom of the class. Another suggestion was to establish what a "C" actually is--average work or work that is minimally acceptable.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret A. Banek

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