

# Approved Minutes

## Faculty Senate Meeting

August 24, 2011

Kennedy Lounge

New Mexico Highlands University, 3:00 p.m.

1. **Call to Order: 3:05 p.m.**

2. **Roll Call:**

**Present:** Arguello, David (*proxy for* Gorman, Jane; School of Social Work), Braun y Harycki, David (School of Education), Broughton, Leslie (*proxy for* Kent, April; Library), Dutoit, Tatiana (Visual & Performing Arts), Flores, Jayni (School of Education), Gonzales, Margaret (*Staff Senate*) Greene, Richard (Computer & Mathematical Sciences), Harrington, Julius (School of Social Work), Helvie, Stella (School of Education), Kempner, Brandon (English & Philosophy), LeRoy, Peter (Exercise & Sport Sciences), Linder, Peter (History/Political Science/Language & Culture), Martinez, Edward (Natural Resource Management), Pilotti, Maura (Social & Behavioral Sciences), Romine, Maureen (Biology & Chemistry), and Williams, Susan (Nursing).

**Also Present:** Dr. Gilbert Rivera (VPAA).

**Absent:**

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ (School of Business, Media and Technology)

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ (GSA)

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ (Student Senate)

3. **Approval of Agenda:** 24 August 2011 – as written

4. **Approval of Minutes:** 11 May 2011 – as written

5. **Communication from the Administration:**

Dr. Rivera reported statistics on NMHU enrollment for two academic years: 2009-2010 and 2010-2011. The number of students enrolled and corresponding credit hours were both described as having increased from the previous year (4.3% and 5.3%, respectively). In addition, Dr. Rivera indicated that a substantial growth in freshmen enrollment (30.2%) had occurred.

Dr. Flores asked about enrollment figures at the centers, specifically at Rio Rancho. Dr. Greene queried Dr. Rivera on the ongoing discussions regarding

the funding formula. Dr. Rivera indicated that although there would be a trial run for the formula in October, at the present stage of discussion, how the formula would be finalized was unclear.

Dr. Rivera then reminded the audience of two dates relevant to all Faculty and Departments: September 12<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> (visit of the Higher-Education Commission for distance learning accreditation) and November 12<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> (visit of the NCATE Commission for the purpose of accreditation of teacher education curricula). He also reminded his audience of the visit of the Psychology Review Committee on October 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>. Subsequently, Dr. Rivera reminded the audience of four important dates related to routine administrative activities: September 9<sup>th</sup> (due date for Faculty annual reports), September 12<sup>th</sup> (start of the annual peer-review process), October 15<sup>th</sup> (due date for communicating to the Administration one's intent to undergo tenure and/or promotion evaluation), and November 1<sup>st</sup> (due date for sabbatical leave applications).

**6. Communication from the Chair:**

Dr. Romine informed attending Senators of work conducted by members of the Executive Committee during the summer, which had been focused on revising sections of the Faculty Handbook. The main goal of revisions, according to Dr. Romine, was to ensure consistency between sections of the Faculty Handbook and content of the Collective Bargaining Agreement. The ancillary goal was to reorganize several Faculty Committees to increase their effectiveness. She distributed a handout outlining proposed changes and indicated that the work was yet to be completed. Dr. Romine also indicated that during the summer, she gave a report to the Board of Regents and attended a Cabinet meeting. She then reminded the audience of a visit by *Desire2Learn* on September 9<sup>th</sup>.

**7. Communication from Academic Affairs:**

None

**8. Communication from the Student Senate:**

None

**9. Communication from the GSA:**

None

**10. Communication from the Staff Senate:**

Ms. Gonzales reported that the Student Senate met yesterday and that the GSA had yet to select a representative for the Faculty Senate. She also indicated that the Staff Senate would meet with the President shortly and that its composition would remain the same until the end of the semester.

**11. Old Business**

None

**12. New Business**

- a.** *Election of an at-large member for the Executive Committee*  
Dr. Martinez and Dr. Greene were nominated and declined. [Dr. Kempner was then nominated and elected to the Executive Committee of the Senate](#) (unanimous vote).
- b.** *Election of members of Senate Committees*  
[Dr. Rivas was elected to the Student Affairs Committee. Dr. LeRoy was elected to serve as representative of the Faculty Senate on the Academic Affairs Committee.](#) Both candidates received unanimous support. No Senator was found to serve as the representative of the Faculty Senate on the Student Affairs Committee.
- c.** *Action item: Institutionalization of ARMAS – Dr. Edward A. Martinez*  
Dr. Martinez, in his capacity as Director of ARMAS, presented an overview of educational services offered by the center and evidence of their effectiveness. He then reported that ARMAS might have to shut down because of the temporary unavailability of external funds. He indicated that, albeit several efforts had been made to seek external support, nothing had come to fruition. Dr. Greene complimented Dr. Martinez as Director of the Center for stellar services ARMAS has provided under his management. Subsequently, Dr. Martinez asked that the Faculty Senate support [a motion to institutionalize ARMAS and subsequently to forward the motion to the University Administration and Board of Regents for discussion.](#)
- A brief discussion arose. The motion was then seconded and passed with one abstention.
- d.** *Question regarding the Emergency Action Plan Committee*  
[Dr. LeRoy was elected to serve as representative of the Faculty Senate on the Emergency Action Plan Committee.](#)
- e.** *Update on Ad Hoc Committee on the efficiency of reporting – Dr. Stella Helvie and Dr. Maura Pilotti* (tabled)
- f.** *NCATE update* (tabled)

**13. Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Maura Pilotti**  
**Secretary/Treasurer**

