

New Mexico Highlands University
Board of Regents Meeting
NMHU-Rio Rancho Center
1700 Grande Blvd., Room 123
Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87124
November 9, 2007 at 10:00 am

1. Call to Order – Chairman Javier M. Gonzales
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda for November 9, 2007
4. Approval of Minutes from September 14, 2007 and October 18, 2007
5. First Quarter Financial Report – Action Item
6. Consent Calendar – Action Items
 - a) Trane – Burris Hall Renovations/HVAC - \$2,063,090.84
 - b) Franken Construction – Science Annex Renovations - \$2,503,000
 - c) Lease in Albuquerque – Action Item
 - d) Raton Learning Center Facilities – Action Item
7. Budget & Finance Committee – Regent Robert Benavides
8. Buildings & Grounds Committee – Regent Walter Adams
9. Student Affairs Committee - Regent Sherry Salas
10. Student Senate Report – Mr. Michael Sallee, ASNMHU President
11. Faculty Senate Report – Dr. Maureen Romine, Chair
12. Persons Wishing to Address the Board
13. Executive Session – (1) Limited personnel matters related to the hiring, promotion, demotion, dismissal, assignment, resignation, or investigation or consideration of complaints or charges against an employee; (2) bargaining strategy preliminary to collective bargaining; (3) threatened or pending litigation subject to the attorney-client privilege in which the University may become a participant; and (4) real estate acquisition or disposal. Pursuant to provisions of NMSA 1978, §10-15-1(H)(2)(5)(7)&(8)
14. Vice President Academic Affairs Report – Dr. Gilbert Rivera

15. President's Report –Dr. James Fries, President

- a) Open Meetings Act Resolution – Action Item
- b) Residence Hall Architect – Action Item
- c) Tenure Recommendations – Action Item
- d) Sabbatical Recommendations – Action Item
- e) Other

16. Comments by Regents

17. Adjournment

**New Mexico Highlands University
Board of Regents Meeting
November 9, 2007**

The New Mexico Highlands University Board of Regents met in regular session on Friday, November 9, 2007 at the New Mexico Highlands University – Rio Rancho Center, 1700 Grande Blvd., Room 123, Rio Rancho, New Mexico 87124. Chairman Gonzales called the meeting to order at 10:20 am

Attendance

Board Members Present: Mr. Javier M. Gonzales, Mr. Walter Adams, and Ms. Sherry Salas

Board Members Absent: Mr. Robert Benavides and Ms. Rosanna Vázquez

Administrative Personnel Present: Dr. James Fries, President; Dr. Gilbert Rivera, Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs; Mr. Steve Wilson, Vice President for Finance & Administration; and Ms. Rachel King, Legal Counsel

Others Present: Dr. Maureen Romine, Faculty Senate Chair; and Ms. Carolina López, Board of Regents Administrative Assistant and numerous other individuals in the audience, including faculty, staff, students, community representatives, and media. The Board meeting was broadcast live via instructional television video to the NMHU Main Campus in Las Vegas, Santa Fe Center, and Farmington Center, Raton Center, and over the KEDP NMHU Radio Station

Approval of Agenda for Meeting of November 9, 2007

Regent Adams moved to approve the November 9, 2007 agenda. Regent Salas seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Regent Gonzales, Regent Adams, and Regent Salas. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes from September 14, 2007 and October 18, 2007

Regent Adams moved to approve the September 14, 2007 and the October 18, 2007 minutes. Regent Salas seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Regent Gonzales, Regent Adams, and Regent Salas. Motion passed unanimously.

First Quarter Financial Report – Action Item

President Fries introduced Mr. Steve Wilson as the new Vice President for Finance and Administration and called on him to present the First Quarter Financial Report (Attachment A). Mr. Wilson stated that the budget was in order and requested Board approval so that it could be submitted to the Higher Education Department.

Regent Salas moved to approve the First Quarter Financial Report. Regent Adams seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Regent Gonzales, Regent Adams, and Regent Salas. Motion passed unanimously.

Consent Calendar – Action Items

- a) Trane – Burris Hall Renovations/HVAC - \$2,063,090.84 (Attachment B)

- b) Franken Construction – Science Annex Renovations - \$2,503,000 (Attachment C)
- c) Lease in Albuquerque – Action Item (Attachment D)

Under advisement by NMHU Legal Counsel, President Fries suggested removing item d) from the consent calendar to allow for discussion.

