

Minutes

Approved April 25, 2012

Faculty Senate Meeting

11 April, 2012

Science Annex Building, Room 329 - New Mexico Highlands University, 3:00 p.m.

1. **Call to Order: 3:12 pm**
2. **Roll Call:**

Present: Braun y Harycki, David (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); Kent, April (Library); LeRoy, Peter (Exercise & Sport Sciences); Loewen, Kerry (School of Business, Media & Technology); Manafy, Abbas (History/Political Science/Language & Culture); Pilotti, Maura (Social & Behavioral Sciences); Romine, Maureen (Biology & Chemistry); and Williams, Susan (Nursing).

Absent:

Gorman, Jane (School of Social Work) – Excused absence;
Flores, Jayni (School of Education) – Excused absence;
Dutoit, Tatiana (Visual & Performing Arts)
Martinez, Edward (Natural Resource Management)
_____, _____ (*Student Senate*).

Also present:

Rivera, Gilbert (VPAA).

1. **Approval of Agenda:** April 11, 2012 - Approved
2. **Approval of Minutes:** March 28, 2012 – Approved
3. **Communication from the Administration**
The VPAA overviewed personnel actions pertaining to sabbatical leave, tenure and promotion. He then spoke of academic actions (e.g., certificate program involving the Department of Natural Resource Management and the NM Forest & Watershed Restoration Institute). The VPAA concluded his remarks by noting that he attended Research Day.
4. **Communication from the Chair**
The Chair discussed issues regarding online teaching, focusing primarily on guidelines for synchronous and asynchronous modes.

- 5. Communication from Academic Affairs**
Recent activities and actions of the Academic Affairs Committee and the Emergency Planning Committee were reported in a memo distributed by Dr. LeRoy to members of the Faculty Senate via e-mail.
- 6. Communication from the Student Senate**
None
- 7. Communication from the Staff Senate**
Mrs. Gonzales mentioned upcoming elections of officers for Staff Senate. She also reminded Senators of the employment recognition breakfast scheduled for May 1st.
- 8. Old Business**
Letter addressing web site concerns
A lengthy discussion arose regarding several issues. Most debated were the contrast between the need for autonomy and the need for consistency, and approaches to resolve it. Comments were also reserved to the specific content of the letter distributed by the Chair of the Faculty Senate. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to send the current letter to the appropriate entities.
- 9. New Business**
Proposal concerning procedures for handling student discipline – Dean of Students
The Dean of Students overviewed procedures for disciplinary actions involving students and reported the number of alleged culprits and related disciplinary actions. The need for a separate committee devoted to disciplinary actions was raised.

Dean Search Process
The Chair of the Faculty Senate discussed a document distributed to Senators regarding the search process and asked that its contents be discussed at the next meeting.
- 10. Adjournment: 4:45 pm**