

The University of New Mexico

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MEMORANDUM

TO:

LAW FACULTY

FROM:

ROBERT J. DESIDERIO, DEAN

DATE:

NOVEMBER 6, 2000

SUBJECT:

FACULTY MEETING

Faculty Meeting Agenda Tuesday, November 7, 2000 Room 2406 4:00 p.m.

- 1. Approval of Minutes of October 10, 2000 Faculty Meeting
- 2. Dean's Report
- 3. Self-Study Committee Report Professors Chris Fritz and Antoinette Sedillo Lopez
- 4. Curriculum Committee Report Professor Michael Browde
- 5. Faculty Affairs Committee Report Associate Dean Alfred Mathewson
- 6. Other Committee Reports
- 7. Discussion of Director of Clinical Program
- 8. New Business

RJD:mb

November 7, 2000

Faculty Meeting Minutes School of Law Room 2406, 4:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Baum, Bobroff, Browde, Burr, Canova, Cruz, Desiderio, Fritz, Fort, Gil, Gonzales, Hall, Hart, Hughes, Lopez, MacPherson, Martin, Martinez, Mathewson, Montoya-Lewis, Norwood, Occhialino, Pokorak, Rapaport, Valencia-Weber, Winograd, Wolf

Student Representatives: Charles Lakins, Bryan Davis, Samantha Adams

ABSENT: Blumenfeld, Ellis, Kelly, Land, Moore, Organick, Romero

Dean Robert Desiderio called the meeting to order at 4:12 p.m.

A motion was made by Associate Dean Peter A. Winograd and seconded by Professor Sherri Burr to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2000, faculty meeting as distributed. When voted on, the motion carried.

Dean Desiderio introduced first-year class representative Samantha Adams to the faculty.

There will be a special faculty meeting to discuss the admissions question on Tuesday, November 14.

The faculty meeting scheduled for Tuesday, November 21, has been cancelled and a tentative faculty meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, December 5.

The New Mexico Board of Finance will meet next Tuesday, November 14, to consider approval of the law school addition and renovation project. Dean Desiderio reported that we still need CHE approval, as it has come up with some objections. Request for bids will be going out November 19, and the bids will be opened at 4:00 p.m. on December 19.

Before construction begins, the administration offices will temporarily move into the American Indian Law Center area. The AILC personnel will temporarily move into the small offices in the back hallway across from rooms 2405 and 2406.

On Thursday, November 9, CaTS will demonstrate some of the new technology we have available at the law school, including the new color laser printer, the Smartboard, wireless networking, and more.

Self-Study Committee Report

Professor Antoinette Sedillo Lopez, Chair of the Committee, reported that they plan to have a first draft of the self-study report by December 1 in order to circulate it to the faculty before the holiday break.

Curriculum Committee Report

Professor Michael Browde, Chair of the Committee, reported that the Committee is proceeding on four fronts:

- 1. Collecting data regarding innovative ideas and preparing a report of what the curriculum covers, both substantively and regarding legal process;
- 2. Working on discussion items from the October 10 faculty meeting;
- 3. Starting to construct the new outlines of the first-year curriculum; and
- 4. Bringing in people who are involved in curriculum reform around the country for their suggestions and input.

Dean Desiderio reported that the Commission on Professionalism of the State Bar of New Mexico is recommending two credit hours of principles of professionalism and one credit hour of ethics be included in the law school curriculum.

Faculty Affairs Committee Report

Associate Dean Alfred Mathewson reported that the Faculty Affairs Committee is proceeding with the tenure and promotion reviews and that they are in the midst of class visits and clarifying the process to those involved.

Two committee members attended the AALS Faculty Recruitment Conference in Washington, D.C., November 2-4. There are ten faculty members who have indicated they may request a leave next semester or next year, so Associate Dean Mathewson felt it was important to have someone attend to interview for possible visiting positions.

Teaching Effectiveness Committee

Professor Ted Occhialino, Chair of the Committee, reported that he, Professor Mike Norwood, and Professor Jenny Moore have already observed each other's teaching. Faculty members will be assigned to teams to observe class sessions next semester.

Library Committee

Professor Marsha Baum, Chair of the Committee, reported that the committee has met and will be reviewing the information portion of the self-study report.

Student Affairs Committee

Professor Nathalie Martin, Chair of the Committee, reported that although they have not met yet, the date of the first meeting of her committee has been set.

Director of Clinical Programs

Dean Desiderio reported that Professor José Martinez, Director of the Clinical Program, will step down next summer after 8 years, and asked for counsel from the law faculty as to whether there should be a national search or whether we should look for someone internally. He has discussed the funding of this position with Provost Brian Foster, who has indicated that he is receptive to "mortgaging" a future position, subject to the Provost's Office having available funds.

The advantages of hiring an internal candidate are time and financial considerations, and in this transition year for the curriculum, the internal candidate would already be familiar with our clinic, our goals and our curriculum plan. The advantages of conducting a national search would be to gain new ideas to help us as we go through the curriculum planning process, but on the negative side it would be expensive and "mortgaging" a position may cause us problems later on.

Suggestions from the faculty included hiring an interim director (preferably one who is not interested in the position on a permanent basis), and conducting a national search when we see how the clinic fits into the new curriculum. By conducting an external search, we would have an opportunity to focus on the direction the clinic should go. It was also suggested that perhaps the present clinicians should meet with the Dean and discuss the various options in order to determine if there is any interest internally.

Dean Desiderio adjourned the meeting at 4:55 p.m.

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Respectfully submitted,

Margaret A. Banek

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