Chairman Gonzales noted that the Budget & Finance Committee met and is recommending approval of all consent calendar items.

Regent Adams moved to approve the Consent Calendar items A, B, and C. Regent Salas seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Regent Gonzales, Regent Adams, and Regent Salas. Motion passed unanimously.

- d) Raton Learning Center Facilities – Action Item (Attachment E)

President Fries informed the Board that the North Eastern New Mexico Educational Foundation has offered to donate the Raton Learning Center Facility to Highlands. One of the Foundations goals is to increase the presence of higher education in the Raton area. President Fries stated that the facility needs some work in order to meet ADA requirements and that a \$200,000 appropriation would come with the facility which would be more than enough to address the ADA modifications needed.

Regent Adams moved to approve the acceptance of the gifted property from North Eastern New Mexico Educational Foundation. Regent Salas seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Regent Gonzales, Regent Adams, and Regent Salas. Motion passed unanimously.

Budget and Finance Committee – Regent Robert Benavides

President Fries indicated that items under the Budget & Finance Committee were discussed.

Buildings and Grounds Committee – Regent Walter Adams

A written report was provided (Attachment F).

Regent Adams requested that a time table for the golf course paths and clubhouse be developed. Chairman Gonzales asked if funds were budgeted for the completion of the golf paths and clubhouse. Ms. Marisol Greene responded that there is available funding for some work on the clubhouse.

Mr. Lawrence Trujillo reported that a public hearing with the Environment Department and the City of Las Vegas is scheduled for December 12, 2008, regarding the effluent water discharge permit.

President Fries informed the Board that there is a need to have a back-up water source and university is exploring various options.

Chairman Gonzales asked that Regent Adams develop a timeline for the golf course through the Buildings & Grounds Committee to present at the next Board of Regents meeting.

Chairman Gonzales informed the Board that he met with President Fries and others to discuss the possibility of installing surveillance cameras throughout campus and asked Mr. Max Baca to create a report justifying location and need for camera installation in various areas. Regent Adams stated that lighting on campus has been a concern for some time and that students' input is being sought to help address the issue. Vice President Wilson reported that the camera application has been expanded to the NMHU Rio Rancho campus. Regent Adams asked that the university research camera needs at all NMHU Centers. Vice President Wilson indicated that the Centers would be included in the plan at a future date.

Student Affairs Committee – Regent Sherry Salas

A written report was provided (Attachment G).

Regent Salas informed the Board that a student forum was held on October 24, 2007 to discuss student transportation, food quality at the dining halls, and accessibility of the Student Regent and Student Senate. Regent Salas reported that Vice President Cordova is working with others to develop a student transportation program and has already met with ABL Food Services management to improve the quality of the food in the dining halls. Regent Salas stated that the food had already improved.

Regent Salas informed the Board that she has received a lot positive feedback for the letter to students, faculty and staff that was sent out on her behalf. The letter included Regents Salas' contact information and office hours. Regent Salas noted that the Student Senate Executive Members had also sent an email to all students listing their office hours.

Chairman Gonzales welcomed everyone attending the Board meeting via ITV and indicated that he would like Center Directors to participate in Board meetings and provide center updates.

Mr. Lew Granados provided an NMHU-Rio Rancho Center update informing the Board that the NMHU-RR Center is in its' tenth year of operation and that an MOU with Central New Mexico Community College (CNM) to exchange course offerings is in process and that 95% of the NMHU-RR students have transferred from CNM.

Chairman Gonzales stated that he was looking forward to Highlands' expansion in Raton and asked Ms. Ann Holl to provide an update on the Raton Learning Center. Ms. Holl informed the Board that Highlands has offered courses in Raton since 1997 and that 110 students are enrolled at the site. Chairman Gonzales asked what the building capacity is. Ms. Holl reported that the capacity is approximately 200-300. Chairman Gonzales asked Ms. Holl if she felt there was a need for Highlands to expand in the area. Ms. Holl responded yes. Ms. Holl informed the Board that a new hospital will be built in Raton, therefore the nursing and the social work programs are expected to do well in the area. President Fries thanked Ms. Holl for her role with the expansion of Highlands to Raton.

Chairman Gonzales asked Vice President Rivera to ensure that the Center Directors are prepared to give a short presentation at future Board meetings. Chairman Gonzales asked President Fries to work with the Center Directors to have the centers work as vehicles for outreach in their areas.

