

Faculty Senate Meeting Agenda
February 10, 2021
Approved February 24, 2021

ZOOM - <https://nmhu.zoom.us/j/91283810526>; **3:00 to 5:00 p.m.**

1. Called meeting to order.

2. Roll call.

Arshad, Ali (Business Administration); Buchanan-Farmer, Melanie (Education-Teacher Education); Chadborn, Daniel (Psychology); Fox-Hausman, Mariah (Media Arts and Technology); Garcia, Justine (Biology); Garcia-Nuthmann, André (Visual & Performing Arts); Gardner, Sandra (Nursing); Hayward, William (Exercise & Sport Sciences); Jeffries, John (Computer & Mathematical Sciences); Karaba, Robert (Education-Education Leadership); Kent, April (Library); Koch, A. (Education-Counseling & Guidance); Lindline, Jennifer (Natural Resources Management); Massaro, Beth (Social Work); Sammeth, David (Chemistry); Tamir, Orit (Sociology, Anthropology & Criminal Justice); Sedillo, PJ (Education-Special Education); Valenzuela, Norma (Languages and Culture); Villarreal, Ben (English & Philosophy); Williams, Steven (History & Political Science)

Absent: Education-Curriculum & Instruction Representative; Forestry Representative

Also in Attendance: K. Bogda, M. Buchanan, M. Earick, G. Gadsden, K. Gray, B. Kempner, V. Parboteeah, J. Rivas, B. Rivera, H. Romero, R. Walker-Gonzales, C. Ulibarri, A.J. Warwell, I. Williamson, P. Wilson

3. Approval of Agenda. Motion made and seconded to approve the meeting agenda. Motion passed unanimously (17 votes recorded).

4. Approval of Minutes from January 27, 2021 (attachment). Motion made and seconded to approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously (17 votes recorded).

5. Communication from the President (S. Minner).

- Shared trends in New Mexico COVID 19 numbers, hopeful seeing positive trends in downtick in cases and counties moving out of the red.
- Mentioned few items of interest to Higher Education sector with Legislation Session. HB 2 President's supporting LFC recommendations for compensation increases (0.5%). SB 169 establishes a new Higher Education Council requiring another level of bureaucracy to approvals. Another Bill is moving forward to create another university from what was an NMSU branch campus (?).
- Shared that SEM working on an MOU with Denver public schools. We are competitive, even with out-of-state tuition and are working to facilitate their enrollment.
- Mentioned importance of Title IX compliance. R. Watson, Title IX compliance officer, will be meeting with groups and talking about ways to bring us to compliance.
- Shared that IR search is underway. Open to internal and external applicants.

- Updated group on Virtual Commencement. NMHU has contract with firm to coordinate the event. Will be honoring Dolores Huerta with an Honorary Degree.
- Shared that Facilities is doing a lot of things to support infrastructure improvements. Will be replacing bleachers in the Wilson Complex – a notable improvement.
- Reminded everyone that the HU Loves Virtual Event takes place tonight (February 10th). Get your bids in!

6. Communication from the Administration (R. Gonzales).

- Shared that the CTE Position is posted internally; requires tenure/tenure-track status.
- Shared that she and I. Williamson are hosting NSF guests for grant project compliance. Things going pretty smoothly (yes!).
- DS asked about if/how to avoid or resolve scheduling conflicts. Been told that Ad Astra is an enrollment management tool. What/how avoid or resolve scheduling conflicts? RG said that Ad Astra has capabilities beyond Banner. Can analyze degree paths, determine how to complete in 4-years, and use predictive analytics to identify and avoid conflicts. Can inform where to add a section or drop a section. Have discovered that most institutions see increased retention by 20% with the increased information to guide scheduling as well as 10% increased on-time graduation rates.

