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AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION

Section of Legal Education
and Admissions to the Bar
Office of the Managing Director
321 N. Clark Street
Chicago, IL 60654-7598
(312) 988-6738
E-mail: legaled@americanbar.org/legaled

June 30, 2016

Dr. Robert G. Frank
President
University of New Mexico
MSC05 3300 – Scholes Hall
Suite 144
1 University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM 87131

Co-Dean Alfred Mathewson
University of New Mexico
School of Law
1117 Stanford NE
MSC11 6070
1 University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM 87131

Co-Dean Sergio Pareja
University of New Mexico
School of Law
1117 Stanford NE
MSC11 6070
1 University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM 87131

Dear President Frank and Co-Deans Mathewson and Pareja:

Attached please find the decision of the Accreditation Committee at its meeting on June 23-24, 2016, with respect to the University of New Mexico School of Law.

The Committee's Findings and Conclusions do not reflect a comprehensive checklist evaluation of each Standard and each facet of the institution. Indeed, this letter focuses, by the very nature of the process, essentially on concerns or possible aspects of non-compliance identified in the site evaluation report of the School or arising out of submissions or questionnaire answers by the School. Because the general impressions of different site teams are inherently noncomparable, the Accreditation Committee does not attempt to summarize all the information that could be gleaned from a site evaluation report, and recipients of this letter are encouraged, therefore, to consult the full site evaluation report for collegial advice and general impressions of the team. The site evaluation team does not make the official findings or conclusions for the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar of the American Bar Association. These are made by the Accreditation Committee and the Council of the Section.

In accordance with the U.S. Department of Education regulations applicable to recognized accrediting agencies, the Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar is required to conduct interim monitoring of each ABA-approved law school to determine whether each school remains in compliance with the ABA Standards for Approval of Law Schools. This monitoring and review is in addition to the regular site evaluation process and is being conducted on an annual basis. The School may receive in any year a request for information as a result of the interim monitoring.

A law school that is approved by the American Bar Association continues in that status pending final action by the Accreditation Committee and Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar.

Please feel free to call me, Deputy Managing Director William E. Adams, Jr., or Executive Assistant Cathy A. Schrage if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

Barry A. Currier
Managing Director of Accreditation and Legal Education

BAC/cs
Attachment

DECISION OF THE ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE
June 2016

At its June 23-24, 2016 meeting, the Accreditation Committee (the "Committee") considered the status of the University of New Mexico School of Law (the "Law School"). The Committee had before it a letter dated April 27, 2016, from President Robert G. Frank and Co-Deans Alfred Mathewson and Sergio Pareja (the "Deans' Response") submitted in response to the Committee's September 2015 Decision Letter, as well as a history of decisions made by the Committee with respect to the Law School since its last regular site evaluation; the history is attached to this document as an appendix.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

(1) At its September 2015 meeting, in accordance with Rules 12(a)(4) and 14, the Committee concluded that the University of New Mexico School of Law had not demonstrated that it was in compliance with Standard 603(d), in that the Law School's law library director did not hold a law faculty appointment and that the Law School had not demonstrated the existence of extraordinary circumstances that would prevent the law library director from holding a law faculty appointment.

(2) The Committee requested that the Law School submit a written report with all relevant information necessary to demonstrate compliance with the Standard, to be considered by the Committee at its June 2016 meeting. The Committee advised the Law School that if the written report did not demonstrate compliance with the Standard, the Committee requested, in accordance with Rules 12(a)(4) and 14(a)(2), that the President of the University of New Mexico and the Co-Deans of the Law School appear at a hearing before the Committee at its September 2016 meeting, at a date and time to be identified, to determine whether to impose sanctions in connection with the Law School's non-compliance with the Standard. The Committee further advised that if the information provided by the Law School demonstrated compliance with the Standard, the Committee may find the Law School to be in compliance with the Standard and cancel the Rule 14(a)(2) hearing, in accordance with Rule 21(d).

Issue of Compliance with Standard 603(d)

(3) The Deans' Response reports that the Law School has appointed the law library director as Research Professor of Law, which is a faculty appointment.

CONCLUSIONS:

(1) Based on the information provided, and in accordance with Rule 12(a)(1), the Committee concludes that the Law School has demonstrated that it is in compliance with Standard 603(d). [See Finding of Fact (3).]

(2) Accordingly, the Rule 12(a)(4) proceeding is terminated, and the hearing is cancelled with respect to this matter, in accordance with Rule 21(d).

(3) The University of New Mexico School of Law remains an approved law school.

APPENDIX

HISTORY

ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE
UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO SCHOOL OF LAW

APRIL 2015

At its April 16-18, 2015 meeting, the Accreditation Committee (the "Committee") considered the status of the University of New Mexico School of Law (the "Law School"). The Committee had before it the sabbatical site evaluation report submitted by a team consisting of Dean Lisa A. Kloppenberg (Chair), Professor Maureen Armour, Professor Nancy A. Armstrong, Professor Kimberly Norwood, Assistant Dean Arturo Thompson, and Professor Ian Weinstein, following the site evaluation conducted on September 28-October 1, 2014. The Committee also had before it a letter from Dean David Herring (the "Dean's Response"), dated March 4, 2015, submitted in response to the site evaluation report, as well as other information provided by the Law School and any decisions made by the Committee with respect to the Law School since its last regular site evaluation visit.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Organization, Administration, Institutional Planning, and Finances

(1) The Law School, which is public, is part of the University of New Mexico (the "University"). The University is accredited through the Higher Learning Commission, which last reviewed the University in 2009 and granted it a full ten-year reaffirmation of accreditation.

