

General Faculty Meeting Minutes
August 23, 2017
Approved September 27, 2017

Sininger Hall 100 and via ZOOM

Call to Order at 4:07 p.m.

Note: quorum obtained (30 voting Faculty attendees; 25 needed for a quorum).

1. **Approval of Agenda:** MOTION MADE AND SECONDED. Motion passed.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** MOTION MADE AND SECONDED TO approve the minutes from August 10, 2017. Motion passed.
3. **Update from R. Gonzales**, VPAA and Provost.
 - Shared action items:
 - Looking at hiring process; how we on board and how we work through process
 - Bringing in experts who can help support online growth, course implementation. Team will be examining policies, training, disciplines to capitalize on on-line modality.
 - Looking at alignment of handbooks.
 - Looking at when we offer and when instructors sign contracts. University is perpetually late in formalizing contracts which raises potential liability issue.
 - Shared status of 2017-18 contracts for CBA faculty; in progress. You will be paid!
 - Announced open door policy; invites faculty to stop in at any time.
 - Expressed interest in knowing what remains important to Faculty Senate, General Faculty after faculty reviews the Potential Agenda Items for Senate AY 2017-18.
4. **Update from B. Kempner**, NMHU HLC Accreditation Director
 - Shared important dates.
 - a. Assurance argument is due on 09/11. All faculty members are asked to read portions of the document and assist with catching spelling, grammar and readability errors. Faculty is asked to especially read Criteria #1, as BK worried it isn't getting enough proof-read. Criteria #3 and #4 are of the most faculty driven (teaching quality and outcomes assessment). Please proof-read as soon as possible and share your updates with BK through 11:59 on 09/10.
 - b. HLC site visit is on 11/06-11/08. A 5-member team will be visit Monday-Tuesday for meetings, forums that are laser-focused on HLC accreditation criteria and probation areas. A team member will be visiting on Fri 11/03 the Alb and Rio Rancho Centers.
 - c. April 2018. NMHU will receive a response from the Institution Action Committee, after which we write a response.
 - d. June 2018; NMHU will receive findings from HLC regarding probation status.
5. **Update from I. Williamson**, Faculty Senate Chair
 - Shared thoughts about HLC influence on higher education and the intensification of various university requirements (outcomes assessment, strategic planning, strategic budgeting, etc.) and pressure to increase enrollment numbers and graduation rates. There is more oversight, greater accountability, and less funding to achieve academic excellence.
 - Shared good news
 - budget flat (we have a budget!)
 - BOR approved a 1 % base salary increase for all bargaining unit faculty members.
 - BOR approved clarifying language to sabbatical activities.
 - Encouraged faculty to pick up Faculty Activities brochure.
 - Noted schedule updates for months with 5th Wednesday:
 - August 30th there will be an HLC forum
 - November 22nd General Faculty meeting postponed to November 29th.

6. Developing Our Agenda: Dialogue with Faculty (tabled)

7. Other items (tabled).

8. Adjournment at 5:01 p.m.