2009-2010 Plans

Submitted to Edward Kvet, Provost

By Brian Bromberger, Dean College of Law
2009-2010 plans.

1. During 2008-2009 I appointed an ad hoc committee to examine and review our first year curriculum. The committee has taken the first tentative steps and I expect their work will be completed during 2009-2010 academic year. Given the sensitive nature of this type of plan I expect faculty discussions to be long and intense. This type of review has not been carried out at Loyola for many years, and as theories of legal education have changed considerably I believe such a study is vital to the continued progress of the law school.

2. During 2008-2009 I appointed an Ad Hoc Committee to review the Rank and Tenure provisions of the College of Law. At the last faculty meeting of the year, these provisions were approved and I intend to ensure that they are approved by the University Administration and implemented for the large number of pre-tenured professors currently in the law school.

3. Following the purchase of the building that formerly housed the Dominican Conference Center preliminary plans were drawn up for its conversion into a ‘stand alone’ law clinic. These plans are currently in the hand of the architect and it is anticipated that they will be completed by the end of the summer vacation and construction begin during the fall. The work should be finished prior to the beginning of the 2010-2011 academic year.

4. Following negotiations with the provost the College of law currently has two new tenure track positions to fill. These two positions along with the vacant “Entertainment Law” position will complete the current feasible size of the law faculty.

5. It has become increasingly clear that the current By-laws of the College of Law do not always operate in the best interests of the College. For this reason I have appointed an Ad hoc Committee to review and redraft them, submit them to the faculty and have them approved by the University Administration. I anticipate this will be a controversial process as the current By-laws were drafted following and in response to the acrimonious departure of a previous law dean.

6. Bar passage continues to be a problem. Father Moore, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, and myself, have spent many hours analyzing our bar results and we have identified some recurring reasons. I have appointed an ad hoc committee to examine these conclusions and suggest ways in which they can be rectified. It is anticipated that this will be completed during the 2009-2010 academic year.

7. In January 2010 the annual meeting of AALS will be held in New Orleans. Apart from hosting some social activities I have been asked to present a paper on some aspects of legal education and this I propose to do.

8. It has become increasingly apparent that the future development of the College of Law will be largely dependent upon the dean’s ability to supplement revenue by raising large sums of money. Although I will have raised approximately $2 million this year, I plan to exceed this number for the subsequent year.

9. Over the past few years the number of pre-tenured faculty has increased considerably. In consultation with the faculty, beginning 2009, we will be introducing a formal pre tenure mentoring program and this in conjunction with
the new Rank and Tenure provisions is designed to ensure that ALL those who are hired at the tenure track level are provided with every opportunity to achieve their ultimate goal.

10. During 2009 the College of Law entered into arrangements with Sagang University in Seoul South Korea and Ytebbe University in Istanbul Turkey to introduce a combined LLM degree. This arrangement shows great promise and I plan to extend this type of arrangement to a number of other schools throughout the world. One of the attractions of these programs is the relatively low cost and the potential for considerable income.