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The Advocate

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Lexis Rules Make Student Use Top Priority

Demands for a student voice in the formulation of Fordham’s official policies on Lexis, the library’s newest acquisition, have resulted in what most faculty members and students consider to be a fair set of guidelines for Lexis’ use.

The Library Committee issued its report on “Lexis Training Schedule and Rules for Use” on February 9th, setting forth an admirable scheme for the allocation of Lexis time amongst the faculty, “student organizations”, and the general student body. Alumni use of the computer has not been provided for in the guidelines.

The committee, composed of Professors Techaff, Phillips and Sims and librarians Jeannette Newman and Gersten Rappaport, was originally going to determine the rules governing Lexis use without any student input. However, after discussion with committee members and Prof. Crowley of the Student-Faculty Committee, Messrs. Tom Carulli and Bernie Rhodes were invited to attend as representatives of the Student Bar Association.

The law school’s contract with Mead Data Control, the company that developed and owns Lexis, grants the school extremely preferential rate treatment on the condition that the computer be used only for “educational” purposes. Thus, the committee rendered any “professional” use of the machine by faculty or students illegal. Enforcement of the rule will be made possible through the filing of a “statement of purpose or school affiliation” by each user when he begins his data-search, and by application of a traditional, common-law honor system. Fordham may only use its Lexis machine during certain non-peak hours of the day. During these operational hours, certain periods have been set aside for use by faculty only, or by student organizations (defined as including only Law Review, Urban Law Journal, International Law Journal, Moot Court Board and school moot court teams).

Kaufman Teams Chosen

After lengthy deliberations and arduous interviewing sessions, the Moot Court Board has selected six students to represent Fordham in this Spring’s new, expanded Irving Kaufman Moot Court Competition.

Prior to this event, the Kaufman competition was strictly an intra-school event. In past years, it has also been a proving ground for students wishing to try out for the national team. Last year, this requirement was eliminated so that third year students could participate.

This year, the Kaufman competition has taken a further step towards becoming a national event. The Moot Court Board extended invitations to participate to many law schools on the Eastern Seaboard. As a result, a total of 18 schools will be sending teams to Fordham to compete this Spring, many of them being from the Second Circuit area, including Yale, Cornell, Georgetown, Penn, U. of Chicago, Northeastern, Ohio, and most of the New York metropolitan law schools.

Moot Court Board chief Ed Burke was extremely pleased with the expansion. “The response from other schools was better than we had hoped. I think it’s on the road to becoming a major competition.”

Student interest in the competition was so great that Fordham exercised its option to have two teams in the competition rather than one. One team consists of Karen Hymowitz (Best Speaker, Wormser competition), George Richardson (Best Speaker, (cont’d on p. 7)}
Candidate for President

On March 5-7, students will be voting for the SBA executive committee they feel will best represent their interests. As a candidate for president, I think it is necessary to present my qualifications, experience and intentions for that office.

I graduated from West Point in 1972 and worked for five years in a variety of management and leadership positions prior to attending Fordham.

My name is Tom Carulli, and I am currently vice president of the bar association. I have served on a number of student committees, most recently on the ad hoc committee for the implementation of Lexis. Furthermore, be it running tangs or nursing the xerox machines, I believe I have demonstrated the willingness to expend the time and personal attention that will be necessary if we are to have an SBA that does more than promise results. I intend to be a full time president and feel I am the best qualified to assume the responsibilities of the job.

Beyond internal organizations, information flowing to and from the SBA is extremely important. The president cannot function in a vacuum, pursuing only personally perceived notions of student problems. To encourage maximum student input you need a visible, active president, with established office hours and a willingness to listen. My job will be to reflect your views, not just further mine. Furthermore, the newspaper must be revitalized, to provide timely information to all students.

