

Approved Minutes

Approved February 13, 2013

Faculty Senate Meeting

January 23, 2013

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

1. Call to Order: 3:08 pm

2. Roll Call:

Present: Burns, Jim (School of Education); Christensen, Todd (Visual & Performing Arts); Flores, Jayni (School of Education); Gorman, Jane (School of Social Work); Harrington, Julius (School of Social Work); Kempner, Brandon (English & Philosophy); Kent, April (Library); LeRoy, Peter (Exercise & Sport Sciences); Loewen, Kerry (School of Business, Media & Technology); Martinez, Edward (Natural Resource Management); Romine, Maureen (Biology & Chemistry); Swim, Charles (School of Business, Business); Tahani, Hossein (Computer & Mathematical Sciences); Emily Williams (School of Education); Williams Susan (Nursing); Williamson, Ian proxy for Gloria Gadsden, Spring 2013 (Social & Behavioral Sciences)

Absent:

Braun y Harycki, David (School of Education)
Gonzales, Margaret (*Staff Senate*);
Manafy, Abbas (History/Political Science/Language & Culture);
Montoya, Gabrielle (*Student Senate, undergraduate*)
Rowlett, Joseph (*Student Senate, graduate*)
Rivera, Gilbert (VPAA)

Also Present:

Fries, Jim
LaGrange, Linda

3. Approval of Agenda: January 23, 2013. Approved.

4. Approval of Minutes: November 28, 2012. Approved with corrections.

5. Communication from the Administration

1. The Student Center project will be completed soon. The legal process with Makwa is ongoing. A mediation session is scheduled for January 31, 2013.
2. The legislative session has started.
 - i. The ERB program funding is a big issue this year. There will be an increase in withholding for retirement for employees. Minimum retirement age will go up for new employees from 55 to 57.

- ii. The trolley building budget is also an issue of interest in this budget year.
- 3. There is a special Board of Regents meeting this Friday, January 25.
 - i. The proposal for the BBA/MBA in Oil and Gas Management is an action item. No off campus approval is required for this program.
 - ii. The President's contract will be discussed in executive session. The contract will be an action item after the regents come out of executive session.
 - iii. If the President's contract is extended, a meeting will be set for Friday afternoon about issues that have to be dealt with on campus over the next few years. This meeting will be attended by representatives from different campus groups. Discussion will include increasing degree completion rates, credit hour requirements, infrastructure, organizational structure of the university, and the campus master plan.
 - iv. The Dean searches were discussed. The future of the VPAA position was brought up.
 - v. The activities of Complete College America were discussed.

6. Communication from the Chair [from Maureen's report]

1. Board of Regents December 21, 2012

- i. Educational Leadership Certificate Program was approved.
 - ii. The failed Dean searches were discussed. Salaries were mentioned as one problem.
 - iii. The Policies Statement Regarding the Prevention of and Response to Sex offenses, Domestic Violence and Stalking was approved.
 - iv. Native American Student Enrollment Report
 - (1) 6.1% (229) on the main campus and centers – need to increase 71 students to 10.1% to match the Native American population in NM
 - (2) Some suggestions for best practices for Native American student success:
 - (a) Consulting and engaging tribal communities
 - (b) Providing connections to family and culture
 - (c) Supporting positive Native American identity
 - (d) Finding Native American role models or mentors in the student body, faculty & staff
 - (e) Providing comprehensive, integrated student support services
 - (f) Using culturally relevant curriculum and teaching
 - v. Naming of New Residents Hall was approved. The hall is now named Viles Crimmin Residence Hall after two scholarship donors
 - vi. Student Center's completion and exterior were discussed.
 - vii. Report on Complete College America
 - viii. Senate Report – see attached
2. Reimbursement of Faculty on Search and Screen Committees for Meals - the President has approved the following change:

“Effective Spring 2013, NMHU will reimburse meal expenses for the candidate and up to three committee members and for up to two meals. To allow for other committee members or faculty to join the candidate for lunch, at their own expense, campus eating facilities are recommended.”

HR will make the necessary changes on the meal reimbursement statement.

3. Student class evaluations will be looked in to. Dr. Romine will send out an email solicitation to join a committee that will look into the evaluations.
4. Instructional Technology Committee reported on Turnitin. They reported on the license fees.
 - i. Dr. Romine asked for input on the next step in the process of selecting the software. Options were discussed.
 - ii. A demonstration of the software will be the next step. Dr. Romine will email out the Turnitin press kit to the faculty.
5. Faculty Senate members and committee membership has been updated on the website.
6. AAUP has reorganized. There are now three sections AAUP Foundation, AAUP Collective Bargaining, and AAUP.

7. Communication from Academic Affairs

1. See attached report.
2. There has been stagnation on the charges due to the workload of the committee.
3. Dr. Ian Williamson moved to approve the Academic Affairs recommendation on the No Grade issue. The motion passed. The Academic Affairs recommendation will be passed on to Dr. Rivera and John Coca by Dr. Romine.
4. The ACT recommendations were discussed. The importance of support for students and the importance of getting the word out to all high school students in the state were discussed.
5. Dr. Brandon Kempner moved that the senate accept the ACT recommendations and that the executive committee investigate the implementation of the policy and the concerns of faculty. 8 in favor, 2 opposed, 3 abstentions. Motion passed.
6. Dr. Romine will also convey the Faculty Senate’s concerns about the requirement to Dr. Rivera.

8. Communication from the Student Senate

No representative

9. Communication from the Staff Senate

No representative

10. Old Business:

None

11. New Business:

1. Faculty Development Week
 - i. Dr. Linda LaGrange would like the faculty to become more involved in planning Faculty Development Week. Dr. LaGrange would like a faculty

committee to take over the planning of the week with her role being one of supporting and advising. A more dynamic committee would keep the week fresh. The logistics would still be covered by Germaine Alarcon, Administrative Associate. The faculty committee would be responsible for content. The planning timeline was discussed.

- ii. Dr. Romine will send out a global email to all faculty for committee membership and idea solicitation.

2. Dean Searches

- i. Comments, letters, and emails concerning the two failed Dean searches were reviewed. The Dean Search procedures, the Faculty Handbook, the Faculty Association, shared governance, and other issues were raised. Lively discussion ensued.
- ii. The Senate's response will be discussed at the Executive Committee meeting on February 6. The response will be brought to the full Faculty Senate on February 13.

3. Dr. Edward Martinez brought up inviting Dr. José Z. Garcia, Cabinet Secretary of Higher Education to talk to Highlands University about the funding formula and other higher education issues. The Senate will wait until after the legislative session is over to invite him.

12. Committee Reports and Announcements

Adjournment: 5:00 pm