

The University of New Mexico

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MEMORANDUM

TO: LAW FACULTY
FROM: LEO M. ROMERO, DEAN *LMR mb*
DATE: December 12, 1996
SUBJECT: FACULTY MEETING

**Faculty Meeting Agenda
Monday, December 16, 1996
Dean's Conference Room
4:00 p.m.**

1. Approval of Minutes of December 9, 1996, Faculty Meeting
2. Dean's Report
3. Writing Program Proposal - Curriculum Committee
4. AALS Dues Vote at AALS Annual Meeting
5. New Business

LMR:mb

December 16, 1996

Faculty Meeting Minutes

School of Law

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

Present: Anspach, Bergman, Blumenfeld, Browde, Burr, DuMars, Fritz, Gill, Gonzales, Hall, Hart, Kelly, Kovnat, Martinez, Montoya, Moore, Norwood, Rapaport, Romero, Scales, Subin, Utton, Valencia-Weber, Zuni

Student Representative: Jeff Albright

Others: Pat Trainor

Absent: Creel, Desiderio, Ellis, Fort, Hermann, MacPherson, Mathewson, Occhialino, Parnall, Taylor, Winograd

The meeting was called to order by Dean Leo Romero.

A motion was made by Professor Al Utton and seconded by Professor Ann Scales to approve the minutes of the December 9, 1996, faculty meeting as distributed. When voted on, the motion carried.

Dean's Report:

Professor Margaret Montoya was the inaugural speaker for the St. Mary's University School of Law's newly established Center for Latino/a Legal Studies' speakers series on November 22, 1996. The topic of Professor Montoya's presentation was "Border/ed Identities."

Professor Suedeen Kelly gave a presentation at a New Mexico State Bar CLE on December 5 on duties under the Code of Professional Conduct of regulating lawyers.

Dean Romero reminded the faculty of the grading deadline of January 20 and the importance of receiving the grades on time for students who will be taking the bar and applying for clerkships and other legal positions.

Dean Romero announced that Professor Judy Anspach has been offered and has accepted the position of Head Law Librarian at Hofstra University School of Law and will leave UNM at the end of June.

There will be a reception and ceremony honoring the fourteen members of the class of 1996 ½ on Friday, December 20 from 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. Dean Romero encouraged the faculty to attend.

AALS Dues Vote at AALS Annual Meeting:

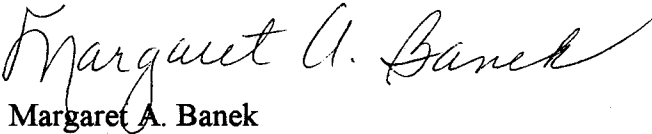
Dean Romero brought forward a request from Associate Dean Peter A. Winograd for direction from the faculty on how he should vote at the AALS Annual Meeting on the proposed 3% increase in AALS dues. Professor Ruth Kovnat made a motion that Dean Winograd should exercise his discretion in voting on this issue. The motion was seconded by Professor Al Utton and when voted on, the motion carried.

Writing Program Proposal:

Professor Barbara Bergman reviewed the decision of the faculty to staff the Legal Writing Program with the Writing Director and two full-time writing instructors and to reduce the credit given for the Advocacy course from 4 to 3 credit hours. A discussion followed on how the tenured faculty resources freed up by this decision should be put to the best use. It was left to the Curriculum Committee to consider the suggestions offered in the discussion in deciding how to use the faculty resources no longer assigned to LRRW and Advocacy.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Margaret A. Banek

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MEMORANDUM

To: All Faculty
From: Curriculum Committee
Re: Writing Program Proposal
Date: November 25, 1996

The Curriculum Committee recommends that the faculty change the writing program as follows:

(1) We recommend that the faculty adopt Barbara Blumenfeld's suggestions for the first and second semester writing courses for the first year class beginning in the fall of 1997. These LRRW and Advocacy sections would be taught by the Writing Director and two writing instructors. Advocacy would be reduced from four credit hours to three. The topics to be covered are those listed in Attachment 1.

(2) We recommend adding a new two-hour course to be called Lawyering Process to be taught beginning in the spring semester of 1998 for first year students. This course would be taught in small sections by tenured and tenure-track faculty. The purpose of this class would be to give first year students an opportunity to work closely with tenured faculty and to focus upon the development of legal analysis and reasoning skills as well as learning more about the lawyer's role in the legal process. (While there would be some writing, it would be coordinated with the writing assignments in Advocacy.) Our preliminary concept for this class would be for each section to work with a single case. Each instructor could select a case file from their areas of substantive interest, and the class would explore how disputes/problems are handled by attorneys in the context of this case. The case would then be followed through the legal system. We recognize that this means that there would be diversity in the substantive topics covered; but certain uniform basic core skills could be developed to be covered in each section.

(3) We recommend modifying the writing thesis requirement as follows:

(A) A requirement for graduation is that each student shall complete a writing project requiring substantial research, analysis and writing through a process of successive drafts. This requirement can be met in one of three ways:

1. As part of a seminar which the faculty member has designated as a writing course that may be used to satisfy the writing requirement;
2. As part of a drafting course which the faculty member has designated as a course that

may be used to satisfy the writing requirement; or

3. As a comment written for one of the law reviews or journals.

Student notes for a law review or journal would not suffice. A paper written for Independent Research standing alone would **not** be sufficient to meet this requirement. If a student had taken a writing seminar, drafting course or law review comment and wanted to take an additional one hour of Independent Research while completing the paper that would be permissible.

Either the Writing Director or one of the writing instructors would be the second reader for each paper, drafting document(s), or comment submitted in fulfillment of this writing requirement. Both the supervising faculty member and the writing director/instructor's approval would be necessary before this writing requirement would be satisfied.