

**Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes**  
**February 09, 2022**  
**Approved February 23, 2022**

**ZOOM:** <https://nmhu.zoom.us/j/95589633634>  
**3:00 to 5:00 p.m.**

- 1. Call meeting to order.**
- 2. Roll Call.**

<i>ZOOM</i> - <a href="https://nmhu.zoom.us/j/95589633634">https://nmhu.zoom.us/j/95589633634</a>	ATTENDANCE		
	Present	Absent	Excused
Biology; Justine Garcia	X		
Business Administration; Ali Arshad	X		
Chemistry; David Sammeth	X		
Computer and Mathematical Sciences; John Jeffries	X		
Education - Counseling and Guidance; Sulema Perales	X		
Education - Curriculum & Instruction; Ann Wolf	X		
Education - Educational Leadership; Rod Rock		X	
Education - Special Education; PJ Sedillo	X		
Education - Teacher Education; Melani Buchanan Farmer	X		
English and Philosophy; Benjamin Villarreal	X		
Exercise and Sport Sciences; <b>William Hayward, At-Large</b>	X		
Forestry; Blanca Cespedes	X		
History and Political Science; Steven Williams	X		
Languages and Culture; Norma Valenzuela	X		
Library; April Kent	X		
Media Arts and Technology; Morgan Barnard	X		
Natural Resources Management; <b>Jennifer Lindline, Secretary</b>	X		
Nursing; Sandra Gardner	X		
Psychology; <b>Daniel Chadborn, Vice Chair</b>	X		
<b>Social Work; Beth Massaro, Chair</b>	X		
Sociology, Anthropology, and CJ; Mario Gonzales	X		
Visual and Performing Arts, Edward Harrington	X		
President; Sam Minner	X		
Provost/VPAA; Roxanne Gonzales	X		
Staff Senate; Inca Crespín/Doris Gallegos/Veronica Black		X	
Undergraduate Student Senate; Christopher Ulibarri		X	
Graduate Student Senate; <b>VACANT</b>		X	

**Also in attendance:**

J. Aldred, S. Baca, M. Earick, G. Gadsden, W. Jaremko-Wright, R. P. Linder, A. Ludi, Moore, V. Parboteeah, H. Romero, O. Tamir, I. Williamson, P. Wilson, M. Zollner

3. **Approval of Agenda.** Motion made and seconded to approve the agenda. Motion passed with 15 in favor and 0 in opposition.
4. **Approval of Minutes from January 26, 2022 (attachment).** Motion made and seconded to approve the January 26<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes. Discussion commenced.
  - EH Raised concerns about the portion of minutes dealing with new programming in Social Justice. Wanted it stated that the Chair interrupted his comments during point of White Supremacy. Also want to include that JG said there was no advocacy in the proposal.
  - JL said she is uncomfortable noting that the Chair interrupted his comments without context.
  - AK recommended saying that “conversation was curtailed to move forward.”
  - PJS reminded that he called the question which means it ended the discussion.
  - EH said that he was interrupted.
  - AK said that question was called which doesn’t necessarily disallow more discussion but also does allow curtailing the discussion.
  - EH said his issue is not about calling the question but rather, giving the floor to others.
  - DS made motion to table the motion on approving the minutes. Motion seconded. 20 counted in favor and 0 in opposition.
5. **Communication from the President (S. Minner).**
  - Shared update on:
    - Center(s) for Excellence. Initiative moving along really well. Will involve 1 or more disciplines (Social Work and an allied health discipline, program). Maybe another in K-12 teaching which we could benefit from with subcontracts.
    - Reforestation bill moving forward as well as movement in an endowed professorship. Expects additional I & G funding. Maybe a holdback until sees an enrollment plan.
    - Facilities (S. Baca) will be updating FS on Sininger Hall renovations. Noted reaching end period for any input. NMHU has renewed Rio Rancho lease.
    - Expects additional funding for Athletics.
    - Sustainability Group is having good discussions. There are plans for a significant Earth Day.
    - There are more and more things coming online now for main campus students. An illusionist will be here tonight for entertainment.
    - Foundation – will have a vote soon on whether or not will have a comprehensive campaign.
    - Minner’s own goals include compensation, messaging, money for expanded and new programs, and additional resources to support succession planning. The Board is also prioritizing a plan for how to replace vacating positions.
6. **Communication from the Administration (R. Gonzales).**
  - Shared that the Academic Affairs Office has a new Senior Administrative Assistant – Gwen Albers. Looking to replace Executive Administrative Assistant, Prescilla Ortega-Mathis, who is retiring. Doing an internal search. Asked Senators to encourage good candidates so that Prescilla can commence with training.

- Shared that the Dean of School of Social Work Search is underway. WH did a great job representing Faculty Senate and initiating process. Committee is working on draft JD and RG working to get it posted.
- Noted that departments will be getting call for Fall 2022 scheduling. NMHU will be scheduling “normal.” That is, if it was face-to-face in past, it will be face-to-face in Fall 2022. Social distancing and enrollment caps will assist with safety. Academic units should be thinking about and planning for this.
- Shared that Graduate Dean Council is reviewing the DNP. Anticipate getting it approved with some push-back. We will be the first comprehensive university in the state to have this type of a program (terminal degree, professional degree in Nursing).
- DS asked if will be utilizing Ad Astra to minimize conflicts this scheduling season. RG said already using the analytics and will work to have more training for Chairs and users to maximize its use. DS said narrowing scheduling options would help. RG responded that we are still “living with COVID,” so asks all to be creative to get students – especially freshmen and sophomores – to get back on campus.

