LOYOLA UNIVERSITY NEW ORLEANS
SCHOOL OF LAW

Minutes of Faculty Meeting
November 11, 2003


A change in order of Agenda items was agreed to by the faculty.

NEW BUSINESS:
ELECTIONS: (Agenda Item #3):

President Search Committee: Prof. Henry Gabriel
SCAP: Nominees from faculty: Profs. Lovett, Garda, Wallace were nominated by faculty, Dean Bromberger selected Prof. Lovett (4 yr. term: 2003-2007)
University Space Allocation Committee: Prof. Bill Quigley (4 yrs. Term 2003-2007)
Faculty By-laws Committee: 5 persons needed. Profs. Bobby Harges, Ray Rabalais, Luz Molina, and Jeanne Woods (subject to her acceptance) were nominated.
Prof. Quigley moved and Prof. Medina seconded to accept the slate of nominations.
VOTE: AYES were unanimous.
(Prof. Jim Viator volunteered in a memo to the Dean to be the fifth person.)

DEAN’S REPORT:
• Law Visiting Committee: there will be a change in the format of the semi-annual Visiting Committee meetings. The Visiting Committee will now have input setting the agenda, allowing for the law school to benefit from their expertise.

• Congratulations to the Thomas Tang Moot Court Team (Prof. Gabriel Moens, advisor) for placing second in the Southeast Regionals. Loyola’s team is one of two teams advancing to the National Competition in Hawaii.

• Congratulations to the five new law professorship holders: Profs. David Gruning, Bobby Harges, M. Isabel Medina, Dian Tooley, and Jeanne Woods. (See acknowledgment list for details.)

• Feels positive about a meeting with the Provost and others on main campus explaining the Memo of Understanding and detailing the types of items for which the law school pays, the amount the law school contributes to the University, and the amount actually spent by the University on the law school’s behalf.
APPROVAL OF MINUTES:  Correction of “date” in last paragraph, page two, of October 2003 minutes to read, “Prof. Rault suggested a computer program with all the relevant data included so that when bar results come out, the results can be plugged in and data can be available quickly for analysis.” Corrected minutes were approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**FACULTY APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE:** Prof. Pat Hugg updated the faculty on the progress in reviewing and screening applications for the five writing fellows for next year’s Legal Research and Writing/Moot Court program. There are 16 names on the list submitted to the faculty for their selection. (See attached list.) Prof. Hugg circulated a written report to the faculty last week.

MOTION: Prof. Mike Whipple moved to give the committee the authority to do the hiring. Prof. Gerry Rault seconded the motion. VOTE: AYES were unanimous. The motion carries.

Prof. Rabalais requested clarification on the status of the fellows and all learned that they are to be non-tenure track, non-voting positions.

MOTION: Prof. Bobby Harges moved that the fellows be given a title, possibly named *Louis Westerfield Teaching Fellows.* Prof. Bill Quigley seconded the motion, all agreed that the family be consulted. VOTE: AYES were unanimous. The motion carries.

**NON-AGENDA ITEM DISCUSSED:** Prof. David Gruning spoke on the naming of his recently awarded professorship, now called *Louisiana Outside Counsel Health and Ethics Foundation Distinguished Professor.* He suggested *Edward Livingston Distinguished Professorship.*

After some discussion, Dean Bromberger suggested that the 16 holders of the professorships meet and discuss the issue. VOTE: AYES were unanimous. This item was remanded to the faculty holding professorships.

**BAR EXAM COMMITTEE:** Prof. Henry Gabriel stated that the committee endorses the proposal to work with seniors in weekend seminars in the Spring and to have a one day review of bar bri material during the summer to prepare them for the bar.

Dean Bromberger reported that in conversations with alums and law firms it appears that there is not sufficient stigma attached to failing the bar to motivate students to prepare more urgently. He suggested working with seniors to change this attitude and begin talking now with first year students about work ethic. Prof. Jeanne Woods asked if the committee would be addressing her memo with suggestions for raising the bar passage rate. Prof. Gabriel said that it should be taken up at a future meeting of the committee.
Prof. Jim Klebba added that in a survey a few years ago which Assoc. Dean of Students Jumonville sent to three years of graduates, there was a correlation between working during the bar preparation period and not doing well on the bar. Prof. Mary Algero noted that often there is pressure from the law firm employers on the students to work during the preparation period.

Prof. Raphael Rabalais asked the committee to look at the suggestions of Profs. Medina and Woods, to vote on them, and to submit a report to the faculty next month.

Admissions and Scholarships Committee: Prof. Whipple reported that the committee has met twice. (Report attached.) He asked the faculty to consider three things:

1. Abolish absolute minimums for LSAT and GPA. After discussion Prof. Quigley moved and Prof. Medina seconded adopting committee’s suggestion. VOTE: AYES were unanimous. The motion carries.

2. Increase the Committee Review Level to an average 151 LSAT and 3.10 GPA. Fr. Moore stated that for all purposes the average LSAT should be considered. (This amended wording would amend this item and number 3 below.) VOTE: 16 AYES 2 NAYS. The amended committee suggestion carries.

3. Increase the presumptive admit level to a 3.0 index level (roughly an average 155 LSAT and a 3.30 GPA). This increase in the presumptive Admit Level would be subject to Committee review and could be lowered back to last year’s level if the number of applicants with such an index fall behind last year’s applicants. (with Fr. Moore’s amended wording of average LSAT inserted.) Prof. Medina moved and Fr. Moore seconded the committee’s suggestion to increase the presumptive admit level. VOTE: AYES were unanimous. The amended committee suggestion carries.

Report by Asst. Dean of Admissions Allison-Davis: The number of October LSAT takers was the highest number to date, about 53,000. The law school has 414 applications to date (slightly higher than last year). She estimates that the law school may receive 2500 applications this year. The decision making process will begin in December.

Old Business:
Item from September 2003 remained tabled: Extraordinary Faculty Policy.

New Business:
Proposed Amendments to the Law Review Constitution (Agenda Item #6): On the second page of the Ballay memo, Section 8: Casenote Requirements, suggested wording: change candidates to members, to read
Members from both day and evening division of the law school are required to submit a finished draft of the casenote, pursuant to the above-stated requirement, on the deadline established for their class by the Editorial Board.

Fr. Moore moved, and Prof. Viator seconded all the proposed changes suggested in the Ballay memorandum.

**VOTE: AYES** were unanimous. The motion carries.

The meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence W. Moore, S.J.
Associate Dean of Academic Affairs

LWM/hb

Attachments:
- AALS Recruiting Conference (list of 16 candidates for teaching fellow positions)
- Proposed Honor Code Amendments: posted on faculty minutes drive