

1-1-1966

School of Law Annual Report 1965-1966

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 1965-1966." (1966). https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/law_admin_ar/29

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, 1965 - June 30, 1966

Thomas W. Christopher, Dean

I. General School Information

A. Significant Achievements

Enrollment in the fall of 1965 was up about 50 per cent over the prior year: 144 as compared to 98. The freshman class had 76 students, of whom 20 were from other states. The median LSAT score was 544, as compared to 516 in 1963. Eleven of the 76 were suspended in June for academic reasons, and eight had dropped out during the year, leaving 57.

A number of physical improvements were made in the law building, with air conditioning being the major one. Additional office space for faculty and for secretaries was added. A fair amount of elementary office equipment has been secured (typewriters that type, staplers that staple, a dictating machine for the dean, an adding machine, etc.), so that the school is able to operate in a reasonably efficient fashion. The secretarial group has been improved by additions and also by departures. Overall, the school is receiving the facilities (and developing a climate) for top notch faculty research and teaching. The addition to the building, now being planned, will provide the needed space for the next five years, with additional library stack space being needed thereafter.

A program of continuing legal education for the Bar was established, with plans for two institutes a year in Albuquerque,

and one or two in other areas. An institute on estate planning was held in Albuquerque in the fall, and one on anatomy for lawyers in the spring--both in cooperation with the local and state Bar associations; an institute in estate planning was held in Las Cruces in the spring, in cooperation with the local bar association. All institutes were well attended and well received.

A Bureau of Legal Research and Services was set up, primarily for the purposes of publishing, doing fundamental research, holding institutes and special training classes, and rendering service to the state of a non-educational character. The Bureau received a grant of \$8,000 from the state in July, and it is expected that additional state funds will be available. This Bureau is badly needed and it will render valuable service to the state and to the University in the years ahead.

The law school has worked closely with the state Constitutional Revision Commission and with other state groups during the year, and with the state Bar Association. The school, for example, did the tabulations on an extensive questionnaire for the state Bar Association, and five professors worked on projects for the Constitutional Revision Commission.

Steps have been taken to insure continuous communication between the law school and the Bar. One item is the publication of a newsletter entitled "Law School Notebook," copies of which are mailed to all alumni and also on occasion to all members of the New Mexico Bar Association.

The Law Alumni Association was formally organized. Also, a foundation (University of New Mexico Law School Foundation) was established for the purpose of raising funds for the benefit of the school. Both of these organizations should, over the years, be of substantial financial assistance to the law school, and they also should engender support for the University as a whole. The beginning on a loan fund has been made.

A program has been set up to establish better contact with pre-law students, not only on this campus but in colleges and high schools over the state. Meetings for pre-law students are being held; printed materials are being prepared; high school and college students are being encouraged to write to and visit the law school. Faculty members are visiting colleges over the state, meeting with pre-law students.

Efforts are being made to establish a program to encourage more Indians to study law. Progress has been slow, due in part to bad luck (the man who had the influence to secure the needed money was transferred to a new job at the last moment).

A little progress was made in rendering services to the University and to the law public. The law school sponsored a panel discussion open to the public on the role of the foundation in our society; it was poorly attended. On Alumni Day, it sponsored a panel discussion on the right-to-vote question; it was poorly attended. These efforts will continue. Faculty members served on several University committees, participated in a large number of

community activities, and spoke before various community groups.

The faculty revised the curriculum with the view of enriching the offerings. Of special interest is the addition of international law as a required course in the freshman year. Also, more courses are being offered in the general fields of administrative law and of federal law.

The faculty, for the moment, is stabilized. It is an extremely able group, one that would be hard to replace, and it ranks with the best. Five out of seven had attractive offers from other schools.

The Student Bar Association was active and effective. It provided a constant flow of social activities, with adequate refreshments, noise, and entertainment to insure the needed social betterment. It sponsored a series of speakers for the law students, a meeting with pre-law students on the campus, a moot court competition, a bail bond project for indigent prisoners, and several other projects. Second and third year students participated actively in the Albuquerque Legal Aid program. In addition, the officers cooperated closely in publicizing unpopular decisions by the faculty. The law school has one of the most active student bars in the country.

B. Significant Needs

1. Substantial amounts of money for scholarships and loans.
2. Additional money beyond the regular appropriations for law library books. The law library received a special appropriation of \$20,000 for this purpose in 1965-66, and it will need grants in similar amounts for several more years.
3. More B+, A- students.

