

**Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
February 08, 2023
Approved February 22, 2023**

SUB 321 and ZOOM: <https://nmhu.zoom.us/j/3755944464>

3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Faculty Senate

1. Call meeting to order.

2. Roll Call.

	ATTENDANCE		
	Present	Absent	Excused
Art and Music; Edward Harrington	X		
Biology; Justine Garcia, At-Large	X		
Business Administration; Ali Arshad	X		
Chemistry; David Sammeth		X	
Computer and Mathematical Sciences; Gil Gallegos	X		
Education - Counseling and Guidance; Sulema Perales	X		
Education - Curriculum & Instruction; Ann Wolf, At-Large	X		
Education - Educational Leadership; Rod Rock, Chair (Spring 2023)	X		
Education - Special Education; PJ Sedillo	X		
Education - Teacher Education; Melani Buchanan-Farmer	X		
English and Philosophy; Lauren Fath; At-Large	X		
Exercise and Sport Sciences; William Hayward, At-Large	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; Jennifer Lindline, Secretary	X		
Nursing; Sandra Gardner	X		
Psychology; Daniel Chadborn, Chair (Fall 2022)	X		
Social Work; Rebecca Moore	X		
Sociology, Anthropology, and CJ; Mario Gonzales	X		
President; Sam Minner	X		
Provost/VPAA; Roxanne Gonzales	X		
Staff Senate; Robert Anaya	X		
Student Senate; Karla Espinoza		X	

3. Approval of Agenda. Motion made and seconded to approve the meeting agenda. Motion passed unanimously with 18 votes counted.

4. Approval of Minutes from January 25, 2022 (attachment). Motion made and seconded to approve the meeting minutes. Motion passed with 16 votes counted.

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

- Discussed concerns brought to the board about a hire within the administration. Said took him time to gather information. This week, he did provide information to the Faculty Senate leadership (Rock and Chadborn). All of our contracts are public, state employees,
- I do appreciate the way that the concerns were brought to the board and to me ultimately. That's how educated people try to resolve differences.
- Discussed succession. Reminded about his 01/26 email soliciting applications for NMHU Chief of Staff. One of his goals for the remainder of time here is succession to make departure of several key positions and their transitions as smooth as possible.
- Talked about Human Resources problems. Many of the Fall staff have now been removed; only few remain. Shared that outsourcing may be best route.
- Stood very briefly for questions. Senator asked about how all units can be considered for fundraising campaigns. Minner responded that determined by Foundation Board, but anyone can reach out to Terry Law to be considered for fund raising.

6. Communication from the Administration (I. Williamson).

- Shared that the VPAA-Finance advertisement is out; applications are in (4) and being considered.
- Shared that the Graduate Deans are meeting for the first time at New Mexico Tech for first time in 4 years. Several new degrees proposed (ENMU M.S. Environmental Psychology and UNM M.S. Anesthesiology).
- Talked about shared course agreement among state-wide graduate programs. Apparently, the agreement was never officially signed, though it has been in practice. Currently, university Registrars and Administrators are working to formalize it.
- Shared that the Accessibility and Accommodations Office did not renew Natalie Bradley's probationary contract. For now, send any issues or concerns to Academic Affairs Office (Ian Williamson). For letters in receipt, inform IW if there are any challenges in meeting student accommodation needs.

7. Communication from the Chair (R. Rock).

- Asked Senate to consider Executive Team Leadership elections.
- Had conversation with Registrar Romero re Athletics Survey letter.
- Noted that the administration is working on Sabbatical Committee timeline issues.
- Announced General Faculty Meeting on February 22.
- Reminded about Faculty Association this evening (February 08).

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

February 1, 2023, meeting of the AAC

1. Subcommittee Reports
 - a. Ballen Committee – Call for fall 2023 proposals will be out soon. Spring 2023 scholar will be on campus later this month.
 - b. Undergraduate Appeals – One new appeal. Recommendation sent this week.
 - c. Graduate Appeals – no appeals.