(2) The Law School was founded in 1947 and received accreditation from the American Bar Association (ABA) in 1948. Total enrollment for the past three years has been as follows: 2014: 346; 2013: 345; and 2012: 345.

(3) The Law School's last sabbatical ABA visit was in 2007. The Law School has no pending matters before the Committee or the Council.

(4) No third-party comments were received.

(5) The Dean reports to the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs, who reports to the University President. The University is governed by a seven-member Board of Regents, which appoints the President.

(6) The Dean and the faculty have primary responsibility and authority for planning, implementing, and administering the program of legal education; the Dean and the faculty recommend the selection, retention, promotion, and tenure (or security of position) of faculty members; and the Dean and the faculty have a significant role in determining educational policy.

(7) The Dean is full-time and holds an appointment as a member of the faculty with tenure.

(8) The current Dean assumed office in 2013 and was selected by a search committee created by the Provost. The search committee was headed by the Dean of the University's Anderson School of Management. The search committee was composed of 20 members, including ten Law School faculty members, two Law School staff members, two law students, and six members of the bench and bar. The committee screened applicants from across the nation, invited select candidates for interviews at the campus, and otherwise managed the interview process. The list of finalists was selected by a vote of the full Law School faculty. The Provost made the final selection from this list.

(9) The Law School submitted a completed Site Evaluation Questionnaire and a self study, which included a statement of the Law School's mission and its educational objectives in support of that mission, an assessment of the educational quality of the Law School's program, an assessment of the Law School's continuing efforts to improve educational quality, an evaluation of the Law School's effectiveness in achieving its stated educational objectives, and a description of the strengths and weaknesses of the Law School's program of legal education.

(10) In the fall of each year, all University deans report to the University on the prior year's budget and submit proposals for strategic initiatives for the next academic year. The Faculty Senate Budget Committee ensures transparency and inclusiveness in this process. Each spring, following the close of the legislative session during which the University's appropriation for the following year has been set, the University holds a budget summit. The summit provides an opportunity for the various constituencies, including the Law School, to provide input on the University budget and allocations. As such, the Law School appears to obtain annually an accounting and explanation for all charges and costs. Because the University funds the Law School in excess of the revenues generated by the Law School, there is no issue in regard to the University's retention of such funds.

(11) The current and anticipated financial resources available to the Law School are sufficient to allow it to operate in compliance with the Standards and to carry out its program of legal education.

Program of Legal Education

(12) The Law School's academic year runs eight months over two semesters, totaling 140 days of regularly scheduled classes.

(13) Students must complete 86 credit hours to graduate, with 65 credit hours in attendance in regularly scheduled class sessions. Students enrolled in one of the Law School's joint-degree programs must meet the same credit hour requirements.

(14) Regularly scheduled classes are assigned class times using the 700 minutes per credit hour standard.

(15) The Law School requires that a J.D. degree be completed in no less than 24 months and no more than 84 months after a student has commenced study at the Law School

or at a law school from which the Law School has accepted transfer credit.

(16) The Law School states in the Student Handbook that the maximum number of credits a student may take per semester is 17, which cannot be waived. The Law School states in its self study that students are limited to 17 credits per regular semester without an administrative override. The Law School also states in its Site Evaluation Questionnaire that permission to exceed 17 credit hours is rarely granted for substantive courses. Any additional credit hours over 17, however, would exceed 20% of the total coursework required for graduation. The record is thus unclear as to whether the Law School grants permission for students to take more than 17 credit hours in a semester.

(17) The Law School adopted, published, and adheres to a written policy requiring regular class attendance.

(18) The Law School's J.D. program is a full-time program, although the Student Handbook outlines provisions for a limited number of students to apply for a reduced course load or flex status when, for example, they need to address serious health or family problems. Flex time is not widely offered. All students have reasonably comparable opportunities for access to the Law School's program of legal education, courses taught by full-time faculty, co-curricular programs, and other educational benefits.

(19) The Law School's Assessment and Teaching Committee proposed seven core student learning outcomes. The faculty approved them in principle and continues to refine them.

(20) The first-year required curriculum is as follows: In the fall semester, students take Comparative and Historical Legal Perspectives (two credits), Practicum (a one-credit course examining the role of personal and professional values in practicing law successfully), Contracts (three credits), Criminal Law (three credits), Elements of Legal Argumentation I (ELA, the writing course) (three credits), and Torts (three credits). In spring, students take Property (four credits), ELA II (three credits), Civil Procedure (three credits), Constitutional Law (three credits), and an approved elective if desired.

(21) The upper-level required courses include: Ethics (three credits), Constitutional Rights (three credits), Legal Research (two credits), Clinic (six credits), a writing seminar (two or three credits), and a drafting course (two or three credits).

