

JOINT ASSEMBLY & SENATE LAW SCHOOL HEARING

JOT TRAVIS LOUNGE - UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA

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2:30 P.M. February 26, 1973

Minutes of Meeting

Assembly Committee Members Present: Jack Schofield  
Dr. Broadbent  
Richard McNeel

Senate Committee Members Present: John Foley  
Wm. Raggio  
Richard Bryan  
Joe Neal

Guests Present: N. Ed Miller - Pres. U. of N.  
Neil Humphrey - Chancellor  
Stephen Kent - Intern  
Dorothy Morrow - Nursing  
Jim Edwards - Non Degree  
Larry Portor - Business  
Jeffrey Menicucci - Intern

Guest Speakers: Richard Siegel - Dept. of  
Pol. Science  
Tom Lorentzen - Pre Law Student  
Pat Murphy - Pre Law Student

Chairman Foley convened the meeting by presenting the first speaker, Richard Siegel, representing the Department of Political Science at the University.

Mr. Siegel: I am not speaking for or against a Law School at the University here. I am a pre-law advisor and just recently decided it was about time to start doing some research for the eligibility possibilities for students to get into law schools. He said that he had here the 1972-73 Pre-law Handbook which is increasingly being used by students who are applying to an official ABA, Association of Law School and Admission Council, the Pre-law Guide. About half of the law schools provide very specific guides as to their admission policies and what I have here today is based on that information. This is not a four month study or anything just something I found in a few hours study. What I have here prepared for you is based on some of this information.

Six California Law Schools have detailed information which I have provided for you, the six that are listed on the first page of the report and I have heard your question of what grade point average and what law school test score is required to get into into these six law schools. I found that if we start with the easiest of the six to get into, Pepperdine University, you need a grade point average of between 2.75 and 2.99 and a Law School Admission Test Score of between 500 and 549. The schools got increasingly

difficult from that point. I suggest you turn to the last page of my report. You see there an admission standards for a student of 3.0 - 3.24 and L.S.A.T. score of 500 - 549. At this level the typical student will have a good chance of getting into three of the easiest schools and will probably not get into the others. He may have a slight chance of getting into the University of San Francisco. If you turn to the student you might be particularly interested in on page 3 with G.P.A. between 2.75 and 2.99 and an L.S.A.T. score of 500 - 549, I would find this the very marginal student as far as encouraging him in law school as he may get into Pepperdine but he will not get into any of the other schools.

My conclusion in this regard is that a mediocre student can get into Pepperdine. We don't have the data on a few other schools in California like McGeorge and we have it from word of mouth that the students who can get into Pepperdine can probably get into McGeorge also. He said he was surprised that San Francisco had become a difficult school to enter as is Cal Jarvis.

He said he also wanted to provide some data on costs on getting into law schools in California.

See Exhibit 1 for admission costs.\*

I do not know of any definite data as far as our applicants from Reno but we have already had one student in our department accepted one to Boalt Hall and a few of our students have been accepted at leading Universities. We have most of these students getting in 2.8 G.P.A. or above and their L.S.A.T. was about 525 or something of that sort but I can only be fairly subjective about this.

Senator Foley: Could you give me a run down on the grade average of the student admitted to Boalt Hall and other leading law schools?

Mr. Siegel: They were truly exceptional. 3.8 and 3.9. I also would like to add that the female has the advantage over the male today. Some female students are even getting letters from law schools asking them to apply.

Senator Foley: How about Hastings?

Mr. Siegel: I haven't got much data but we have been sending regularly students there from 3 to 3/5 students to Hastings.

Senator Foley: Those cost figures that was for a year wasn't it?

Dr. Siegel: Yes, for two semesters.

Senator asked if there were any questions.

Tom Lorentzen spoke next and said he was speaking on his own behalf. He said also for those in a similar situation. He said that there had been talk of a two year feasibility study for a law school and this would make it at least 1976 before they could have one.

He said that there were people around campus and around town who would like the opportunity to attend law school and they weren't 18 to 24 years old but around thirty and it was increasingly hard to attend law school as they had made an effort but could not get in. He said that if they had to wait around for a feasibility study they would not ever have the opportunity. He said that he was speaking in terms of forty students and in another year there would be twice as many of this type of applicant. He said that Justice Zenoff had made it clear that Justice Clark had said he could staff a law school over night and that there was a large amount of money available, from various sources.

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Mr. Lorentzen said that he could not see any reason why they could not open a school by the fall of 1974 if not earlier with a great deal of concentrated effort. Many did not see the need of a feasibility study as was brought out at a previous hearing, as it was feasible as far as he could see.

He said that when he was younger he was not as dedicated as he has become now and his grade point average was not too high, about 2.5 in undergraduate and about 3.5 in graduate. As far as the law school test went, he said he took it last spring and he was working in one of the casinos and working overtime until 5:30 and the test was at 8:30 so that he didn't have any sleep. He said he took the first part of the test and did pretty good but that he couldn't concentrate any longer and so answered over half of it at random by guessing and then went to sleep. He said when he got the grade back it was well above average so he wondered about this test.

