

The University of New Mexico

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MEMORANDUM

TO: LAW FACULTY
FROM: ROBERT J. DESIDERIO, DEAN *RJD*
DATE: APRIL 9, 1998
SUBJECT: FACULTY MEETING

**Faculty Meeting Agenda
Monday, April 13, 1998
Dean's Conference Room
3:00 p.m.**

1. Approval of Minutes of March 23 and March 30, 1998 Faculty Meetings
2. Dean's Report
3. Curriculum Committee - Associate Dean Alfred Mathewson
4. Report of Salary Structure Committee (Tentative)
5. Honors and Awards - Associate Dean Peter A. Winograd
6. New Business

NOTE: MEETING STARTS AT 3:00 P.M.

RJD:mb

April 13, 1998

Faculty Meeting Minutes
School of Law
Dean's Conference Room, 3:00 p.m.

Present: Baum, Bergman, Bobroff, Browde, Desiderio, DuMars, Ellis, Fort, Fritz, Gill, Godfrey, Gonzales, Hall, Hart, Land, Lopez, Martinez, Mathewson, Montoya, Moore, Norwood, Rapaport, Schwartz, Valencia-Weber, Winograd, Zuni

Student Representatives: Berkheimer, O'Reilly

Absent: Blumenfeld, Dratler, Kelly, MacPherson, Wolf

Dean Robert Desiderio called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m.

A motion was made by Professor Ruth Kovnat and seconded by Professor Margaret Montoya to approve the minutes of the March 23 and March 30 faculty meetings as distributed. When voted on, the motion carried.

Dean's Report:

Dean Desiderio announced that he will meet with the law students to discuss honor code issues on Wednesday, April 15, at 1:00 p.m. in Room 2401 and urged faculty members to attend.

Dean Desiderio reminded faculty members to submit their summer research grant proposals to him by April 20.

Dean Desiderio announced that Ron Segel of the Sutin, Thayer and Browne law firm is soliciting members of the class of 1972 to contribute to a memorial to the Law School in honor of Congressman Steve Schiff. Dean Desiderio will be meeting with Mr. Segel and other representatives of the class to decide how to put these contributions to use.

Associate Dean Peter A. Winograd advised the faculty that there will be a very limited amount of work-study funds available for the summer months. Students will be allowed to work 15 hours a week before July 1 and 20 hours a week after July 1. For faculty projects where work-study assistance is needed in excess of these hours, Bondurant monies will be available for additional hours up to 30 hours per week.

Dean Desiderio announced that "Ditch Day" is scheduled for Friday, April 24, 1998.

Curriculum Committee Report:

Associate Dean Alfred Mathewson announced that the Curriculum Committee has reconsidered giving teaching credit for the NALSA Moot Court program, as the policy presumes that such activities will have a faculty advisor. The National Moot Court, National Mock Trial, Health Law Moot Court and Jessup International Law Moot Court teams all give course credit to students and teaching credit to their faculty advisor. The policy states that every moot court team that gives course credit must have a faculty advisor to the team. Dean Desiderio asked if the faculty wished to take any action on the policy. No one spoke.

Associate Dean Mathewson distributed the recommendations of the Curriculum Committee (attached) to the faculty. The Committee recommended that (1) all 1L courses except LRRW and Property be offered in two sections (LRRW will have its normal six sections), (2) Property I be offered in four sections, and (3) no special sections will be offered in either semester. The Committee also recommended that the tutorial program be enhanced to cover study skills, time management, professional socialization and legal methods in addition to conducting review sessions in substantive topics; that a faculty member be assigned to organize the program each semester with course credit; that the program provide significant training for the tutors under the supervision of the faculty member assigned; and that a summer course be offered beginning in 1999 for students who have completed the first year but are on academic probation that will emphasize legal method, legal analysis and exam techniques and will provide counseling to such students. This course should be mandatory for students on probation and offered to a limited number of students whose G.P.A. is 2.0 or close thereto.

After extensive discussion, Dean Desiderio called the question, and when voted on, the Curriculum Committee's recommendation passed.

Associate Dean Winograd urged the faculty to actively recruit tutors, especially in the next ten days.

Salary Structure Committee:

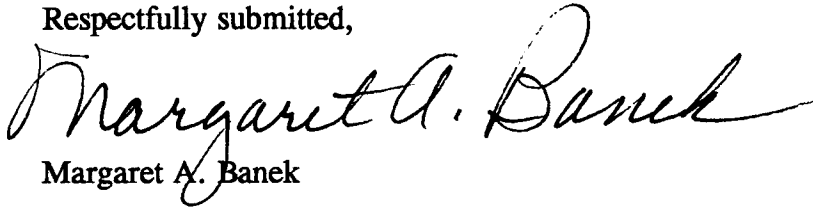
Dean Desiderio reported that in spite of the Committee's best efforts, their report was not yet finished. He recommended that the report be discussed at the regular faculty meeting scheduled for April 20. He stated the importance of a decision on these matters, because the Law School budget must be presented to the Provost soon. Dean Desiderio recommended that the funds be used first to achieve vertical equity and then each faculty member be given a fixed-amount increase.

Honors and Awards:

Associate Dean Peter A. Winograd distributed a document listing the nominees for honors and awards in the class of 1998. A motion was made by Professor Chuck DuMars to accept the recommendations of the Honors and Awards Committee with one change and allowing for potential changes by the clinical faculty. When voted on, the motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Margaret A. Banek". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Margaret A. Banek

:mb

Attachment

REPORT OF THE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE ON THE FIRST YEAR CURRICULUM

The Committee recommends the following:

Course Offerings

- 1) That all courses except LRRW and Property be offered in two sections (LRRW will have its normal six sections);
- 2) That Property I be offered in four sections, that the professors assigned collaborate in teaching the course, that each section may offer different pedagogical approaches, provided that the course provide opportunities for students to develop oral communication skills and contain a writing component that will emphasize the learning of legal analysis other than through practice exams; and
- 3) That no section be designated as a special section for targeted students in either semester.

Academic Support

- 1) That the tutorial program be enhanced in both semesters as indicated below;
- 2) That the program provide assistance with study skills, time management, professional socialization and legal methods in addition to conducting review sessions in substantive topics;
- 3) That a faculty member be assigned to organize the program each semester with course credit therefor;
- 4) That the program provide significant training for the tutors under the supervision of the faculty member assigned; and
- 5) That a summer course be offered beginning in 1999 for students who have completed the first year but are on academic probation that will emphasize legal method, legal analysis and exam techniques and that will provide counseling to such students. The course should be mandatory for students on probation and offered to a limited number of students whose GPA is 2.0 or close thereto.

The Committee took into account the various views that were expressed in the faculty meeting on March 13 and decided to recommend an alternative to the proposal so forcefully presented by Professor Sedillo-Lopez. The Committee heard her passion and considered trying the proposal for a special second semester course. However, it chose an alternative for several reasons. There was no clear consensus within the faculty. Several faculty members expressed concern about creating a class with an even greater stigma than the current structure. Several faculty members thought the academic support problem to be addressed warranted trying the proposal, even though they were uneasy about it. Others expressed a variety of alternatives. The student response that the Committee received was not mixed. They were especially concerned about the stigma. Students who would have been affected this year indicated that they had already been humiliated and would have been personally devastated by having to participate in a special

second semester course. In addition, the Committee is considering a proposal to move Civil Procedure I to the fall semester in the 1999-2000 academic year so it is uncertain that the approach could be repeated in that year.

The Committee came up with the recommendation after discussing the problems that faculty members were trying to address and reviewing some of the literature on academic support programs.