7. Communication from the Chair (O. Tamir).

- Shared outcomes of meeting regarding Bookstore issues. Essentially no resolution to ongoing concerns that the Faculty Senate has brought up. (Books don't arrive on time, books don't arrive at all, wrote editions are stocked, etc.). Wish had more to share.
- Shared that the Virtual Commencement planning is reaching its last stages. OT made her recorded message last week.
- Shared that she received a number of emails, texts, calls re Campus Climate Survey. Updated that IRB has removed its support of the Campus Climate Survey. As of now, only knows that DP is working with RM on joint statement re lack of anonymity.
- SW asked if Academic Affairs has taken up the topic of the Bookstore? OT said not sure; still surprised at lack of knowing on part of Bookstore about the faculty concerns. Issues continue. SW said that having an enormous impact on quality of education. Still getting emails this week (4th week!) about just getting or not getting their required books. It needs to be tackled; it affects all of us in a profound way. OT acknowledged that Bookstore issues affect teaching, learning, and university reputation.

8. Communication from Academic Affairs (A. Kent).

1. Subcommittee Reports

- Undergraduate Appeals** – 2 appeals under review
- Graduate Appeals** – no appeals.
- Ballen** – no updates
- Policy** – first meeting on Monday, February 8

2. Program Reviews

- Ongoing reviews: Southwest Studies, Native American Hispano Cultural Studies, Health, Human Performance and Sports, BA, Minor, Human Performance and Sport, MA, University Studies, Education – Special Education.
- Education – Counseling and Guidance will be meeting with dean and program soon.

- c. Committee are being put together for Social Work, BSW, MSW (CSWE Accredited), Mathematics, BA, BS, Minor, and Media Arts, MA, MS, BA, BFA, Minor, Certificate.
3. **Communication from Chair**
 - a. No report.
 4. **Communication from Registrar (report from Inca Crespin)**
 - a. Enrollment ended on January 29 and remain up 1% compared to last spring.
 - b. Proposals requiring a catalog change must be submitted to the AAC no later than March 15, 2021.
 - c. Early registration for the summer semester will begin on Monday, March 1, 2021 at 6:00 am. Registrar staff will be available at this time to assist students.
 - d. Call for Fall 2021 semester was sent out and is due to the registrar by February 25.
 - e. Registrar's Office has completed their work on the buyout process.
 - f. Inca Crespin will follow up with Henrietta Romero on the intersession discussion. There's a little more flexibility than what was previously understood.
 5. **Communication for Graduate Council**
 - a. Discussion of 12 credit double dipping policy approved by the Board of Regents continues.
 - b. Council is working with registrar on tracking the number of credits taken by graduate assistants and by all graduate students.
 - c. Working on expulsion and suspension procedures. Research policies are other institutions.
 - d. Discussion of undergraduate being allowed to take class at 6000 level. Leaning toward leaving decisions on this to programs.
 - e. Discussion of sending hard copy of admission notices to students.
 6. **Communication from the Administration**
 - a. Buyout form for independent studies will be sent on Friday, February 5 by Alicia DeHerrera, Academic Affairs Senior Administrative Assistant.
 - b. Wiley. Operations team in working on admission and marketing. A new project manager from Wiley has been assigned to project.
 - c. Programs should plan for the fall 2021 semester as a regular semester. Status of the fall semester is pending many factors.
 - d. Provost has spoken with the Dean and Dr. Orit Tamir about bookstore concerns.
 - e. CTE internal search should be posted this week.
 - f. Team is putting together a TRIO opportunity grant which will focus on supporting adult learners. Competitive grant is due March 1.
 - g. Dual Enrollment Questions and Discussion.
 - i. NMHU does not get money directly for dual enrollment students, but they do count toward enrollment.
 - ii. State is asking all higher education institutions to help with dual enrollment. All regions should be served and NMHU makes the most sense for our part of the state.
 - iii. CTE can provide support for faculty who teach these students.
 - iv. SEM has a committee looking at dual enrollment.
 7. **Marketing Needs and Proposal**
 - i. Proposal will be sent to Faculty Senate.
 8. **Biology Department – Program Revision, BS Wildlife Biology and Conservation – discussion item**
 - a. Dr. Jesus Rivas presented on the revision. These are housekeeping/cleanup of the program that the program wants in the new catalog. They are minor revisions that will not need to go before HED.
 9. **Mathematics & CS Department – New course, Survey of Mathematics – discussion item**
 - a. Dr. John Jeffries presented this course which would be new to NMHU but is part of the statewide core. The program would like to offer this class that is intended for non-STEM students as they believe it could enhance student success.

