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The Pocket Docket is scheduled to be a weekly law school publication under the auspices of the SBA. Its purpose is to publicize SBA activities, speakers, and items of general interest to the law school community. It is not designed to eliminate the need to check the various bulletin boards. Any law school group, individual, professor, or staff member may submit announcements for publication free of charge by placing the announcement in the SBA box at the Information window by the close of business on Thursday. Policies of the Pocket Docket will evolve over time; we reserve the right to be arbitrary.

BAR EXAM DEADLINE TOMORROW

Applications to take the professional responsibility examination on April 23, 1977 must be received in the office of the Bar Examiners by tomorrow, March 1, 1977 or it will cost you an extra \$25.00. Forms can be obtained at the records window.

CLASS SCHEDULES OVERDUE

Anyone who has not yet filed his/her study list for next quarter ought to do so as soon as possible.

SPEAKERS

MICHAEL LYONS

Defense attorney for one of the Camp Pendleton 14 - a group of Black marines charged with conspiracy and attempted murder in an alleged attack on a KKK meeting. Monday, Feb 28, Noon, 1345.

CHARLES CHAMPLIN

Communications Law Seminar presents the L.A. Times Entertainment editor, Noon, Monday, Feb 28, Faculty Lounge.

QUARTER SYSTEM NEXT YEAR

The curriculum committee and all three Deans have stated that the law school will operate on the quarter system for the upcoming year. Next year's schedule is posted on the window near the records office. Current plans indicate that the change to semesters will take place in the 1978-1979 school year.

SBA MEETING

The last scheduled SBA meeting of the quarter will be held on Tuesday, March 1 at 8 p.m. at the residence of one of our members. The address is posted on the SBA office door. The late hour was designed to avoid conflicts with the numerous late afternoon makeup classes. Members, committee members, and any other interested persons are welcome to attend.

SBA APPOINTMENTS/VACANCIES

A number of persons will take quarter away externships or will otherwise not be in residence next quarter. The Bylaws provides for replacement of such individuals by the SBA president with the concurrence of the executive board. I know of two executive board vacancies (John Tate and Arlene Falk Meyers), plus vacancies on the library and curriculum committees. Anyone interested in an appointment to some position should see me this week, and anyone who will be away this coming quarter should also let me know this week. P.S. - Tate will be replaced by a second year person and Meyers will be replaced by someone from her section; if interested let them or me know today.

UPC VACANCY

There is a vacancy on the University Policy Committee for next quarter. If you know your way around campus politics somewhat and are interested in this position, please come talk to me this week.

ABA REP

This school has traditionally been very inactive in the American Bar Association's Law Student Division. Without going into the merits of whether that is good or bad, a number of persons have expressed an interest in seeing UCLA provide this service for those members of the community who may be interested in that. If you wish to become the ABA rep please see me in the next few weeks.

HELP KEEP THE LAW SCHOOL CLEAN - THROW YOUR TRASH IN THE CONTAINERS.

WHO'S IN CHARGE HERE ??

by CCR

Judging from the questions and comments I have heard in the last few weeks, it is obvious that few students have any idea how decisions are made in this law school. Here is my lightly censored opinion of how things work. I can't guarantee total accuracy so I encourage competing viewpoints.

The ultimate decision making authority at the law school is currently the law faculty meeting as a body. The faculty claims with a straight face that the proper interpretation of an interpretation of an old Regent's Ruling is that no student can vote at a faculty meeting or on any committee that has final decision authority. (That's nonsense, but that's another story). The faculty bylaws gives courtesy of the floor to an SBA representative, one student member each from the Admissions, Standards, Curriculum, and Student/Faculty Relations committees, any law school press, and one student member of any other committee whose business will be before the faculty. Typically, however, I am the only student at the meetings.

Little of importance is considered by the faculty as a body before it has been considered by a committee. The school has some 18 committees (my count), most with 4 student and 6 faculty members. Rather than a kiss of death, a referral to committee may be very helpful. Students are full voting members of most committees, and have substantial influence on committee recommendations. Student members are appointed by the SBA president with the concurrence of the SBA executive board. Faculty members are appointed by the Dean on the advice of the Faculty Advisory Committee (3 tenured faculty members elected by the faculty each May.)

It is important to remember three things. One is that no one can make any decision on his/her own. The only real exception is Dean Slaughter who has been given limited discretion in several categories of academic rules and regulations by the faculty (so that the rest of the faculty can look good while everyone gets mad at Fred.) Almost anything is appealable to someone, and most things end up before the full faculty (to their growing dismay). Persuasion is the substance of power in the school. Dean Warren gets deference because of his position, and his reputation in the profession, but there is little that affects students that he can do by himself. He must persuade the faculty just like everyone else (well, almost anyone else - he does control a lot of money and a few indirect strings).

Second is that no one in the law school has much spare time. That includes students, faculty and staff, which means that anyone willing to put forth the effort to sell an idea will find few persons taking the time to oppose it. Third, it is important to remember that information is essential. Rarely have many faculty members thought through an issue before it is brought up in committee or in a faculty meeting. I have seen members change their minds three times during the course of debate on the floor. A person who can answer the crucial questions on the floor has a huge advantage. (Thus, persons like Fran McQuade, Ann Limbaugh and other staff persons become very powerful; for better or worse, their opinions become the rule simply because no one is willing to take the time to evaluate the information themselves.

The faculty, of course, is by no means a monolith. They present a wide political, philosophical, and emotional spectrum. Some believe in strong student input and see students as real human beings. Others have difficulty understanding why students are allowed to talk at all, much less be listened to. Most think of students as second class citizens, but feel compelled to sit politely while they talk. It is also very important to know that the faculty will disagree among themselves on almost every imaginable issue. I will return to these items and to the faculty meetings (which are at the end of the process) in a later part of this series. Next week the focus will be on the SBA and students groups inside and outside the school.

LAW LIBRARY CHANGES submitted by
Ann Mitchell of the Law Library.

Seating in the Law Library for persons not using law books is now limited to the A level reading room. This new policy was developed with the participation of the Student Bar representatives on the Library Committee. Notice of the seating rules was given by posting signs and distributing announcements in the Library; this has resulted in a decline in the number of non-law book users.

Restrictions against eating and drinking in the Library are in effect in an effort to maintain a clean and pleasant study environment and to prevent damage to books and furnishings. Beginning on Sunday, Feb. 27, a guard will be on duty in the Library to insure observance of seating regulations as well as rules against consumption of food and beverages.

NOTICE: Library committee members are strongly requested to attend the SBA meeting on Tuesday, Mar 1. CCR