

2-12-1979

## Caveat, February 12, 1979

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.law.ggu.edu/caveat>

 Part of the [Legal Education Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

"Caveat, February 12, 1979" (1979). *Caveat*. Paper 149.  
<http://digitalcommons.law.ggu.edu/caveat/149>

This Newsletter or Magazine is brought to you for free and open access by the Other Law School Publications at GGU Law Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Caveat by an authorized administrator of GGU Law Digital Commons. For more information, please contact [jfischer@ggu.edu](mailto:jfischer@ggu.edu).

# CAVEAT

GOLDEN GATE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

Vol. XIV, No. 20

February 12, 1979

## Faculty Center Staff Quits

This week it was learned by the CAVEAT, that the students aren't the only ones that are hopping mad around here. Three secretaries who work in the Faculty Center have quit in disgust.

Their grievances center around the lack of respect and consideration given them by a certain few faculty members. While not all the facts are clear at this time, several questions have arose regarding this matter.

First, it has been reported that the Dean's office has not adequately dealt with this problem in the past. Apparently, it has been going on for some time, affecting the efficiency of the office. While individual members of the faculty have been spoken to in the past, the seriousness of the problem had not been impressed upon them. Why hadn't this problem been resolved earlier?

Second, it seems clear that only a specific few faculty members are guilty. Many faculty members have remained curious and helpful throughout this period. One reason why this problem has persisted is due to the inadequate staff of the Faculty Center. Such a problem may be the inevitable result of pressures from too much work for too few people.

Last, the secretaries have funneled their grievances through the Personnel Department. One source reports that no new hiring, to replace the leaving staff, will take place unless a resolution has been passed by the faculty naming those persons who make working conditions unbearable. I feel that those faculty members who have been named by the secretaries should be known to the student body, and some form of sanctions applied against them. The ability of the entire school, at it has been shown, can be affected by the behavior of a few.

Below is reprinted the letter which I received from the departing Faculty Center staff.

Because of various problems between the faculty of the Law School and the secretarial staff, we hereby submit the following list of grievances:

1. A majority of the law faculty is chronically addicted to the use of foul and abusive language in their dealings with secretaries and students and in reference to secretaries and students. On numerous occasions we have witnessed loud and noisy conversations in the Faculty Center Office conversations sprinkled liberally with such phrases as "motherfucker," "son of a bitch", assholes (used frequently with regard to students), etc. This is embarrassing to the secretaries, especially when done in the presence of the public and students. On one occasion an open discussion of "farting" took place among a group of faculty in the Faculty office center. We do not feel this is appropriate for a Law School.
2. Time and again we are required to do personal work for some faculty members, outside work for which they are paid and work which we are told is pro bono and it is not. We feel that this is a gross "abuse" of the secretaries and in effect, a stealing of time which belongs to the Law School and its work.
3. Time and again certain faculty members will come in with a huge workload and insist that it be done on very short notice with little or no regard for the total office workload and priorities. Work has been thrown on secretaries' desks without having been submitted

(Con't. top next page.)

## Notes, Comments Law Lib.

Many students have responded to the request for suggestions, questions and complaints about the new law library. If you signed your name to the form, a personal reply is posted near the Circulation Desk.

The major complaint is that the library is too warm. At present, the temperature cannot be regulated internally by the library staff. On the first day in the new building the over-heating problem was reported and continuing efforts are being made by the construction company to regulate the temperature at a comfortable level.

Other frequently raised issues:

1. Drinking fountain - one has been installed in the hallway, just outside the library.
2. Food and drink vending machines - the law library does not control vending services, but we have been informed that a vending area will be installed in the near future on the Plaza Level, in the old building basement.
3. Public telephones - orders for the installation of pay telephones were placed long ago with the telephone company. The telephones will be inside the library, near the entrance.
4. Photocopy service - when the law library expands into the basement level, another 5¢ photocopy machine will be installed at the north end of the floor.
5. Smoking areas - until the library occupies both floors, the designation of smoking areas is tentative. When settled permanently, efforts will be made to reach the best possible compromise between smokers' and non-smokers' comfort.
6. Bathrooms and water fountains outside, instead of inside, the library - the location of the law library within the building restricts the extension of waterpipes and sewage lines into the library.
7. Design of entry and exit doors - the exit is designed so that people leaving the library will pass close to the Circulation Desk. This will facilitate check-out procedures and future security checks. The doors open outward in conformity to fire codes.

