

Memorandum

TO: NMSU Faculty Senate

FROM: Larry Blank, Faculty Senate Vice-Chair, Larryb@nmsu.edu, 575-642-6148

CC: Stuart Munson-McGee, Faculty Senate Chair
Britney Stout, Faculty Senate Recording Secretary

DATE: October 2, 2014

SUBJECT: Monthly Report (please let me know if you have questions)

ATTACHMENTS: None

I attended two ADAC meetings and one meeting with the President and Provost during the past month. Items of Faculty Senate interest are the following:

1. Continued talk from the administration about possible changes to the P&T policy; in particular, whether there should be more guidance on the external letters. Nothing in writing on this yet as far as I know.
2. Should the GPA calculated for a Ph.D. student include the graduate courses prior to receipt of the masters at NMSU? Students who get their masters elsewhere and enter a NMSU Ph.D. program do not have the masters courses in the GPA.
3. Graduate School is considering a change eliminating 450-499 level courses and only counting 500 and up as graduate courses.
4. We currently allow qualified undergraduate seniors to take up to 6 graduate credits. Graduate School is considering a change to allow up to 12 credits.
5. Graduate School is considering a proposal to eliminate the Graduate Faculty status.
6. Graduate School is developing a process for dismissal of graduate students.
7. Graduate School is considering a change in tuition rates.
8. Graduate School is considering changes in the admissions policy.
9. We may see a new policy proposal on the process to handle student cheating cases.
10. Administration is considering lowering the bachelor credit requirement from 128 to 120.
11. ADAC is working on bylaws, the draft of which lists the FS Vice Chair as a non-voting, ex-officio member. There is a motion pending to recognize the FS Vice Chair as a full, voting member of ADAC.
12. The President has informed us that NMSU is working with a provincial university in China to develop NMSU programs there. No formal proposal at this time.
13. The administration has proposed some changes in the faculty allocation of effort form for the community colleges. These proposed changes have raised significant concerns. The Chair and I have researched the subject. I have spoken to Greg Fant, Deputy Provost, about these concerns and we talked to the President and Provost. For now, the old forms will be used and we will meet with legal counsel and get additional feedback from affected faculty.
14. Faculty Senate Leadership Committee met on Sep. 25th, and eight propositions were assigned to committees.