

1-1-1968

School of Law Annual Report 1967-1968

School of Law Dean

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/law_admin_ar
University of New Mexico
UNM Digital Repository

Recommended Citation

Dean, School of Law. "School of Law Annual Report 1967-1968." (1968). https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/law_admin_ar/27

This Annual Report is brought to you for free and open access by the School of Law Administrative Records at UNM Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in School of Law Annual Reports by an authorized administrator of UNM Digital Repository. For more information, please contact disc@unm.edu.

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL OF LAW
July 1, 1967 - June 30, 1968
Thomas W. Christopher, Dean

I. General information

Enrollment in the fall of 1967 was 185, as compared to 163 for the previous fall, 144 in 1965, and 97 in 1964. The freshman class had 80 students; 13 of the 80 were suspended for academic reasons in February or June. 45 graduated in June 1968, (36 in 1967, 23 in 1966, 17 in 1965).

For the third year in a row, faculty research has broken records. In 1965-66, eight of nine professors had publications, and the ninth man actually did substantial research and writing but with later publication dates. In 1966-67, eleven of eleven professors had publications with a total of 37 items, including one casebook, four text or form books, chapters in four books, and 21 articles in scholarly journals. For 1967-68, every faculty member save one (11 out of 12) had publications, and that one was a new teacher in his first year out of law school. There were 14 articles in scholarly journals, five book reviews, one book, and eight other items (editing book supplements, editing loose-leaf legal books, and the like), for a total of 28 items. Also, personnel in the law library assisted in the revision of a book containing state laws affecting education.

The program for Continuing Education for the Bar included two seminars in Albuquerque--one on law and psychiatry (with Professor Weihofen and Dr. Senescu in charge), and the other on estate planning (Visiting Professor John Scott in charge).

The Institute of Public Law and Services made a modest beginning in service to the state and region. It did some work on the proposed new state constitution, worked with the governor's office in regard to solutions for land title problems in Northern New Mexico, drew up an administrative procedure guide for the state, and consulted on the state's food and drug laws. The director, Mr. Raymond Sawyer, spent considerable time in work with the State Bar, and in supervising special institutes for the Bar. He also has assisted in our judicial project with The Navajo Tribe, a project that proposes to re-structure the judicial system of the Tribe. Mr. Sawyer is the sole employee of the Institute but, given additional people, this organization will render valuable service to the state and to the University.

The law students continued to participate in legal aid work with the Albuquerque Legal Aid Society, and in the release-on-recognizance program for indigent prisoners, with almost all senior and junior students taking part in one or the other of these programs. Mr. Frank Dewey directs the programs. The law school has been a pioneer among law schools in this work. Aside from the important community service aspects of these programs, the law student obtains valuable professional training.

Efforts by the school to work more closely with the State Bar and with law alumni have continued. The dean spends a fair amount of time on these efforts and he needs to spend more.

The special program to encourage American Indians to study law has progressed in satisfactory fashion. The enrollment for the summer workshop, 1967, was 18. Of these, six were enrolled in law school

here in the fall and one was enrolled at Arizona State. During the summer of 1968, 18 Indians are enrolled in the workshop, and some eight or nine of these will enter law school here or elsewhere this fall (one has been accepted at Harvard, and another at UCLA).

The school did pretty well this year in rendering services to the campus and to the lay community. On December 1, 1967, and December 12, 1967, it had evening meetings open to all University personnel on problems of retirement. Among the subjects discussed were the problems of taxes, pensions, wills, trusts, and investments. Attendance was excellent, and with a cross-section of the campus.--Associate Professor Carl Selinger designed and ran an experimental freshman course in University College, Introduction to Contemporary American Thought, with an enrollment of 380. Two law professors participated as guest lecturers (Malcolm P. Sharp, Thomas W. Christopher). Professor Selinger presided over each class meeting, and Professor Sharp attended each session.--On April 20, 1968, the school had a three hour session for women on women and the law; discussed were community property, joint ownership, and other legal matters of interest to lay women.--In addition to the law school going outside to work with non-lawyers and with other schools on the campus, other schools on the campus were represented in law school activities. Thus, Professors James E. Brown and Perry T. Mori of the School of Business Administration participated in the seminar on problems of retirement. Professor Nathaniel Wollman participated with Professor Malcolm Sharp in the law school seminar, Logic and Evaluation in the Law. Dr. Robert Senescu and several other members of the Medical

School faculty assisted Professor Weihofen in conducting the law school seminar, Law and Psychiatry. Associate Professor William Weismantel of the Department of Architecture taught the law school seminar, Law and Control of the Urban Environment, in the second semester.