Student Senate Report – Mr. Michael Sallee

Vice President Cordova reported that the ASNMHU has been very active on campus and that she was pleased with their conduct during the student forum.

Faculty Senate Report – Dr. Maureen Romine

Dr. Maureen Romine presented her written report (Attachment H).

Dr. Stephen Martinez provided an update on the NMHU-Santa Fe Center and Espanola Site. Dr. Martinez informed the Board that a recurring MOU with the Santa Fe Public Schools for an Education Leadership program will begin in January and that a professional development grant for teaching assistants is being coordinated.

Dr. Martinez informed the Board that the CESDP program at the Espanola site received a \$1.5 million Title II Grant. Through the Title II Grant the CESDP program hopes to graduate 65 students from Highlands over the next five years.

Dr. Martinez thanked President Fries and Vice President Rivera for their support to improve the infrastructures at the NMHU Santa Fe Center and Espanola site.

Chairman Gonzales asked if enrollment was impacted since Northern New Mexico Community College became a 4-year institution. Dr. Martinez indicated that Highlands has continued to offer graduate programs but that the number of education and business undergraduates had declined. Dr. Martinez informed the Board that Highlands is committed to rebuilding those programs.

Chairman Gonzales called on Ms. Joan Sisneros for an update on the NMHU-Farmington Center. Ms. Sisneros informed the Board that she is working on various advertisements to inform the public about NMHU's presence in Farmington. Chairman Gonzales indicated that he is hopeful that the advertising efforts will help the center grow.

Ms. Sisneros stated that a new student orientation is scheduled for December 7, 2007.

Chairman Gonzales recommended that Ms. Sisneros work with the area reservations to recruit students. Ms. Sisneros reported that she had visited the reservations to recruit students for the social work, education, and business programs.

Persons Wishing to Address the Board

Chairman Gonzales welcomed Dr. Roy Lujan as the new Dean for the College of Arts & Science, Ms. Marisol Greene as the new Facilities Director, Mr. Sean Weaver, Director of University Relations, and Mr. Vincent Garcia, Educational Outreach staff member.

Mr. Granados introduced the NMHU-RR staff and announced Dr. Pat Bost's retirement from the School of Business.

Executive Session – (1) Limited personnel matters related to the hiring, promotion, demotion, dismissal, assignment, resignation, or investigation or consideration of complaints or charges against an employee; (2) bargaining strategy preliminary to collective bargaining; (3) threatened or pending litigation subject to the attorney-client privilege in which the University may become a participant; and (4) real estate disposal. Pursuant to provisions of NMSA 1978, §10-15-1(H) (2)(5)(7)&(8). Regent Salas moved to adjourn to executive session Regent Adams seconded the motion. A roll call was taken and voting in favor of the motion were: Regent Gonzales, yes; Regent Adams, yes; and Regent Salas, yes. Motion carried and the Board went into executive session at 11:18 pm.

Regent Adams moved to come out of executive session into open session. Regent Salas seconded the motion. For the record, Chairman Gonzales stated that only those items cited in the motion were discussed in executive session and no action was taken. Regents present confirmed the statement. A roll call was taken and voting in favor of the motion were: Regent Gonzales, yes; Regent Adams, yes; and Regent Salas, yes. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was called back to order at 12:20 pm.

Vice President for Academic Affairs – Dr. Gilbert Rivera

Vice President Rivera presented his written report (Attachment I).

Vice President Rivera stated that at the last Board meeting he was asked to make an enrollment and retention presentation and he disseminated the report (Attachment J). Chairman Gonzales pointed out that Vice President Rivera's view on focusing on the first two years of success is key to getting students graduated.

Chairman Gonzales inquired if Highlands had a peer mentoring program. Vice President Cordova informed the Board that a peer to peer program was initiated two years ago and that the mentors assist with orientation activities such as the Early Alert Program, First Year Experience and Residence Halls. Vice President Cordova indicated that all employees should assist with mentoring and stated that Dr. Romine puts forth a lot of effort by attending most of the orientation sessions and by providing student outreach.

President's Report – Dr. James Fries, President

a) Open Meetings Act Resolution – Action Item

President Fries presented the Open Meetings Act Resolution and pointed out that paragraph #7 was revised (Attachment K).

