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New Mexico Law Review, Annual Report 2000 - 2001

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New Mexico Law Review
Annual Report
2000–2001

The Editorial Board of the New Mexico Law Review for 2000–2001 adopted as its mission the publication of three issues of the Law Review for Volume 31, the first of which is a special issue devoted to the proceedings of the Tenth Circuit Judicial Conference held in Santa Fe June 29 through July 1, 2000. Working from transcriptions of speeches and panel discussions that took place during the conference, our student editors worked long and hard to turn the spoken word into clear and cohesive articles that are footnoted to provide authority for the information presented. As The Honorable Paul J. Kelly, Jr. and The Honorable Robert H. Henry, Circuit Judges for the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals and co-chairs for the Conference Program Committee, stated in their introduction to this issue of the Law Review,

The press of business, ethical concerns, and inadequate opportunities conspire to prevent judges, lawyers, and law professors from having meaningful interactions outside the courtroom. The difficulty of interaction results in several problems that might be improved if these groups could talk, and talk frankly. Judges sometimes become frustrated with rules that aren't always followed, lawyers become frustrated with rules, and law professors become frustrated with the lack of audiences for what they write. Additionally, practitioners and judges rarely get to discuss the practical implications of newly decided cases in a non-adversarial setting.

The 2000 Tenth Circuit Judicial Conference, which convened in Santa Fe, New Mexico, June 29 through July 1, was perhaps the most ambitious practitioner's conference the circuit has held. Responding to suggestions from individual judges and the Attorneys' Advisory Committee, as well as the academy and the bar, the Program Committee tried to provide something for everyone. The conference resulted in much needed dialogue in formal and informal settings. It was calculated to allow the bench and bar to discuss frustrations, suggest improvements, and in general to get to know one another better. Candid discussions between practitioners and judges gave each group a better idea of what the other expects and why. Apart from practice, brief presentations in the Renaissance tradition provided a sampling of exciting developments in other law-related areas.

To extend the blessings—and important suggestions—of this event to ourselves and our posterity, the Program Committee obtained the invaluable participation of the University of New Mexico School of Law. The *New Mexico Law Review* assisted with the logistics of recording the conference and agreed to publish much of the conference, and this issue fulfills that latter commitment....

With the upcoming publication of Volume 31, #3, the Editorial Board for 2000–2001 will have fulfilled its goal of publishing three issues of the *New Mexico Law Review*.

The *Law Review* Editorial Board for 2001–2002 has adopted a three-pronged mission: (1) re-affirm the journal's mission to serve practitioners in New Mexico while contributing to legal scholarship on a national level, (2) improve the image and prestige of the journal in the local and national legal community, and (3) implement structural changes in the Editorial Board and

transition the 2002–03 Editorial Board in a manner that will improve editorial efficiency and timely production of the journal.

The Editorial Board took a hard look at the original mission of the *Law Review*—to provide a forum for scholarship on issues relevant to New Mexico—and re-dedicated the *Law Review* to that purpose. We will focus one entire issue of Volume 32 to articles on New Mexico law. We are fortunate to have several distinguished members of the New Mexico bench, bar, and law school faculty contributing articles to this issue, and therefore expect it to be well-received in the local legal community. Enhancement of the prestige of the *Law Review* as a true scholarly journal will hopefully be a bi-product of the esteemed authors contributing to the New Mexico-focused issue.

In addition to focusing on New Mexico legal issues, we felt that the *Law Review* needed to contribute to the national dialogue on legal issues through a symposium issue. This year we chose to focus a symposium issue on the implications of Internet technology on traditional areas of law. We have accepted articles on the subject from scholars at major institutions across the country as well as student writers on the Editorial Board. We are hopeful that the symposium will reaffirm the *Law Review*'s presence on a national level as a significant and high-quality journal.

Through extensive bylaw amendments, the Editorial Board revamped the functions of certain positions on the *Law Review*. There are no longer Notes & Comments Editors overseeing student writing. Instead, the Student Articles Editor and the student-writers' faculty advisors are in charge of supervising student writers as they pen their casenotes. There are no longer multiple Lead Articles Editors. Instead, Manuscript Editors are primarily responsible for editing professional work under the supervision of a single Lead Articles Editor who oversees all outside article submission review and acceptance. The duties of the Editor-in-Chief and Managing Editor stay substantially the same. We are hopeful that these structural changes will streamline the production process by reducing editorial redundancies and promoting more efficiency among the editors, thereby increasing the likelihood of timely production of the *Law Review*.

In addition to changing the structure of the Editorial Board, the *Law Review* anticipates transitioning the 2002–03 Editorial Board earlier than in past years. We intend to give the printer-production aspects of Volume 32, Issue #3, due out in June of 2002, over to the new Board in order to give them on-the-job training on how to put out an issue of the *Law Review*. We hope that this will promote a smoother transition than in past years when the new Board has been given the reigns without any practical training in how to put out the *Law Review*. This change in the *Law Review* culture will also eliminate the onerous task of wrangling up post-3L editors after graduation to help put out the Summer issue of the *Law Review*.

The *Law Review* will hold the 2nd Annual Distinguished Law Review Alumni Awards banquet honoring Mary Walters. The banquet is in the planning stages and will be held in February 2002. The Banquet will be institutionalized as an annual affair and will hopefully enhance the presence of the *Law Review* and the School of Law in the local legal community.

Of the approximate 443 New Mexico Law Review subscriptions, 244 are generated by 5 journal agencies. W S Hein & Company Law Publishers leads the list with 3 foreign and 156 domestic law library subscribers. These include university law, and law court libraries.

The 199 remaining subscriptions are billed directly from the journals office. Of these 199, 110 are billed to New Mexico subscribers, mostly attorneys' offices. Further, of these 199, 86 are billed to subscribers in the United States, 2 to Canadian subscribers, and 1 to a German institute.

Of the 16 foreign NMLR subscriptions, 12 are Canadian, 1 German, 1 Australian, 1 Japanese, and 1 British.

Expansion of subscribers lies in promotion to UNM SOL alumni along with more foreign university law libraries. Further, more supreme court libraries, with a focus on Canadian provinces, and perhaps the UK, and Australia.

Subscriptions begin with the calendar year, January 1 through December 31. Currently, the rate for the New Mexico Law Review is \$32 per volume year for foreign and domestic subscriptions. Beginning with Volume 32, Year 2001, the foreign subscription rate will be increased to \$35.

The NMLR office keeps the previous 2 volumes of back issues, for sale at \$12 per copy. Back issues prior to this, are secured from W S Hein & Company.