2010 College Review
Law School Attendees

– Kevin Washburn, Dean
– Carol Parker, Associate Dean for the Library and Information Technology
– Peggy Lovato, Law School Administrator
– Judy Flynn-O’Brien, Director, Corinne Wolfe Children's Law Center
Facts & Figures

– 340 full-time students
– Approximately 34 full-time faculty
– Among the top 30 most selective schools in the country.
– Leading Indian law certificate program
– Leading natural resources and environmental law certificate program
– Leading clinical law program
Facts & Figures

– One of the most diverse law school student bodies in the country.
  • Almost 50 percent racial or ethnically diverse.
  • 102 dues-paying members of Mexican American Law Students Association (MALSA)
  • 25-30% Hispanic student enrollment
  • 10% American Indian student enrollment
  • Leading pre-law program in the country is here for Indian students.
  • Some years have had dramatically more women than men; we are currently roughly 50-50.
Facts & Figures

One of the most ethnically and racially diverse faculties in the country, which includes:

– Five wise Latinas!
– Four enrolled members of federally-recognized American Indian tribes
– Two Leading African American legal scholars
– Other outstanding colleagues who are supportive of the view that diversity is important.
Facts & Figures

Student success after graduation:

100% bar passage rate on the Feb 2009 Bar
96% bar passage rate on the July 2009 Bar
97% overall 2009 first time bar passage rate
Vision Statement

• What is unique about UNM School of Law?
  – Innovative Curricular Model
  – Engaged Learning Community
  – Central Role in State Public Policy
Innovative Curriculum

• Carnegie Report
• We have moved beyond the Classrooms and Clinics bimodal approach.
• A wide spectrum of courses offering both skills and substance.
• Nationally leading clinical program
• But very expensive
• Not possible elsewhere
Carnegie Report: Educating Lawyers

• “Law schools should adopt the medical model of professional education.”
Other Law Schools

Curriculum

- Classroom/Lecture
- Clinic (optional)
- Skills/Trial Practice
- Legal Research and Writing
UNM School of Law

Curriculum

- Classroom
- Clinical Education
- Hybrid Substance/Skills
- Legal Research and Writing
Legal Research & Writing

• Full-time instructors
• Developing an expansion of this curriculum and renewed commitment; writing is key
• Engaging regular faculty more robustly in the time consuming work of teaching writing
• Engaging library faculty more thoughtfully in teaching research
• Moving from a two-semester to a three- or more semester approach to these subjects.
Clinical education

- Community Lawyering Clinic
- Law Practice Clinic
- Business and Tax Clinic
- Southwest Indian Law Clinic
- Interdisciplinary Collaboration with the Medical School in the Medical Legal Alliance
- Developing new DV/DWI practicum courses with real practice experience.
Challenges

• Assuring 115 graduating students the clinical experience each year is daunting.
• Requires year-round operation of clinics
• Expensive
• Teacher burnout is high
• UNM summer research model fits poorly
• Southwest Indian Law Clinic is funded outside formula and is therefore constantly at risk
Rewards

• One of the best faculty/student teaching ratios in the country
• Students often find their career paths through clinical work.
• Students enter practice far more competent to practice law and appreciate their education.
Engaged Learning Community

• The “Pre-Fred Hart” Era
  – 2 in 3 failed out
  – Paper Chase Socratic Method
  – Abusive toward students

• The “Hart” Era

• Since 1970, a school where students have fun and work hard.

• Good for learning; good for the profession.
Engaged Learning Community

“Why not spend three years at a school where I can have fun?”
 - Jonathan Rothschild, Tucson, Arizona

“I earned a BA and a MBA, but I never enjoyed school until I enrolled in the law school.”
 - Rep. Zach Cook, Ruidoso, New Mexico
Broader Challenges

• Key to our model is engaged faculty.
• We face multiple retirements that threaten our faculty student ratio, our ability to teach core subjects, and our ability to maintain faculty accessibility.
• Solution: a three year hiring plan moving forward to replace retirees.
• Two new Chairs will help: Pamela Minzner Chair in Professionalism; Frederick M. Hart Chair in Clinical and Consumer Law.
UNM Law School’s Unique Role in NM

• Judicial Selection – a constitutional role for the School of Law in the NM Judiciary
  – Changes: virtual application review process; new application form; cost-savings (no FedEx; no jet).
  – Since July, 65 Commissioners, 47 applicants, 20 nominees, three judgeships filled.
  – Unique in the United States.

