

New Mexico Highlands University  
Board of Regents Meeting  
Margaret J. Kennedy Alumni Hall  
NMHU Main Campus  
Las Vegas, NM 87701  
July 11, 2008 at 9:00 am

1. Call to Order – Chairman Javier Gonzales
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda for July 11, 2008
4. Approval of the Minutes from April 28, 2008, May 9, 2008, and May 23, 2008
5. Academic Affairs Committee – Regent Nancy Long
  - Programs Reviewed and Recommendations
  - a) Forensic Science Major – Action Item
  - b) Computational Engineering Major – Action Item
6. Budget & Finance Committee – Regent Jesus Lopez
  - a) 5 Year Capital Projects – Action Item
  - b) Research and Public Service Projects (RPSP) – Action Item
  - c) FY2010 Operating Budget – Action Item
7. Buildings & Grounds Committee – Regent Sherry Salas
8. Student Affairs Committee – Regent Sherry Salas
9. Student Senate Report – Ms. Nicole Parra-Perez
10. Graduate Student Senate Report – Ms. Ashley Ramirez
11. Faculty Senate Report – Dr. Maureen Romine
12. Persons Wishing to Address the Board
13. Comments by the Regents

14. 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)
15. President's Report – President James Fries
  - a) Faculty Promotions – Action Item
  - b) Voluntary System Accountability (VSA)
  - c) Golf Course Update
  - d) Other
16. Adjournment

**New Mexico Highlands University  
Board of Regents Meeting  
July 11, 2008**

The New Mexico Highlands University Board of Regents met in regular session on July 11, 2008 at the Margaret J. Kennedy Alumni Hall, on the New Mexico Highlands University main campus in Las Vegas, New Mexico. Vice Chair Long called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

**Attendance**

Board Members Present: Ms. Nancy Long, Ms. Sherry Salas, and Mr. Leveo Sanchez  
Board Members Absent: Mr. Javier M. Gonzales, Mr. Jesus Lopez

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

Others Present: Dr. Maureen Romine, Faculty Senate Chair; Ms. Nicole Parra-Perez, ASNMHU President; Mr. Ivo Awasung, AGS Vice President; Ms. Carolina López, Board of Regents 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 Raton Centers, and over the KEDP Radio Station

**Approval of Agenda for Meeting of July 11, 2008**

Regent Salas moved to approve the July 11, 2008 agenda. Regent Sanchez seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Regent Long, Regent Salas, and Regent Sanchez. Motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes from April 28, 2008, May 9, 2008, and May 23, 2008**

Regent Salas moved to approve the April 28, 2008, May 9, 2008, and May 23, 2008 minutes as presented. Regent Sanchez seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Regent Long, Regent Salas, and Regent Sanchez. Motion passed unanimously.

**Academic Affairs Committee – Regent Nancy Long**

Vice Chair Long summarized the written Academic Affairs report (Attachment A).

**Programs Reviewed and Recommendations**

**a) Forensic Science Major – Action Item**

Vice Chair Long informed the Board that the Board Academic Affairs Committee is recommending suspension of the Forensic Science Major, along with Vice President Rivera is also recommending the program's suspension.

Regent Sanchez moved to suspend the Forensic Science Major as recommended by Vice President Rivera and the Board of Regents Academic Affairs Committee.

Regent Salas seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Regent Long, Regent Salas, and Regent Sanchez. Motion passed unanimously.

**b) Computational Engineering Major – Action Item**

Vice Chair Long informed the Board that the Faculty Academic Affairs Committee and Vice President Rivera agree that the Computational Engineering Major should be eliminated. Vice President Rivera reported that searches for faculty were unsuccessful. Vice President Rivera informed the Board that NMHU was one of two universities that offer the Computational Engineering Major in the nation. Vice President Rivera reported that NMHU has a very successful pre-engineering program and those students in pre-engineering transfer to other universities in New Mexico when they complete necessary coursework. The Board's Academic Affairs Committee voted to recommend that the Board eliminate the Computational Engineering Major.

Regent Sanchez moved to eliminate the Computational Engineering Major as recommended. Regent Salas seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Regent Long, Regent Salas, and Regent Sanchez. Motion passed unanimously.