- b. Questions and discussion about faculty for course and advisement for STEM students. Program has qualified faculty.

9. Communication from the Undergraduate Student Senate (C. Ulibarri).

- Shared that the Student Senate finally has another member. Progress moving slowly because of quorum issues.

10. Communication from the Staff Senate (B. Rivera).

- Had regular meeting in Jan and special meeting last week. Did receive the letter from the President's DEI Council and need for a Staff representative. The Staff Senate is supportive of that whether it is a new position or an existing position with collateral responsibilities. We are supportive of that.
- Initiatives going on with Staff Senate Advisory. Issues include tuition waiver for family members. Currently there is an age cut-off of 26 years. Wanting to propose a higher age cut-off. Working on very first unit Strategic Plan. Asked if FS has a Strategic Plan; OT answered no. BR thinks a good idea and something that wants to work on.

11. Old Business.

a. Transfer Credit Grading Protocol Change (attachment). (H. Romero)

- HR shared that this is not a policy change, but protocol change. Proposing to change how code transfer class in which a student earned a "D" not simply as CR but as CRD so that Departments are aware of the grade transfer. "D" is sufficient for core education requirements, but for most programs not sufficient for the major program requirements.
- Motion made and seconded to endorse the Transfer Credit Grading Protocol Change. Motion passed unanimously; 19 votes recorded.

b. Posthumous Degree Policy Draft (attachment). (H. Romero)

- HR noted that we do not have a policy in place for awarding posthumous degrees.
- DC asked should there be a faculty point of approval for posthumous degree awards.
- Motion made and seconded to charge AA to review the PDPD and make recommendations to the Faculty Senate. Motion passed unanimously; 19 votes recorded.

c. Minimum Math Credit Requirement for Bachelor of Science degree (attachment).

- HR summarized the issue. There is currently an 8-credit minimum requirement for students to earn a B.S. degree. There have been changes in credit hours for some classes throughout the state (4 cr to 3 cr), so some students completing two MATH classes, including Applied Calc 1 or Calc 1, do not meet credit requirements for B.S. degree. Particularly issue for transfer students. Want to show that students meet mathematics proficiency for B.S. Motion made and seconded to support the Minimum Math Credit Requirement for the B.S. proposal. Motion passed unanimously; 19 votes recorded.

d. Student Course Evaluations.

- OT reminded Faculty Senate about long-standing issues with validity of student evaluations that remain unresolved. Between Fall 2019 Cyber-attack and COVID 19 pivot, difficult to get momentum among faculty to address issue. Faculty Senate needs

3 volunteers to join Faculty Association volunteers to work together with administration on Student Course Evaluations. Faculty volunteers included: Beth Massaro, Daniel Chadborn, and Ben Villarreal. Unanimous support of these representatives.

12. New Business.

a. NMHU webpage issues.

- OT summarized ongoing issues with design of webpage – geared towards prospective students looking at their mobile devices. Faculty concerned about lack of input to the webpage and its navigation.
- AK brought up the Dean Erick’s idea (presented to Provost Council on 02/05) to develop an “Intranet.” OT thanked her for the reminder. Could deal with some of the nuts and bolts of webpage information.
- Motion made for Faculty Senate Executive Committee look at inviting M. Earick and J. Gieri to share possibility of an intranet to address information and navigation issues. Motion passed unanimously with 19 votes recorded.

12. Executive Session.

13. Public Action as Necessary on Other Closed Session Discussions.

14. Adjournment. Motion made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 4:20 – wow! Motion passed unanimously.