As a law student is not a popular contest. Funds should be awarded by a standardized procedure. All students who find the time to pursue outside endeavors should be encouraged. The S.B.A. must be open to all its members, not only to those who know the ringleaders. As treasurer of the S.B.A., I will inform the entire student body of the means to procure funds for their groups. I guarantee that these financial allotments will be made in the most objective manner possible.

Candidate for Secretary

Campaign promises are probably starting to fall on you as the elections draw closer. This will be brief; because I have no promises to make. Rather, I ask for your vote on the basis of my experience and my record.

I've worked with the S.B.A. both as president of IE and as an Executive Board member. As a class officer, I worked with students and professors — and went straight to the Dean when necessary — to solve class problems. Through my efforts, the IE exam schedule was changed last year to correct inequities in study and preparation time.

Last year, no one wanted the job of S.B.A. secretary. I took that job, and since then I've never refused an opportunity to work on behalf of Fordham Law students. I've cleaned lockers, checked coats at Dean's Day, poured champagne at Commencement, and talked additional discount tickets out of Cinema 5. On another level, I am now in contact with the Council on Wage and Price Stability to determine what action can be taken regarding Fordham's inflationary tuition increase.

Sometimes, however, opportunities to work for Fordham will not be offered to me, or to other S.B.A. members. That's why I'm running again — because I believe teamwork coupled with experience can make the S.B.A. a more effective student voice. Cooperation and a willingness to work together can make a difference, and I'd like an opportunity to prove that that approach can work.

There's no glory and no free tuition for the S.B.A. Secretary, but I'd still like your vote for the job. And don't think your vote can't make a difference. Two years ago, the secretary's race was decided by five votes. If the margin this year is just one vote, I'd like to be the candidate with the deciding vote.

Take a moment on March 6th, 7th, or 8th to vote for a candidate who knows the job and wants it anyway — Jude Symanski for S.B.A. Secretary.

— Bernie Rhodes

Candidate for Treasurer

Treasurer serves a two-fold purpose: 1) to manage the finances of the Student Bar Association and, 2) to represent the student body as a member of the executive board.

1) This past year I served on the S.B.A. class president of IA. During these four months I was dismayed and ashamed of the procedures in which the S.B.A. awarded funds. Three or four members of an interest group would come before the organization and scream for money. The friendlier they were with the representatives, the more they were awarded.
Patterson, Emmons, Sullivan & Lonergan

Candidate for President

When Isaac Newton came up with the Law of Inertia I'm sure he had the current executive board of the SBA in mind. What better proof is there that bodies at rest tend to stay at rest?

To date, Mr. Carulli's speeches have left me somewhat slack-jawed. He points with pride to the fact that the Administration agreed to listen to his ideas about the use of the LEXIS. Whoopee! Where was he when the tuition increase was decided on or the Placement Office was being financially starved? As best as I can determine, he's basing his campaign on the following line of reasoning, to wit: This year's SBA was a miserable failure (boo) - but he is the current Vice President of the executive committee (yeah) - but don't blame him for any failures since it wasn't his job to try to correct any shortcomings (boo or yeah, I can't tell) - but he's decided that next year he'll turn over a new leaf and do something about the failures (yeah).

Interesting.

I, and the others on my ticket, don't feel we have to apologize for or explain away our past year on the SBA. I didn't feel that I had to sit around and wait to be elected Grand Poobah before I started producing. Immediately after my election as 2A President, I personally conceived, planned and brought to fruition the Boat Ride. I met and worked with groups that seemed to need some sort of shot in the arm to get moving. I kicked and screamed when I realized how grossly underfinanced the Placement Office is. I have since located what could be a goldmine of funds for that office - the Alumni Committee.

And if you think doing these things was not my job you're damn right.

I am now ready to use that same type of determination and drive to accomplish what I see as larger, even more ambitious projects next year.

Bob Emmons and I know what people in the University hierarchy to go to when we want to do a little horse-trading. That's more important, we know who to avoid. This is due in large part to Bob's experience as student body president at Fordham under Fordham University, where, through my terms as CLC Student Body President and a student member of the University Board of Trustees, I have acquired the knowledge and, critically, the contacts to get our ticket's ideas before University decision makers.