(22) The Law School requires all students to take Ethics, a three-credit, upper-level course that provides instruction in the history, goals, structure, values, and responsibilities of the legal profession and its members.

(23) The first-year writing courses, ELA I and ELA II, introduce students to legal writing, legal analysis, and communication. During the fall semester, students focus on predictive writing, writing several smaller assignments that serve as building blocks and two substantive memoranda. In spring, the focus changes to persuasive writing. Students draft several smaller assignments leading to the trial brief and an appellate brief. Additionally,

students participate in oral arguments. In both semesters, students receive substantial and ongoing feedback from their legal writing professors.

(24) The Law School requires students to complete two upper-level writing assignments—a seminar and a drafting class. These courses are worth two or three credits each. For the seminars, students receive substantial feedback from their professors on multiple drafts. Students taking drafting courses must submit either one single work or a series of smaller papers that collectively are substantial. In either case, students receive substantial feedback from their professors.

(25) The Law School provides substantial opportunities to students for law clinics and field placements.

(26) Students must complete a graded, one-semester, six-credit hour, live-client clinical course to satisfy the experiential learning requirement. Students may elect one of the following clinics: Community Lawyering, Law Practice, Business and Tax, and Southwest Indian Law. Each clinic requires students to advise or represent a client; provides direct faculty supervision of student performance; provides opportunities for performance, faculty feedback, and self-evaluation; and incudes a classroom instructional component.

(27) The Law School also offers a variety of additional courses that focus on experiential learning.

(28) The Law School offers field placements in three broad categories: government or public interest law firms, alternative dispute organizations, and judicial externships. The Law School created a new field placement that allows students to spend a semester in Washington D.C. The Law School's field placement program meets the requirements of the Standard.

(29) The Law School also offers two international externships—one as part of its Guanajuato Summer Institute and the other is the newly created placement with the Registrar of the United Nations Relief and Works Tribunal Jordan. These field placements meet the requirements of the Standard.

(30) The Law School offers substantial opportunities for student participation in pro bono legal activities that include law-related service to persons of limited means or to organizations that serve them.

(31) The Law School awards credit for participation on one of its three law reviews, which are faculty supervised. The Law School also awards credit for participation in a moot court competition, and students are evaluated by a faculty member.

(32) The Law School does not offer distance education courses.

(33) The Law School offers two ABA-approved foreign summer programs. The Guanajuato Summer Law Institute in Guanajuato, Mexico, is offered in conjunction with Texas Tech University Law School, Southwestern Law School, and the University of Guanajuato. U.S. students can earn up to six credits for the academic program. There is an optional externship opportunity, as noted above. According to the Dean's Response, the Institute has been suspended for summer 2015 to allow the consortium of law schools to redesign the program and reopen in summer 2016. The Madrid Summer Law Institute in Spain is offered in cooperation with the law school at the Universidad Rey Juan Carlos, where the program is held. Law students from the U.S. earn five credits. There is no externship option.

(34) The Law School adopted, published, and adheres to sound academic standards, including those for good standing, academic integrity, graduation, and dismissal.

(35) The Law School adopted, published, and adheres to written due process policies with regard to taking any action adversely affecting the good standing or graduation of a student.

(36) The Law School's academic advising for students communicates effectively the Law School's academic standards and graduation requirements and provides guidance on course selection.

(37) The Law School provides academic support designed to afford its students a reasonable opportunity to complete the program of legal education, graduate, and become members of the legal profession.

(38) The Law School does not offer degrees in addition to the J.D. The Law School does participate in the University's offering of four formal joint degrees: J.D./M.B.A., J.D./M.ACCT., J.D./M.P.A., and a J.D./M.A. in Latin American Studies.

(39) The Law School permits a limited number of non-J.D. students to register for classes. At the time of the site visit, there were seven such students. The enrollment of these students does not interfere with the Law School's ability to operate in compliance with the Standards and to carry out its program of legal education.

(40) The Law School uses a variety of assessment methods appropriate to the nature of the academic activity being evaluated.

(41) The Law School's Assessment and Teaching Committee is charged with developing learning outcomes. The Curriculum Committee is charged with beginning a process of curricular mapping in conjunction with the Assessment and Teaching Committee's development of the student learning outcomes.

Faculty

(42) The faculty's qualifications and experience enable the Law School to operate in compliance with the Standards and carry out its program of legal education.

(43) The Law School has a sufficient number of full-time faculty to operate in compliance with the Standards and to carry out its program of legal education. The composition of the full-time faculty is as follows:

COMPOSITION OF FULL-TIME LAW FACULTY				
	Total	Male	Female	Minority
Tenured	20	8	12	10
Tenure Track	8	5	3	4
Total	28	13	15	14
Clinical Non-Tenure Track Faculty on Contract				
On Presumptively Renewable Contract for Term of ≥ Five Years	0	0	0	0
On Track to Presumptively Renewable Contract for Term of ≥ Five Years	0	0	0	0
Not on Five Year Presumptively Renewable Contract or Tenure Track	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0
LRW Non-Tenure Track Faculty on Contract (Include only faculty not counted in the Clinical Faculty above)				
At the Law School for > Four Years	1	1	0	0
At the Law School for Two - Four Years	1	1	0	0
At the Law School for < Two Years	1	1	0	0
Total	3	3	0	0
Other Non-Tenure Track Faculty on Contract	3	2	1	1
Visitors	7	3	4	1
Total Full-Time Faculty	41	21	20	16

(44) The full-time faculty devote substantially all their working time to teaching, scholarship, service, and governance.

