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Educational Policy Committee Meeting Minutes 05/12/2016

UC Hastings Board of Directors

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**UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
HASTINGS COLLEGE OF THE LAW
EDUCATIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE
MINUTES SUMMARY**

May 12, 2016 –9:00 a.m.

UC Hastings College of the Law
A. Frank Bray Board Room, 1-Mezzanine
198 McAllister Street,
San Francisco, California 94102

1. ROLL CALL

Chair Marci Dragun called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and the Secretary called the roll.

Committee Members Present in Answer to Roll Call

Chair Marci Dragun
Director Simona Agnolucci
Director Claes Lewenhaupt (via Telephone)
Director Mary Noel Pepys
Director Sandi Thompson

Staff Present:

Acting Chancellor & Dean David Faigman
Associate Academic Dean Jeff Lefstin
Acting Director of Communications Alex Shapiro
General Counsel Elise Traynum
Acting Provost & Academic Dean Designate Evan Lee
Provost & Academic Dean Beth Hillman
Chief Financial Officer David Seward
Senior Assistant Dean of Enrollment Management June Sakamoto
Assistant Dean of Career Services Sari Zimmerman

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Marci Dragun opened the Public Comment Period. Hearing no requests from the public to speak, Chair Dragun closed the Public Comment Period.

3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – FEBRUARY 11, 2016

Chair Marci Dragun called for approval of the February 11, 2016, Minutes. Hearing no corrections, the Minutes were approved and ordered filed as distributed.

4. REPORT OF PROVOST & ACADEMIC DEAN

Chair Dragun recognized Provost & Academic Dean Beth Hillman as this was her last meeting before stepping down to take the position of the President of Mills College.

4.1 Experiential Programs and Strategy Update

Provost & Academic Dean Beth Hillman announced that Associate Dean for Experiential Learning Nancy Stuart would be moving on. Her last date of employment is June 30th. Ascanio Piomelli, who is the outgoing chair of the faculty exec committee, will be the new Associate Dean for Experiential Learning. Also, she introduced the incoming faculty executive committee representative, Kate Block. The chair of the faculty executive committee Karen Musalo could not attend the meeting.

Provost & Academic Dean Beth Hillman thanked Professor Kate Block for an initiative that she's helped launch with respect to Nancy Stuart's departure. Professor Kate Block explained about the Nancy Stuart Public Interest Fund. She said that the Fund is to provide scholarships and grants – the scholarships for rising 2L and 3L students and grants to graduates who are studying for the bar to help defer the cost – and it is based upon their commitment to public interest and social justice and a variety of related factors. The Fund will launch on the College's website on Friday May 13.

Associate Dean for Experiential Learning Nancy Stuart presented her report as distributed. She noted that the biggest changes were coming from the ABA. There will be six units of experiential learning required as a graduation requirement for the new entering class. The experiential learning required applies to simulation courses, clinics, and externships. And each of those courses is very specifically defined, what has to be the components of the course, but in effect each course needs to blend doctrine, theory, ethics, and skills. The College reviewed its existing courses and what it had been doing over the last two years in preparation for meeting the new ABA requirements. It was determined that there will be a need to make some modifications to courses to ensure compliance with the ABA. By way of example, Associate Dean for Experiential Learning Nancy Stuart explained that some of what the College calls clinics are actually externships or field placements as defined under the ABA. Under the ABA standards it's technically an externship when a faculty member is directly supervising the work of the student and the students are engaged as the primary attorney or advocate in particular. The faculty

member is the attorney of record. The work that the students will do will be directly supervised by a supervising attorney in placement.

Associate Dean for Experiential Learning Nancy Stuart then discussed externship programs. She noted that although the array of UC Hastings externship programs are dominant, the largest externship has always been its judicial externship.

To ensure that the program continue uninterrupted with her departure, Ascanio Piomelli will assume the Associate Dean role, and the College hired Brittany Glidden as a clinical professor and the director of the externships and pro bono programs

In response to questions, Associate Dean for Experiential Learning Nancy Stuart described the Startup Legal Garage as one of the course offerings that kind of has a foot in a number of different places. It's not technically an externship. It's not technically a clinic. It's most analogous to the externship, and under the ABA standards it would fall in that arena because the student work is being directly supervised by supervising attorneys and not by a faculty member. Also, she summarized the Lawyers for America program that launched with the class of 2014, and the student placements, as well as the UCDC law program. The UCDC law program is the five UC law schools where students spend a full-time semester, full-time externship in Washington DC. There is an onsite faculty member that's shared between the five UC law schools who teaches a three-unit course on law and lawyering in the nation's capital. The students are placed full-time with a variety of nonprofit or government placements. Some UC Hastings students have been placed at the White House Counsel, Office of the Vice-President, UNHCR, the SEC, as well as other organizations in the greater DC area. The UC has a UCDC program that's primarily for undergrads. They have a building that they've bought for student housing in DC. Classes take place in that building. If the building's not filled by the undergraduate students, then law students have the opportunity to live there.