• Judicial Compensation Commission
• Law Compilation Commission
• The State’s Principal Law Library
Central Role

• UNMSoL has its own Court of Appeals
  (Have you had a tour?)
• Many members of the State and Federal Judiciary teach at the School of Law.
• Many also host student externs at their offices.
• Our alums include the current Chief Justice, the next Chief Justice, a past Chief Justice, the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals and other judges, and the Attorney General. All are engaged in our work and our mission.
Interaction with the bar

- Taos County Bar Association
- Lea County Bar Association
- Cibola County Bar Association
- First Judicial District (Santa Fe) Bar Association
- Annual State Bar Convention
- Trips to Roswell, Las Cruces, Ruidoso, Alamogordo, etc.
Judge Don Maddox says
“Congratulations, President Schmidly!”

Lobos Shock Texas
UNM Completes Road Series Win Over No. 1 Longhorns

From Journal Reports

AUSTIN, Texas — Ray Birmingham's cell phone mailbox was overloaded Sunday afternoon.

The University of New Mexico's baseball coach couldn't receive any more voice mail, but after his team's second straight victory over No. 1-ranked Texas, Birmingham got the general message.

“I guess a lot of people are interested in Lobo baseball now,” Birmingham said in a phone interview. “Not a bad way to get people's attention.”

Mike Lachapelle and three UNM relievers certainly got the Longhorns' attention on Sunday, pitching the Lobos to a 3-1 victory in front of 5,953 fans at UFCU Disch-Falk Field. New Mexico won two of three in the season-opening series with a youthful pitching staff that outshone a highly touted Texas rotation.

Lachapelle worked six strong innings Sunday, allowing one run on seven hits to help UNM take the rubber game of the series. Lobo pitchers gave up just one run over the final 16 innings of the series.

Particularly impressive was a New Mexico bullpen that didn't give up a run in the series. New Mexico high school graduates Edwin Carl (Piedra Vista), Gera Sanchez (Mayfield), Kenny Toves (Carlsbad) and Austin House (La Cueva) were outstanding.

See LOBOS on PAGE B6
The 60 for 60 Initiative

- Preserving the law school’s history and highlighting its important role in the state.
- Cementing the school’s central role in NM’s development as a modern state.
- Engaging alumni and friends in an effort to honor the School of Law’s past and present.
Other Development Plans

• Yellow Ribbon Program – engaging veterans and other lawyers who have served to support our students; allows us to reach non-alums; allows us to elevate discussions of the School of Law above politics.

• Developing scholarships around our Indian program and our environmental and natural resources programs.

• Developing support for infrastructure and programs.
Developing New Alumni Communities

- Phoenix
- Washington, DC
  - Washington, DC program
  - Continuing Legal Education program
  - Exchange program with Catholic U.
  - Stimulating employment opportunities
Other Law School research and public service:

• Institute of Public Law
• Utton Transboundary Resources Center
• Institute for Public Policy
Institute of Public Law: Current Centers

- Rozier E. Sanchez Judicial Education Center
- Corinne Wolfe Children’s Law Center
- Traffic Safety Law Center
- Center for Wildlife Law
- Government Law Center
Institute of Public Law
Judicial Education Center

• Established by state law in 1993 to train NM judges and court staff
• Annual conferences, regional seminars, new judge orientation, resource manuals, videoconferencing, interactive online training
• Funded primarily by $3 fee added to fines, plus modest appropriation; $1.3 million budget total
• Six full-time and several on-call staff
• [http://jec.unm.edu](http://jec.unm.edu)
Institute of Public Law
Corinne Wolfe Children’s Law Center