(45) No faculty members are regularly engaged in outside professional activities.

(46) The full-time faculty teaches substantially all of the first one-third of each student's coursework and more than half of all of the credit hours actually offered by the Law School.

(47) The site team reported that the classes they observed evidenced strong teaching. The Law School ensures teaching effectiveness by all persons providing instruction through various ways, including faculty colloquia focused on teaching; training sessions on using classroom technology; and peer assessment and mentoring, especially for newer professors. Adjunct faculty receive an orientation each semester that includes a discussion of teaching skills and expectations.

(48) The University is designated as a Hispanic Serving Institution and is committed to nondiscrimination and promoting equality of opportunity and diversity. The University gives public notice of, and enforces, many typical nondiscrimination policies, including: Equal Employment Opportunity; Equal Educational Opportunity; Affirmative Action; Reasonable Accommodation Policy; and an Anti-Harassment Policy.

(49) The Law School actively recruits diverse candidates by posting faculty openings on several minority websites; contacting Latino faculty at other law schools to inquire, for example, if they know of promising Latino candidates; and encouraging all full-time faculty to personally identify and solicit minority candidates. The Law School's recruiting data for the last three years are as follows:

FACULTY RECRUITMENT: ENTRY-LEVEL HIRES (E) AND LATERAL HIRES (L)

	2014 - 2015						2013 - 2014						2012 - 2013					
	TOTAL		WOMEN		MINORITY		TOTAL		WOMEN		MINORITY		TOTAL		WOMEN		MINORITY	
	E	L	E	L	E	L	E	L	E	L	E	L	E	L	E	L	E	L
AALS Initial Interviews	0	5	0	3	0	3	15	8	7	5	9	7	21	6	14	4	17	6
Campus initial Interviews	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Initial Interviews	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Initial interviews	9	8	6	3	6	5	7	16	2	6	2	9	16	10	9	5	11	6
Final Campus Interviews	5	3	4	1	4	2	5	6	2	4	1	5	10	6	4	4	4	6
Offers	3	1	2	0	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	3	4	0	2	0	4
Acceptances	3	1	2	0	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	3	4	0	2	1	3

(50) The composition of the Law School's adjunct faculty is provided below. The record is silent with respect to the Law School's concrete actions demonstrating a commitment to having an adjunct faculty that is diverse with respect to gender, race, and ethnicity.

ADJUNCT/PART TIME FACULTY PROFILES

Semester	Total	Women	Minority
SPRING 2014	35	18	6
FALL 2013	27	16	4
SPRING 2013	46	23	8

FALL 2012	30	15	4
SPRING 2012	47	19	11
FALL 2011	33	16	6

(51) The site report notes concerns that the senior administrative staff is not as diverse as it might be, and the record is otherwise silent on the Law School's concrete actions demonstrating a commitment to having a staff that is diverse with respect to gender, race, and ethnicity.

(52) The Law School adopted, published, and adheres to written policies with respect to the full-time faculty members' responsibilities consistent with the core responsibilities listed in the Standard.

(53) The full-time faculty collectively 1) is involved in teaching, preparing for classes, being available for student consultation about those classes, assessing student performance in those classes, and remaining current in the subjects being taught; 2) is involved in academic advising, creating an atmosphere in which students and faculty may voice opinions and exchange ideas, and assessing student learning at the Law School; 3) is actively engaged in scholarship as defined by the Law School; 4) provides service to the Law School and University, including participation in Law School governance, curricular development, and other responsibilities described in the Standards; 5) provides service to the profession; and 6) provides service to the public, including pro bono activities.

(54) The Law School periodically evaluates the extent to which the faculty discharges its core responsibilities under the Law School's policies and the contributions of each full-time faculty member to meeting the core responsibilities of the faculty.

(55) The Law School has established and maintains conditions adequate to attract and retain a competent faculty.

(56) The Law School has an established and announced policy with respect to tenure, although the policy is currently being updated.

(57) The Law School has an established and announced policy with respect to academic freedom.

(58) The Law School does not recognize any distinction between faculty members who teach in the clinical program and faculty members who teach doctrinal courses; all are subject to the same teaching, scholarship, and service requirements.

(59) The Law School has been able to attract and retain a well-qualified legal writing faculty. Legal writing faculty members attend faculty meetings and participate in all matters but tenure stream personnel issues.

Students

(60) The Law School maintains sound admissions policies and procedures consistent with the Standards, the Law School's mission, and the objectives of its program of legal education.