Director Claes Lewenhaupt offered to assist with the UCDC Program because he is located in Washington DC.

Associate Dean for Experiential Learning Nancy Stuart concluded her report by mentioning that the State Bar of California, the Task Force on Admissions Regulation Reform, or TFAAR as it's often referred to has three proposals on experiential programs that includes 50 hours of pro bono for new layers. This was approved by the State Bar Board of Trustees in November of 2014; however, the program has not yet been implemented. There was a State Bar audit suggesting that things needed to be looked at a little bit more closely across the State Bar, but with respect to TFAAR, to reconsider or reevaluate the cost of implementation of TFAAR.

Some suggested that there might be a correlation between experiential learning and bar passage. Provost & Academic Dean Beth Hillman commented that former Associate Dean Heather Field looked at this and found that it was impossible to draw a conclusion because of the many types of programs students experienced. There was not an obvious predictor of a better or worse performance on the bar exam.

4.2 Admissions and Retention Plans, Sr. Assistant Dean Sakamoto

Senior Assistant Dean of Enrollment Management June Sakamoto reported that national applicants to law school are slightly up; however, applications to schools in the far west – California, Nevada, Hawaii – are down. She said that she believes much has to do with the cost of living.

The news for UC Hastings is somewhat positive. So when you hear numbers and you hear this positive news, we have to temper it for those of us in California. Caucasian female applicants are up and they continue to trend up. The African-American population applying to law school is down yet again. So overall it's just under 7,000. Hispanic/Latino are up, but the number is even fewer than African-Americans. And in the Bay Area where Asian Americans are not a minority, Asians are a minority in national law school applicants. Law schools across the country are working really hard because diversity in the classroom is something law schools all strive to achieve, but UC Hastings and other law schools are all fighting over this very tiny population of people.

Senior Assistant Dean of Enrollment Management June Sakamoto noted a couple of changes in the College's admissions strategy. The first strategy that will be implemented this fall is to work with the financial aid office and admissions to offer scholarship amounts in the exact same letter where students are getting their offer of admission. In addition, this year Enrollment Management Services has strategized the amount of financial aid given based on LSAT score and GPA.

As far as enrollment projections for the upcoming school year, the LSAT median is just under a 159, and there are 406 first depositors. The second deposit deadline is June 17th.

A lengthy discussion ensued about the possible metrics of the incoming class. Also, discussed was the lack of affordable housing in the San Francisco area.

Shifting to a discussion on students transferring out in their second year, Senior Assistant Dean of Enrollment Management June Sakamoto reported that the College is implementing retention scholarships. More students in the top 15 percent are transferring to top tier law schools such as Harvard and Stanford. She noted however, that the number of students transferring out is parallel to the number of 2Ls transferring in. Sari Zimmerman added that transfer students are considered hybrids by employers. They are not evaluated as a pure Hastings student until maybe they're a third year and they've built up a Hastings record. These students have some employment challenges that a Hastings student does not face. Senior Assistant Dean of Enrollment Management June Sakamoto speculated that there could be up to 80 students transferring out next academic year.

Senior Assistant Dean of Enrollment Management June Sakamoto discussed LEOP admissions. She noted that thus far the college has admitted 169 students to the program; but, at this point there has only been 43 depositors. The candidates are reporting that they are going to some Ivy League schools with scholarships.

Senior Assistant Dean of Enrollment Management June Sakamoto went through the College's retention plan. She reported that the College formed an honor society for the top 15 percent of

the rising 2Ls and the rising 3Ls and have a variety of events for them. She is targeting high-performing fall 1Ls in the early spring semester. They receive personalized e-mails from a faculty member letting them know that they did a great job and inviting them to meet in the spring. These students were invited to a Chancellor's Reception with current honor society members and high-performing young alumni.

4.3 Graduate Employment & Career Update

Assistant Dean of Career Services Sari Zimmerman gave a brief overview of employment data. She reported that the overall employment rate increased this year to almost 85 percent up from 76 percent last year. JD advantage numbers also improved to 65 and a half percent, up from 59 percent. She emphasized that the results were based on a smaller class and the data was more in line with what the market can bear.

4.4 *Discussion continued due to time constraints.*

4.5 Other Informational Items, Including Academic Programs and Student Services

Provost & Academic Dean Elizabeth Hillman noted no further items for discussion.

5. Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Elise K. Traynum, Secretary