4. Time.

C. Appointments to Staff

Thomas W. Christopher became dean of the School of Law, and professor of law on July 1, 1965. Willis H. Ellis, a rising name in the field of natural resources law, joined the law faculty as visiting associate professor on September 1, 1965, and has now accepted a permanent appointment. Malcolm P. Sharp, one of the top law teachers and scholars in America, joined the faculty as visiting professor on September 1, 1965, and will be with us the coming year. Two local attorneys served as part-time lecturers during the second semester: Roland B. Kool (labor law) and William C. Schaab (trusts).

Denny O. Ingram was appointed to the faculty as an associate professor, effective September 1, 1966. Mr. Ingram formerly was on the law faculty of the University of Texas, had been a member of a prominent Austin law firm, and had been a member of the Texas legislature.

Leo Kanowitz was appointed to the faculty as an associate professor, effective September 1, 1966. Mr. Kanowitz has been on the law faculty of St. Louis University, and his scholarly interest is in family law. In addition to his ability as a lawyer, Mr. Kanowitz has a background of travel in Europe, and he is fluent in two foreign languages.

Frederick M. Hart, now professor of law at Boston College, will be a visiting professor for 1966-67. Mr. Hart has a national reputation in the field of commercial law.

Jerome Hall, one of the top men in the world in the field of criminal law, now at the University of Indiana, will be visiting professor of law for the second semester.

It may be noted that the faculty considered more than a hundred names for the three regular positions, choosing a top list of five, and Messrs. Ingram, Kanowitz and Hart were on this top list. Thus, we have no second choices.

D. Leaves and Resignations

Alan D. Liker will be on leave of absence for 1966-67, visiting at U.C.L.A.

Mrs. Jane Goldman, Assistant Librarian, resigned June 30, 1966.

Henry Weihofen will be on sabbatical leave during the second semester, 1967.

II Information on Faculty

The law faculty was active in scholarly work and in publishing. Of nine people with faculty rank, eight had research, articles or books in progress during the year; eight had publications in scholarly journals, with a total of eleven articles, one chapter in a book to be published, and six book reviews (the ninth man had several research projects under way which will result in publications in the future); this makes a total of eighteen publications during the year, not counting speeches and the like. Five members of the faculty are working on books, or sections of

books. Mr. Christopher completed a book, to be published by Commerce Clearing House, Inc., in the fall. Eight of the nine attended one or more professional meetings. Five were active in doing research for various state agencies.

The dean attended a number of professional meetings, including that of the American Bar Association, the New Mexico Bar Association, the Southwestern Law Teachers Association, the Association of American Law Schools, American Law Institute, Southeastern Law Teachers Association, and several others. He also visited local bar associations at Hobbs, Clovis, Albuquerque, and Santa Fe, and he visited the campuses of most of the colleges in the state to talk with pre-law students and with pre-law advisors. He made several talks and speeches over the state and outside the state.

Mr. Ellis has been particularly active in the field of natural resources, has several research projects under way, and is gaining national recognition. The librarian, Mr. Fink, began a cooperative research project with the state Supreme Court library, and has been busy building up the collection of books. Professor Liker organized and supervised the excellent program of continuing legal education for the bar, conducting two of the institutes himself, and he carried on several research projects. Professor Seed has been active in the Rocky Mountain Mineral Law Foundation Institute. Professor Selinger has been quite active in committee work in the law school, on the campus, and in the community;

he is president of the local chapter of the A.A.U.P. for the coming year, and is one of our more useful citizens. Mr. Sharp took an active interest in national and international problems. The University of Chicago Law School honored him in a special issue of their law journal--an honor that comes to only a few law professors. Professor Utton continued his work as faculty editor of the Journal of Natural Resources, and has been in charge of the student loan and scholarship programs and of several law school projects. Professor Weihofen made numerous talks and speeches over the nation, received a number of honors, and in general has been busy with his scholarly work and with committee work on and off the campus. This was one of his more fruitful years.

III Finally

It has been a reasonably good year. Support from the University has been excellent. The school has received splendid cooperation, assistance, and understanding from the entire campus, and especially from the various administrative offices. The faculty has worked hard and is in good spirits. Student morale seems to be satisfactory. Academic standards are high. Alumni and Bar interest is good and appears to be on the upswing. The school is rapidly getting the overall academic structure, physical plant, student body, budget, and public support needed to build one of the outstanding, small law schools in America. The next four years will tell the tale.