




The University of New Mexico

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MEMORANDUM

TO: LAW FACULTY
FROM: ROBERT J. DESIDERIO, DEAN 
DATE: OCTOBER 4, 1999
SUBJECT: FACULTY MEETING

**Faculty Meeting Agenda
Monday, October 4, 1999
Dean's Conference Room
4:00 p.m.**

1. Dean's Report
2. Writing Requirement – Associate Dean Peter A. Winograd
3. First-Year Writing Program – Professor Rob Schwartz
4. Mandatory Academic Workshop for Students on Probation – Professor Antoinette Sedillo Lopez
5. New Business
6. Order of the Coif

RJD:mb

October 4, 1999

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

PRESENT: Baum, Blumenfeld, Bobroff, Browde, Burr, Canova, Desiderio, DuMars, Ellis, Fort, Gill, Gonzales, Hall, Hart, Hughes, Land, Lopez, MacPherson, Martinez, Mathewson, Montoya, Moore, Norwood, Romero, Schwartz, Taylor, Winograd, Wolf, Zuni Cruz

Student Representative: Chris Berkheimer

ABSENT: Bergman, Goble, Martin, Occhialino

Dean Robert Desiderio called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m.

Dean's Report:

Dean Desiderio reported that Professor Ted Occhialino's surgery had gone well and that he was now recovering at home. Professor Michael Browde advised the faculty to call in the evening and to visit on weekend days when Sally Occhialino is home.

Dean Desiderio reported that President Clinton has signed the bill appropriating \$1,500,000 to the Albert E. Utton Transboundary Resources Center. The funding will come through the Department of Energy. Dean Desiderio will be in Washington, D.C. on Thursday and Friday, October 7 & 8, and will thank Senator Domenici and Anne-Kathryn Claassen personally for all their help. Dean Desiderio also mentioned that Vice President Judy Jones had been extremely helpful in getting this legislation passed.

The 1999 Distinguished Achievement Award Dinner held on Saturday night, October 2, was very successful, with approximately 450 in attendance.

The 50th graduating class of the UNM School of Law was sworn in by the New Mexico Supreme Court on October 4, 1999. The bar passage rate for the Class of 1999 was 94%.

The President of MALDEF, Antonia Hernandez, will speak at a luncheon for MALSA on October 19, 1999 at the law school.

Dean Desiderio distributed a progress report of issues brought forward from topics discussed at the last faculty retreat.

Associate Dean Peter A. Winograd reported that the draft exam schedule has been distributed in the faculty boxes and requested that faculty members let him know right away if changes need to be made. He wants to get the schedule out to the students on Thursday, October 7.

The Class of 1979 will hold a reunion at the law school on Saturday, October 9, 1999.

Writing Requirement:

Associate Dean Peter A. Winograd took the following motion off the table for faculty discussion and vote:

Papers submitted in satisfaction of the upperclass writing requirement must be submitted in final form to the First Faculty Reader no later than the day before Commencement in May. Students who do not comply with this requirement or whose final paper, as submitted, is deemed unsatisfactory by the First or Second Faculty Reader will not be certified to take the bar examination until the winter administration of the exam following Commencement. First and Second Faculty Readers shall inform the Registrar whether papers meet the upperclass writing requirement no later than May 31.

Dean Winograd added that the language would be adjusted to clarify the policy for December graduates.

Discussion followed. Professor Mike Norwood made a motion to amend changing the student submission date to the First Reader to June 15 instead of the day before Commencement and the May 31 date to June 30 for faculty to notify the Registrar. The motion failed to receive a second.

When the vote was called on the original motion with the addition of language to allow for the December graduates, the motion carried.

First Year Writing Program:

Professor Rob Schwartz took the original motion to hire the two additional full time writing instructors and the alternative proposal as stated at the September 13, 1999 faculty meeting off the table for faculty discussion and vote. He also distributed the following alternative compromise motion and moved to substitute it for either of the two previous motions:

The Law School will hire two additional full-time writing instructors in long-term non-tenure track positions. The director of the writing program and these two writing instructors will be responsible for planning and teaching the courses in LRRW and Advocacy. Other faculty members who wish to teach LRRW or Advocacy will be encouraged to do so whenever the Dean, in consultation with the director of the writing program and the Curriculum Committee, determines

that it would benefit the writing program to have them do so. Legal writing instructors who would have been assigned to legal writing sections that are being taught by other faculty members will be assigned to teach remedial writing courses, advanced writing courses, or other writing or research courses, as the Curriculum Committee and the director of the writing program find appropriate.

The Law School will make every effort to use available funds to hire the two full-time writing instructors to start in August of 2000. A national search will be conducted, as it is with all faculty positions, to fill these positions. In the event there is not sufficient funding to hire these writing instructors, the Law School will leave vacant the next faculty position to hire the writing instructors unless the faculty then concludes that other hiring needs are more pressing than the development of this writing program.

Discussion followed. Professor Em Hall proposed that the law school hire three writing instructors in tenure-track positions to teach six sections of LRRW in the fall. They would teach three sections of advocacy in the spring. The other three advocacy slots would be filled from a cadre of nine full-time non-writing faculty instructors who would agree to teach advocacy every third year. The three writing instructors would work in the second semester with students identified in the first semester as having severe writing problems.

Professor Chuck DuMars moved to table both proposals until the next faculty meeting so that the faculty would have an opportunity to consider and discuss the merits of each. The motion was seconded by Associate Dean Winograd. Dean Desiderio asked the faculty if they desired extra time to consider this, and it was the consensus of the faculty that they were ready to vote on this issue. The motion and second were then withdrawn.

The Dean then called for the vote, and announced that there had been a request for a secret ballot. Paper ballots were then distributed. Professor Em Hall moved for a voice vote instead of a secret ballot. When voted on, this motion failed.

When the ballots were counted, the Schwartz alternative compromise motion failed by a vote of 10 in favor, 15 opposed, and one abstention.

A motion was made by Professor Leo Romero to rescind the 1996 decision made by the faculty to hire two writing instructors. The motion was seconded by Professor Antoinette Sedillo Lopez.

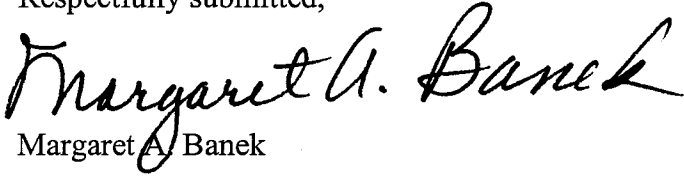
A motion was made by Associate Dean Alfred Mathewson to table the motion to rescind. The motion was seconded by Professor Chuck DuMars and when voted on, the motion failed.

Dean Desiderio then called for discussion of Professor Romero's motion to rescind. After discussion, and because of the lateness of the hour, Dean Desiderio tabled the motion to

rescind until the next faculty meeting. He also stated that the rest of the agenda items would be carried over to the next faculty meeting.

Professor Scott Taylor moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Professor Chuck DuMars, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Handwritten signature of Margaret A. Banek in cursive script.

Margaret A. Banek

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