The amount of contact between the law faculty and members of other departments is increasing, and the law school is encouraging this development. This interdisciplinary exchange is carried on not only because the law school recognizes its obligation to be a good neighbor but also because substantial benefits accrue to the law school, law faculty, and law students.

There was considerable activity in the field of Indian affairs. The school is engaged in a two-year project with The Navajo Tribe for the purpose of studying the Tribe's judicial system. The end product will be recommendations for re-structuring the court system and procedure. Along the way, the project will prepare special codes, such as a juvenile code, traffic code, etc.--The school received two grants to be used in connection with problems arising from the civil rights provisions for tribes passed by the present Congress.--A Center of Indian Law is being created, probably to be placed under the Institute of Public Law and Services for administration purposes, and all of the Indian matters will be centralized in this Center.--The school began publication of an Indian Law Newsletter in May of this year. This mimeographed newsletter gives information on recent legislation and court decisions of interest to Indians. Current circulation is about 1000 and the letter is being well received.

The school continued work started three years ago to overhaul the curriculum, to bring it into line with present trends and needs. International Law is now required in the freshman year, and needed courses are being added (examples: courses or seminars on urban problems, real estate transactions, law of the poor, women and the law, legal accounting, food and drug law, trial practice workshop, jurisprudence).

II. Faculty

Three new people joined the regular faculty in September, 1967: Walter Barnett, Associate Professor; Robert Desiderio, Assistant Professor; Robert Walker, Assistant Professor. Mr. Raymond Sawyer joined the law school faculty as director of the Institute of Public Law and Services on July 1, 1967.

Frank Dewey, Director of Legal Services, received the additional title of Lecturer in February, 1968.

The school had two visiting professors during the spring semester: George Neff Stevens and John W. Scott. Both are distinguished law professors.

Four associate professors were promoted to full professor, effective July 1, 1968: Willis Ellis, Leo Kanowitz, Carl Selinger, and Albert Utton.

Professor Fred Hart, who had been a visiting professor, joined the faculty on a regular, full-time basis as of July 1, 1968.

Associate Professor Denny O. Ingram, Jr. who was on leave for 1967-68, resigned effective June 30, 1968, to accept a position at the University of Utah.

During the Summer Indian Workshop, 1968, the school had two visiting faculty: Dean David Vernon of the University of Iowa College of Law, and Professor James W. Smith of the Boston College Law School.

Two people joined the law faculty as of July 1, 1968: Professor Hugh B. Muir, B.S., J.D., formerly on the legal staff of Texas Instruments; and Assistant Professor Jerome A. Hoffman, A.B., J.D., formerly in private practice in Los Angeles. It may be noted here that Professor Carl Selinger will be leaving the law faculty as of September 1, 1968, to become Dean of the College of Bard College in New York.

The following faculty attended one or more professional meetings: Selinger, Ellis, Weihofen, Hart, Walker, Desiderio, Dewey, Utton, Christopher, and Fink.

III. Significant needs

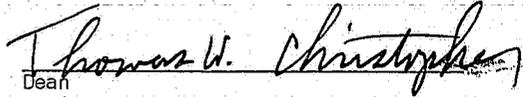
- (A) Substantial increases in the Budget for faculty, library, library personnel, and the Institute of Public Law and Services.
- (B) Professional assistance in dean's office.
- (C) Outside funds for scholarships and other needs.
- (D) More B+, A- students.
- (E) A more attractive fringe benefit program for faculty.
- (F) Facilities for the continuing legal education program and for other non-teaching activities such as service to government and the community.

IV. Finally

A fair amount of progress has been made in recent years and the school has had warm support from the administration, the campus, the Bar

and the community. The problems and risks, however, are still very substantial as the school is not yet on firm ground. Further, the school, relatively speaking, is falling behind neighboring schools. Thus, this report ends on a note of pessimism. The University has the opportunity at hand to create a really outstanding law school--one that would shine on the national level. And the need in New Mexico for such a law school is very, very strong.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED THIS 13th DAY OF AUGUST, 1968.


Dean