

MINUTES OF THE 3RD MEETING OF THE NMSU FACULTY SENATE
FACULTY SENATE CHAMBERS, GARCIA ANNEX
November 5, 2009

Members Present: Erickson (Chair), Andersen (Vice Chair), Bailey, Baptiste, Bloomquist, Bosman, Brown, Buckholz, Bugbee, de Boyrie, Chaiken, Dormody, Erben, Fitzpatrick, González, Hampton, Hardee, Huang, Hubbell, Huttlinger, Knight, MacGregor-Mendoza, McCormick, McNeel, Morrell, Murrell, K. Oliver, R. Oliver, Oretskin, Rayson, Reyes, Schultz, Stanford, Storm, St. Hilaire, Teich, Thompson, Weisiger, Wojahn.

Members Absent: Amato, Baker, Blank, Dean, Holtzman, Idriss, Jimenez, Ketelaar, Kozel, Lopez, Mathis, Montañez, Munson-McGee, Ni, Nishiguchi, Osanloo, Ranade, Rice, Torres, Walker, Whittlesey-Jerome.

Ex Officio Members Present: Titus, Chappell.

Guests: Jennifer Taylor, Senior VP Business/Finance and HR; Joe Pfeiffer, Former Faculty Senate Chair/A & S; Enrico Pontelli, Department Head, Computer Science, A & S; Noel Martinez, ASNMSU Representative to the Faculty Senate; Bobbie Derlin, Assoc VP Student Success/Associate Dean CEL.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Erickson at 4:03 p.m.

2. Jennifer Taylor

Reporting on the recent legislature budget session, Ms. Taylor reported that a bill with a 4% reduction in I&G and a 6 1/2% reduction in RPSP is on the governor's desk awaiting his signature. He is being asked to apply \$260 million in stimulus funds for higher ed but probably he will not. For NMSU this could mean a 10% tuition increase; we had budgeted for a 5% tuition increase. Our concern is FY 2011. We found that whatever happens in 2010 will probably carry forward to 2011 which is probably a permanent 4% reduction in I&G and a 6 ½% reduction in RPSP. We did not qualify for the enrollment increase workload funds but many other schools did. We are working with many state offices on how to allocate the budget cuts; ACES and its outreach departments (CES, etc.) will be hit very hard. This is a trend across the whole country, and although it's bad for us others are in much worse trouble; double-digit tuition increases will apply at many. The BOR wants us to use our philosophy of budget reductions to try to protect our core projects. She said we are looking at reducing costs in such areas as NMSU vehicle use, RFP's have been sent out on employee and retiree health insurance, smarter ways to lower utilities, etc., among others. Furloughs and lay-offs are not expected.

The governor has ordered all capitol spending frozen. We will have to gradually shrink our reliance on state support for several years at least, and are looking at reallocation strategies at all levels. The Arts Complex can proceed with the available funding, then will halt. Ms. Taylor is looking to ask the state to eliminate the tuition credit which would help us a lot. Chair Erickson noted that the NMSU Budget Committee, of which he is a member, is critical to shared governance and works closely with Ms. Taylor.

3. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as distributed.

4. Approval of Minutes of the October 1, 2009, Faculty Senate Meeting

The minutes of the October 1, 2009, were approved as submitted.

5. Reports of Officers

A. Chair's Report

Chair Erickson reviewed his report which was distributed earlier on the FS listserv.
(Appendix A)

B. Vice Chair's Report

Vice Chair Andersen reviewed his report which was distributed on the FS listserv.
(Appendix B)

6. Reports of Standing Committees

A. Faculty Affairs: William Storm, Chair

Chair Storm reported that as no legislation was assigned to his committee they did not meet.

B. Long Range Planning: Stuart Munson-McGee, Chair

Chair Munson-McGee reported that as no legislation was assigned to his committee they did not meet.

C. Scholastic Affairs: Tracey Thompson, Chair

Chair Thompson reported that as no legislation was assigned to her committee they did not meet.

D. University Affairs: Harry Hardee, Chair

Chair Hardee reported that the committee met to study Proposition 04-09/10, Amendment to Section 5.96 Labeled "Searches for Academic Administrators" Policy Concerning Interim Faculty. Chair Erickson and Sponsor Brown were present to explain the details and answer questions. The committee approved the bill unanimously with one abstention. The motion to accept his report was approved.

7. Other Reports

A. Board of Regents Meeting/Presidential Search Progress

Chair Erickson reported on the progress of the Presidential Search Committee resulting in the announcement of the final five candidates. He has received criticism about some of the candidates on the slate, but pointed out that NM state law requires that 5 candidates be named; he wants to see this reduced to 3. Many factors weighed in on arriving at the best final five candidates. He strongly urged the FS and all faculty to submit comments (anonymously if

preferred) on the candidates to him which he will pass on to the BOR, as they have stated that faculty reaction to the candidates is a very important factor in their decision. He and Vice Chair Andersen are considering calling a special FS meeting following the final candidate visit to collect reactions and opinions (but not a vote) to forward to the BOR. He explained state law regarding the strict time lines finalizing the search process.

B. NMSU Diversity Council

Senator Bosman's report on the NMSU Diversity Council's activities was distributed earlier. (Appendix C)

8. New Business

- A. Proposition 05-09/10 Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science (Brown, A & S) was introduced by Sponsor Brown. Dr. Pfeiffer pointed out that this degree does not replace the BS in CS, but is rather intended as an additional degree for non-CS majors to enhance their qualifications in the job market. No additional resources are needed as these courses are already being taught. Assigned to the Scholastic Affairs Committee which will meet 11/17/09. (Appendixes D and E)
- B. Proposition 06-09/10 A Memorial Requesting an Increase in Minimal English Proficiency Standards for Regular Admissions of International Students (Rayson, Hubbell, A & S) was introduced by Co-sponsor Rayson. Assigned to the Faculty Affairs Committee which will meet 11/10/09. (Appendix F)

9. Unfinished Business

- A. Proposition 04-09/10 Amendment to Section 5.96 Labeled "Searches for Academic Administrators" Policy Concerning Interim Faculty (Brown, A & S) was presented by Sponsor Brown. The motion to approve this proposition carried with one nay, no abstentions. (Appendix G)

10. Other Business

Chair Erickson asked the FS for their opinions regarding a special FS meeting immediately after the final candidate's visit to discuss all the candidates, and emphasized the importance of a quorum at such a meeting. The motion to hold this meeting carried, and Chair Erickson said he would announce the date and time.

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Meek
Faculty Senate Recording Secretary

Christopher A. Erickson, Faculty Senate Chair

Date