Bob Patterson has worked tirelessly all year in making SBA functions go. With his dedication and energy, and my knowledge of the University channels, and the help of our two active freshmen counterparts, Mike and Marybeth, we promise that the administration and faculty of the university will learn about our grievances by sources other than informal "grapevines." We will work to get a proper proportion of tuition monies for the understaffed and under-funded Placement Office and the improvement of the facilities, primarily the library, for more student input in the tenure process, and an elimination of an unfair class ranking system, among other things.

I am going to vote for Bob, Mike, Marybeth and myself, Bob Emmons, a team willing to work together to make this law school a little bit better for all concerned. Thank you.

Mike Lonergan

Candidate for Treasurer

I have been told that I am running for a thankless task. If I were interested in being thanked I wouldn't run for the office of Treasurer of the SBA. I am interested in the task, and for that reason, I ask for your vote in the upcoming elections.

The SBA is able-bodied but its reflexes are a little slow. It needs conditioning. It needs to react as quickly and creatively to breaking issues, e.g. tuition increases, as it responds ably and diligently to perennial ones, e.g. budget proposals. A "trim" SBA will make sure that the book is such that that of winning a national moot court competition, gets wider coverage than a blurb in the New York Law Journal. A "trim" SBA will dismantle committees that do not meet, because non-functioning committees only enhance the impression that the SBA is ineffective. A "trim" SBA would have time to question, not just the amount of the budget for the student newspaper, but the need for a student newspaper, and time perhaps to recommend a newspaper that contains articles on topics of current interest in the law (the research of first year students on their briefs could generate an Advocate's worth of provocative reading). The task, then, is to make the SBA useful, and the SBA will be useful if it inspires use.

In the past year I have enjoyed working as the representative of 1E, and take this opportunity to thank my classmates for electing me. There is, you see, some measure of 1E, thanks in student government — it just flows in the other direction.

Mike Lonergan
The Advocate

LOOKING BACK FROM UNDER
The Outgoing President Assesses The Past Year

by Florence M. Fass

I can remember the times when I could sit anonymously in the library of the Women's Room contemplating corporations or term-end constipations. I look forward to them again. After March 7th, the new SBA administration will take office.

I have tried to briefly note the relative successes and failures of my administration. I have also taken the opportunity to give credit where it is due. Inevitably there will be disagreement, but that's politics!

SUCCEEDS
Brown Bag Seminars on Notetaking and Exam Writing: nearly 200 day and evening students attended. Thanks to the concern of Georgine Vairo, Bob Cockrean, Bonnie Greaves, John Bradley, Sue Glover, Ted Neudstadt, Mark Gamell, Susan Morehouse and Julian Prager.

SBA Program: expanded this year to include football tournament, volleyball and dance. Thanks to the tireless efforts of Dick Prentice, as well as Bob Patterson and Gwenyth Murphy.

Booze Cruise and Copa: nearly 800 students turned out for these off-campus extravaganzas. Thanks to the energy and imagination of Bob Patterson.

Tangs: expanded and improved. Thanks to John Leo, Jim Tynion, Tom Carulli and Bob Emmons.

Balancing the Books: a final accounting and consolidation of three separate and indistinguishable banking accounts and complete financial reports on a monthly basis. Thanks to the relentless and professional achievements of Peter Altieri.

Xeroring and Lexing: the continued maintenance of the abominable machines and the inclusion of student opinion on Lexxus priorities. Thanks to the constancy of Tom Carulli.

Orientation: an unbelievable task completed in the wake of school administration chaos! Thanks to the second year representatives and student volunteers Ben Tucker, Steve Kallas, Tim Reynolds, and others whom I have overlooked. (This group can also take credit for the Student Advisor Program).

Speaker's Forum: revitalized after a year of inactivity. Thanks to the coordinating efforts of Sharon Souther.

