

**New Mexico Highlands University Board of Regents Meeting  
New Mexico Highlands University**

**January 12, 2007**

The New Mexico Highlands University Board of Regents met in regular session on January 12, 2007 at the Margaret J. Kennedy Alumni Hall, New Mexico Highlands University, Las Vegas, New Mexico. Chairman Javier Gonzales called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**Attendance**

Board Members Present: Mr. Javier Gonzales, Mr. Walter Adams, Mr. Ricky Serna, and Ms. Rosanna Vázquez

Newly Appointed Board Members Present: Governor Robert Benavides, Ms. Sherry Salas

Chairman Gonzales welcomed Honorable Judge Eugenio Mathis to the meeting and informed the Board that Judge Mathis would be swearing in the new Board of Regent members.

Administrative Personnel Present: Dr. Manuel Pacheco, President; Mr. Domingo Sánchez III, Vice President for Finance & Administration; Ms. Judy Cordova, Vice President of Student Affairs; Ms. Rachel King, Legal Counsel.

Others Present: Dr. Joseph Sabutis, Faculty Senate, Chair; Mr. Roberto Arellanes, Student Senate Vice President; Ms. Carolina López, Board of Regents 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 Santa Fe, and Rio Rancho Centers, and over the KEDP NMHU Radio Station.

**Approval of Agenda for Meeting of January 12, 2007**

Regent Adams moved to approve the Agenda for January 12, 2007. Regent Vázquez seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Regent Adams, Regent Benavides, Regent Gonzales, Regent Salas, and Regent Vázquez. Motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes from December 16, 2006**

Regent Adams moved to approve the minutes from December 16, 2006. Regent Vázquez seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Regent Adams, Regent Benavides, Regent Gonzales, Regent Salas, and Regent Vázquez. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Matters from the Board**

- a) **Swearing in of New Newly Appointed Board of Regents Robert Benavides and Sherry Salas – Honorable Judge Eugenio Mathis**  
Chairman Gonzales introduced the Honorable Governor Benavides and Ms. Sherry Salas as the newly appointed Board of Regent members. Judge Mathis administered the Oath to Regent Benavides and Regent Salas. The two new Regents took office and presided in the meeting. Chairman Gonzales welcomed the new regents to the Board.

- b) **Recognition of Previous Board of Regents – Regent Javier M. Gonzales**

Chairman Gonzales thanked Regent Serna for the work he provided during his term as a Regent. Chairman Gonzales also thanked former Regent member Michael Saavedra for his work as a Regent as well.

Regent Adams stated the Highlands has been blessed to have former Regents Saavedra and Serna as Board members. Regent Adams stated that Regent Serna was an asset to NMHU and that he will miss working with him.

Regent Vázquez stated that she appreciated working with Regent Serna, thanked him for the input he provided, and wished him well.

Chairman Gonzales, Regent Adams, and Regent Vázquez presented Regent Serna with a plaque in appreciation for his hard work as a Regent.

Regent Serna stated that he was thankful for the opportunity to be a Regent and to learn from the other Regents. Regent Serna thanked the Regents for their friendship, trust, and support. Regent Serna stated that he was one of the few students that would have the opportunity to be a Regent and that 99.9% of student will never have the same opportunity. Regent Serna wished the new Regents the best and that

he hopes to be as helpful to Regent Salas as Regent Saavedra was to him.

**c) Board of Regents Officer Elections – Action Item**

Regent Adams moved to retain Regent Gonzales as Chairman of the Board. Regent Vázquez seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Regent Adams, Regent Benavides, Regent Gonzales, and Regent Salas. Motion passed unanimously.

Regent Vázquez moved to elect Regent Adams as Vice Chairman of the Board. Regent Salas seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Chairman Gonzales, Regent Adams, Regent Benavides, and Regent Salas. Motion passed unanimously.

Regent Adams moved to elect Regent Vázquez as Secretary/Treasurer of the Board. Regent Salas seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Chairman Gonzales, Regent Adams, Regent Benavides, and Regent Salas. Motion passed unanimously.

**d) Board of Regents Subcommittee Appointments**

Chairman Gonzales appointed Regent Adams to Chair the Buildings and Grounds Committee, Regent Vázquez to Chair the Academic Affairs Committee, Regent Sherry Salas to Chair the Student Affairs Committee, and Regent Benavides to Chair the Budget and Finance.

