

NMSU FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES
06 September 2012

1. Call to Order by Chair Munson-McGee at 4:02

2. Recognition Guests and Remarks by Provost Wilkins

Provost Wilkins welcomes Senators back. The Provost reports she has started the semester with a list of “Provost Projects” she will be working on and reports on the projects that will most likely impact the Senate. The Provost reported the colleges are at the point where they are working on their academic strategic plans. Ideally these will be done by the end of the academic year. By September 15, the Deans will submit the plan for how the planning process will take place in the whole college. A group of Faculty members acting as the Academic Review Board will be advising her and interacting with the partners that are participating in the review. The Provosts’ office is continuing with a project that is attended to align the learning outcomes for courses taught across the five campuses. Last year, five courses were chosen that are heavily subscribed to by students across the five campuses. A group was working on each of those courses to try and align with students. This will be an ongoing process. The Provosts’ office is also working on recognition of Transfer Students. When students move from campus to campus they aren’t technically transfer students. The office is working on defining what a transfer student is and developing degree maps for student success. Studies in recent years show students succeed at a much higher rate if they are told what steps they need to take semester by semester, up until graduation. Provost Wilkins encouraged the Senators to meet Cornell Menking, the new Associate Provost for International and Border Programs. The Provost was praised for taking Faculty from all departments on a tour of New Mexico. Cooperative Extension was part of that putting it together. The faculty that went felt it was well worth their time and effort to see the state of New Mexico and understand what Cooperative Extension was all about.

3. Approval of Agenda

Chair Munson-McGee called for amendments to the agenda.

- Recognition of Dennis Clason as the Parliamentarian for the meeting.
- Item 6- Report of the Standing Committee Chairs.
 - a. The Standing Committees have not met, and so have no report to give. Item 6 deleted from Agenda
- Item 7: Sustainability Council, Rani Alexander to add a report.
- Item 11: Order of items A & B reversed.
 - b. Faculty Senate Vice-Chair announcements to be followed by Faculty Senate Chair announcements.

Motion to accept was made and moved without opposition.

Chair Munson-McGee requested Dennis Clason as Parliamentarian for today’s meeting. He agreed to serve for the meeting.

Dennis Clason was accepted with no objections.

4. Approval of Minutes from May 04, 2012 Faculty Senate Meeting

A. Minutes not available.

5. Reports of Officers

A. FS Chair, Stuart H. Munson-McGee

- a. New FS Recording Secretary Britney Stout
- b. New Faculty Senate Office in Regents Row, room 530

B. FS Vice Chair, Tim Ketelaar

Ketelaar called attention to Vice Chair report which was distributed earlier. Two items from the report he wanted to bring attention to were

- a. Item 2: Discussion of Possible Changes to the NMSU Academic Misconduct Policy – Vice Chair Ketelaar felt this would result in substantial changes and improvement in the policy. The Senators should expect to see a Proposition appear in the near future. Ketelaar encouraged them to become familiar with current policy. There is already a committee on the campus working on this issue.
- b. Discussion of Possible Changes to NMSU Policy Regarding Regulation of Non-Tenure Track Faculty. Discussions have already started with possible changes to Section 5 of the NMSU Policy Manual. He felt it would be particularly beneficial for College of Arts & Sciences Senators, Non-Tenure Track Faculty, and Community College Faculty to begin looking at the issue.

6. Other Reports

A. Sustainability Council (Alexander)

- a. Rani Alexander reports the Office of Sustainability and review met during the summer. Rani Alexander was the Faculty Senate representative who attended the meetings. The new Council is headed by David Loje. The Council is preparing the AASHE Star Report (Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education). The Council needs more input from the Faculty. They will be requesting information regarding courses and programs that meet the definition of sustainability. They will be contacting Chairs of departments and eventually individuals for input.

B. Working Groups

- a. Compensation, Tim Ketelaar, Chair

A thank you was made to Chair Munson-McGee for introducing the idea of the working group. A thank you was also made to the members of the Compensation Working Group for its service. The Compensation group accomplished its stated mission. A copy of the report was placed on the Faculty Senate website. A desire was expressed for the next Senate chair to endorse the group to continue working on this matter. The need to solicit input and support of the entire Faculty Senate was emphasized. Questions were raised regarding the long term strategy for compensation. Recommendations for moving forward were requested.