Placement Office Relations: a formal stand taken on the abusive class ranking policies and an expansion of introduction of students to alumni through alumni chapter activities. Thanks to the determination of Laurie Williamson and the entire Placement Committee working with Elizabeth Wall.

Tuition Issue: the compilation of a self-study conducted by students. This report will be offered to supplement that of the faculty and form the basis of our formal protest to Rose Hill on the tuition increase. Thanks to the concern and follow through of Sharon Souther, Ruth Ansell, Andy Altschein, Bernie Rhodes, Pat Murphy, Bob Emmons and all those who showed up at the general meeting last month.

FAILURES
Exam and Directory Distribution: "The best laid plans ..." So no thanks to People's Copy Center for delays and shoddy workmanship. (Truth is an absolute defense!)

Student Newspaper: need it be said?

Constitutional Revision: I am not convinced that we have succeeded in making a timely demonstration of strength and direction on such issues as curriculum reform and tenure. However, our concerns and recommendations have been formally submitted to the administration and it is hoped that the next administration will effectively follow through.

Winter Chicken-Fat Shake-off!
The SBA, in association with Campus Ministries, is sponsoring a free Dance Class for Fordham Law students who have become victims of corporate spread. First year student Gwyneth MacKenzie; Murphy, who teaches the class every Wednesday at 3:30 in Lowenstein Chapel, says that endless hours of slouching and munching Natural Fun Foods can all be swept away. No previous dance experience necessary.

Law Women Announce First Seminar
Fordham Law Women have planned a "panel and lively discussion" on the subject of "Practicing Law and Planning Parenthood." Discussion will focus on dealing with the problems professional women face in choosing what part a family will play in their lives. The panel will include First Year Judge Myriam Altman, Prof. Marie Marcus, and three practicing attorneys, two of whom are married to each other. March 21st from 4-6 PM in the Moot Courtroom.

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Contact: Mark Gamell Charlene Wilkinson
Advocate Office — Room 048A

Editorial

WILL THE NEW SBA MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Contrary to past custom, The Advocate will not endorse any candidates in this year's school election. Any such endorsement would be non-productive and unnecessary, and could only serve to slant the views of the gullible while arousing the suspicions of the paranoid. Neither will this editorial present the banal "why vote" argument, which is all too typical of the gallow-cynicism to which we have all become familiar victims in this school.

We are presented with a marvelous choice in this year's election. For the first time in recent memory, both candidates for President have the spark of creativity, the energy to get things done, and a neo-radicalist approach to the school's two major problems: apathy and lethargy. Nowhere is this more evident than in the heated, abrasive atmosphere of the candidates' speeches last week in classes all over the school. Both sense that there are real issues, real goals to be achieved and real problems to be faced. Both speak of the ineptitude of this year's administration, its endless and faceless committees, and its lack of forceful leadership.

Let us hope that the enthusiasm and energy which both candidates possess will not suffer the same, horrible doom that befell Madam Fass' spirit and drive. Florence was met at every turn with a dull, disinterested, barely-alive student body. They came to class, they took notes, they went home. In between, they occasionally bitched. With only a few, special exceptions, they contributed nothing to the school save the quarters they dropped in the xerox or pin-ball machines. Trying to move a huge dead-weight of students turned out for these off-campus extravaganzas. Thanks to the energy and imagination of Bob Patterson.

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Contact: Mark Gamell Charlene Wilkinson
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ELIZABETH WALTERS ON JOB HUNTING

He or she who gets hired
is the one who
Who can do that job best;
But, the one who
The most about
How to get hired
Richard Nelson Bolles
What Color Is Your Parchment?
by Elizabeth P. Walters

Securing a job is necessarily a very individual task. Self-evaluation should be the first part of your job hunting and resume writing process. You may well also prove to be the most difficult. However, you will not be in a position to prepare a resume, send it to prospective employers or go on interviews until you have reached some basic understanding of what kind of job you want and can get.

