

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
UNIVERSITY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

UDC Resolution 2015 -19

SUBJECT: UDC David A. Clarke School of Law Tenure Approval for Professor Debra Cohen

WHEREAS, the UDC-DCSL Faculty Evaluation and Retention Committee (FERC) appointed a subcommittee to prepare a report and make a recommendation to FERC regarding the tenure application for Professor Debra Cohen; and

WHEREAS, the UDC-DCSL faculty, after careful consideration, voted unanimously to adopt the recommendation of the subcommittee on March 19, 2015, to recommend to Dean Shelley Broderick that Professor Cohen, who joined the faculty as a Visiting Professor in 2012 teaching Contracts I and II to first-year students and later (2014) taking on the dual role as Director of the Academic Success Program, be offered a permanent position on the law faculty with the rank of full professor with continuous tenure; and

WHEREAS, the tenure standard at UDC David A. Clarke School of Law states that “[a]” members of the faculty have as their primary responsibilities teaching and contributing to the growth and understanding of the law,” and secondary responsibilities under the standard require that the applicant for tenure have successfully participated in and conducted “other school of law activities...necessary to the successful functioning and harmony of the institution...and other activities...which significantly relate to and advance a faculty member’s academic skills, including work in his or her special field”; and

WHEREAS, the FERC subcommittee conducted a review of Professor Cohen’s teaching, scholarship, and service to the UDC-DCSL and to the legal profession and concluded that Professor Cohen is a teacher whose work has received enthusiastic reviews from students, colleagues, and outside reviewers, whose past experience resulted in the granting of tenure at three previous law schools, and that along with other attributes of good teaching, her scholarly and other writings easily satisfy the criteria for tenure, and that she is an untiring champion for the School of Law, for the legal profession, and for justice; and

WHEREAS, Dean Broderick independently evaluated Professor Cohen’s teaching, scholarship, and service, and concurred in writing with FERC’s recommendation; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to 8B DCMR §1470, the Dean, the Acting Provost and the Interim President have affirmed the recommendation of tenure for Professor Cohen and the Interim President has forwarded the recommendation for tenure to the Board of Trustees;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia approves the award of tenure to Professor Debra Cohen of the UDC David A. Clarke School of Law.

Submitted by the Academic and Student Affairs Committee

June 29, 2015

Approved by the Board of Trustees

July 14, 2015

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Elaine A. Crider", written over a horizontal line.

Elaine A. Crider
Chairperson of the Board