

New Mexico Highlands University
Board of Regents Meeting
Margaret J. Kennedy Alumni Hall
NMHU Main Campus
Las Vegas, NM 87701
April 29, 2009 at 9:00 am

1. Call to Order – Chairman Leveo V. Sanchez
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda for April 29, 2009
4. Approval of the Minutes from March 25, 2009
5. Academic and Student Affairs Committee – Regent Nancy Long
 - a) Academic Affairs Report – Vice President Gilbert Rivera
 - i. Music Degree Programs – Action Item
 - ii. Post Bachelors Certification in Fine Arts – Action Item
 - iii. Master's of Science in Athletics – Action Item
 - b) Student Affairs Report – Vice President Judy Cordova-Romero
 - i. Financial Aid Disbursement Policy – Action Item
6. Finance and Administration Committee – Regent Jesus López
 - a) Disposition of Surplus Property – Action Item
 - b) Tuition and Fees – Action Item
 - c) Room and Board Rates – Action Item
 - d) FY10 Budget Approval – Action Item
 - e) FY09 Budget Adjustment Request (BAR) – Action Item
 - f) Student Center Site and Demolition of Mortimer Hall – Action Item
 - g) Student Center Bond Issue Resolution – Action Item
 - h) 2008 GO Bond Project List – Action Item
 - i) Architectural Contract for Natatorium, Trolley Bldg., and Lora Shields – Action Item
7. Student Senate Report – Ms. Nicole Parra-Perez
8. Graduate Student Senate Report – Ms. Georgianne Brown
9. Faculty Senate Report – Dr. Maureen Romine
10. Persons Wishing to Address the Board

11. Comments by the Regents
12. 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)
13. President's Report – President James Fries
 - a) Staff Advisory Senate – Action Item
 - b) Staff and Faculty Salary Survey/Peer Institutions
 - c) Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association
 - d) Board Meeting Dates for 2009-2010 – Action Item
 - e) Other
14. Adjournment

**New Mexico Highlands University
Board of Regents Meeting
April 29, 2009**

The New Mexico Highlands University Board of Regents met in regular session on April 29, 2009 at the Margaret J. Kennedy Alumni Hall, on the New Mexico Highlands University main campus in Las Vegas, New Mexico. Chairman Sanchez called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

Attendance

Board Members Present: Mr. Leveo V. Sanchez, Mr. Pete Aguilar, Mr. Jesus L. López, Mr. Gregory A. Rael. Board Members Absent: Ms. Nancy R. Long.

Administrative Personnel Present: Dr. James Fries, President; Dr. Gilbert Rivera, Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. William Taylor, Vice President for Finance & Administration, Ms. Judy Cordova-Romero, Vice President for Student Affairs, and Ms. Rachel King, Legal Counsel.

Others Present: Dr. Maureen Romine, Faculty Senate Chair; Ms. Stephanie Butts, ASNMHU Vice President; Ms. Georgianne Brown, AGS President; and Ms. Carolina López, Executive 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 Farmington, Rio Rancho, Santa Fe, and Raton Centers, and over the KEDP Radio Station.

Approval of Agenda for Meeting of April 29, 2009

Regent Lopez moved to approve the April 29, 2009 agenda with the amendment that Item #4, Approval of the March 25, 2009 Minutes fall after Item #12, Executive Session. Regent Aguilar seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Regent Sanchez, Regent Aguilar, Regent López, Regent Rael. Motion passed unanimously.

Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee Meeting – Nancy R. Long

Academic Affairs – Dr. Gilbert Rivera, VPAA

Vice President Rivera read his written report (**Attachment A**).

Music Degree Programs – Action Item

Vice President Rivera informed the Board that the music faculty is proposing a Bachelor of Arts in Music; a five-year Bachelor of Fine Arts in Music with a concentration in Music Composition and Vocal Performance; and a Minor in Music Technology and Composition (**Attachment B**).

Regent López moved to approve the Music Degree Program proposals as presented. Regent Aguilar seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Post Bachelors Certification in Fine Arts – Action Item

Vice President Rivera informed the Board that there is a need for the program in order to help students become competitive as self-directed artist.

Regent López moved to approve the Post Bachelors Certification in Fine Arts as presented (**Attachment C**). Regent Rael seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Master's of Science in Athletic Training – Action Item

Vice President Rivera reported that there is a need for an athletic training program in northern New Mexico. Vice President Rivera stated that the program would allow students to earn a B.A. and M.A. in five years. Vice President Rivera called on Dr. Kathy Jenkins and Ms. Andrellita Chavez for an overview of the curriculum.

