



Association of American Law Schools

**AGENDA  
ITEM**

December 16, 2011

*President*  
**Michael A. Olivas**  
University of Houston

**Memorandum 11-16**

*President-elect*  
**Lauren K. Robel**  
Indiana University-  
Bloomington

To: Deans of Member Law Schools and  
Members of the House of Representatives

From: Susan Westerberg Prager, Executive Director 

*Immediate Past President*  
**H. Reese Hansen**  
Brigham Young University

Subject: School Recommended for Admission to Membership in the  
Association: **Earle Mack School of Law at Drexel University**

*Serving through 2011*  
**Katharine T. Bartlett**  
Duke University

The Executive Committee has found that the **Earle Mack School of Law at Drexel University** has met, and is capable of continuing to fulfill the requirements of membership in the Association as stated in the Bylaws and Executive Committee Regulations. The Executive Committee therefore recommends that the Earle Mack School of Law be admitted to membership in the Association.

**Daniel B. Rodriguez**  
The University of Texas

*Serving through 2012*  
**Dorothy Andrea Brown**  
Emory University

This item has been placed on the agenda of the first meeting of the House of Representatives, which is to be held on Thursday, January 5, 2012, beginning at 5:15 pm during the Annual Meeting in Washington, DC.

**Ann C. Shalleck**  
American University

*Serving through 2013*  
**Pat K. Chew**  
University of Pittsburgh

In recommending that the Earle Mack School of Law at Drexel University be admitted to membership in the Association, the Executive Committee considered the report of the site team, including Professor Sarah K. Wiant, Washington & Lee University School of Law, Chair; Professor Peter C. Alexander, The John Marshall Law School; Professor Mary Kay Kane, University of California Hastings College of the Law; Professor Robin Paul Malloy, Syracuse University College of Law; and Dean Athornia Steele, Nova Southeastern University Law School. It also considered the affirmative recommendation of the Membership Review Committee and the correspondence and statements before it of President John Fry, Dean Roger Dennis and Senior Associate Dean Daniel Filler.

**Paul Marcus**  
College of William and Mary

*Executive Director*  
*Chief Executive Officer*  
**Susan Westerberg Prager**

*Managing Director*  
**Jane M. La Barbera**

Drexel University is a major research university with over 23,000 undergraduate and graduate students, 13 colleges and schools, and a six-acre main campus in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The Earle Mack School of Law at Drexel University hired its first faculty and staff to begin work in academic year 2005-2006; Roger Dennis became dean effective May 2007. The school received final approval from the ABA in 2011. The fall 2011 class at the law school is comprised of 450 students. There are 22 tenure and tenure-track faculty and seven long-term contract faculty. The school has a \$15 million dollar endowment.

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The strong support and commitment of the University has been a key factor in the Earle Mack School of Law's ability to establish itself very quickly and to make rapid progress in its early years. Equally important in the law school's development was the recruitment of an experienced and accomplished core faculty of teacher-scholars interested in the potential of a new institution and the choices they made in adding to their ranks. The school defines itself as one that pursues innovation in teaching and program and at the same time demonstrates strong scholarly values. The Executive Committee also noted that faculty members have been significantly involved in governance from the outset and this culture should serve the law school well in numerous ways in the future.

The Executive Committee notes the achievements of the Earle Mack School of Law at Drexel University and looks forward to the contributions that the faculty will make to the work of the Association.

cc: AALS Executive Committee  
Membership Review Committee  
Deans of Non-Member Fee Paid Law Schools