

LAW SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

Draft of Minutes

Thursday, February 1, 2018

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

A meeting of the Law School Council of The State Bar of California convened in open session at 1:00 p.m., Thursday, February 1, 2018, in a meeting room at the State Bar offices in Los Angeles, Mitchel L. Winick, Chair, presiding.

Law School Representatives Present: Dean Mitchel Winick,(Chair, LSC), Dean Lisa Kloppenberg, Dean Susan Prager, Dean Robert Strauss and

Committee of Bar Examiners Representatives Present: Karen Goodman, Erika Hiramatsu, and Esther Lin

Committee Staff Present: Amy Nuñez, Donna Hershkowitz, George Leal, and Ron Pi

Additional Guests: Dean Dean Barbieri, Dean Greg Brandes, and Dean Jackie Gardina

1. The Chair determined the existence of a quorum with 7 of 12 members in attendance. Public Comment was opened, but no comments were received.
2. By common consent the Draft Minutes of the Council Meeting of November 30, 2017 were reviewed and approved.
3. Presentations were made on distance education initiatives currently under way at Southwestern Law School (ABA) by Dean Prager; Santa Barbara & Ventura Colleges of Law (CALs) by Dean Gardina; and St. Francis (Registered) by Dean Brandes.

Following the presentations, Amy Nunez, Interim Director of Admissions, provided an update on the status of the pending revisions to the distance education rules and guidelines that have previously been approved by the CBE and the BOT as part of an integrated set of recommendations that also addressed a pathway for mandatory accreditation for existing registered law schools. The group discussed the likelihood that the changes related to distance education would be implemented separately from the pathway to accreditation changes. This is because the any potential mandatory path to accreditation would likely require action from the Court or Legislature, but the amendments related to California Accreditation for qualifying distance education programs can likely be implemented without waiting for this further action. The Council requested that staff report back at the next Council meeting with an update.

4. The chair presented a proposal to revise the Council Composition and meeting schedule. Recommendations included:

- a. Expanding the eligible list of those who can serve, by allowing not only deans, but also associate deans, vice deans, and former deans to serve as Council representatives.
- b. Combining the separate categories of public and private ABA law schools into a single category.
- c. Formalizing the appointment and selection process of representatives.
- d. Creating a process for filling vacancies.
- e. Adding the role of Vice-Chair.
- f. Formalizing the number and times per year that the Council will meet.

Following discussion, the Council recommended that proposed revisions be brought back to the June 2018 meeting for action.

5. Staff provided an update on the status of the completed and proposed studies related to the California Bar Exam. The Council and/or the Law School Assembly will be informed about opportunities for the law schools to be involved in the design or implementation of these studies, and will be advised of the progress of the studies.

6. Staff provided an update on new definitions of “Taker,” “Qualified Taker,” and “Completer” as used in relation to the California Bar Examination. Pass statistics will now only include those individuals who were present for all sessions of a particular examination.

7. The next Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 21, 2018 at 1:00 p.m. at the State Bar Los Angeles office at 845 S. Figueroa Street. A Law School Assembly meeting will also be held that day from 11:00-1:00 p.m. at the same location.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.