Regent Rael moved to approve the Master's of Science in Athletic Training (**Attachment D**) as presented. Regent Aguilar seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Student Affairs – Ms. Judy Cordova-Romero, VPSA

Financial Aid Disbursement Policy – Action Item

Vice President Cordova-Romero informed the Board that currently financial aid disbursements are awarded prior to the first day of class. Vice President Cordova-Romero stated that students can change courses, meal plans, and make housing changes which change their account balance which affects the amount of the disbursement. Vice President Cordova-Romero added that changing the disbursement date to the second Friday on the semester would allow the Business Office to post changes to student accounts and verify the students' actual financial obligations.

Regent Rael moved to approve the Financial Aid Disbursement Policy (**Attachment E**) as presented. Regent Aguilar seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Finance and Administration Committee – Regent Jesus López

Regent López stated for the record that a quorum met for the Finance and Administration Committee on April 27, 2009. Regent López informed the board of the following:

- The disposition of surplus property request is in accordance with New Mexico State Statutes.
- NMHU is proposing a Tuition increase with no fee increase. NMHU offers the lowest university tuition statewide. Regent López stated that the Finance and Administration Committee was satisfied that the administration had consulted with the student body regarding the fee increases. Regent López further informed that Regent Rael had personally met with students to inform them of the tuition increase.
- Regent López informed the Board that Vice President Cordova-Romero provided an in-depth presentation regarding the proposed 5% room rate increase and that the increase was necessary to cover operating and deferred maintenance costs of the residence halls and was as minimal as possible.
- Regent López commended Vice President Taylor and Eileen Bentley, NMHU Budget Director for their presentation on the FY10 Budget and informed the Board the Higher Education Department has mandated all colleges and universities to cut their budgets.

Regent López reported that NMHU cut approximately \$1.6 million without affecting program function or personnel.

- Regent López reported that the FY09 Budget Adjustment Request (BAR) is required by the Higher Education Department to finalize the last quarterly report.

Disposition of Surplus Property – Action Item

Regent Aguilar moved to approve the Disposition of Surplus Property in accordance with state statutes and as presented (**Attachment F**). Regent Rael seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Tuition and Fees – Action Item

Regent López moved to approve the Tuition and Fees increase as presented (**Attachment G**). Regent Aguilar seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Room and Board Rates – Action Item

Regent López moved to approve the Room and Board Rates increase as presented (**Attachment H**). Regent Rael seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

FY10 Budget Approval – Action Item

Regent López moved to approve the FY10 Budget as presented (**Attachment I**). Regent Aguilar seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

FY09 Budget Adjustment Request (BAR) – Action Item

Regent López moved to approve the FY09 Budget Adjustment Request (BAR) as presented (**Attachment J**). Regent Rael seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Student Center Site Demolition of Mortimer Hall – Action Item

Regent López moved to approve the Student Center Site Demolition of Mortimer Hall as presented (**Attachment K**). Regent Rael seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Student Center Bond Issue Resolution – Action Item

Mr. Paul Cassidy of RBC Capital Markets and Mr. Duane Brown of Modrall Sperling presented the Student Center Bond Issue Resolution.

Regent López moved that the Board suspend any rules which might prohibit or impede the re-adoption of the resolution authorizing issuance of the FY09 Student Center Bond Issue Resolution as presented (**Attachment L**). Regent Aguilar seconded the motion. A roll call was taken and voting in favor of the motion were: Regent Sanchez, yes; Regent Aguilar, yes; Regent Lopez, yes; and Regent Rael, yes. Motion carried unanimously.

2008 GO Bond Project List – Action Item

Regent López moved to approve the 2008 GO Bond Project List as presented (**Attachment M**). Regent Rael seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Student Senate Report – Ms. Stephanie Butts

Ms. Stephanie Butts, ASNMHU Vice President read the ASNMHU written report (**Attachment N**).

Vice President Cordova introduced Mr. Wade López, newly elected ASNMHU President who indicated that he is looking forward to his role and responsibilities as the ASNMHU President.

Graduate Student Senate Report – Ms. Georgianne Brown

AGS President Georgianne Brown read the AGS written report (**Attachment O**).