(61) The statistical data and academic qualifications of admitted students are as follows:

ADMISSIONS AND FIRST YEAR CLASS PROFILES			
	2012	2013	2014
Completed Applications	733	640	636
Offers of Admission	233	258	279
Acceptance Rate (Percent)	32	40	44
Number of Matriculants	114	119	111
Yield (Percent of Offers)	49	46	40
LSAT			
75th Percentile	158	158	157
50th Percentile	156	154	153
25th Percentile	152	151	150
UGPA			
75th Percentile	3.68	3.63	3.74
50th Percentile	3.39	3.42	3.43
25th Percentile	3.09	3.08	3.07
Women			
Number	58	63	53
Percent	51	53	48
Minorities			
Number	52	63	57
Percent	46	53	51

(62) The Law School appears to be admitting applicants capable of satisfactorily completing its program of legal education and being admitted to the bar.

(63) There is no record of discrimination or lack of equality of opportunity by the Law School with respect to students.

(64) The Law School demonstrates its commitment to having a diverse student body in a number of ways, including visiting undergraduate colleges with high concentrations of underrepresented students, participating in the LSAC's annual forums in multiple cities, sending targeted Candidate Referral service mailings, hosting open houses, and offering individual Law School visits and tours. The first-year admissions profile for the most recent admission year is as follows:

MINORITY ADMISSIONS AND FIRST YEAR CLASS PROFILE - 2014

	Applications			Offers			Matriculants		
	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total
American Indian or Alaska Native	16	16	32	8	6	14	3	3	6
Asian	10	3	13	3	1	4	1	1	2
Black or African American	11	13	24	1	2	3	0	2	2
Hispanics of any race	93	96	189	39	33	72	24	17	41
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	2	2	4	2	0	2	0	0	0
Two or more races	11	15	26	11	3	14	0	6	6
SUB TOTAL (Minority Categories)	143	145	288	64	45	109	28	29	57
White	184	116	300	84	62	146	25	21	46
Nonresident Alien	4	5	9	2	3	5	1	1	2
Race and Ethnicity Unknown	27	12	39	11	8	19	4	2	6
TOTAL	358	278	636	161	118	279	58	53	111

(65) The Law School requires for admission to its J.D. program a bachelor's degree that has been awarded by an institution that is accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education.

(66) The Law School requires official transcripts for admission to its J.D. program.

(67) The Law School requires the LSAT for admission to its J.D. program. At the present time, the Law School does not admit students under the "safe harbor" permitted under the Standard and its Interpretation.

(68) The Law School admits students disqualified from other law schools for academic reasons. In such cases, the Admissions Committee evaluates the potential of the applicant to succeed given the previous disqualification. If admitted, a statement of the considerations that led to the decision is placed in the student's file. During the current year and

for the past two years, the Law School has not matriculated any students who had been previously dismissed from another law school for academic reasons.

(69) Students are eligible for readmission once disqualified from the Law School for academic reasons. The Law School has a policy on academic retention and suspension, which governs the process for readmission. The committee on Student Suspension, Retention and Readmission considers all petitions for relief from suspension. The petitioning student has the opportunity to appear before the committee to present oral statements and supporting witnesses. The committee's determination is based upon whether the petition and other information presented establish that the petitioning student is likely to complete law school successfully within a reasonable period of time. The record is silent as to whether a letter of the considerations that led to the decision to readmit the student is placed in the student's file.

(70) The Law School does not admit students with advanced standing as transfer students from non-ABA-approved law schools. The Law School does accept transfer students from ABA-approved law schools.

(71) Foreign lawyers interested in pursuing the J.D. with advanced standing must complete all of the standard application requirements plus an addendum requesting advanced standing. Decisions regarding advanced standing are made by the Admissions Committee at the time of acceptance. The coursework in the foreign law school must have been completed in residence at the foreign law school, and the Law School must be satisfied that its quality is equal to that of an ABA-approved law school. A review is made of the foreign law school's background, including the history of the school, the degree offerings, and what exchange programs it has with other U.S. schools. Generally, candidates coming from a law school in a country with a civil law background are eligible for up to 15 credits of advanced standing, and those from a law school in a country with a common law background are eligible for up to 28 credits of advanced standing. Students approved to pursue the J.D. with advanced standing must complete the remaining two-thirds of their coursework in residence at the Law School and must take the standard first-year doctrinal courses and all required upper-level courses and clinical requirements.

(72) The Law School's bar passage data are as follows:

FIRST-TIME BAR PASSAGE REPORTING - TABLE 1					
A	B	C	D	E	F
Calendar Year	Total Graduates in Calendar Year	# of Graduates from Calendar Year NOT taking Bar Exam	Graduates from Previous Years Taking Bar for FIRST Time in Calendar Year	Total First Time Takers Calendar Year	70% of Total First Time Takers
2013	112	20	22	114	80

2012	121	13	7	115	81
2011	112	24	26	114	80
2010	97	13	4	88	62
2009	132	32	3	103	72

FIRST-TIME BAR PASSAGE REPORTING - TABLE 2						
A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Calendar Year	Graduates Taking Bar FIRST time in Calendar Year	% of School's FIRST Time Takers Reported for Calendar Year	List Jurisdictions Reported	ABA First Time Weighted Average Pass Rate for Calendar Year	School's Weighted Average Pass Rate for Calendar Year	Difference in Weighted Average (School minus ABA)
2013	114	72.81	NEW, MEXICO	90.68	89.16	-1.52
2012	115	86.09	New, Mexico	89.17	90.91	1.74
2011	114	89.47	New, Mexico	86.93	85.29	-1.64
2010	88	87.50	New, Mexico	88.35	88.31	-0.04
2009	103	93.20	New, Mexico	90.58	94.79	4.21

