

**JOINT MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF
THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CALIFORNIA ACCREDITED LAW SCHOOL RULES (RAC)
AND
THE LAW SCHOOL COUNCIL (LSC)**

Thursday, August 23, 2018
3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

The State Bar of California
180 Howard Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

RAC meeting convened with these RAC Members present: Dean Greg Brandes (Chair, RAC); Dean Dean Barbieri; Dean Jackie Gardina; Karen M. Goodman, CBE; Erika Hiramatsu, Chair, CBE; Esther Lin, CBE.

LSC meeting convened with these LSC Members present or joining by conference call: Erika Hiramatsu, Acting Chair, LSC and Chair, CBE; Karen M. Goodman, CBE Member; Dean Kevin Johnson; Dean Lisa Kloppenberg; Esther Lin, CBE Member; Joanna Mendoza, Board of Trustees; Dean Robert Strouse; Dean Westerberg Prager (non-voting due to last minute change of location to an offsite non-noticed location).

Staff Present: Donna Hershkowitz; Amy Nuñez; Destie Overpeck; Natalie Leonard; and David Knight.

Public Comment Participant: Dean Laura Palazzolo, Lincoln Law School, San Jose.

1. Call for Public Comment.

No public comment was offered.

2. Appendix I Discussion: Staff Recommendations for Improved Communication and Engagement with Law School Deans and Options for Accreditation through Western Association of Schools and Colleges.

Staff presented the current proposals for both law school engagement and Committee of Bar Examiners operations, including potential retirement of the RAC and LSC and a move to create working groups focused on specific goals, as well as a proposal to transition Moral Character Determination conferences to staff. Dean Laura Palazzolo provided public comment.

Both RAC (moved/seconded by Goodman/Barbieri) and LSC (Kloppenberg/Goodman) moved to recommend rejection the staff proposal. Joanna Mendoza abstained from the vote of the LSC on this issue; all other voting members voted yes on both RAC and the LSC.

Staff next presented the current proposal for non-ABA law school accreditation, with a focus on transferring administrative decisions to staff, as well as a potential role for allowing accreditation by regional accreditation through groups such as the Western Association of Schools and Colleges to satisfy some portion of the requirements for State Bar accreditation. No public comment was received on this issue.

Both the RAC (Goodman/Lin) and the LSC (Kloppenber/Lin) moved to recommend rejection of the staff proposals. Joanna Mendoza abstained from the vote of the LSC on this issue; all other voting members voted yes.

3. Draft Minutes of the Meetings of June 21, 2018 – RAC and LCS. (Attachment A) (Natalie Leonard, Greg Brandes and Erika Hiramatsu)

The RAC (Goodman/Hiramatsu) approved the minutes of its June 21, 2018 RAC Meeting unanimously.

The LSC (Kloppenber/Lin) approved the minutes of the June 21, 2018 LSC Meeting unanimously.

4. Chair's Report. (Greg Brandes)

The Chair reminded members that a proposal related to law school engagement and accreditation could be discussed at the open meeting of the Board of Trustees on September 13-14, 2018.

5. Staff Update (Amy Nuñez, Natalie Leonard, Donna Hershkowitz, Lisa Cummins) may include:
 - a. Timeline of Guidelines for Accredited Law School Rules Pertaining to Accreditation of Distance-Learning Law Schools
 - b. Minimum, Cumulative Bar Pass Rate (MPR) Compliance Update
 - c. Status of 6061.7 Disclosures Form
 - d. Status of reviews of web communications for compliance with Guideline 2.3(D)(3)

Staff indicated that preparations were continuing related to developing a process for distance learning schools to obtain accreditation.

New forms are being created to support 2019 California B&P Code 6061.7(a) disclosures, taking into account the comments of the schools at the RAC in July, to be sent out in December 2018. Schools will not be required to re-post data before the next reporting period. Completed forms should be posted at the start of January 2019, if not sooner.

Schools were reminded to comply with the website rules prescribed by Guideline 2.3(D)(3).

6. 2018 RAC Goals Check-in. (Attachment B) (Greg Brandes)

No new goals were added this month.

7. Adjourn

A motion was made by Dean Barbieri and seconded by Jackie Gardina to adjourn the meeting and it was approved unanimously. The meeting ended at 5:16 p.m.