

**Faculty Senate Meeting**  
**March 11, 2009**  
**3:00 pm, Kennedy Lounge - New Mexico Highlands University**  
**Minutes - Final**

1. Call to Order
2. **Present:** David Lobdell, David Arguello, Merritt Helvenston, Julius Harrington, April Kent, Ken Bentson, Maureen Romine, Stella Helvie, Kathy Jenkins, Jim Peters, April Kent, Orit Tamir, Lee Stauffer.  
**Others present:** Dr. Rivera and Jessica Power
3. Agenda approved unanimously as amended – a report from the Budget Ad Hoc Committee was added to Old Business and the selection of 4 Faculty Marshals and discussion on NMHU’s web site were added to New Business.
4. Minutes – approved with corrections - 11 for and one abstention.
5. Communication from the Administration - Dr. Rivera
  - 595 students applied for graduation: 50% from the main campus, 50% centers, 55% undergraduate, and 45% graduate students.
  - BOR meeting is coming up end of the month.
    - During the forthcoming meeting the VPAA will report on a number of revisions to academic programs that do not require BOR approval.
    - The VPAA will also present a number of proposed new programs, a new minor, a certificate program, the deletion of 2 minors, and a request to lift the suspension from a minor in theater – all will be presented to the BOR for approval.
    - The BOR will consider four Sabbatical leave requests and one nomination for emeritus status.
    - CSF – the proposition passed Senate Education committee and went to Senate Finance Committee.
6. Communication from the Chair – Dr. Romine
  - Dr. Romine circulated a summary from President Fries on the CSF.
7. Communication from Academic Affairs – Dr. Bentson
  - The Committee approved the deletion of a number of psychology courses.
  - The Committee streamlined program review.
8. Graduate Student Association – Jessica Power
  - Two new members joined the graduate students senate
  - There will not be a gala this year. Instead, the Graduate Student Association will use the funding for professional rather than social support.
  - The Association will ask students who attend conferences with the help of funding from the Association to give 15-20 presentations on the conference.
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9. Old Business

- a. Report from the Ad Hoc Budget Committee – Dr. Peters
  - Dr. Peters circulated a draft of questions for the VPs on budgeting and asked senate members to review and comment on the questions by the next Senate meeting.
  - Dr. Jenkins added that the committee needs to compare the portion of the budget that NMHU allocates for Instruction to what other state universities allocate.
- b. Responses from Faculty Affairs Committee on their charges
  - The committee recommended no changes with regard to the committee's duties and responsibilities.
  - The Committee suggested expanding Sabbatical leave to a year with preference given to faculty with external funding.
- c. Membership and election process for Faculty Senate, Academic Affairs, Faculty Affairs, Research and Library Committees.
  - Exercise and Sport Sciences, Chemistry, and Behavioral Sciences recommended keeping the current membership formula with regard to Faculty Senate and Academic Affairs. A short discussion ensued regarding membership in the other committee. The Executive Committee will discuss the language and bring it before the full senate for a vote.
  - Outcome Assessment Committee – Dr. Nelson suggested via e-mail that representation in this committee will be based on core curriculum areas.
  - Do we need International Education Committee?

Respectfully Submitted by

Orit Tamir, Ph.D.  
Faculty Senate Secretary