**Consent Calendar**

Chairman Gonzales stated that the Budget and Finance Committee or the Chairman of the Board of Regents must approve contracts ranging from \$30,000- \$70,000. Contracts over \$70,000 must to be presented to the full Board of Regents for approval. Chairman Gonzales indicated that the Board could remove items from the Consent Calendar if they feel a public discussion is warranted.

**a) Southwest Trane Contract for \$164,036.81 (Ivan Hilton Science Building HVAC System Interface) – Action Item**

Michael Saavedra, Facilities Services Business Financial Analyst Manager presented the Southwest Trane Contract (Attachment A).

Regent Vázquez moved to approve the Southwest Trane Contract. Regent Adams moved seconded the motion. Voting in favor were:

Regent Adams, Regent Benavides, Regent Gonzales, Regent Salas, and Regent Vázquez. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Gonzales informed the Board and administration that the following agenda items are listed for committee action items. Chairman Gonzales stated that the liaison for each respective committee is responsible for preparing a summary of the committee meeting as part of the Board of Regents Meeting packet. Chairman Gonzales informed the Board and administration that the committee meetings are held one week prior to the Board Meeting.

**Academic Affairs Committee – Regent Rosanna Vázquez**

Regent Vázquez stated that there were no action items to report.

**Budget and Finance Committee – Chairman Javier M. Gonzales**

Chairman Gonzales stated that there were no action items to report. Vice President Sanchez provided a written report (Attachment B).

**Buildings and Grounds Committee – Regent Walter Adams**

Regent Adams stated that there were no action items to report.

**Student Affairs Committee – Regent Sherry Salas**

Regent Salas stated that there were no action items to report. Vice President Cordova provided a written report (Attachment C).

Regent Adams called on Vice President Sanchez to report on the Request for Proposals (RFP's) that had been advertised.

Vice President Sanchez informed the Board that the RFP for the proposed Residence Hall was advertised on Monday, January 8, 2007, and that the RFP's for the Felix Martinez Building and Burriss Hall renovations are being finalized. Vice President Sanchez stated that RFP for the demolition of the El Conquistador Hall (Hi-Rise) has been advertised and that a mandatory meeting for interested parties is scheduled to take place at the end of the month.

Chairman Gonzales recommended that a press release be issued to inform the public of the Hi-Rise demolition.

Chairman Gonzales informed the Board that the rules of the Board prohibit Board members from discussing proposals with any potential vendors.

**Student Senate Report – Mr. Jesse Lopez**

Mr. Roberto Arellanes, Vice President of the Associated Students of NMHU, provided and presented a report to the Board (Attachment D). Mr. Arellanes welcomed that two newly appointed Board members and thanked that two outgoing Board members for the excellent job they had done on behalf of the Student Senate.

Chairman Gonzales asked that the Student Senate meet with Vice President Sanchez to ensure that legislative lobbying is well coordinated, which would allow administration to provide adequate support for the Student Senate.

**Faculty Senate Report – Dr. Joseph Sabutis**

Dr. Sabutis stated that the Faculty was on winter break and that the Faculty Senate had no formal report at this time. Dr. Sabutis welcomed Regents Benavides and Salas to the Board of Regents and extended an invitation to all the Board members to attend Faculty Senate Meetings. Dr. Sabutis stated that it had been a pleasure to work with Regents John Loehr and Ricky Serna. Dr. Sabutis stated that he is the President of the New Mexico Council of Faculty Senate and informed that he had met with Cabinet Secretary Dr. Beverlee McClure to lobby for faculty salary increases and retention funding formula plan for Higher Education partnership with K-12 institutions to include college preparation.

Chairman Gonzales asked Vice President Sanchez if he was following the faculty's legislative requests. Vice President Sanchez stated that in addition to NMHU's Legislative Priorities Package, he and his staff would follow all Higher Education Department requests and other requests specific to NMHU.

Regent Vázquez asked how the coordination of legislative efforts will be handled and how information is to be disseminated.

Vice President Sanchez informed the Board that a website had been developed to inform the public of legislative priorities and bills being introduced.

Chairman Gonzales stated that Natasha Ning had been hired as a lobbyist for the university and asked Lawrence Trujillo to provide Ms. Ning's contact information to the Regents.

President Pacheco stated that he was very satisfied with the planning for this legislative session, which began in September. President Pacheco stated that NMHU is well organized and had a good lobbying team in place.

Vice President Sanchez indicated that NMHU is working as a team and offered to assist the Student Senate with their lobbying efforts.

President Pacheco stated that being well organized would help avoid backdoor issues from arising as often occurs when there is a lack of organization.