• Provides education and training for professionals and volunteers who work in the child abuse/neglect and juvenile justice legal systems

• Annual Children’s Law Institute, conferences, state & regional training, legal manuals, listservs

• Core funds from appropriation; contracts and grants support specific programs

• 3 full-time and several on-call staff

• [http://ipl.unm.edu/childlaw](http://ipl.unm.edu/childlaw)
Institute of Public Law
Traffic Safety Law Center

• Promotes safety in transportation by educating the public and coordinating state efforts
• Publishes newsletters for youth and professionals & publicity on impaired driving and aviation safety; develops conferences, summits and DWI leadership meetings; conducts legal research on safe driving
• Trains, certifies and monitors traffic safety schools and instructors
• Funded by contracts with NM Dept. of Transportation
• Five full-time, several part-time staff
• http://ipl.unm.edu/traf/
Institute of Public Law
Center for Wildlife Law

- Publications, resources and projects on wildlife law and policy, including climate change
- Publishes self-supporting national Wildlife Law News Quarterly and weekly alerts
- Wild Friends Program offers civics and wildlife law education to 1000 students grades 4 – 12 through hands-on exposure to legislative process
- Wild Friends supported by appropriation and foundations
- One full-time, 3 part-time & 2 on-call staff
- http://wildlifelaw.unm.edu/
Institute of Public Law
Government Law Center

- Researches and drafts legislation and regulations, primarily for state agencies
- Conducts research on complex issues for government
- Supported by contracts with government agencies
- Three attorneys as needed
Utton Transboundary Resources Center

- Established in 2001 to promote equitable and sustainable management of transboundary natural resources using impartial expertise, multi-disciplinary research and collaborative processes.
- Research, writing and speaking on water topics for the New Mexico Legislature, academic institutions, NGOs and other audiences.
- Organization of conferences and discussion on water policy among experts and stakeholders.
- Participation in local, regional and state collaborative water planning and resource management initiatives.
- Representation of New Mexico in border work groups relative to water issues of mutual interest to the U.S. and Mexico.
Joe M Stell Ombudsman Program of the Utton Center

- Established at the Utton Center in 2005 to help unrepresented individual claimants make educated choices about how to protect their interests in water adjudications.
- Provides information through Spanish and English helplines, flyers, post cards, outreach telephone calls and a website.
- Presents to community and professional groups.
- Provides assistance to the Court in editing claimant documents.
- Develops and implements court pre-mediation service; conducts training for court-assigned water adjudication mediators.
Utton Center/Ombudsman Program

• Both projects receive one appropriation as Utton Center.
• Continuing pursuit of alternative source funding.
• Four full-time staff members; part-time students for research.
Institute for Public Policy

- Brings informed, collaborative public perspectives into the policymaking process
- Non-partisan forum for social scientific research and education
- Transferred from Political Science Department to School of Law in 2008
- Former survey research center disbanded
- One research scientist/director, 2 part-time staff
- Staff and programs merging into IPL
Institute of Public Law
Centers under development

• Center for public deliberation [working title]
  Convenes forums to foster constructive public deliberations on public policy issues
  Current contracts with state court administrator (on water adjudication reform); Kettering Foundation and Department of Aging (on economic security)

• Center for Public Ethics [working title]:
  Training for government on ethical conduct
Challenges facing public service projects:

• Funding: Reduced appropriations and reduced agency contract funds
• Promotion of programs: Finding staff time for development
• Merger: Melding staff and administrative procedures
• Staff maintenance: Retirements of several experienced staff over next ~ five years
Future Directions

– Integrate the work of these projects more carefully into the teaching mission of the law school.

– Project development: increase grantwriting activities, develop new relationships with state and federal agencies, and develop additional funding sources.

– Merge functions and create centralized administration to achieve cost savings.
Overall Law School Strategies

– Steward our existing resources carefully
– Develop new areas of fee generation such as CLE programs and international programs
– Capitalize on our strengths and attract funding that recognizes these strengths
– Reach more widely with our existing resources
– Achieve more work with existing faculty/staff
– Incrementally improve our excellent curriculum