Senator Foley asked the next speaker to introduce himself.

Patrick Murphy, a student said that he had spoken previously at the Hearing in Carson. But, he said, he wanted to say, that the new law school he had spoken of at the previous Hearing was now accredited and he had written for information on the process they had gone through. He said that if they started a law school that he thought they should bear in mind starting a good one and one that could become accredited in a short time. He said he would pass this information on to the Committee at a later date when he received it. The school he mentioned was Antioch, in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Miller addressed the Chair and said he wanted to extend his appreciation to the Legislative Education Committee for holding this Hearing and was sorry that it was not more well attended.

Chairman Foley said that they did have another Hearing scheduled in Las Vegas Friday and that about all they could do was gather this information together to act within a week or two. He mentioned it would be in the Union Building, at 2:30.

Some discussion was held on the L.S.A.T. Dr. Siegel said there were certain inequities in the test and that he found that most schools did put grade point average ahead of this.

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Assemblyman Schofield told Chancellor Neil Humphrey that he did have a textbook on preparing for the L.S.A.T. and it was very interesting; he said he thought it would be very beneficial if they would review it. He asked Mr. Humphrey if he had anything he wanted to talk over with the Committees.

Mr. Humphrey answered not anything but that they thought there should be a feasibility study. In fact, they had in mind several of these studies for various professions.

Assemblyman Schofield asked what these other professions were they spoke of.

Neil Humphrey answered veterinary medicine, architecture and urban design and dentistry.

Mr. Schofield asked if the University of Nevada was set up under a Grant.

Mr. Humphrey answered that it was and that the land grant was shared with U.N.L.V.

Mr. Schofield asked if somehow there was a generous benefactor offering money towards moving this along, this sort of an establishment. What he meant was, he said, say several benefactors giving large amounts would they consider acting on this?

Humphrey answered it would depend on the size and from whom. He said \$1,000,000 was a lot of money but it wasn't all that much when you started to lay it out. This wouldn't begin to cover the cost of a program once you began to lay it out.

Senator Raggio said that he thought that both he and President Miller must have some idea of the cost factor involved in this. What are some of these he asked. He said that a law school would serve no purpose and unless it was accredited by the American Bar Association it would not be worthwhile. So, he said, he would like to know what they were talking about in the way of money. Give me a ball park guess.

Mr. Humphrey said he could give the figures of only what it would cost somewhere else which he had done at the previous Hearing.

Senator Raggio said he hadn't seen that.

Humphrey said that he gave figures from a low of over \$1,000.00 in Wisconsin to over \$4,000 in Hawaii.

Mr. Raggio said you mean that is the operational cost. He was answered yes per year per student. He then asked what about the cost of a law library and he was answered somewhere around a half million dollars. He then asked about a physical plant and was answered that it wasn't known.

Senator Raggio asked if it had ever been discussed about using the excellent facilities of the law library in this area for this purpose.

Humphrey answered that the library in the National College belongs to the Fleischmann Foundation. He said that one of the reasons that the Board of Regents had been recommending a feasibility study was to go into these costs.

Mr. Schofield said that he had some figures from the University of Hawaii and others and that it would be a pretty good estimate that it would cost around \$700,000 for a law library for fifty students. He went on further that some had in mind to get started with a one year school and go on from there.

Senator Foley asked where would they go after one year and then recognized that Mr. Schofield was only talking about getting started for oneyear financially.

Mr. Humphrey said we don't know these things and that is the reason we want a thorough study and that is why we think this study should be a joint onebetween the University, the Regents and the Legislature. It is one thing, he said, for us to have a study and present it to you and another that you participate in it.

Senator Foley asked Mr. Humphrey what kind of money would we be talking about if we went to a four year medical school? Would the cost double or triple he asked. Mr. Humphrey answered that they didn't know.

Senator Raggio suggested that probably the strong argument for a law school in Nevada is that students are denied admission in so many places. It was said that McGeorge Law School would accept Nevada students readily enough and how about Hastings he asked. This is something we need to know he stated. They are pretty good, you know he said. He said he didn't know how proud they were of some of their students. Laughter.

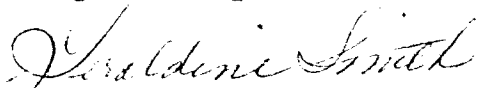
Assemblyman Schofield then asked what was the criteria that had caused the University to think of a study for architecture and urban design.

President Miller explained some and answered that there was national interest in this as well as local.

Chairman Foley dismissed the meeting at 4:15 P.M.

\*For complete content of Dr. Siegel's presentation See Addendum 1

Respectfully submitted,



Geraldine Smith,  
Assembly Secretary



Sharon W. Maher  
Senate Secretary

ADDENDUM 1

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February 23, 1973

TO: Committee on Education, Nevada State Senate

FROM: Richard Siegel  
Department of Political Science

SUBJECT: Admissions Policies of Law Schools in California

The following is a partial analysis of the admissions policies of six California schools of law. Only these six schools, out of a total of fifteen accredited law schools in California, published data concerning the qualifications of the applicants to their 1972-73 entering classes. All data is derived from the 1972-73 Prelaw Handbook prepared by the Association of American Law Schools and the Law School Admission Council.