**7. Communication from the Chair (B. Massaro).**

- Shared that she spent time reviewing Roberts Rules of Order. Sought council from a Parliamentarian that we have on campus for information. Recognized some mistakes in last week’s meeting and apologized for missteps. Wants all to be in step and in sync with process. Will be asking Executive Committee for next meeting’s agenda to include a discussion on RRO.
- Noted that we have a tremendous amount of work right now that the Academic Affairs Committee has already approved. It has historically been the process that Faculty Senate Executive Committee reviews items and moves forward those items that do not need full FS review. *Do we want to do that? Do we want each item to come to full FS? Should FS EC have purview to set criteria, like number of votes or magnitude of impact, for full FS EC review?* Asked for Senators to consider these options for next meeting’s discussion.
- Will consider asking Parliamentarian to come to meeting to review RRO with us.

8. **Communication from Academic Affairs (A. Kent).** No report; 02/02 meeting was cancelled because of snow day (!).

9. **Communication from the Undergraduate Student Senate (C. Ulibarri).** No report.

10. **Communication from the Staff Senate.** No report.

**11. Old Business:**

- Report from the New Faculty Classification Committee.
  - BM entertained a motion to move item to “Members Only Meeting.” Motion made and seconded. Motion carried with 18 in favor. Will address this at 4:15. Char reminded the Senators of the need to remove language about salary and working conditions. Wants a discussion only about what Senators recommend in position title, description.
  - At 4:18, all non-faculty participants kindly asked to leave meeting.
  - Discussion occurred about the draft New Faculty Classification text.

- Exited “Members Only” meeting.
- Motion made and seconded to approve the New Faculty Classification language with edits to the service line to include language from the CBA and FH. Motion passed with one opposition.
- New Program Post-NMHU Approval Policy. Motion made and seconded to move item from the table. 19 counted and none in opposition.
  - Discussion ensued. BV mentioned some ambiguity of language.
  - Question asked, *Where will this new language be housed? Will the department have a say in submitting, no submitting the proposal for consideration?* GG said it would be “protocol,” not housed anywhere but part of meeting minutes for reference.
  - Language: *All changes to new academic programs which are proposed by internal or external bodies after the Faculty Senate’s approval of the new program, must be resubmitted to the Academic Affairs Committee and be subject to the standard program approval procedures of New Mexico Highlands University.*
  - Motion made on the policy with amended language in consultation between FS EC and English Department. And AAC. Motion carried with 20 counted in approval and 0 counted in opposition.
- Biology Program Revisions.
  - Motion made and seconded to remove item from table. 18 counted in favor and 0 in opposition.
  - BM pointed out that many of the courses in the package were modifications in text or syllabus.
  - Question arose regarding removal of prerequisite from BIOL 2110.
  - Senator requested that Faculty Senate list the courses under consideration out in the minutes.
  - JG noted that a whole bunch of courses in package are just language changes with 4 new courses.
  - Motion made to approve the courses with only language changes (9 courses). Motion carried with 19 in favor and 0 opposed. This is only for the courses with changed course descriptions.
  - Motion made at last meeting to not approve the changes in BIOL 2110.
  - DS shared a document outlining his concerns.
  - JG shared that not removing the pre-requisite, but changing the order in which they do things.
  - GG shared that AAC had this very same discussion. Implored people to trust their colleagues in making program changes.
  - SW shared that his history is that BIOL-CHEM programs were often in sync. Classes were taken together. If students are afraid of chemistry, then we have to do something to make them not afraid of it.
  - BV wanted to clarify the actual changes and his understanding that BIOL is doing something to address student fears.
  - EH said that the purpose of AAC and FS is to review program changes. Worries about relaxing requirement.

- BH mentioned that very tough to separate CHEM, BIOL
  - JL recognized that the CHEM 1125 requirement is not being eliminated, only moved. Asked, *doesn't taking it later refute the point of building the chem foundation?*
  - JG agrees, it's a pragmatic question. BIOL is trying to keep students in and get them through the program.
  - DS understands these issues and proposes idea of a co-taught course to incoming freshman and early students to lay that foundation. Chemistry has to be understood first before some of the biochemistry.
  - MG appreciates the challenges with student under preparation. What, if any, preparation incoming students get is really the question.
  - RG said missing from proposals is the data. When going into STEM fields, we really want that prep work to support the data. Asked, What can we do as a solution to prep students to take things in sequence and have success? RG wants data to inform the decision.
  - Senator mentioned that issues around eliminating prerequisites seem to come around advisement. If all general bio texts say chem important, *why remove?*
  - EH called the question. Seconded. Motion on the table to not approve the removal of the pre-requisite of chemistry from BIOL XXXX. Motion passed with 9 in favor and 8 in opposition. Prerequisite of Chemistry 1125 in BIOL XXXX stands.
  - PJS made a motion and seconded to respond to RG's suggestion to have more data to inform decision. To collect more data for more information for all of us.
  - EH said it should be up to BIOL to collect and provide data. Burden should be on those involved.
  - SW said we already have the data – 20% attrition rate. More data not necessary.
  - Motion made and seconded to table the discussion.
- Social Work Program Revision and New Courses
  - School of Education/Special Education – Changes in Minors
  - English Department
    - 3 new courses
    - Addition to extended core

## **12. New Business:**

- Facilities Report (S. Baca)
- Library Committee Request
- Graduate Dean Proposal
- Environmental Geology Program Revisions
  - New course
  - Change in B.S. Environmental Geology
  - Change in GIS Minor
  - Change in GIS Undergraduate/Graduate Certificate
- Criminology M.A. Revisions
- Biology – Teaching Concentration Proposal

## **13. Adjournment at 5:03 p.m.**