

Faculty Senate Meeting
May 6, 2009
3:00 pm, Kennedy Lounge - New Mexico Highlands University
Approved Minutes

1. Call to Order
2. **Present:** David Arguello, Merritt Helvenston, Julius Harrington, April Kent, Ken Bentson, Maureen Romine, Stella Helvie, Kathy Jenkins, Lori Rudolph, Jim Peters. [10 total]
Absent: Orit Tamir, Lee Stauffer, David Lobdell
Others Present: Gilbert Rivera
3. **Approval of Agenda:** Amended agenda was approved unanimously.
4. **Approval of the minutes** – the 4/22/09 were minutes approved with one abstention.
5. **Old Business** –
 - a) **Collective Bargaining Update** – Dr. Jenkins
 - b) **Election of Senate Officers**—
 - **Chair**—Maureen Romine by acclamation
 - **Vice Chair**—Merrit Helvenston by acclamation
 - **Secretary/Treasure**—Peter Linder by acclamation
 - **At Large Members (2)**—Kathy Jenkins and April Kent acclamation
 - c) **Committee membership—Athletic Committee, Student Affairs Committee, Faculty Grievance and Conciliation Committee, and Financial Planning Committee.**
 - Dr. Jenkins recommended that we keep the membership of the committees as they are in the handbook for now and talk about committees again in the fall especially the financial planning committee.
 - Subcommittee on Distance Education (Academic Affairs): The Senate unanimously voted to delete it as it has been inactive.
 - d) **International Education Committee**
 - The committee is currently not functioning. Bob Mishler described the institutional history of the committee and stressed the importance of faculty oversight of the academic aspect of international programs.
 - Dr. Bentson suggested the committee’s responsibilities could be folded into Academic Affairs’s responsibilities.
 - Dr. Rivera pointed out that most of the international programs are classes not programs and fall under departments for review.

- Dr. Jenkins moved that we table discussion until the fall.
Unanimously approved.
- e) **Strategic Plan**
- Comments on the plan should be sent to Dr. Linda LaGrange. Dr. Romine said the Faculty Senate cannot vote on the plan until there is a finished product.
- f) **Handbook Changes** – will be sent to faculty for review
- g) **Student Academic Dishonesty Policies and Procedures**
- Dr. Romine said we need more faculty input. Dr. Jenkins said it should be sent to the whole faculty for comment.
6. **Communication from the Administration** –Dr. Rivera
- This spring 675 students are graduating. Of these students, 50.5% are undergraduates and 49.5% graduates, 71% are female and 29% male. The colleges will graduate 128 students, the School of Business 129 student, the School of Education 230 students, the School of Social Work 200 student, and University Studies 8 students. 375 students will graduate from the main campus, 188 from Rio Ranch, 66 from Farmington, 38 from Santa Fe, 10 from Roswell, and 6 from Raton.
7. **Communication from the Chair**—Dr. Romine
- Administration evaluations are being calculated by Mary Jane Valdez.
 - BOR meeting highlights
 - Music Degree Programs, Post Bachelors Certification in Fine Arts, Master of Science in Athletic Training approved
 - Financial Aid Disbursement Policy approved. Financial Aid will now be disbursed on the Friday of the 2nd week of the semester.
 - No increase in fees; slight increase in tuition.
 - 5% increase in Room and Board rates approved.
 - FY10 Budget cut by \$1.6 million approved.
 - Student Center Site and Demolition of Mortimer Hall approved.
 - Staff Advisory Senate approved.
 - Staff and Faculty salary survey/peer institutions report
 - Emeritus and Retired Faculty Association report
8. **Communication from Academic Affairs**— there was no representative from the Academic Affairs
9. **Communication from the Student Senate** –there was no representative from the Student Senate

10. **Communication from the Graduate Association**—there was no representative from the Graduate Association

Respectfully Submitted by

April J. Kent, MLIS

Faculty Senate Executive Committee At Large Member