The suggestion box is still located on the Circulation Desk. Please feel free to add your comments.

Nancy Carter  
Law Librarian

### CONCERNED STUDENTS RE THE SECRETARIAL STAFF

We students and alumni of Golden Gate University are extremely concerned about the recent resignation of three Law School Faculty secretaries. We would like to state for the record that we have found the secretarial staff at the Law School to be extremely helpful in light of the less than satisfactory working conditions, including the fact that they are usually performing at least two or three vital functions at any given time. We feel that the Law School faculty secretaries have provided a vital service in a highly professional manner, and that the three resigning secretaries will be greatly missed. As their departure has obvious implications concerning the quality of education at Golden Gate Law School, we can only hope that the Faculty and the Administration will seriously examine the situation so that working conditions in the Law School will improve and the educational purpose of Golden Gate University will not be lost.

A group of concerned students and alumni

through proper channels, resulting often times in it becoming lost. Then the faculty member will run to the Dean's Office and complain even though the source of the difficulty is faculty disregard for procedures.

4. A number of the faculty resent and refuse to follow proper procedures for submitting both work to be typed and materials to be xeroxed, thus disrupting the efficient and orderly flow of work which is essential to the smooth operation of a large office with 24 full time faculty and 24 part-time faculty.
5. A number of the faculty doesn't hesitate to use foul and abusive language towards the secretaries, when, after making an unreasonable request, they are told it cannot be done as they request.
6. A major problem is that time and again, some faculty members seem to consider themselves exempt from following the Rules and Regulations of the Copy Center in submitting materials to be xeroxed on the Xerox 9200 or printed. Time and again they have been told what the deadlines and timetable for turnover and return of work submitted. Yet, they constantly scream "emergency" and expect to be treated as an exception. When told that there cannot be an exception, they again become angry and abuse the secretaries verbally.
7. We are told to Xerox personal work for some members of the faculty and charge it to the school account.
8. On many, many occasions the secretaries have given up their break periods, lunches and have stayed late to do work. It is a fact that the work flow in the Faculty Center is not a constant flow; rather, it ebbs and flows. When there is a slack period and we take a few minutes to sit and talk at our desk, some members of the faculty run to the Dean's Office and complain that we are not doing our work. This is highly resented by the secretaries since some of these faculty are the same ones who consistently have last minute rush work and the secretaries nearly break their necks to get it to them.
9. Some members of the faculty shift their job responsibilities onto the secretaries, such as recording grades on official grade sheets, looking up case cites, etc.
10. Some members of the faculty seem to be consistently unavailable to students and the resultant student frustrations are taken out on the secretaries.
11. Some of the faculty seem to consider the Faculty Center office, where the secretaries work, as a common room to get together to laugh, discuss trivia, party, and in general carry on in a loud and rude manner. It is a gross imposition on the secretaries to expect them to carry out their duties in this type of atmosphere. Such loud behavior makes it difficult to hear phone conversations. On more than one occasion, a secretary has had to ask the faculty to hold down the noise a request which they noticeably resent. On occasion, when asked to hold down the noise so we can work, they ask whose work we are doing. Wehn told it is someone elses' they respond "Oh, who cares then" and continue right on with their behavior. This exhibits a total lack of concern for the other faculty members.
12. When certain members of the faculty have a grievance against one of the secretaries, rather than approaching the secretary in question or the office manager, as they have been requested to do, they run to the Dean's Office and complain not only to the Dean but also to all the other faculty members so that often the secretary is the last one to know.