(73) The Law School's application tracks most of the language required in the Standard. The Law School's website contains the following statement:

> You are encouraged, as you go through the law school application process and before you enter law school, to determine the character and fitness requirements of the jurisdiction(s) where you intend to practice law. If you are uncertain where you will practice law, you may wish to review the Standard NCBE Character and Fitness Application, titled Request for Preparation of a Character Report, of the National Conference of Bar Examiners, which is used by a number of jurisdictions' bar admission authorities. Addresses for all relevant agencies are available at www.ncbex.org.

(74) The Law School takes additional steps as soon after matriculation as possible to inform students to determine the character, fitness, and other requirements for admission to the

bar in the jurisdictions in which they intend to seek admission.

(75) The Law School takes reasonable steps to minimize student loan defaults, including debt counseling at the inception of a student's loan obligations and again before graduation.

(76) The Law School provides its students with basic student services, including maintenance of accurate student records, academic advising and counseling, and career counseling.

(77) The Law School adopted, published, and adheres to written policies and procedures for assessing and handling requests for reasonable accommodations made by qualified individuals with disabilities.

(78) The Law School publishes on its website all the required standard disclosures in the form and manner and for the designated time frame. The information appears to be complete, accurate, and not misleading to a reasonable law school student or applicant. Additionally, the Law School distributes conditional scholarship data to all applicants being offered conditional scholarships at the time the scholarship offer is extended.

(79) The Law School established, published, and complies with a student complaint policy, which includes an appeals procedure. The record is silent, however, regarding whether the Law School maintains a record of the complaints for the appropriate time and their resolution.

Information Resources

(80) The law library, through expertise, resources, and services, enables the Law School to carry out its program of legal education, accomplish its mission, and support scholarship. Additionally, the law library develops and maintains a responsive relationship with faculty, students, and administration.

(81) The law library remains informed on, and implements as appropriate, technological and other developments that affect the library's support for the Law School's program of legal education.

(82) The Law School provides a consistent basis of sufficient financial resources to the law library to enable it to support the Law School and to realize its established goals.

(83) All operations of the law library are completely under the control of the Law School.

(84) The law library is currently administered by the Deputy Director of the library, who is serving as Acting Director until June 30, 2015. The Acting Director is a tenured member of the law library faculty, has a law degree and a degree in library science from the University of Illinois, and more than a decade of professional law library experience. The

former law library director recently became a University Vice Provost. The Dean's Response reports that the search for a permanent law library director was discussed by the full faculty at four faculty meetings during the fall of 2014. At the conclusion of these discussions, the faculty voted to conduct an internal search for a director who is a tenured or tenure-track member of either the Law School faculty or the law library faculty. Subsequently, the Dean formed a faculty search committee. One internal candidate has applied for the position and the faculty is now considering the applicant. The Dean did not provide any additional information about the internal candidate. The record is not clear as to whether the internal candidate has the appropriate academic qualifications and the requisite knowledge of and experience in law library administration. The record is also not clear as to whether the internal candidate will hold a faculty appointment with security of position.

(85) The law library has a staff sufficient in expertise and number to provide the appropriate library and information resources to the Law School.

(86) The law library provides the appropriate range and depth of reference, instructional, bibliographic, and other services to meet the needs of the Law School's teaching, scholarship, research, and service programs.

(87) The law library provides a core collection in a mixture of formats, and it provides a collection that meets the research needs of the institution; supports the teaching, scholarship, research, and service needs of the faculty; and serves the Law School's special objectives.

(88) The law library has a current collection development plan that is adequate for the Law School's needs.

(89) The law library provides suitable space and adequate equipment to access and use all information in whatever formats are represented in the collection.

Facilities, Equipment, and Technology

(90) The Law School's equipment, technology, and technological support are adequate.

(91) The facilities are suitable and sufficient with respect to class and seminar rooms; the library; faculty offices; and space for support services staff, part-time faculty to conduct student-faculty conferences, equipment and records, in-house clinical programs, quiet study and research, and collaborative work.

(92) The Law School provides reasonable access and accommodations to persons with disabilities consistent with the applicable law.

(93) The University owns the property on which the Law School is located and the Law School controls the facility. The only area that the Law School does not control exclusively is the New Mexico Law Center next to Bratton Hall. This building is co-owned by the University

and the New Mexico Bar Foundation. While some Law School operations are housed there, the relationship does not affect the Law School's ability to schedule activities.

CONCLUSIONS:

(1) In accordance with current Rule 12(a)(2), the Committee requests additional information to enable it to determine the Law School's compliance with the following Standards:

(a) Standard 206(b) [former Standard 212(b)], with respect to whether the Law School demonstrates, by concrete action, a commitment to diversity and inclusion to having an adjunct faculty that is diverse with respect to gender, race, and ethnicity. [See Finding of Fact (50).]