7. New Business

A. **Proposition 01-12/13:** Memorial on the Proposed NMERB Recommendations In Support of the Stakeholder Consensus Proposal to the New Mexico Educational Retirement Board (NMERB) (Larry Blank, COB; Gary Rayson, A&S)

- Assigned to the Long Range Planning Committee, meeting at 4 PM on Thursday,
- Dr. Blank proposed this be moved to Emergency Legislation
- Moved and Passed

B. **Proposition 02-12/13:** Proposal to Change the Name of “Athletic Training Education” program to “Athletic Training” (Mikaela Boham, ED; Debra Rhein, ED)

- The word “Education” needs to be removed in order to be compliant with the Accrediting Body.

- Assigned to the Scholastic Affairs Committee, meeting at 4 PM on Tuesday, September 18th.

C. **Proposition 03-12/13:** A Proposal to add a PhD degree program in Kinesiology (Debra Rhein, ED; Mikaela Boham, ED; Gary Rayson, A&S).

- This proposition has a tremendous amount of support, and several letters of support documenting this fact. The PhD program would be a unique degree that would not compete with UNM. There are many on campus programs that would also benefit from the change.
- Assigned to the Faculty Affairs Committee, meeting at 4 PM on Tuesday, September 11th

8. Unfinished Business

A. **Proposition 01-12/13:** Memorial on the Proposed NMERB Recommendations In Support of the Stakeholder Consensus Proposal to the New Mexico Educational Retirement Board (NMERB) (Larry Blank, COB; Gary Rayson, A&S)

Dr. Blank has been monitoring the Retirement Board throughout the summer months. They met from April-July and reached a consensus proposal that was moved to the Board. The Board considered the proposal in August. It was decided during that meeting to table the proposal for future consideration. The changes made were

- Employee contribution rate increases to 10.7% which would be phased in through 2015.
- Minimum retirement age. Currently there is no minimum retirement age built into the system. The change would be only for new hires, everyone else will be grandfathered in. For new hires it would be age 55.
- Cost of living adjustment for new hires would begin at age 67.

This proposal is a memorial to help the Senate encourage the ERB to vote and accept this stakeholder consensus proposal. Dr. Blank feels it is important that the ERB hear from NMSU Faculty. He has been in contact with the President of the UNM Faculty Senate who assured him she would chair a draft of this memorial and take it to the appropriate committee within the UNM Faculty Senate. It is his feeling that if NMSU and UNM Faculty speak their support towards this proposal, it may carry additional weight once it comes up for a vote.

Motion to accept passed.

9. Other Business

A. A memorial requesting a change in policy regarding graduate assistant pay schedule. (Gary Rayson, A&S).

- Asking if the Faculty Senate supports investigating and pursue discussions with the URC, Grad Council, UTC, ADAC, and ADC for review, revision, and approval.
- The problem being addressed is Graduate Assistants wait about a month before being paid. This causes them unnecessary hardship.

Motion to accept passed.

B. A resolution changing the number of credit hours required for full time status of graduate students. (Gary Rayson, A&S).

- Asking for Senate support to bring requirements in line with other institutions.

Motion to accept passed.

C. Call(s) for Faculty Senate representatives to NMSU committees, task forces, etc.

- One (1) for the ASNMSU Faculty Policy Board for Intramurals
- Campus Planning Committee
- Graduate Council

d. University Outcomes Assessment Council
Anyone interested in serving was asked to contact the next Faculty Senate Chair.

11. Announcements

A. Faculty Senate Vice Chair (Ketelaar)

- a. Update on the election of senators. Currently of the 10 electing groups, 3 need to conduct elections. 5 Senator slots still need to be filled.

B. Faculty Senate Chair (Munson-McGee)

Reminder of post meeting activities; election of new Faculty Senate Vice-Chair

Standing Committees to elect their chairs

- a. Results of FGRB membership election
- b. Results of election to amend the FS Constitution to allow electronic voting
- c. Results of election to select next FS Chair

C. Others

B. Adjournment

POST-MEETING ACTIVITIES:

1. CoC caucus and elect new Faculty Senate Vice Chair, report results to FS Chair
2. Standing Committees caucus and elect chairs of the standing committee (who also serve as ex-officio members of the CoC)