In sum, the gross lack of respect, concern, consideration, maturity, cooperation and appreciation

exhibited towards the secretaries of the Faculty Center have prompted the entire staff to resign and seek employemnt in a more professional setting. In short, we truly are professionals and we are going elsewhere where we will be treated as such.

Linda Palmer

Dan Jones

Jean Thomas

---

## NLG Convention

The National Lawyers Guild will be holding its annual national convention February 15-18 in San Francisco. The theme of this year's convention is "The Rise of the Right-Attacks on Women and Gays". The keynote speech will be delivered on Thursday evening by Katie Rorabeck, a long time Guild member and past NLG president, who has defended political activists such as Erika Huggins and Susan Saxe. There will also be evening presentations by CONAS (Committee on Native American Struggles) on the international aspects of Native American Struggles and by Skip Robinson and Lewis Meyers of the United League on the fight for Affirmative Action and how to deal with the KKK in the South.

In addition to these evening presentations, there will be smaller workshops on many issues throughout the week-end. Some of these workshops will include abortion/sterilization abuse, gay workers, gays and the military, drafting gay rights referendums and initiatives, OSHA, and many more.

Thursday, February 14, will be devoted to NLG committee meetings. At this time there will be an all day meeting of law students from across the country to discuss what school chapters are doing, how they are set up and how to effectively recruit more students to do guild work. This meeting will undoubtedly give students a rare and exciting opportunity to meet and learn from other students.

For more information on the Convention, look at the leaflets that are posted on the 2nd floor, read the latest issue of the Conspiracy, or call the NLG office (285-5066). Fees for the convention are on a sliding scale so check the categories on the leaflets. Fee waivers are available. It is also possible to attend only a specific work shop or speaker if you want to, without paying for the entire weekend of events.

On the day before the convention begins (Feb. 14 Valentine's Day) there will be two simultaneous all day skills seminars designed to teach and sharpen the skills of people doing (or planning to do) work in the areas of Gay Rights or Immigration.

The Gay Rights Skills Seminar is entitled "What Every Progressive Lawyer and Legal Worker Should Know About the Everyday Problems of Gay People" and will cover family law for people living outside of traditional nuclear family structures, child custody, employment discrimination, military law and family law. There will also be simulations of direct and cross exam of an expert witness in a custody case and of voir dire in a criminal case where the defendant is gay. More details on speakers, topics and prices can be found on the pink leaflets around school.

The second skills seminar is on Immigration Law and will cover the basic law, regulations, practices and procedures relevant to immigration law. Included will be exclusion, marriage fraud, grounds for deportability, a mock immigration interview and a mock deportation hearing.

The Convention and Skills Seminars promise to be exciting and educational. The National Convention won't be in San Francisco again for a long time, so give yourselves a much needed study break and take advantage of as many of the events as you can.

---

ANNOUNCEMENT: FOUND One calculator. Inquire at Caveat Office, ask for Fay Leighton.

---

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

ABA/LSD NEWS

June 2, 1979 Graduates: Have you turned in an application? Please do so now!

I.D. CARDS: Did you leave your yellow I.D. card in the registrar's office for updating? Please pick it up now.

PHI ALPHA DELTA - MEETING & INITIATION: Tuesday, Feb. 13 at 3:00 p.m. in one of the new auditoriums, all members requested to attend. Check the notice board for further details.

PARENTS and all other students interested in GGU's childcare center. There will be a general meeting Feb. 15, 12 noon, Room 209. We need to find out who prospective users are! We need your input!

CHILDCARE UPDATE: A tentative budget has been drawn up which includes staffing, salaries, employee benefits, operating expenses and an itemized account of all start-up materials.

Our plans are to serve 28 children: 5 infants, 7 toddlers and 16 pre-schoolers. Initially, the center will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Once the program gets started, we will have a sign-up for parents interested in night-time childcare.

