General Faculty Meeting Approved Minutes Wednesday 28, September 2005 3:00pm in Kennedy Lounge

Agenda:

- **1. Meeting called to order:** 3:12pm. A quorum was present, but alas, no lame refreshments, Dr. Linder pledged to bring them next time.
- **2. Approval of Agenda:** Dr. Sabutis proposed changes in the order of the agenda, and the motion was approved unanimously.
- **3. Approval of minutes from meeting of 31 August 2005:** The minutes were approved unanimously without modification.
- 4. Conversation with Phil Uzdawinis: Dr. Sabutis introduced Dr. Uzdawinis, who was invited to discuss the role of the foundation and its relationship with the faculty. Dr. Uzdawinis provided a brief summary of his background. He then provided a brief summary of some of the ongoing activities and struggles facing the Foundation Board. He noted the success of the board in raising matching funds for endowed chairs, and recounted the role of the foundation board in the establishment of the Rio Rancho campus, and in lobbying at the Federal level for building programs, new facilities, fundraising, and other initiatives. He also discussed briefly the role of the alumni Association in the development of fundraising. He made specific reference to the program of Ilfeld restoration and endowed scholarships.
- 5. Collective Bargaining Update: Dr. Ward provided a brief report on the most recent meeting of the Local Labor Board, held on 19 September. The current issue and the focus of the recent meeting dealt with the organization of the election. The next Local Labor Board meeting will be held on 17 October, and the election may occur as early as November of this year. He discussed also a continuing issue of contention, the issue of whether or not department chairs should be part of the bargaining unit. He observed that at New Mexico Highlands University department chairs as primarily faculty members, and have a seventy-five percent teaching load. He also discussed plans to prepare for the actual process of collective bargaining. He finally fielded questions about the election, the role of chairs and other faculty with release time, etc. Dr. Solluhub also clarified a number of issues relating to the relationship of the Faculty Association and the State AFT & NEA.
- **6. Announcements:** Dr. Sabutis announced that the Faculty Senate had organized meeting of faculty committee chairs with members of the administration, to remind them about recent difficulties, and the need to establish rules and the need to continue on accreditation issues. He also reported that the president liked the recent informal meetings held between members of the administration and members of the faculty; 3:00pm on Tuesday, 4 October will be the next such meeting.
- **7.** Adjournment: 3:55pm.