


Fredric G. Levin College of Law
Office of the Dean

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October 2, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: Voting Faculty

FROM: Laura A. Rosenbury, Dean 

RE: Faculty Meeting Agenda

I have scheduled a Faculty Meeting for Friday, October 11, 2019 in the Faculty Lounge, beginning at noon. The agenda will be as follows:

1. Approve Faculty Meeting Minutes for September 6, 2019 (attached)
2. Information Item and Discussion regarding Legal Research Tools
3. Proposal from the Promotion and Tenure Committee to revise the procedure, as set forth in the faculty policy manual (section 2, part E attached), to elect the Dean Evaluation Committee
4. Designation of Representatives to the AALS House of Representatives (attached)

Law Faculty Meeting Minutes

September 6, 2019, 12:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Gia Arney, Mary Adkins, Mary Jane Angelo, Jennifer Bard, Sarah Bishop, Stephanie Bornstein, Yariv Brauner, Neil Buchanan, Dennis Calfee, Jeffrey Davis, Lisa Edgar, Seth Endo, Mark Fenster, Ben Fernandez, Jeffrey Grater, Anastacia Greene, Andrew Hammond, David Hasen (phone), Berta Esperanza Hernandez-Truyol, Darren Hutchinson, Joseph Jackson, Michelle Jacobs (phone), E. Lea Johnston, Shani King, Christine Klein, Elizabeth Lear, Sabrina Little, Charlene Luke, Pedro Malavet, Amy Mashburn, Gail Mathapo, Silvia Menendez, Jon Mills, Patricia Morgan, Jason Nance, Lars Noah, Kenneth Nunn, Jane O'Connell, William Page, Teresa Reid, Laura Rosenbury, Elizabeth Rowe, Betsy Ruff, D. Daniel Sokol, Stacey Steinberg, Margaret Temple-Smith, Lee-ford Tritt, Christopher Vallandingham, Andrew Winden, Sarah Wolking, Danaya Wright, Jennifer Zedalis, Wentong Zheng

NOT PRESENT:

Thomas Ankersen, Karen Burke, Jonathan Cohen, Charles Collier, Deborah Cupples, Robin Davis, Nancy Dowd, Teresa Drake, Alyson Craig Flournoy, William Hamilton, Jeffrey Harrison, Maryam Jamshidi, Joan Stearns Johnsen, Leslie Knight, Merritt McAlister, Grayson McCouch, Peter Molk, Leanne Pflaum, Robert Rhee, Katheryn Russell-Brown, Amy Stein, John Stinneford, Henry Wihnyk, Steven Willis, Michael Wolf

Meeting called to order at 12:04 pm

1. Welcome New Faculty and Visiting Professors

Dean Rosenbury welcomed all new and visiting faculty members. *Information Item Only*

2. College of Law Updates

Dean Rosenbury made a presentation on the law school's progress towards ranking goals and introduced new staff members in the room. *Information Item Only*

Associate Dean Liz Lear made a presentation on the new Career & Professional Development advising program and discussed how faculty can work with advisors.

Associate Dean Nance formally introduced the roles of new 1L section leaders (Mashburn, Stinneford, and Wolf) and announced a new pedagogy workshop series on the following dates:

- Thursday, October 24
- Tuesday, November 19
- Tuesday, January 21
- Tuesday, February 25
- Tuesday, March 24

Associate Dean O'Connell highlighted electronic resources for students through the Legal Information Center's subscription to West Academic Study Aids.

Associate Dean Inman provided information about new student health and wellness initiatives.

Assistant Dean Smith highlighted upcoming student diversity and inclusion initiatives

3. Approve Faculty Meeting Minutes for April 5, 2018 (attached)

Faculty considered April 5, 2018 minutes.

Unanimously approved

4. Approve Faculty Meeting Minutes for July 16, 2018 (attached)

Faculty considered July 16, 2018 minutes.

Unanimously approved

5. Approve Committee Assignments (attached)

Faculty considered proposed committee assignments.

Unanimously approved

6. Discussion of Committee Goals and Charges (attached)

Dean Rosenbury circulated proposed charges to all committees. Discussion ensued about charges.

Information Item Only

Chair Johnston announced that the P&T Committee will begin evaluation of Dean in accordance with Faculty Policy Manual and encouraged faculty members to pay attention to email for more announcements. Discussion ensued about membership eligibility.

Dean Rosenbury announced that she will continue to host meetings of committee chairs.

7. Approve 2019-2020 Hiring Policy of the Appointments Committee (attached)

Dean Rosenbury began with a brief report with respect to the law school's phased retirement program and discussed how that interacts with the law school's hiring goals.

Unanimously approved

Chair Sokol led a discussion on the 2019-2020 Hiring Policy for the appointments committee.

8. Nominations for University Faculty Senate: The College of Law has one seat to be filled on the University Faculty Senate. Nominations have been solicited via email, attached. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor. Voting will then take place.

Dean Rosenbury asked the faculty to reconsider a nomination for Faculty Senate as Maggie Temple-Smith isn't eligible for another year. Dean Rosenbury accepted nominations from the floor.

Danaya Wright unanimously approved as nominee.

Meeting adjourned at 1:15 pm.

D. Administrative Appointments

The Dean shall appoint persons to subordinate administrative positions, but if the appointee will be engaged in teaching and/or research, the appropriate appointments procedure must be followed. If the Dean (or Associate Dean) proposes that a previously hired administrator teach, the Dean or Associate Dean will refer the matter to the Non-Tenure Track Hiring and Review Committee in the normal course.

