

# General Faculty Meeting Minutes

Approved

Five Men at Arms

Wednesday 26 September 2007

3:08 pm in Kennedy Lounge

1. Approval of Agenda - Agenda was approved unanimously.
2. Approval of Minutes, General Faculty Meeting of April 25, 2007 - Approved unanimously.
3. Update on Collective Bargaining - Dr. Ward.
  - The bargaining team provided the administration with a full proposal. There are some significant differences between the positions of the faculty and administration. In an effort to address the differences there will be two meetings next week. The administration was made aware that NMHU Faculty members are frustrated with the slow process. On its part, the bargaining team is pushing hard. Both parties need to continue to bargain in good faith... or go to arbitration. The bargaining team is doing all it can to advocate for the faculty. If we reach an impasse the union will provide support for arbitration. If there is no significant progress in the next few weeks we go to arbitration.
4. Update and information on accreditation - Dr. Hill.
  - NMHU's Higher Commission of Education liaison will visit the university tomorrow (Rio Rancho) and Friday (the main campus). On Friday at 10:00am she will hold a forum for faculty with Q & A. At noon she will have lunch with the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate - an opportunity for the Executive Committee members to ask her questions. You're welcome to volunteer for any of the steering committees. Things look good in general with regard accreditation.
5. Campus Security carrying firearms - Chief Scarborough
  - Chief Scarborough has headed the NMHU's Campus Security department since March 2006. NMHU has 3 certified officers, the rest are security officers. He proposed having the certified officers carry firearms on campus. The department was armed until 1986. At that time an officer shot in the air after a robbery suspect fled. The president at the time thought that it will be less of a liability for NMHU if officers do not carry firearms.

- Chief Scarborough listed incidents of deadly violence in US and Canadian schools. He added that since NMHU security officers come across some firearms on campus, the university is lucky not to encounter deadly shootings.
- Chief Scarborough proposes to arm certified officers with firearms. These officers will have to undergo annual training. The city of Las Vegas and the State Police back NMHU security in this endeavor. These entities also view NMHU's security as potential victims.
- NMHU security is concerned about the response time to violent situations. City police is short-staffed, and State Police has to patrol a large area between Wagon Mound to Pecos.
- Q - How will having firearms have prevented violence on campus?
- Q - Does NMHU have a plan for terrorist response?
- Q - Are campuses with armed security safer than those without?
- Comment (from faculty): students don't trust security. How can we (faculty) trust you? The image of security must be built on trust - there is no trust. Research shows that increased patrols with guns increases the antipathy against police. Why not focus on crime prevention?
- Chief Scarborough: firearms do not reduce violent crime. NMHU security has had a very poor reputation regarding trust on campus.
- Q - when security gets a call, it is likely to happen after an incident occurred? What procedures do you have in place to search dorm rooms, back packs, etc. for firearms?
- Chief Scarborough - security has to follow state and federal search procedures and regulations.
- Q - Is there any difference between NMHU's rate of violent crime and violent crime in other New Mexico state schools where officers are armed with firearms?
- Chief Scarborough - I don't know.
- Q - How many guns did you confiscate per year?
- Chief Scarborough - there are 5 reports of guns, and other reports regarding knives.
- Comment (faculty) - In schools where shooting took place, security carried arms - they couldn't prevent crime.

- Chief Scarborough - correct.
- Comment (faculty) - over and over again when security has firearms they'll use them. There are plenty of examples from around the country and LV.