



Chancellor & Dean Search Committee Meeting Open Session Minutes

University of California College of the Law, San Francisco
February 27, 2026

University of California College of the Law, San Francisco, Cotchett Law Center, 333 Golden Gate Ave., Room 309, San Francisco, CA 94102. Participants and members of the public were also able to join the open session via the web link or dial-in numbers listed in the public notice of this meeting linked here:

<https://www.uclawsf.edu/our-story/board-of-directors/board-meeting-notice-agendas-and-materials/>.

1. Roll Call

The Chair called the meeting to order at 11:31 am. Chair Power served as Secretary pro tem and called the roll.

Committee Members Present

Director Courtney Greene Power, Chair

Director Albert Zecher

Director Andrew Houston (joined at 11:33)

Director Joshua Perttula

Professor Ben Depoorter, Vice Chair (joined at 11:32)

Professor Gail Silverstein

Professor Jodi Short

Staff Participating

Director of Human Resources Lesley Bello

General Counsel & Secretary John DiPaolo

Legal & Executive Assistant Yleana Escalante

Others Participating

Operations Manager Jeff Herrera

Technical and User Support Specialist Lynn Singleton

Lead Organizer AFSCME 3299 Nicolas Monteiro

2. Public Comment

The Chair invited public comment.

Jeff Herrera said he is the Operations Manager for the Law Library in the IT department and also serves as a bargaining team member for AFSCME 3299. He highlighted several

priorities for the committee. First, he emphasized the importance of diversity and inclusion, in the candidate pool. Second, he stressed academic freedom, noting that potential candidates should support faculty and students in their work without unreasonable interference or fear of institutional or political reprisals. Third, he raised the need for stakeholder input, pointing out that the process should include methods for gathering feedback from campus constituents, including faculty, staff, and students, noting that staff have been excluded as there is not a single staff member on the committee. Finally, he focused on labor relations, stating that the candidate should have extensive experience with formal, unionized interactions between management and employees. He pointed out that under Dean Faigman's leadership, the union had been out of contract for three years during the last campaign and nearly two years now, emphasizing the need for a chancellor who will settle contracts with living wages for staff.

Lynn Singleton said he has given UC Law sixteen years of his life, first as a public safety officer and now as a computer support specialist. Before joining UC Law, he served on the Daly City Police Department, an experience that showed him how power and authority play out in people's lives and taught him to recognize when something isn't right. He said that he spoke not just for himself, but for the people who show up every day to keep the university running. He criticized the current Chancellor, saying leadership cannot be called a success while workers earn poverty wages, face illegal layoffs, and families are forced to choose between paying rent and buying groceries. He insisted that staff deserve dignity and respect, and that they are owed thousands of dollars in back pay, which they intend to collect. Mr. Singleton described staff as the foundation of the institution, not beneath it. He shared his personal struggle during years of isolation and a cancer diagnosis, he explained that returning to work against his doctor's orders was necessary because home and support was here with his colleagues. Mr. Singleton said he is postponing two surgeries because he cannot afford to step away from this fight and warned that they will not remain silent while executives exploit the people who keep the university alive. He made it clear that patience should not be mistaken for weakness, silence should not be mistaken for acceptance, and that staff will not allow years to pass while contracts remain unsettled.

Nicolas Montero, an AFSCME 3299 staff member, said that during fact-finding last year, they highlighted that ten years ago, a third of the staff represented by the union were considered moderate income, meaning two-thirds were low income. Under Dean Faigman's leadership, he noted, all but one member are now considered low-income. He added that UC Law does not pay its staff a San Francisco living wage, and the committee should seek a chancellor who believes in paying staff a living wage. Mr. Montero emphasized that everyone should earn a living wage and demanded that the committee find a chancellor who will come to the bargaining table, settle contracts, and ensure staff are not left out of contract for years.

Chair Power thanked them for their participation. She assured that staff would be included in the process, noting that the committee had an agenda item to discuss how to engage with various constituencies, including both represented and non-represented staff. She emphasized that while staff had not yet been directly contacted, the committee was starting the process and would be gathering input from them as part of the conversation.

Mr. Monteiro responded by pointing out that there was not a single staff member on the committee, saying the board of directors had already failed staff by excluding them. Chair Power explained that the committee's composition is determined by the bylaws but reaffirmed that they plan to involve staff, students, and other constituencies in gathering input. When Monteiro noted that bylaws could be updated to include staff, she acknowledged the feedback and said the committee would continue consulting with staff to refine the process.

3. Action Item: Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Motion:

The Chair moved to approve the meeting minutes from the meetings held on January 23, 2026 and February 20, 2026. Motion made and seconded. Motion carried.

The Committee entered closed session at 11:43 a.m. pursuant to Education Code Section 92032(b)(7). Only Board members and authorized participants are permitted to attend.

The Chair reconvened the open session at 12:30 p.m.

Chair Power reported that during the closed session, the Committee approved the minutes from January 23, 2026 and February 20, 2026 closed session meetings.

4. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 12:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Courtney Greene Power, Secretary pro tem