

Faculty Senate Meeting
January 14, 2009
3:00 pm, Kennedy Lounge - New Mexico Highlands University
Approved
Minutes

1. Call to Order
2. **Present:** David Lobdell, Merritt Helvenston, Julius Harrington, April Kent, Ken Bentson, Maureen Romine, Stella Helvie, Kathy Jenkins, Jim Peters, Merryl Kravitz, April Kent, Orit Tamir, Lee Stauffer,

Absent: David Arguello

Others present: Dr. Rivera
3. Approval of agenda – approved unanimously as amended - new business precedes old business.
4. Approval of minutes – approved unanimously with two changes.
5. Communication from Administration - Dr. Rivera
 - Dr. Rivera circulated Spring Enrollment Counts by Class & Student Type that included a comparison of Spring 2008 and Spring 2009.
 - By and large, Spring 2009 enrollment on the main campus and in the centers is up.
 - On the main campus enrollment of Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, and Senior students is up, while enrollment of Non Degree Undergraduate, Second Bachelor's, Non Degree Graduate, Provisional Graduate, and Regular Graduate is down.
6. Communication from the Chair – Dr. Romine
 - BOR Special Meeting
 - The BOR approved a letter of intent of acquisition of the College of Santa Fe.
 - The BOR approved the purchase of 20 acres of land of the College of Santa Fe.
 - President's Report
 - The School of Social Work moved into Science Annex.
 - Furniture was brought to student housing.
 - NMHU's day in legislature is Feb. 10th.
 - Strategic Planning is going forward – Dr. LaGrange chairs the committee.
 - There will be a reduction in university budget.
 - The Executive Committees of the Collective Bargaining team and the faculty Senate will meet soon.
 - Dr. Jenkins – Collective Bargaining
 - First News Letter was sent today via-email. It addresses collective bargaining, some concerns, and a survey.

- Communication with College of Santa Fe Faculty Council Chair. The Chair thanked Dr. Romine for the information provided. A suggestion was made to have NMHU and CSF Executive Committees meet.
7. Academic Affair – David Lobdell
 - No meeting since last semester
 8. New Business
 - a. Replacement of Vice Chair Dr. Linder who is on Sabbatical – Dr. Helvenston was elected by acclamation as Vice Chair.
 - b. Representative to the Student Senate - there were no volunteers.
 - c. Charges to the athletic Committee:
 - Dr. Bentson’s motion (below) to issue a charge to the Athletic Committee, was 2nd by Dr. Jenkins. The motion passed unanimously.
 - Meet the Athletic Director and his staff to review and evaluate current policies and procedures for following academic progress of student athletes and develop recommendations to monitor academic progress of student athletes in all sports.
 - Dr. Jenkins motion (below) to issue a charge the Athletic Committee was 2nd by Dr. Stauffer. The motion was passed unanimously with one abstention.
 - Initiate a report on individual sports in terms of graduation rate, GPA, and retention rate. And a report on the numbers of instate and out of state athletes being support by each sport.
 9. Old Business:
 - Dr. Romine – the Senate should try to have better of participation of faculty in General Faculty Meetings. She indicated that Dr. Rivera, in an e-mail, indicated that Retained Faculty has the same expectation of continuation as tenure faculty. Dr. Romine asked the Senate to consider granting Retained Faculty and/or other non-tenure/tenure track faculty voting privileges in General Faculty Meetings. A lively discussion ensued (Peter Linder ©):
 - Every university tenure/tenure-track faculty make certain decisions and protect tenure/track.
 - There is the unknown of the College of Santa Fe faculty that in theory will be able to turn decisions of current NMHU faculty around..
 - Retained faculty have the same expectations as tenure/track faculty.
 - Retained faculty do not serve on committees.
 - Many non-tenure track faculty are paid less than tenure/tenure-track faculty – a factor that may influence voting.
 - There is a need to develop a Faculty Handbook for non-tenure track faculty (full time, part time, and per course).

- Dr. Romine asked for input from the departments/schools on the matter.

Respectfully Submitted by

Orit Tamir, Ph.D.
Faculty Senate Secretary