Regent Benavides reported that as the Governor of the Isleta Pueblo he has made a lot of commitments to his tribe and assured the Board that he is committed to NMHU. Regent Benavides indicated he would do all he could to assist NMHU with their lobbying efforts.

Chairman Gonzales asked the administration to support the faculty with their lobbying efforts.

#### **Persons Wishing to Address the Board**

Lawrence Trujillo, Assistant Director for Finance and Administration, informed the Board that the Legislative Session begins Tuesday, January 16, 2007 and invited the Regents to partake in the lobbying efforts.

**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 Adams moved to adjourn to executive session Regent Vázquez seconded the motion. A roll call was taken and voting in favor of the motion were: Chairman Gonzales, yes; Regent Adams, yes; Regent Benavides, yes; Regent Salas, yes; and Regent Vázquez, yes. Motion carried unanimously and the Board went into executive session at 10:00 a.m.

Regent Adams moved to come out of executive session into open session. Regent Benavides seconded the motion. For the record, Chairman Gonzales reported 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: Chairman Gonzales, yes; Regent Adams,

yes; Regent Benavides, yes; Regent Salas, yes; and Regent Vázquez, yes. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was called back to order at 12:10 p.m.

### **Comments by the Regents**

Chairman Gonzales stated that he, President Pacheco, Dr. Fries, Vice President Sanchez, and Assistant Vice President Trujillo attended a Legislative Planning Meeting held earlier in the week to discuss legislative strategies.

Chairman Gonzales stated that there were some NMHU Rodeo Team requests that had not been addressed, such as a hay storage facility and additional needs for the rodeo facility.

Regent Adams indicated the Board that the Golf Course is scheduled to open in August or September if all continues as planned.

Chairman Gonzales acknowledged Mr. Mel Root's presence at the meeting and thanked him for his support during the Presidential Search Process. Mr. Root is the President of the NMHU Alumni Association.

### **President's Report – Dr. Manuel T. Pacheco, President**

President Pacheco asked Dr. Tino Mendez, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences to give a report on the Math and English Programs.

Dean Mendez reported that new English and Math Programs were implemented last year in all of the 100 and 111 level English and Math courses. Dean Mendez reported that students in all of the Math 100 and 111 courses scored an average of 30% on the pre-test and 80% on the post-test in the fall 2006 semester. Dean Mendez reported that the Nelson Deny Exam was used to measure student's progress in the English 100 and 111 courses. Dean Mendez informed the Board that students averaged a 9 - 9.5 on the pre-test and averaged a 13.1 on the post-test.

Chairman Gonzales commended Dean Mendez and the College of Arts and Sciences for their success in the program. Dean Mendez stated that the success was due to the dedicated faculty in the department.

Chairman Gonzales asked Dean Mendez what the expected result of the program was. Dean Mendez stated that the criteria used was to get students to the 11<sup>th</sup> grade level, if NMHU uses that criteria as a benchmark, then NMHU is at a 70%-80% success rate after one semester. Dean Mendez stated that the programs would be implemented in all of the Math 100, 111 and 120 Math and English Spring 2007

semester courses. Dean Mendez stated that investment in the courses would improve the student's success rate, which will increase the retention rate.

Dean Mendez thanked Regents Serna and Salas for their participation in the program.

**a) Budget Allocation for an Assistant to the Vice President for Academic Affairs – Action Item**

President Pacheco stated that the Budget Allocation for an Assistant to the Vice President for Academic Affairs was discussed during the Academic Affairs Committee Meeting.. President Pacheco referred the item to Chairman Gonzales for discussion (Attachment E).

Chairman Gonzales informed the Board that continued investments for the developmental programs must to be made. Chairman Gonzales stated that since the faculty had not had the opportunity to review the proposal developed by Regent Serna on behalf of Chairman Gonzales that he is asking the Board to approve budget allocation for a position in the Student Affairs Office rather than in the Academic Affairs Office. Chairman Gonzales stated that a specific amount of the budget go toward assuring student success. Chairman Gonzales stated that the budget allocation is broad as to include development of programs, working with the academic community, and other issues to ensure long-term retention. Chairmen Gonzales opened the item for discussion.

Regent Benavides asked Chairman Gonzales if his intent was to make the position flexible. Chairman Gonzales stated that the position would be flexible and would report to the Vice President of Student Affairs and under the direction for the Vice President of Student Affairs and Vice President for Academic Affairs to ensure coordination of the developmental programs. Chairman Gonzales stated that the position would support freshman success of at NMHU.