A realistic appraisal of your strengths and weaknesses will leave you in a position to prepare the best possible resume and to make the strongest possible case for yourself in interviewing with prospective employers. As in preparing a case for trial, it is only when you have identified your strong and weak points that you can be prepared to emphasize the latter. DFaft a resume, make an appointment to see me to finalize your interviewing which was included in your

Placement Office Procedures package at the beginning of this fall term for detailed information on interviewing. I would like to note and offer advice on two problem areas students have brought to my attention. The first is the closing of the interview. The problem is compounded if not handled properly because the worst part of the job hunt is the wait after the interview. (I will tell you more about the consequences of this when the next communication at the end of the interview. Do this when you are asked if you have any further questions. This is a signal by the interviewer that the interview is over. You must ask at this time (if you have no further questions) when you may contact them from whether or not you call them?

The second problem area is discrimination during interviews. This is one time we see hybrids in interviewers—excellent people who treat you properly and with respect. At other times we see the “Confronters,” the “Information Traders,” the “Shoot the Bull” layer, and the interviewer who are wholly inexperienced in dealing with anyone, especially minority and women students. These interviewers are short on tact, and somehow, may act stupidly. None of that is by way of excuse for the offensive questions that sometimes may be asked. It is therefore suggested that you are prepared to handle some for evidence of tactlessness on their part through with hope that it will not appear. It would be in your best interest to get angry at the interviewer but answer with a quiet and polite rebuff which will be more effective.

Secondly, the Placement Office would like to ascertain how widespread this problem is. Please read the policy below and if any current student feels they have grounds to make a complaint concerning a violation of the policy by any prospective employer make an appointment with me and submit a typed written complaint including a comprehensive statement of the facts.

Fordham Law School Placement Office and the National Association for Law Placement are committed to ending discriminatory practices, based upon sex, age, diability, race, color, religious creed or national origin, in the interviewing and they have for their students and alumni. It is expected that employers will abide by appropriate Federal and State laws and take positive steps to assure that no such discrimination occurs in hiring, promotion, compensation or work assignment. The Law School will review all placement services only to those employers who are committed to practices consistent with this policy.

Through your feedback concerning this issue, the Placement Committee will be able to see whether it is
Patterson Statement...
(cont'd from p. 2)
plain fact, of course, is that no serious
law student has the time to run such a
complex operation. It's naive to think
otherwise. What can be established,
however, is the printing of simple but
informative news sheets on the work
of the SBA and other organizations.
This is the direction we should be mov-
ing into.

There is an excellent report, filed
by some of the real unsung heroes of
this year's SBA. These people studied
the running system in school and have
determined that it should be abolished
— an idea, surprisingly enough, that
was favorably received by many of the
Faculty. We can't afford to let propos-
als like this go down the drain while
the executive board rambles on about
whose job it is to get moving. It's no
wonder excellent, productive workers
like those who compiled this report get
disgusted and give up.

I feel like a dog looking in a
butcher shop window. My team —
Patterson — Emmons — Longergan —
Sullivan — is dying to get moving.
But we can't unless you give us your
O.K. The current executive board, of
which my opponent and his running
mate for secretary are members, has
had their chance. Now give us ours.
We won't let you down.
— Bob Patterson

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Labor Law 3
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Carulli Statement...
(cont'd from p. 2)

The Coalition of Professional Students for Abortion Rights was in the lobby last week, encouraging students to write
to State Sen. John Marchi (Chairman — State Finance Committee) and Assembly Speaker Stanley Fink to protest
threatened fund reductions for abortion programs. The "pro-choice" lobby was headed by Joanne Dwyer and Lorena
Davitt here at Fordham.

CONGRATS
To the winners of this year's Wormser
Moot Court Competition:
Karen Hymowitz — Best Speaker
Nicholas Giuliani and Charles Bergamo
— Best Brief

To Albert Bissmeyer, Fordham Law
71, upon being made vice-president
for brand and promotion of Phillip
Morris, U.S.A.

