

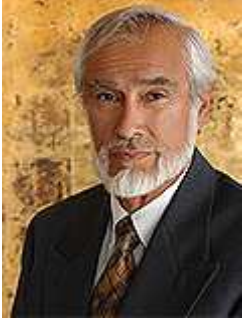


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March 27, 2008

### **Leo Romero Appointed Interim Dean of UNM School of Law**



Interim UNM Provost Viola Florez announced that Leo Romero, former dean of the UNM School of Law and current law professor, will serve as interim dean of the School of Law effective May 18. Romero will serve in that capacity for the 2008-2009 academic year while UNM conducts a national search for a new permanent dean.

“Leo brings to the position many years of experience as dean and as a faculty member and I am confident that he will provide excellent leadership to the school during his interim role,” Florez said.

Romero previously served as associate dean for Academic Affairs before spending six years as dean of the School of Law. He drafted the “Rules of Procedure Governing Judicial Nominating Commissions” and oversaw the development of this process for selecting judges in New Mexico during his duties as chair of the New Mexico Judicial Selection Commission.

During his time as dean, Romero focused his efforts on expanding the Indian Law Program and the school's International Law course offerings. His efforts led to the establishment of an Indian Law Certificate program and the Southwest Indian Law Clinic. He also helped develop the “U.S.-Mexico Law Journal,” and fostered exchange programs with the University of Granada in Spain, and with law schools in Mexico and Canada under NAFTA.

Romero currently teaches criminal law and procedure classes at the UNM School of Law. His recent publications have dealt with judicial selection issues.

Before joining the University of New Mexico School of Law, Romero practiced criminal law in Washington, D.C., and began his teaching career at the Penn State University Dickinson School of Law as director of clinical studies.

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