

Faculty Senate Meeting
October 8, 2008
3:00 pm, Kennedy Lounge - New Mexico Highlands University
Minutes - Draft

1. Call to Order
2. **Present:** Orit Tamir, David Lobdell, David Arguello, Peter Linder, Merritt Helvenston, Julius Harrington, Jim Peters, April Kent, Ken Bentson, Maureen Romine, Stella Helvie, Jim Burns.

Absent: Lee Stauffer, Merryl Kravitz

Others present: Dr. Rivera, Mbiatem Ndip Gordon Godlove, and Genevieve Torres.
3. Approval of Agenda: Agenda approved unanimously.
4. Approval of the minutes – minutes approved as corrected – unanimously.
 - Communication from Administration – Dr. Rivera
 - A report to the BOR included a comparison of the number of full time faculty at NMHU. In '06 there were 83 tenure/tenure-track faculty members at NMHU. In '07 the number increased to 87. This year there are 105 tenure/tenure-track faculty members at NMHU.
 - Part/full-time faculty members at NMHU's Centers:
 - Rio Rancho 17 faculty members, 9 of whom are tenure/tenure-track.
 - Santa Fe – 6 faculty members.
 - Farmington has 8 faculty members.
 - Enrollment – a threshold for NMHU was set by the Commission. So far NMHU is 3.9% ahead of the threshold.
 - NMHU is interested in classes that can be delivered during the second 8 weeks of the semester.
 - So far NMHU's enrollment increased by 68 students compared to last year.
5. Communication from the Chair – Dr. Romine
 - The Student Affairs Sub-Committee met on 4 September 2008 with VP Cordova-Romero and Chief Scarborough of the NMHU University Police

to discuss campus security. The committee met again on 10 September 2008 and determined the University Police is implementing pro-active and in-depth programs to limit crime on our campus.

- The actions being implemented are forward thinking and the committee endorses their implementation.
- Campus safety at the centers continues to be the area of most concern. The centers offer many evening courses and security for students and faculty is bothersome.
- The committee recommends: 1.) at centers located on community college campuses, the center directors should work with the administration of the host institutions to ensure personal safety; 2.) at centers not located on campuses of other institutions, the university should explore contracting with private security firm(s) to provide coverage to guarantee safety; and 3.) if adequate security is unavailable at these centers, the university should re-evaluate whether it is prudent to maintain a presence where security is absent.
- A letter has been sent to deans and department chairs about nominating emeritus faculty.
- BOR met on 9/22/08 – Campus police was approved to carry fire arms and tazers.
- The BOR approved a reduction of the number of its subcommittees from 4 to 2. The BOR also approved having only quarterly meeting and, upon need, special meetings.
- The BOR approved the acquisition of the old Las Vegas hospital by NMHU as well as pay increase to the president.
- NCA survey went out and responses from 27 faculty members were received.
- The Faculty Grievance Committee was working on a case that was settled through mediation.

6. Academic Affairs – Dr. Bentson

- Program revisions begin to come through to Academic Affairs.
- The committee discussed the need for guidelines for the submission of proposals for certificate programs.
- Concerns expressed with regard to move of distance education to Sininger.
- The Committee approved Cultural Resource Management certificate program and Vocational Rehabilitation Program.

7. Graduate Students Association - Mbiatem Ndip Gordon Godlove

- The Association asked for help to transfer men's soccer club to a status of NMHU team. The Senate will ask the chair of the Athletic Committee

to examine whether the matter can be considered by the Athletic Committee.

8. Student Senate – Genevieve Torres
 - The Senate finished passing bills and resolutions for clubs and organizations.
 - Due to NMHU’s higher enrollment the Senate needs to add an additional senator.

9. Old Business
 - a. Cheating issues:
 - Departments are for a policy regarding cheating.
 - NMHU needs a policy that clearly spells out details on cheating and consequences for faculty and students. Faculty members need data base on repeated cheaters as well as access to web sites that sell papers to students.
 - Dr. Bentson motioned and Dr. Peters 2nd to charge academic affairs to review and revise the current academic integrity policy; consider the development of data base on repeated cheaters; and, examine the possibility of subscribing to some paid site/s that supply students with papers. The motion passed unanimously

10. New Business
 - a. Report to the BOR - Dr. Romine circulated a copy of her report to the BOA.
 - b. Faculty Handbook revisions were sent to faculty for review. Dr. Linder moved to approve the proposed changes. Dr. Burns 2nd the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
 - c. Strategic Plan - Dr. Romine solicited additions to the president’s ideas. After a short discussion the Senate recommended that the faculty pool for the stirring committee will be composed of one representative from each department + 3 representatives from each school. The recommendations will be sent to department heads and to deans along with Dr. Fries’ Strategic Plan related documents.
 - d. Committee membership: Dr. Linder and Dr. Martinez were re-elected by acclimation to the Athletic Committee.
 - e. In an effort to increase attendance and participation the next General Faculty Meeting will commence at 4:00 pm.
 - f. Items for discussion in forthcoming General Faculty Meetings:
 - E-mail voting.

- Ask Dr. Taylor to address faculty on how the current economic situation influences the university.
- Greening the campus.

Respectfully Submitted by

Orit Tamir, Ph.D.
Faculty Senate Secretary