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MEMO TO: 2L Staff Members
FROM: Evan T. Miller, Internal Managing Editor
DATE: January 26, 2009
RE: Board Selection Process

An editorial position is the ultimate law review achievement. In the abstract, it represents the high degree of trust that your peers have in your abilities. But a law review editorial board position is also time-consuming and requires continuous preparation and action. Understandably, editorial positions are not for everyone. Those that either choose not to be considered for an editorial position or are not selected for one can still enjoy the many benefits of law review work.

The first step in this decision process is the application. Board applications are designed to give both the present board and you a clearer understanding of which position(s) most accurately align with your abilities and circumstances. Of course, being on a law review staff for a year does not make you an expert on the specifics of every board position. In fact, there are certainly four or five board positions with which you have had little or no interaction. Thus, I strongly encourage you to seek help and advice in the appropriate channels. Mentors and current board members are your best available resources. We have functioned in a board capacity for about 11 months and are fully informed about the intricacies of our positions. Setting up a meeting with your mentor or the people currently in the positions that you may be considering will definitely benefit you. Not only will it provide you with a clearer understanding of the responsibilities of the positions for which you are interested, but it will also give you an idea of which positions for which you might *not* be well-suited. **Board applications must be handed in to Debbe by Monday, February 9th at 4:00pm.**

Following the application period, two days of board interviews will occur. Each staff member will be required to sign up for an interview. Each interview lasts roughly twenty minutes. The interviews take place in the Special Collections Room and are held in front of the entire existing board. Questions will generally come from everyone in the room, but you can anticipate that most of them will pertain to the positions that you have applied for. Please rest assured that it is not our job to "grill" board candidates. Indeed, this would defeat the purpose of this process. Rather, our questions will be designed to elicit the responses most relevant to the positions that you are interested in. Again, mentors and current board members can help you prepare for this stage in the process. **Board interviews will take place on Saturday, February 21st and Sunday, February 22nd. Because we have provided two full days for interviews and must make selections the same weekend, all staffers applying for board positions MUST interview on one of those two days.**

After the interviews on the second day are completed, the board will meet to begin discussing and voting on the members of the incoming editorial board. **Each board member has a vote on who is selected for each position. Thus, no one current board member can determine your fate.** Decisions will likely be made after interviews are completed on February 22nd. You will likely be notified that night via phone of your position. Board decisions are final and not reviewable. The new board will be formally introduced at the annual banquet in April, but will begin training for their positions immediately after board selection is complete. It is the staff's responsibility to meet with the board member currently serving in their selected position to become acquainted with the responsibilities of said position. The current board looks forward to sharing its experiences with you during this transition period.

Some stress during this process is inevitable, but it should not become overwhelming. Each of you has put in invaluable work during your staff year and will continue to make meaningful contributions next year, whatever your title. In short, board selection should not feel like the end of the world. Rely on your mentors and the other board members. As I said above, we are in the best position to provide you with the answers you seek. Along those lines, however, please be considerate that this is a very busy semester for the current board, not only in our capacity as board members, but also in our capacity as future lawyers. Bar applications will shortly be coming due and bar prep is right around the corner. Thus, please be considerate of our time constraints. If you contact us early, I am confident that you will not encounter any issues.

Good Luck!