The preliminary budget has been given to the Development Office. Dave DeVincenzi is in the process of contacting potential donors for the initial funding of the program. Thus far, we have received \$7,000 for the remodeling/construction of the center. \$2,000 of this amount came from the family of Holly Baumann for whom the center is to be named. (Holly Baumann, a GGU law student and mother of two children, was one of the strongest early advocates for childcare on the Golden Gate campus. She committed suicide while in law school.)

Thus far, the Childcare Committee, has been comprised of people who will not be using the facility--only two of us are parents. We really need the input of the center's prospective users. There are decisions to be made regarding hiring of staff, program, curriculum, on and on. You should be involved in making them!

If you have plans of enrolling your child or thoughts on any of the above issues, come to the general meeting Feb. 15, 12 noon, Room 209!

---

In response to the concern expressed by the students of Section A about their classroom assignment for the balance of the semester, we have worked out the following agreement with the University administration. Section A will meet in the fifth floor auditorium (old building) for the balance of the semester. During the period of fifth floor remodeling (estimated for approximately three weeks, mid-semester), Section A will meet in Room 205 on the second floor of the old building. The University administration will work very hard to ensure there will be no disruption from noise, dust, etc., in the law school while classes are in session. We will do everything possible to make sure no class interference occurs.

Should any problems occur with this arrangement, please let Marge Holmes or Molly Stolmack know immediately. We have a "hot line" arrangement with the plant manager which should enable us to solve any class disruption as soon as it occurs.

Thank you for your continuing patience. We know the difficulties and strains being placed on both students and faculty during this period of construction and transition.

Dean's Office

All 53 liaison positions between the Law Student Division and the A.B.A. for the 1979-1980 school year are open for applicants interested in representing the 35,000 member Law Students Division, and having the opportunity to work with senior members of the bar in specialized areas of the law at their expense. Yes, if selected, you attend meetings at no extra expense to you.

The requirements are that you must be a LSD member, a member of the section to which you are applying, have at least one full year of law school remaining, and be in good academic standing with the school.

If interested, send a resume, cover letter, and recommendations to Anne Campbell Ryan, Dir. L.S.D., 1155 East 60th, Chicago, Ill. 60637, postmarked no later than March 1, 1979. Also, give Judy Middleswath a call at 834-5571 for assistance in your application or to answer any questions you may have.

The sections, committees, and positions are: Administrative Law; Antitrust Law; Bar Activities; Corporation, Banking and Business Law; Criminal Justice; Economics of Law Practice; Family Practice; General Practice; Individual Rights and Responsibilities; Insurance, Negligence and Compensation; International Law; Judicial Administration Div.; Labor Relations Law; Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar; Litigation; Local Government Law; Natural Resources Law; Patent, Trademark and Copyright Law; Public Contract Law; Public Utility Law; Real Property; Probate and Trust Law (2 positions open); Science and Technology; Taxation; Law Day; Standards for Criminal Justice; Continuing Education of the Bar; Law and National Security; Environmental Law; Housing and Urban Development; Judicial Selection, Tenure and Compensation; Lawyer Referral Service; Lawyers in the Armed Forces; Legal Assistance for Military Personnel; Military Law; Lawyers Title Guaranty Fund; Legal Aid and Indigent Defendants; Legal Drafting; Legislation; Membership; Mentally Disabled; Prepaid Legal Services; Professional Career Development; Specialization; Advisory Board of the ABA Journal; American Judicature Society; the American Law Institute Committee on Legal Education Opportunity; United Nations; U.S. Dept. of Justice; Client Counseling Competition; National Appellate Advocacy Competition; State and Local Bar Associations, and Voluntary Income Tax Assistance.