2. Program Review Subcommittee Reports
 - a. Ongoing: Native American Hispano Cultural Studies, Psychology, Biology, Physics, Conservation Management and Environmental Geology & Chemistry.
 - b. Psychology report at next meeting.
3. M.F. Degree Proposal
 - a. Waiting on documents.
4. Biology Catalog change
 - a. Waiting on documents.
5. Policy Subcommittee Charge from AAC General Body
 - a. Examine the Appeals Process, including...
 - i. A form letter, regarding the decision, with possible explanations from VPAA's office?
 - ii. How to ensure consistency of decisions across colleges/schools?
 - iii. How to shorten the amount of time the process takes?
 - iv. Does the definition of hardship need to be expanded to include "class action hardships"; (i.e., institutional level hardships)?
 - b. Meeting of subcommittee will be set up soon.
6. ARTH 3_5800 – Course Revision
 - a. Dr. Harrington and Ms. Shereen Lobdell presented revision to art history course. Revised title of the course will make it clearer that the content is indigenous art of the Americas.
 - b. Action item at next meeting.
7. Communication from the Chair
 - a. Dr. Gadsden made reminder about committee chair election for next year is upcoming.
8. Communication from the Registrar
 - a. Dr. Romero reported on enrollment. Undergrad 1,462, grad 1,107; a 2% increase from this time last year. Call for summer course has been sent out. On February 10, the fall 2023 call for class will be sent out.
 - b. Retro petitions. Dr. Romero met with Ms. Caroline Montoya, Student Success Center Assistant Director to make sure student success coaches have the most up-to-date form and clarified the process.
 - c. Early Alert. ITS is working on the Early Alert system. Alerts can currently be sent by email to Ms. Montoya.
9. Communication from the Graduate Council
 - a. Dr. Gadsden reported that several policies are being revised. New chair next semester.
10. Communication from the Administration
 - a. Dr. Gonzales reported that the Social Work dean search is active.
 - b. Should have an interim disability coordinator soon. In the meantime, send students to Gabriel Marquez at Academic Affairs Office for assistance.
 - c. Dr. Gonzales and Dr. Henrietta Romero met with Rhett Bellon, Athlete Success Coordinator to discuss the survey. All communication to faculty will be sent through the Provost office in the future.
 - d. Question about the chief of staff position from Dr. Minner. Position is to help the transition to a new president.

9. Communication from the Student Senate (K. Espinoza). None reported.

10. Communication from the Staff Senate (C. Brooks). Introduced self; had no report.

11. Old Business.

- a. **University Relations Operational Update (D. Lepre).** Postponed.

12. New Business.

- a. **Student Athlete Support (A. Ehling, R. Bellon).**

- R. Rock introduced the “survey” that was distributed to the faculty at end Fall 2022 semester. What was the thought, process that went into that?
- AE responded that R. Bellon is Student Athlete Success Coordinator. She typically gathers information in order to refer student athletes to another office for support to fully lift them to their academic potential. *What can we do to help? Where are they failing and how can we motivate from our end?*
- RB offered that they have to look at partnerships involved in student success and where are things going wrong. The survey was geared towards athletes who did not pass minimum 9 credit hours to remain eligible and to remain good stewards of scholarship support.
- RB said she did not share any feedback with coaches; merely had conversations with students and melded with own observations about study habits and class attendance.
- RB shared that her office is trying to get full picture – not just what at times is “smoke and mirrors” about effort from students.
- WH shared some complements and concerns about the process. Want us to clarify the importance of academics.
- AH shared same thoughts – academics come first. Sometimes it takes a while, but goal is to help students succeed academically. Many times, it is a life-changing event for students to be here. Takes a village. Shared improvements on GPAs and retention.
- RG shared that when there are emails concerning students to be distributed to faculty, they will be reviewed and distributed through the Academic Affairs Office.
- DC offered the faculty concerns about FERPA (privacy issues) and proper dissemination.

b. Facilities Update (S. Baca).

- RR brought up last week’s gas leak emergency and dissemination of information.
- C. Romero (Chief of Police) spoke about the Emergency Notification System (opt in) for phone and email alerts and campus television displays. The RAVE System is administered by University Relations. Said there is an annunciation system, but not in all buildings.
- RR shared that there were concerns about some not getting alerts, some not evacuating/canceling.
- L. Martinez (EHS Manager and University Safety Officer) shared updates to RAVE system.
- SB gave Power Point presentation on Capital Outlay projects (past successes, current prioritizations).

Motion made and seconded to move to Executive Session. Motion passed with 13 votes counted.

c. Academic Accommodations Letter.

13. Executive Session.

14. Adjournment. Motion made and seconded to adjourn meeting. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:04.