

Faculty Senate Meeting
October 12, 2016 Minutes
Approved October 26, 2016

Lora Shields, room 329 and via ZOOM, 3:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order: 3:01 p.m.

2. Roll Call:

Present: Coggins, Kip (School of Social Work); Ensor, Kevin (School of Education/Counseling & Guidance); Gadsden, Gloria (Sociology, Anthropology & Criminal Justice); Harrington, Edward (Visual & Performing Arts); Jeffries, John (Computer Science & Math); Jenkins, Kathy (Exercise & Sport Sciences); Kempner, Brandon (English & Philosophy); Meckes, Shirley (Teacher Education); Meron, Angela (Media Arts & Technology); Rodriguez, Elaine (History & Political Science); Romine, Maureen (Biology); Sammeth, David (Chemistry); Williams, Emily (School of Education); Williams, Susan (Nursing); Williamson, Ian (Psychology); Zebrowski, Cheryl (Library)

Excused: Burns, Jim (Educational Leadership); Thornton, Laird (Staff Senate);

Absent: Ortiz, Luis (School of Business); Marrs, Diana (Center for Teaching Excellence);

Also Present: Linder, Carol (VPAA/Provost); Isaac Lopez, proxy for Padilla, Julian (Student Senate); Kristie Ross (History & Political Science); Jennifer Lindline (Natural Resources); Nariman Arfai (Psychology)

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

4. Approval of Minutes: – MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to approve the Minutes from September 28th. Motion passed.

5. HLC Update

- a. There will be a forum next Friday relating to evaluation & orientation of contingent faculty
- b. Budget requests should be based on long-term needs.
- c. Outcomes assessment needs to happen and will factor into evaluating budget requests.
- d. HLC website is getting built and should be live by the end of October.
- e. Everyone should have the strategic plan business cards and flyers.
- f. Must disclose to prospective students that we are on probation and there is specific language we must use in a letter to them.
- g. There was a suggestion that parents should be informed about the probation. They are very concerned about this issue. Perhaps Sean can write up something that can be mailed to parents.

- h. Budget cuts: The legislature voted on a 5% cut, which means \$1.5 million for NMHU.
 - i. HLC Forum on Oct. 24th.
- 6. Communication from the Administration**
- a. Thanks to everyone who participated in Homecoming.
 - b. The Economic Rural Development Committee met on campus and Dr. Carol Linder gave the opening address. She will send it to Cheryl to post.
 - c. It was decided to do an internal search for the School of Social Work Dean. Process will be similar to an external search.
 - d. Faculty searches – Dr. Linder has a list and will evaluate each position to determine whether or not to fund.
 - e. There will be an NMHU “Power Authors” celebration Oct 20th. Staff Senate is working on staff recognitions.
 - f. Graduate recruiting will stay within graduate office and working with the Graduate Council.
 - g. Will be working with the Academic Affairs Committee to set up policies and procedures for late classes starting after mid-terms.
 - h. Provost search has 70 applications and the committee is reviewing minimum qualifications.
- 7. Communication from the Chair**
- a. Finance Committee should notify Senate regarding any discussions.
 - b. Staff brown bag lectures – faculty would discuss their research or other academic interests to enrich staff’s understanding of academics. Will need faculty to volunteer.
 - c. The three senates will be sponsoring the movie “Starving the Beast”.
 - d. Carla Romero and Janis Keene will be faculty representatives on the Matriculation task force.
 - e. Dr. Linder will take the calendar recommendation to the next Board of Regents meeting.
 - f. There will be a retention Summit Nov 3 & 4. All departments should try to send representatives for both days. Does not need to be the same person the entire time.
 - g. Dr. Kempner and Cheryl will be going to Rio Rancho for our next Faculty Senate & General Faculty meeting.
 - h. Ideas regarding budget cuts should be sent to Brandon. It was suggested that we could do a survey monkey, with results forwarded to the Finance Committee.
- 8. Communication from Academic Affairs**
- a. The committee is working on streamlining processes and forms.
 - b. There was some discussion regarding overlap in majors. This was discussed a few years ago.
 - c. They continue to work on Senate charges.
- 9. Communication from the Student Senate**
- a. Isaac Lopez attended for Julian Padilla and is the Vice President of the Student Senate. They have planned to get students to the legislature on January 23rd. They are developing a plan for the day. Also working with other universities,
 - b. Dr. Linder suggested that they might want to also look at Lottery scholarship policies.
- 10. Communication from the Staff Senate**

- a. No one present

11. Old Business

- a. ACTION ITEM: Faculty Senate Chair.
 - i. Poll results were sent out to Faculty Senators. 49% voted to have Dr. Kempner finish his term as chair. 27% voted to have a new chair start spring semester and finish the term. 13% voted for an immediate transition to a new chair, and 11% had no preference.
 - ii. It was suggested that Senators need to share discussion with their departments before survey comes out, so faculty understand some of the issues.
 - iii. We should revisit voting policies, and consider making General Faculty meetings required. As always, it is difficult to find the best time. We need to change the culture by getting people interested about attending. If it was made mandatory, it would need to go to the association to be included in the CBA.
 - iv. MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to adhere to the poll results.
 - 1. There was discussion regarding if we needed to take any action since there would not be any change.
 - 2. MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to withdraw motion.
 - v. Dr. Kempner will send out poll results, with a note that no action was taken.
- b. DISCUSSION ITEM: Departments without chairs.
 - i. Languages and Culture, and Nursing do not have many tenured/tenure track faculty. Some of the chair duties are not happening. Could a director be voted as a chair, or can we add language to the Faculty Handbook to include “chair or director” of a department?
 - ii. We need to clean-up language in handbook regarding structure of departments.
 - iii. Should small departments be called something else like a “unit”?
- c. DISCUSSION ITEM: Student evaluations of teaching.
 - i. Dr. Emily Williams is the only committee member left. She feels we really need new questions and it’s too long.
 - ii. Need to develop a process for how to individualize the evaluation for departments. Strategies for how to get students to complete them.
 - iii. Apparently we used to get compiled data.
 - iv. We could revise and/or approve the proposed questions, then reconstitute the committee.
 - v. Is there a standard assessment used by other universities? We could also get comparison with other institutions.
- d. DISCUSSION ITEM: Disruptive student policy.
 - i. Student Affairs needs to develop a policy for online and center classes.
 - ii. It doesn’t just apply to classroom, but include e-mail and on campus behavior.

12. New Business:

- a. Budget cuts. Discussed under HLC update.
- b. Pino and Ballen endowments
 - i. Ballen is under Academic Affairs.
 - ii. MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to put out a call to develop a committee for the Pino endowment. Motion passed unanimously

13. Committee Reports and Announcements

14. Meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.