The Advocate March 5, 1979
LEXIS RULES FAVOR STUDENTS

(documented on p. 1)

Board, under the strong leadership of the president, pursued a policy of be nice to them and they will be nice to you. My philosophy of life is, be nice to them and they will do nothing for you.

Four students are chosen to represent the entire student body. Positive change does not come from peaceful pandering; it comes form intelligent, strategic debate. I very rarely agree with the Administration, the faculty or the present S.B.A. This school needs a "live" ease and controversy.

—Andrew Albstein

DOCUMENT ANALYSIS EVENING POSITIONS

Several Full-Time Temporary Positions available for 3 to 6 month durations to analyze and abstract written information and prepare it for entry into a legally oriented computerized information processing system.

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Must have excellent analytical and reading skills, and be able to work accurately with detail.

Call for Interview

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RULES

FAVOR

STUDENTS

(documented on p. 1)

court teams) only. However, at all other times, and during reserved periods when the machine is not being used by one of the priority groups, the computer is open to use by any member of the student body fulfilling the requirements for use. The modest apportionment of time reserved for "priority groups" may be traced to the student representation on the committee, which convinced the committee that "reservation of priority periods... would likely be viewed by the general student body as being elitist and unfair."

Experience at other law schools has shown that the reservation of time for priority groups becomes less and less necessary as the initial novelty, or "new toy", appeal of the Lexis machine wears off. The committee noted that it might, therefore, be possible to further relax time restrictions in the near future.

The major restriction upon student use of the machine is that first year students will be prohibited from using it, although they may receive Lexis training during their first year as a supplement to their legal writing course. The committee felt that "Lexis is too readily used as a toy or a crutch. Since the First Year students are being trained in traditional legal research techniques, the Committee believes that Lexis training would detrimentally divert them from learning and sharpening their research skills."

Of course, this means that Lexis may not be used in the research of the first year legal writing memo or brief.

Second, Third or Fourth Year students who receive Lexis training will probably find it useful in preparing term papers, preparing for advocacy courses, or pursuing a legal question of interest. Use connected with intra-school moot court competitions is not specifically dealt with in the report.

Student training for Lexis is optional, and will be conducted by the library staff and by some students who are already skilled at Lexis use. Third year day and fourth year evening students will be given priority in training sessions this term.

For those who wonder what all the fuss is about, Lexis is a computerized legal research system utilizing a word-search rather than a topic search format. Every decision or opinion placed in the Lexis library is broken down into its individual words, and these words are then given an "address" of sorts. The researcher must feed the computer words which he feels would be contained in an opinion on point, and the computer prints out the citations, relevant textual portions, or full bodies, of the opinions containing those words. Obviously, Lexis is light years away from the West Key Digest system. But as one partner in a Wall Street firm recently said, "I'm not sure whether it's light years ahead or behind."
Of all first-time takers from all New York law schools, an extraordinary 89% of those who took the Marino course passed the tough New York Bar Exam. Out-of-staters from ABA accredited schools did almost as well; for example, graduates from Boston University passed 100% (8 of 8); Catholic University, 89% (8 of 9); John Marshall, 100% (7 of 7); University of Toledo, 100% (7 of 7); Vermont Law School, 83% (5 of 6); Seton Hall 89% (8 of 9).

In 1978 Marino was the best — in 1979, with the integration of Josephson BRC Law Summaries and some superb lecturers we will be even better.

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   First and second year enrollees will be entitled to at least a 10% discount on all CES books and programs, including Sum & Substance books and tapes, and the special LAW (Law Analysis Workshops) courses for first year students.

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   Listen on cassette to any bar lecture of your choice in Marino-Josephson/BRC office.

5. FREE TRANSFERABILITY
   Your BRC enrollment can be transferred to any other BRC course in a different state.