Regent Adams moved to approve the Open Meetings Act Resolution as presented. Regent Salas seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Regent Gonzales, Regent Adams, and Regent Salas. Motion passed unanimously.

b) Residence Hall Architect (Attachment L) – Action Item

President Fries informed the Board that the Request for Proposal process was complete and requested approval to negotiate and execute a contract with Dekker/Perich/Sabatini.

Regent Salas moved to approve the hiring of a Residence Hall Architect. Regent Adams seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Regent Gonzales, Regent Adams, and Regent Salas. Motion passed unanimously.

c) Tenure Recommendations (Attachment M) – Action Item

President Fries informed the Board the four faculty members were eligible for tenure and recommended that Dr. Edward Martinez from the Natural Sciences Department, Dr. Erika Derkes from the Sociology Department, Dr. Donna Woodford-Gormley from the English Department, and Dr. Helen Blythe from the English Department be granted tenure.

President Fries indicated that all four faculty members were ranked highly by faculty in their departments and throughout the campus.

Regent Adams moved to approve Tenure for Dr. Edward Martinez, Dr. Erika Derkes, Dr. Donna Woodford-Gormley, and Dr. Helen Blythe. Regent Salas seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Regent Gonzales, Regent Adams, and Regent Salas. Motion passed unanimously.

d) Sabbatical Recommendations (Attachment N) – Action Item

President Fries reported that four faculty members applied for sabbatical leave and recommended that Dr. Miriam Langer for the Media Arts Department, Dr. Peter Linder from the History Department, Dr. Carolyn Newman from the School of Education, and Dr. Barbara Risch from the English Department be approved for sabbatical leave.

Regent Adams moved to approve Sabbatical Leave for Dr. Miriam Langer, Dr. Peter Linder, Dr. Carolyn Newman, and Dr. Barbara Risch. Regent Salas seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Regent Gonzales, Regent Adams, and Regent Salas. Motion passed unanimously.

e) Other

President Fries reported on an in-state tuition and fees comparison study at 4-year institutions (Attachment O). President Fries indicated that the study was compiled from a national report by Dr. Steve Gamble, President at Eastern New Mexico University.

President Fries reported that Highlands applied for seven FM radio station licenses across northern New Mexico. The NMHU Foundation applied for one. He stated that Highlands is still in contention for all but the Taos license and that the NMHU Foundation would likely receive the license in Las Vegas.

President Fries invited the Regents to attend the Governor's Summit on December 3-5, 2007 and the movie screening of *No Country for Old Men* on November 14, 2007.

President Fries also reported on the following:

Alumni representatives want to plan a presidential inauguration and related events, no date has been scheduled.

Mr. Weaver is working with Internet Consulting Services, creators of the NMHU Athletics website, to develop a website for NMHU.

Cabinet Secretary Dr. Reed Dasenbrock visited the campus and the meeting went well.

The Media Arts Department was invited to participate in the Santa Fe Innovation Park.

The NMHU Soccer team qualified for the play-offs.

The NMHU Men's Cross Country Team place fifth at the regional competition with Mr. Laurent Ngirakamaro winning the meet.

Highlands anticipates another \$100,000 endowment donation from the Los Alamos Foundation for salaries for faculty in computer science.

Highlands received \$500,000 from the State of New Mexico because enough money was raised to meet the endowment match.

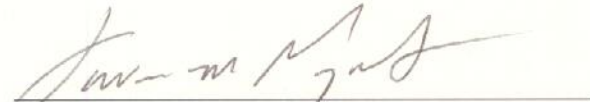
President Fries stated that it has been a busy fall but that he continues to be impressed by the quality and commitment from the faculty and staff.

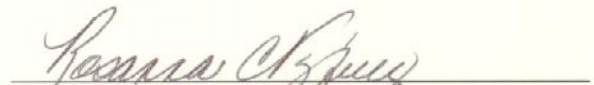
Comments by the Regents

Regent Adams announced that NMHU's last home football game was scheduled for Saturday against Mesa State and invited everyone to attend. He also thanked the Rio Rancho Center staff for accommodating the Board of Regents Meeting.

Adjournment

Regent Salas moved to adjourn the meeting. Regent Gonzales seconded the motion. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 1:15 pm.


Chairman Javier Gonzales
NMHU Board of Regents


Secretary/Treasurer Rosanna Vázquez
NMHU Board of Regents