(b) Standard 206(b) [former Standard 212(b)], with respect to whether the Law School demonstrates, by concrete action, a commitment to diversity and inclusion to having a staff that is diverse with respect to gender, race, and ethnicity. [See Finding of Fact (51).]

(c) Standard 311(d) [former Standard 304(e)], with respect to whether the maximum number of credits for which a student may enroll for any one semester exceeds 20% of the total coursework required for the J.D. [See Finding of Fact (16).]

(d) Standard 501(c) [former Standard 505], with respect to whether, for every readmission of a student who was previously disqualified from the Law School for academic reasons, the Law School places in the student's file a statement of the considerations that led to the readmission. [See Finding of Fact (69).]

(e) Standard 510(b) [former Standard 512(b)], with respect to whether the Law School maintains a record of the complaints for the appropriate time and their resolution. [See Finding of Fact (79).]

(f) Standard 603(c) and Interpretation 603-1 [former Standard 603(c)], with respect to whether the newly hired library director will have the appropriate academic qualifications and knowledge of and experience in law library administration. [See Finding of Fact (84).]

(g) Standard 603(d) [former Standard 603(d)], with respect to whether the newly hired library director will hold a law faculty appointment with security of position. [See Finding of Fact (84).]

(2) In accordance with current Rule 13(b) [formerly "call attention"], although requiring no response, the Committee calls the Law School's attention to the following Standard:

New Standard 504(a), which requires law schools to include a mandated statement on its application for admission and on its website. [See Finding of Fact (73).]

RESPONSE REQUESTED:

(1) The Committee requests that the President of the University of New Mexico and the Dean of the Law School to submit a report by August 1, 2015, with all relevant information necessary to demonstrate compliance with the Standards noted in Conclusion (1) above.

Specifically, as to Conclusions (1)(a)-(g), the Committee requests that the Law School provide information that demonstrates:

(a) the Law School's commitment to diversity and inclusion, through concrete action, to having an adjunct faculty that is diverse with respect to gender, race, and ethnicity;

(b) the Law School's commitment to diversity and inclusion, through concrete action, to having a staff that is diverse with respect to gender, race, and ethnicity;

(c) that the maximum number of credits a student may enroll for any one semester does not exceed 20% of the total coursework required for the J.D.;

(d) that for every readmission of a student who was previously disqualified from the Law School for academic reasons, the Law School places in the student's file a statement of the considerations that led to the readmission;

(e) that the Law School maintains a record of the complaints for the appropriate time and their resolution;

(f) that the newly hired library director has the appropriate academic qualifications and knowledge of and experience in law library administration; and

(g) that the newly hired library director holds a faculty appointment with security of position.

(2) Upon review of the information provided by the Law School in response to Conclusions (1)(a)-(g), the Committee may, in accordance with Rule 12(a)(4), determine that the Law School is not in compliance with the Standards and proceed pursuant to Rule 14.

SEPTEMBER 2015

The Accreditation Committee (the "Committee"), at its September 10-11, 2015 meeting, considered the status of the University of New Mexico School of Law (the "Law School"). The Committee had before it the letter of July 2, 2015, from President Robert G. Frank and Dean David J. Herring and a supplemental email message from new Co-Dean Sergio Pareja, submitted in response to the Committee's April 2015 Decision Letter, as well as a history of decisions made by the Committee with respect to the Law School since its last regular site

evaluation visit.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

(1) At its April 16-18, 2015 meeting, the Committee considered the status of the Law School in connection with its regular site evaluation visit. In accordance with Rule 12(a)(2), the Committee concluded that it had insufficient information to make a determination regarding the Law School's compliance with the following Standards:

(a) Standard 206(b) [former Standard 212(b)], with respect to whether the Law School demonstrates by concrete action a commitment to diversity and inclusion to having an adjunct faculty that is diverse with respect to gender, race, and ethnicity.

(b) Standard 206(b) [former Standard 212(b)], with respect to whether the Law School demonstrates by concrete action a commitment to diversity and inclusion to having a staff that is diverse with respect to gender, race, and ethnicity.

(c) Standard 311(d) [former Standard 304(e)], with respect to whether the maximum number of credits for which a student may enroll for any one semester exceeds 20% of the total coursework required for the J.D.

(d) Standard 501(c) [former Standard 505], with respect to whether, for every readmission of a student who was previously disqualified from the Law School for academic reasons, the Law School places in the student's file a statement of the considerations that led to the readmission.

(e) Standard 510(b) [former Standard 512(b)], with respect to whether the Law School maintains a record of student complaints that seek to bring to the attention of the Law School a significant problem that directly implicates the Law School's compliance with the Standards for the appropriate time and their resolution.

(f) Standard 603(c) and Interpretation 603-1 [former Standard 603(c)], with respect to whether the newly hired library director has the appropriate academic qualifications and knowledge of and experience in law library administration.

(g) Standard 603(d) [former Standard 603(d)], with respect to whether the newly hired library director will hold a law faculty appointment with security of position.

Request for Additional Information to Determine Compliance with Standard 206(b) [Former Standard 212(b)]

(2) In their letter of July 2, 2015, the President and Dean state that when a staffing need arises for an adjunct faculty member, the Dean of Academic Affairs actively recruits promising candidates who are diverse with respect to gender, race, and ethnicity. An email

from new Co-Dean Pareja explains that the associate deans for academic affairs routinely reach out to members of the various diversity bars and women attorneys as part of their efforts to achieve diversity in the adjunct faculty.

