


The University of New Mexico

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MEMORANDUM

TO: LAW FACULTY
FROM: LEO M. ROMERO, DEAN 
DATE: November 16, 1995
SUBJECT: FACULTY MEETING

**Faculty Meeting Agenda
Monday, November 20, 1995
Dean's Conference Room
4:00 p.m.**

1. Approval of Minutes of November 6, 1995, Faculty Meeting
2. Dean's Report
3. Acts of Harassment Based on Sexual Orientation - Attachment
4. Update from Faculty Appointments Committee - Report Item
5. Guadalajara Masters Program - Report Item
6. Budget - Report Item
7. Grading Curve - Action Item
8. New Business

LMR:mb
Attachment

November 20, 1995

Faculty Meeting Minutes
School of Law
Dean's Conference Room, 4:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Anspach, Blumenfeld, Fort, Gill, Gonzales, Hall, Hart, Hermann, Kelly, Kovnat, MacPherson, Martinez, Mathewson, Montoya, Moore, Norwood, Occhialino, Rapaport, Romero, Scales, Schwartz, Sedillo Lopez, Seilstad, Taylor, Valencia-Weber, Wolf

Student Representatives: Kelly Alexandre, Paul Briones

ABSENT: Bergman, Browde, Creel, Desiderio, DuMars, Ellis, Fritz, Gomez-Palacio, Simmons, Winograd, Zuni

The meeting was called to order by Dean Leo Romero.

After proper motion and second, the minutes of the November 6, 1995, meeting were approved as distributed.

Dean's Report:

Dean Romero reported that the Conference on Teaching and Establishing Clinics in Indian Law held November 16-18, 1995, had an excellent program and the discussions were interesting and provocative. He thanked the Conference Planning Committee (Christine Zuni, Margaret Montoya, Gloria Valencia-Weber, and Toby Grossman) and commended Roberta Remington in particular for her hard work in organizing the Conference.

Professors Jim Ellis and Barbara Bergman have filed their amici curiae brief in Cooper v. Oklahoma with the U.S. Supreme Court.

The National Jurist has ranked the UNM School of Law number 20 in the top law schools for women.

Professor Barbara Bergman is the principal author for Crimes, Corrections and the Law in New Mexico, a background report prepared for the Crime, Corrections and the Law Town Hall held in Farmington, New Mexico; October 26-29, 1995.

Professor Gloria Valencia-Weber has been nominated to serve on the First Nations International Court of Justice (Canada).

There will be two NAFTA Student Exchange grants available next semester for UNM School of Law students to study law in Mexican and Canadian universities.

Dean Romero reported that he met recently with Bob Meyer of Facility Planning and the design firm of McKown/Belanger to discuss the refurbishing of the forum. The work will be done during the Winter Break before classes start in January.

Acts of Harassment Based on Sexual Orientation:

Dean Leo Romero reported that he has received several reports of harassment based on sexual orientation here at the law school in the form of graffiti, defacing of property, and hate speech. After discussion, it was the consensus of the faculty that a strong stand should be taken, and that the Dean should issue a statement denouncing the acts of harassment and stating that this is unacceptable here at the law school. In the beginning of the spring semester, there will be a day set apart for staff, faculty and students to hear presentations by faculty and others on hate speech. The Dean will also keep a record of all incidents of this nature reported to him.

Update from Faculty Appointments Committee:

Professor Antoinette Sedillo Lopez reported that the Committee has received approximately 700 applications (the majority for an entry-level position) and announced that three of the candidates have been selected to come to UNM to interview in November and December. Schedules for the three candidates were circulated and faculty urged to sign up to visit with the candidates.

Guadalajara Masters Program:

Professor Bill MacPherson reported that the convenio was signed in Guadalajara by representatives from UNM and Texas Tech. The 6-8 week summer program starts in the summer of 1996, and at the end of the summer the students will receive a diploma. At the end of three summers of study, a Masters degree will be awarded by the University of Guadalajara.

Budget:

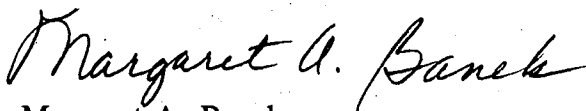
Dean Romero reported that at a recent meeting with Provost Coleman he was advised he should plan on a 2.5% reduction in the budget for next year. Provost Coleman asked if the Law School would consider increasing the enrollment by 10% to cover the deficit.

Grading Curve:

Due to the lateness of the hour, it was decided to postpone the report on the grading curve until the next regularly scheduled faculty meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Margaret A. Banek

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Resolution by the Members of the National Lawyers Guild, UNM Chapter

Acts of hate speech and harassment in the law school community force us to recognize the danger of silencing minority voices and organizations. Recently, the Christian Legal Society, the Federalist Society and the Lambda Law Caucus have had flyers defaced and items removed from their bulletin boards. There have also been efforts to suppress the voices of individual students. We deplore these acts of disrespect towards dissenting viewpoints because they create a climate of fear and intimidation. This is especially disheartening in an educational institution that prides itself on diversity and dialogue.

Action is required to stop such incidents from occurring in the future. The National Lawyers Guild calls on the law school community to be vigilant against such attacks on anyone, to engage in constructive discourse and to speak out against those who would silence others' voices and viewpoints. Consequently, we propose an amendment to the Honor Code that would treat acts of silencing as a violation of the Code. We urge our community to foster an environment of tolerance that encourages rather than represses ideas.

10/10/95