Faculty Senate Report – Dr. Maureen Romine

Dr. Maureen Romine, Faculty Senate Chair presented the Faculty Senate written report. (**Attachment P**).

Dr. Romine thanked Dr. Kathy Jenkins for her efforts with the Collective Bargaining process and thanked the faculty for their hard work preparing for the North Central Accreditation Visit.

Persons Wishing to Address the Board

One student raised concerns regarding the future of Connor Hall. President Fries stated that Connor Hall was under consideration for various renovations.

President's Report – Dr. James Fries, President

Staff Advisory Senate – Action Item

Regent López moved to approve the Staff Advisory Senate action item as presented (**Attachment Q**). Regent Aguilar seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Staff and Faculty Salary Survey/Peer Institutions

President Fries reported that he plans to launch a staff and faculty salary survey to compare NMHU with other institutions.

Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association

President Fries informed the Board the Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association has elected officers with Dr. Leo Martinez being elected President, Dr. Bob Amai and Dr. Sara Harris as the Secretary/Treasurer. The Association will be finalizing bylaws in the near future.

Board Meeting Dates for 2009-2010 – Action Item

President Fries proposed Board of Regents meeting dates:

April 29, 2009

July 29, 2009

October 28, 2009

January 27, 2010

April 28, 2010

July 28, 2010

October 27, 2010

President Fries also proposed that the two Board Subcommittees meet on the Monday prior to the full Board meeting.

Regent López moved to approve the proposed Board of Regents meeting dates as presented (**Attachment R**). Regent Aguilar seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Other

- President Fries invited the Board to the various NMHU Commencement ceremonies and informed that the Keynote speaker at the main campus commencement ceremony will be Congressman Ben Ray Lujan Jr.
- The Employee Recognition Breakfast was held on April 28, 2009 and awards were given to employees who reached 5, 10, 15, 20, and 25 years of service at the university. President Fries informed the Board that Johnny DesChamps received the Customer Service Award, Dr. Rey Martinez received the Spirit Award, Gavino Archuleta received the Worker Bee Award, and Rochelle Yazzie received Outstanding Service Award.
- HU hosted a very successful Research Day last week.
- The Educators Job Fair was held last week and schools from 5 states and 25 school districts participated in the event.
- The Higher Learning Commission Accreditation Visit is scheduled for November 2-4, 2009.
- Chevron Mining in Questa is laying off close to 250 people and NMHU is working inform employees of educational opportunities.

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; (4) real estate acquisition or disposal; and (5) discussion of competitive sealed proposals for legal services solicited pursuant to the Procurement Code, Pursuant to provisions of NMSA 1978, 10-15-1 (H) (2) (5) (6) (7) & (8). Regent López moved to enter into executive session. Regent Rael seconded the motion. A roll call was taken and voting in favor were: Chairman Sanchez, Regent Aguilar, Regent Lopez, and Regent Rael. Motion carried and the Board went into executive session at 12:40 pm.

Regent López moved to come out of executive session into open session. Regent Rael seconded the motion. For the record, Chairman Sanchez 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 Sanchez, yes;

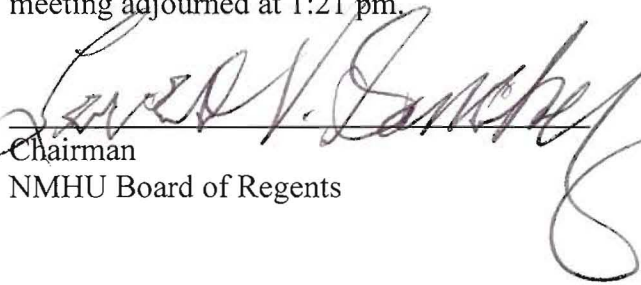
Regent Aguilar, yes; Regent Lopez, yes; and Regent Rael, yes. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was called back to order at 1:20 pm.

Approval of Minutes from the meetings March 25, 2009

Regent López moved to approve the minutes of March 25, 2009 with the amendment to add the statement as follows: *For the record, Vice Chair Long stated that only those items cited in the motion were discussed in executive session and no action was taken. Regents present confirmed the statement.* Regent Aguilar seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Adjournment

Regent Aguilar moved to adjourn. Regent Rael seconded the motion. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 1:21 pm.



Chairman
NMHU Board of Regents



Secretary/Treasurer
NMHU Board of Regents