Request for Additional Information to Determine Compliance with Standard 206(b) [Former Standard 212(b)]

(3) The Law School follows University policy in the hiring of staff, including posting job announcements in a diverse range of publications. This list includes posting job announcements on the listservs for the various affinity bar associations in New Mexico including the New Mexico Hispanic Bar Association, the New Mexico Indian Bar Association, the New Mexico Women's Bar Association, the New Mexico Black Lawyers Association, the Navajo Nation Bar Association, and the New Mexico Lesbian and Gay Lawyers Association. In addition, all hiring proposals are reviewed by the University's human resources department to verify that all aspects of the search and interview process were consistent with the University's commitment to equal opportunity and affirmative action.

Request for Additional Information to Determine Compliance with Standard 311(d) [Former Standard 304(e)]

(4) Students may not enroll in any one semester for more than 17 credits of coursework that count towards the total credits required for the J.D. degree. The Law School has permitted students to take 18 credits when the Registrar determines that the additional course will not be counted towards the J.D. degree and will not distract from the student's courses at the Law School. Under this exception, the courses have been "personal enrichment" courses such as swimming, pilates, and dance classes, as well as undergraduate classes taken for purposes of qualifying for the Patent Bar.

(5) A second exception was made in 2014 for an individual student who took 19 credits in a joint degree program. The authorization was not made by the Law School and the student was not permitted by the Law School to count the additional credit toward the J.D. degree.

Request for Additional Information to Determine Compliance with Standard 501(c) [Former Standard 505]

(6) The Law School includes in the file of a readmitted student a written statement of the considerations that led to the readmission.

Request for Additional Information to Determine Compliance with Standard 510(b) [Former Standard 512(b)]

(7) The Law School maintains a record of student complaints, including their resolution, relating to the Standards during the most recent accreditation period.

Request for Additional Information to Determine Compliance with Standard 603(c) and Interpretation 603-1 [Former Standard 603(c)]

(8) The Director of the law library has a law degree and a degree in library science. She has 15 years of professional experience and has served as three years as the director of the law library at another law school.

Request for Additional Information to Determine Compliance with Standard 603(d) [Former Standard 603(d)]

(9) The Director of the library is a tenured member of the law library faculty and does not hold a position as a member of the law faculty.

CONCLUSIONS:

(1) In accordance with Rules 12(a)(4) and 14, the Committee concludes that the Law School is not in compliance with Standard 603(d) [former Standard 603(d)], in that the law library Director does not hold a law faculty appointment and the Law School has not demonstrated the existence of extraordinary circumstances that prevent the law library Director from holding a law faculty appointment. [See Finding of Fact (9).]

(2) Based on the information provided, and in accordance with Rule 12(a)(1), the Committee concludes that the Law School has demonstrated that it is in compliance with the following Standards:

(a) Standard 206(b) [former Standard 212(b)], with respect to concrete action by the Law School demonstrating a commitment to diversity and inclusion by having an adjunct faculty that is diverse with respect to gender, race, and ethnicity. [See Finding of Fact (2).]

(b) Standard 206(b) [former Standard 212(b)], with respect to the concrete action by the Law School demonstrating a commitment to diversity and inclusion by having a staff that is diverse with respect to gender, race, and ethnicity. [See Finding of Fact (3).]

(c) Standard 311(d) [former Standard 304(e)]. [See Findings of Fact (4) and (5).]

(d) Standard 501(c) [former Standard 505]. [See Finding of Fact (6).]

(e) Standard 510(b) [former Standard 512(b)]. [See Finding of Fact (7).]

(f) Standard 603(c) and Interpretation 603-1 [former Standard 603(c)]. [See Finding of Fact (8).]

RESPONSE REQUESTED:

(1) The Committee requests that the President of the University of New Mexico and the Co-Deans of the Law School submit a report by May 1, 2016, with all relevant information necessary to demonstrate compliance with the Standard noted in Conclusion (1) above. The written response will be considered at the Committee's June 23-25, 2016 meeting.

(2) If the written report does not demonstrate compliance with the Standard noted in Conclusion (1), then, pursuant to Rule 14(a)(2), the President of the University of New Mexico and the Co-Deans of the Law School shall appear before the Committee at its September 2016 meeting in Chicago, Illinois, at a time to be identified, to determine whether to impose sanctions in connection with the Law School's non-compliance with the Standard. If the information provided demonstrates compliance with the Standard as noted in Conclusion (1), then the Committee may find the Law School to be in compliance with the Standard and cancel the Rule 14(a)(2) hearing in accordance with Rule 21(d).

(3) The Committee directs the Law School's attention to the fact that the U.S. Department of Education regulations require the Accreditation Committee and Council of the Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar to take immediate adverse action if a school fails to bring itself into compliance with the Standards within two years, unless good cause is shown for extending the period for achieving compliance. For these purposes, adverse action means removal from the list of law schools approved by the American Bar Association. [34 C.F.R. § 602.2 and § 602.3.]