Comment: Subordinate administrative appointments are the prerogative of the Dean. He or she must be free to appoint to these positions persons in whom he or she has confidence, and with whom he or she can effectively work. A safeguard is provided to the faculty where such appointments are new and would, in part, involve teaching and research.

E. Term of Deanship and Dean Evaluation Committee

(Historical note: 9/19/2007, 4/18/2007, 8/8/1980)

1. Term of Deanship

It is the sense of the faculty that the Dean should not serve more than five years unless, upon favorable review by the faculty, he or she is requested to serve for an additional period not to exceed five years. The review process will be conducted early in the fifth year of the Dean's service by a special five-person Dean Evaluation Committee.

This statement shall be forwarded to the president of the University and be communicated to all candidates for the office of Dean of the College of Law. It shall also be published in the Policy Manual of the College.

2. Election of the Dean Evaluation Committee

- a. Initiation of the election process of the Dean Evaluation Committee is the responsibility of the Promotion and Tenure Committee.
- b. Eligible faculty members to serve on the committee will include all voting faculty, with the exception of faculty on leave, visiting, or in retirement status (phased or drop) during the academic year during which the review process will be conducted. Every eligible faculty member shall be on the ballot unless s/he asks to be excused from consideration by notifying the chair of the Promotion and Tenure Committee by a deadline to be established by the committee chair.
- c. Faculty members eligible to vote shall include all voting faculty.

- d. A ballot will be distributed in faculty mailboxes and via email containing the names of all eligible faculty. On the first ballot, each faculty member will select five faculty to serve on the committee.
- e. Any faculty member who is named on a majority of the ballots cast will be on the committee. After the initial round, the number of names on the ballot will be reduced to four times the number of remaining committee positions that remain open, and that number will be selected by eliminating those with the lowest number of votes. For example, because there will be five members on the committee, if no one receives a majority vote on the first round, the faculty members (4 times the number of remaining "yes" votes) will be included on the second ballot. Thereafter voting will continue by rounds, electing anyone who receives a majority of ballots cast, and voting for each remaining slot on a ballot by multiplying the number of slots times 4 and selecting the faculty members with the highest vote totals. The ballots will continue until five committee members have been selected. Notice of each ballot will be sent via email, but paper ballots will be used for each round (available in mailboxes and also sent via email).
- f. The chair of the P&T Committee shall notify the faculty by email of the date on which ballots will be available and the dates on which they are due (faculty will have 24 hours to vote on each round).

F. Filling Endowed Professorships

(Historical note: 4/18/2012, 4/28/2010, 9/19/2007, 4/18/2007, 4/23/2005, 4/22/2004, 4/9/2004, 10/23/2003, 9/18/2003, 11/14/2002, 4/30/2002, 11/9/1984, 1/21/1983, 5/18/1979, 5/13/1977)

The power to select and fill endowed professorships from the ranks of the existing faculty shall be exercised by the Dean, and in the selection process the Dean is empowered to apply all criteria which best serve the interests of the College of Law.

Comment: From discussions of an ad hoc faculty committee appointed by Dean Read with many faculty members, it would appear that a sizeable majority of the faculty expressing an opinion favor decanal selection for a variety of reasons. Some felt that it would be too divisive to have the ultimate power rest with the faculty (or a committee thereof); others believed that the Dean would be more likely to reflect centrist values, better balancing competing interests within the College than a faculty committee or other entity. While virtually no support was voiced for selection by faculty or faculty committee, a few colleagues did advocate vesting the power of selection in an outside committee, consisting either solely of distinguished teachers at other institutions or those academics acting in conjunction with distinguished practitioners. Overall however, all members of the committee and a significant number of the faculty indicated a preference for the practice which most other schools apparently follow — decanal selection.



Association of American Law Schools

**ACTION
REQUESTED**

September 16, 2019

President
Vicki C. Jackson
Harvard University

President-Elect
Darby Dickerson
University of Illinois
at Chicago

Immediate Past President
Wendy C. Perdue
University of Richmond

Serving through 2019
Erwin Chemerinsky
University of California,
Berkeley

Camille A. Nelson
American University

Serving through 2020
Mark C. Alexander
Villanova University

Gillian Lester
Columbia University

Serving through 2021
D. Benjamin Barros
University of Toledo

L. Song Richardson
University of California,
Irvine

Executive Director
Judith Areen

MEMORANDUM 19-08

TO: Deans of Member Schools

FROM: Judith Areen, Executive Director

SUBJECT: Designation of Law School Representatives to the AALS House of Representatives by October 18, 2019

To prepare for the Association's 2020 Annual Meeting in Washington, DC, and to update our records and mailing lists, we would appreciate your providing us with the names of your school's primary and alternate representative to the AALS House of Representatives.

The representative should plan to attend the First Meeting of the House to be held at 3:30 p.m. on Friday, January 3, 2020, and the Second Meeting of the House to be held at 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, January 4, 2020, or ensure that the alternate representative can attend.

We need the list to permit the timely mailing of agenda materials for the House of Representative sessions. Please submit this information by completing this [online form](#). You will need to include the following information: school name, name of the AALS Representative, and name of the Alternate AALS Representative. We would appreciate receiving this information at your earliest convenience, but not later than October 18, 2019.

Thank you for helping us prepare for the two meetings of the AALS House of Representatives at the 2020 Annual Meeting.