This sample of admissions policies leads to the following ranking of the given schools based on difficulty of admittance:

1. Stanford University
2. University of California, Davis
3. University of San Francisco
4. Golden Gate
5. University of San Diego
6. Pepperdine University

The data suggests that in 1972 a student could expect to be admitted to Pepperdine with a grade point average between 2.75 and 2.99 and L.S.A.T. scores between 500 and 549 (out of possible 800). Such qualifications are only slightly above the average or mean performance level of all students applying to law school. However, a student with such qualifications was very unlikely to be admitted to any of the other five schools, even if his L.S.A.T. score was as high as the 550-599 range.

The student need attain a 3.0 - 3.24 G.P.A. to have a very good chance for three or more of the given schools. With such a G.P.A. and an L.S.A.T. score between 500-549 the student had about an even chance for San Diego. With the same G.P.A. and a 550-599 L.S.A.T. the student was very likely to have been admitted to Golden Gate as well as San Diego and Pepperdine.

However, only with the following scores could the student have been confident of admission to the more selective schools:

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University of San Francisco	3.0 - 3.24	600 - 649
University of California, Davis	3.5 - 3.74	650 - 699
Stanford University	3.6 +	650 - 699

Such confidence would be based on the statistical evidence that a majority of applicants meeting the stated combined qualifications were accepted in 1972.

It should be noted that the above statistics indicate the level at which a probability exists for admission. Levels at which a possibility exists are much lower. Pepperdine admitted almost 25% of its applicants who had G.P.A.'s below 2.75 and even Stanford admitted six candidates below a 2.75 G.P.A.

No data was available to this writer concerning Nevada applicants to California instatisticians. However, it is my subjective judgment as a pre-law advisor that Nevadan success rates are in line with the data in the appendix of this memorandum.

APPENDIX

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A- Students with a G.P.A. between 2.75 - 2.99 and an L.S.A.T. score of 500 - 549 had the following success rate at the selected schools:

	<u>Applied</u>	<u>Accepted</u>	<u>Rate of Acceptance</u>
Golden Gate	84	5	
University of California, Davis	43	4	
Pepperdine	22	15	68.2% (high)
Stanford	40	0	0.0% (low)
University of San Diego	68	5	
University of San Francisco	94	2	
TOTAL:	<u>351</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>8.8%</u>

B- Students with a G.P.A. between 2.75 - 2.99 and an L.S.A.T. score between 550 - 599 had the following success rate:

	<u>Applied</u>	<u>Accepted</u>	<u>Rate of Acceptance</u>
Golden Gate	71	14	
University of California, Davis	72	6	
Pepperdine	16	16	100.0% (high)
Stanford	67	4	
University of San Diego	14	3	21.4%
University of San Francisco	104	6	5.8% (low)
TOTAL:	<u>344</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>14.2%</u>

C- Students with G.P.A. between 3.0 - 3.24 and L.S.A.T. score of 500 - 549):

	<u>Applied</u>	<u>Accepted</u>	<u>Rate of Acceptance</u>
Golden Gate	34	8	
University of California, Davis	57	6	
Pepperdine	14	13	92.8% (high)
Stanford	70	3	4.3% (low)
University of San Diego	20	9	45.0%
University of San Francisco	76	7	
TOTAL:	<u>271</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>17.0%</u>



D- Students with a G.P.A. between 3.0 -3.24 and L.S.A.T. score of 550 - 599 had the following success rate:

	<u>Applied</u>	<u>Accepted</u>	183 <u>Rate of Accept:</u>
Golden Gate	39	29	74.4%
University of California, Davis	82	4	4.9% (low)
Pepperdine	11	9	81.8%
Stanford	89	8	
University of San Diego	27	27	100.0% (high)
University of San Francisco	81	24	
TOTAL:	<u>329</u>	<u>101</u>	<u>30.4%</u>

COST OF LAW SCHOOL IN CALIFORNIA (1972 - 73)

Golden Gate: \$48.00 per unit

University of California, Davis:

Residents: \$670.50 fees

Non-Residents: \$2170.50 Fees

Pepperdine: \$63.00 per semester hour

about \$2000.00 in tuition and fees for first year

evening division: \$1,475.00 for year

University of San Diego: day division for academic year:

\$1,710 for tuition and fees

Evening division: \$1,210.00

University of San Francisco: Day division: \$1,935.00  
tuition and fees

Evening division: \$1,360.00  
(\$68.00 per credit)

Stanford University: \$2,850.00 tuition and fees  
over \$5,000.00 for all costs for single  
student

Day Range: High: \$2,850.00 (Stanford)  
Low : \$1,710.00 (San Diego)  
possibly lower at Golden Gate