

General Faculty Meeting
January 14, 2016
Approved January 27

3:00
Sininger Hall 100

1. Call to Order at 3:03 p.m.

Note: quorum obtained (44 voting Faculty attendees, 4 non-voting) 24 needed for a quorum.

2. Approval of Agenda: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to approve the agenda. Motion passed.

3. Approval of Minutes: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to approve the Minutes from September 30 and November 11. Motion passed.

4. Faculty Senate Chair Report

5. New Business

a. Academic Calendar

- i. Academic Affairs was charged to investigate and recommend the academic calendar
- ii. They proposed three options to make sure we meet the minimum 2,250 minutes per credit hour. Finals week does count for the minutes.
- iii. MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to recommend the 16.5 week calendar for the 2016-17 year. Motion amended to recommend that the Monday and Tuesday be prep days with no scheduled meetings. Motion passed with 1 opposed and 1 abstention.

b. Proposed University Mission Statement

- i. Some faculty felt there was a substantial change between the voted upon option, and the final proposed mission.
- ii. There was discussion regarding clearly defining what comprehensive means, and including research.
- iii. MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to accept the proposed revised language to option 2 to read as: NMHU is a public comprehensive (undergraduate and graduate) university serving our local and global communities. Our mission is to provide opportunities to attain an exceptional education by fostering scholarly activity such as research, creativity, and critical thinking in the liberal arts, sciences, and professions within a diverse community. Motion passed with 43 approved, 1 opposed, and 3 abstentions

c. Interim Appointments

- i. Linda LaGrange had settled her law suit last semester and moved to teaching. Without consulting faculty, Dr. Aguilar split her position into 3 positions and made interim appointments. Faculty feel that since these

positions directly affect academic affairs, in the spirit of shared governance, they should have been consulted. There are a lot of questions as to why we can afford those positions, but no one is getting a raise, and department budgets remain flat.

- ii. MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to have the Executive Committee write a joint letter with the Faculty Association with the draft to be presented at the next General Faculty meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

d. Common Core

- i. Dr. Kempner, and several other faculty members attended a statewide meeting regarding the Common Core.
- ii. The 35 credit general core will be completely revised in 9 month. The goal is to make it easier for students to transfer.
- iii. There will be Meta-majors for programs which share courses and all freshmen would have to select one.
- iv. There will be common course numbering for lower division courses with shared content for all universities in the state.
- v. Common Core – want to change to a skill based model with fewer hours. Expected date to complete this is by August
- vi. Every department will be impacted and should be involved.

6. Other

7. Announcements

8. Motion adjourned at 4:29