Regent Adams asked Chairman Gonzales who would be responsible for developing the job duties for the position. Chairman Gonzales informed the Board that the Vice President of Student Affairs with consultation of the Human Resource Director would develop the job duties with final support coming from President Fries. Regent Adams



asked that the position be approved subject to the job duties and salary. Regents Vázquez asked that the job description include input from the faculty and deans since the position would be largely academic. Chairman Gonzales stated that he is proposing a position that is not largely academic but a position that is in support of student support and student activities to ensure that students have access to support and also that programs are developed for student success. President Pacheco stated that approval of the position should not be implemented at this time because it is subject to further review.

Regent Adams agreed that the position was needed but that he would like a clear definition of the position before the position is approved. Vice President Cordova cited concerns that delaying the allocation funds for the position would delay progress in the developmental programs. Vice President Cordova also stated that a portion of the position is going to enhance the Student Affairs First Year Experience Program. Chairman Gonzales recommended that Regents Adams and Salas as a review committee ensure that the needs of the position are met. Chairman Gonzales stated that he is excited about hearing ideas for the position that will be developed by the Student Affairs and Academic Affairs sides. Chairman Gonzales stated that there is a need for a position in Student Affairs that would support developmental programs and student success. Chairman Gonzales asked that Vice President Cordova with the Director of Human Services develop a list of duties with the intent and that Regents Adams and Salas review the job description upon completion. Chairman Gonzales stated that programs should be funded now so that they may be implemented in the fall to prepare for the incoming students that the Recruitment Office is bringing in. Dr. Sabutis asked Chairman Gonzales if the position would be a temporary or long-term position. Chairman Gonzales indicated that the position was meant to be a long-term position with a title yet to be determined. Chairman Gonzales indicated that the position would not be a "Special Assistant" position.

Chairman Gonzales asked for a motion to allocate a budget for the creation of a position to go into the Student Affairs that would be focused on developing programs that ensure student success to include First Year Experience and supporting issues from the Academic Affairs Office.

Regent Vázquez moved to approve the allocation of budget for the creation of a position to go into the Student Affairs Department. Regent Adams moved seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Regent Adams, Regent Benavides, Regent Gonzales, Regent Salas, and Regent Vázquez. Motion passed unanimously.

**b) Board of Regents Policy Section VIII “Meetings”  
Revisions – Action Item**

President Pacheco provided an overview of the meetings policy revisions (Attachment F).

Regent Vázquez moved to approve the Board of Regents Policy Section VIII “Meetings” Revision. Regent Benavides moved seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Regent Adams, Regent Benavides, Regent Gonzales, Regent Salas, and Regent Vázquez. Motion passed unanimously.

**c) Decision Regarding Granting of Tenure and Promotion for Faculty  
Who Applied for Tenure and Promotion During the 2006-2007  
Academic Year – Action Item**

Chairman Gonzales called on President Pacheco to present.

President Pacheco stated that there were 5 dossiers that were presented for promotion and tenure during the past several months and recommended that tenure be granted to Dr. Mario Gonzales, Dr. Greg Turner, Dr. Dolores Ortega, and Dr. Joan Galini. President Pacheco recommended that promotion be denied for Dr. Orti Tamir with the expectation that a proposal will come forth next year with the modifications that were recommended during the selection process.

Regent Vázquez moved to approve the tenure and promotion recommendation made by President Pacheco. Regent Adams seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Regent Adams, Regent Benavides, Regent Gonzales, Regent Salas, and Regent Vázquez. Motion passed unanimously.

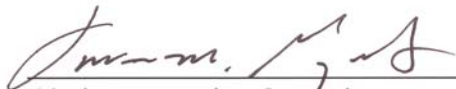
President Pacheco thanked the Board for the opportunity to be a part of NMHU for the past six months. President Pacheco stated that he was able to put into effect all he has learned during his 19 years as a university President.


Chairman Gonzales stated that it was a privilege to work by his side and to receive the benefits of the years of experiences that he has had. Chairman Gonzales indicated that President Pacheco's legacy would be remembered for being pivotal during a key point for the university.

Regent Adams stated that it was an honor and a privilege to serve with him.

**Adjournment**

Regent Adams moved to adjourn the meeting. Regent Vázquez seconded the motion. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 1:10 pm.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman Javier Gonzales  
NMHU Board of Regents

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary/Treasurer Rosanna Vázquez  
NMHU Board of Regents