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New Mexico Law Review, Annual Report 2001 - 2002

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New Mexico Law Review
Annual Report
2001–2002

For 2001–2002, the *New Mexico Law Review* had three primary goals in mind: to get the Law Review back on a timely publication schedule, to publish three quality issues, and to institutionalize the Excellence in Jurisprudence Award and banquet. We accomplished all three without too much ado.

Despite a few challenging obstacles, we accomplished our major goal of resetting the journal on a path of timely publication by having all three issues out by the end of the volume year, 2002 (June, August, and October 2002 are the projected publication dates of the three issues). A combination of planning achievable publication schedules, combined with the Editors' hard work, compliance with deadlines, and everyone's incredible efforts to keep the post-editorial process in line were major factors in getting things back on track. To ensure that the Law Review stays on schedule in the future, we transitioned the new Editorial Board earlier than usual and gave them editorial responsibilities on the final issue of Volume 32 so that they would have "on the job" training rather than having to figure everything out from scratch.

We also published three quality issues. Issue #1 was a symposium on Internet technology and the law composed of articles from professors and practitioners across the country and students here at UNM. (Incidentally, one of the articles in that issue caught the attention of the ABA Committee on Information Security). We also revived an old Law Review tradition, which had become dormant in the recent past, of publishing an entire issue dedicated to NM legal issues (in fact, we published two such issues). Issue #2 contains articles focused on New Mexico legal issues written by preeminent judges, practitioners, and professors from around New Mexico. Issue #3 has a similar theme, but from a law student perspective in the staff casenotes (we were very successful here as well, 13 of 17 students turned in casenotes on time this year). The student pieces in Issue #3 are balanced by a lead article by Dean Desiderio and two UNM students. Thus, each issue in Volume 32 has a coherent theme.

This year the Law Review institutionalized the Excellence in Jurisprudence Award and banquet. With the help of the law school administration and the law review members, we were able to pull off a well-attended and well-received affair honoring Justice Mary Walters and Dean Desiderio. To enhance the awards prestige and alumni involvement, Andy Schultz, of the Rodey firm, has agreed to head up a Law Review alumni committee to submit nominations for the award each year. We hope that the committee's involvement will generate more interest in the award and give it a little more cache, thus giving the Law Review and School of Law a higher profile in the New Mexico legal community.

As the transition from the 2001–2002 board to the 2002–2003 board occurred, a significant decision was also being made in the U.S. Supreme Court in the *Atkins v. Virginia* case. Due to the involvement of the law school's own Professor Jim Ellis, the Law Review felt that a fall symposium on the implications of the *Atkins* decision would be appropriate. Plans proceeded over the summer months and the symposium is to be held in October and will lead to a special issue for Volume 33 of the Law Review. The symposium is seen as another means by which the *New Mexico Law Review* can achieve its goal of service to its readers and the law community of New Mexico.