---

## STUDENT ACTIVISM AT GOLDEN GATE

On Wednesday, Feb. 7, 1979, approximately fifty students met in the fifth floor auditorium of the old building to discuss building conditions which have caused substantial dissatisfaction and frustration during the last six months. In contrast to Caveat predictions of student apathy, the dissatisfaction over higher prices for unfit classrooms was vehemently expressed. On Monday, Feb. 12, 1979 there will be a meeting held with Mr. O. Butz and Mr. J. Teitscheid. \* \* \* \* \* The meeting will be open to all students, and will be held at the Fifth Floor auditorium. A list of grievances will be presented at that time and hopefully some concrete answers will be forthcoming. Interest and support has already been strong, if you wish to have your complaint heard, please attend. MEETING AT 3:00, FIFTH FLOOR OLD BLDG. AUD.

# Dean's Statement

In the statement about our AALS accreditation which appeared in the last Caveat I made reference to the fact that one of the things required of the law school is to hire a developer. That position has now been added to the law school staff and has been filled by Sandra Bovetti, who assumed her new duties on Monday, February 5.

The reason the AALS vies a developer for the law school as essential was not set out specifically in the Caveat STATEMENT. It is because the AALS regards it as essential that growth of the law school become less dependent on tuition. With the addition of our own developer for the law school and the attention of the University's present developer soon to be turned from fund-raising for the new building to other institutional needs, it is hoped that we can soon realize this goal.

(Ed's Note: The statement ran in last week's Caveat was reprinted verbatim from the Dean's press release. Any inaccuracies or misconceptions that have been generated by that statement, are a result of the Dean's own lack of clarity, not the Caveat's. Further, her statement reminds me of Otto Butz's comment, that the students who believe a fund-raiser will lower tuition believe in a fantasy. Nevertheless, we do appreciate the Dean's interest in communicating to the students through the Caveat.)

To the Students, Staff & Faculty:

During what we all consider to be a very frustrating period of time, we would like to reaffirm to you that we are making every effort to ensure this transition be as rapid and painless as possible. It is obvious that some problems can not be immediately resolved; but we also hope it is obvious we are continually working towards solutions to all your problems reported to us.

We ask that you bear with us in this difficult time.

Judy McKelvey  
Marge Holmes



W  
A  
N  
T  
E  
D

for

MENS REA

# PREZ CORNER

**SBA MEETING:** This Tuesday, 2-13, 5:00, room 322 The SBA will take a final vote on spring semester budget requests from student groups and will also discuss distribution of the student scholarship funds that have been collected thus far this year. If time permits, we will also discuss what remaining goals we want to accomplish this semester.

**VOLLEYBALL:** I understand that several students went to the Y last Monday to play volleyball and other people were there playing basketball and the Y would not allow students to play volleyball because of this. It is my understanding that Mondays and Wednesdays are days set up for open gym for volleyball and the other days are for basketball, but apparently the Y takes the position that regardless of this, whoever gets there first, basketball or volleyball players, are the ones who use the gym. They will not let us reserve the gym without paying \$25 each time. I am waiting for a return call from the Y concerning all this, so for now it appears that if you want to play volleyball on Monday, you'll have to take your chances and just show up and if you beat the basketball players to the gym you'll be able to play. I am not too hopeful that another satisfactory arrangement can be made, but I'll try.

**SBA BOOKSALE CHECKS:** The following people have checks in the SBA office that have not been picked up: Jo Anne Morrow, John Moore, Joyce Thomas, Carol Gamble, Patricia Cummings, Ron Stich, Vivian Zaloom, Robert Dennis, and Tom Sottile. You may pick up your check during the SBA Y pass pick-up hours listed on the SBA door. The following people have still not picked up their books from the booksale, which means your books are now the property of the SBA for failure to pickup: Mollie Arthur, Leon Atlas, Steven Baker, Maxine Benmour, Dave Campana, Terri Ellen Gordon, Kristina Hansson, Liz Hendrickson, Mark Hoffart, Len Labagh, Danny Marshall, Shelley Salzman, Ron Schwartz, Monroe Seifer, Steve Siegel. Your checks will be made out the early part of this week. Check with the SBA office on Thursday for your checks. If anyone does not understand the above lists or you have any questions concerning the booksale or your check, please contact me at 863-7880.

Alice M. Montgomery