Vice President Rivera informed the Board that Faculty Development Week is scheduled for the week of August 11, 2008; topics will include academic advising; motivating students; distance education; establishing a center for teacher excellence; preparing for the NCA accreditation visit; and faculty portfolio building.

**Budget & Finance Committee – Regent Jesus Lopez**

Vice Chair Long congratulated Vice President Taylor for his recent appointment from Interim Vice President to Vice President of Finance & Administration.

**a) 5-Year Capital Projects – Action Item**

Vice President Taylor informed the Board that the Higher Education Department (HED) requires all colleges and universities to submit a 5-year capital plan after the Board has approved the plan. Vice Chair Long asked if NMHU could revise the 5-year plan if needed. Vice President Taylor stated that the plan would be revised yearly.

Vice President Taylor provided an overview of the 5-Year Capital Projects Plan (Attachment B).

Regent Sanchez moved to approve the 5-Year Capital Projects Plan as presented. Regent Salas seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Regent Long, Regent Salas, and Regent Sanchez. Motion passed unanimously.

**b) Research and Public Service Projects (RPSP) – Action Item**

Vice President Taylor reported that the RPSP projects receive direct appropriations and are not included in the university funding formula request.

Vice President Taylor and President Fries provided an overview of the RPSP project requests for increased or new funding (Attachment C).

Vice President Taylor introduced Mr. Nesbitt Hagood, the new NMHU Comptroller.

Regent Salas moved to approve the Research and Public Service Projects requests as presented. Regent Sanchez seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Regent Long, Regent Salas, and Regent Sanchez. Motion passed unanimously.

**c) FY2010 Operating Budget – Action Item**

Vice President Taylor informed the Board the HED is requiring all New Mexico colleges and universities to submit their FY2010 Operating budgets in July. Vice President Taylor reported that the FY2010 Operating budget draft is based on the FY09 Budget approved at the Special Board of Regents meeting held on April 28, 2008 and the RPSP requests.

Regent Sanchez moved to approve the FY2010 Operating Budget (Attachment D) as presented by Vice President Taylor. Regent Salas seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Regent Long, Regent Salas, and Regent Sanchez. Motion passed unanimously.

**Buildings & Grounds Committee – Regent Sherry Salas**

Regent Salas summarized the Buildings & Grounds written report (Attachment E) and highlighted the following:

- The Facilities Department has addressed student housing concerns.
- The work order system will be revised to include tracking, progress and completion date of work orders
- Renovations to the Science Annex will be completed by the end of November
- Walls of the north wing of the new student dorms will be raised starting on July 16, 2008

**Student Affairs Committee – Regent Sherry Salas**

Regents Salas indicated that a written Student Affairs Committee report (Attachment F) was provided and informed the Board of the following:

- 70 out of 80 students who attended the latest New Student Orientation Session registered for fall courses
- There is a need for more faculty involvement during orientation sessions
- The Career Services Department will be re-established this fall

**Student Senate Report – Ms. Nicole Parra-Perez**

ASNMHU President Parra-Perez presented the ASNMHU written report (Attachment G).

**AGS Senate Report – Ms. Ashley Ramirez**

AGS Vice President Ivo Awasung presented the AGS Senate Report written report (Attachment H).

**Faculty Senate Report – Dr. Maureen Romine**



Dr. Maureen Romine informed the Board of the following:

- The Faculty Senate will begin revising the Faculty Handbook when school begins in the fall
- The Faculty Senate is looking forward to working with newly elected ASNMHU Senators and AGS Senators

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

Vice Chair Long asked if anyone wished to address the Board, no one came forward.

### **Comments by the Regents**

Vice Chair Long welcomed the Center Directors present via ITV.

President Fries informed the Board that the Dr. Linda LaGrange is scheduling a retreat for Center Directors and key employees all of whom are encouraged to attend.

Vice President Rivera announced that Ms. Joan Lucero-Sisneros was appointed the NMHU-Farmington Center Director. She was serving the university on an interim basis.

President Fries announced that Dr. Joseph McCaffrey was appointed Interim Executive Director of the NMHU Foundation Office and that Dr. G. Doyle Daves is now the NMHU Foundation President. Mr. Leveo Sanchez was the NMHU Foundation President until his recent appointment to the NMHU Board of Regents.

**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 Sanchez moved to adjourn to executive session. Regent Salas seconded the motion. A roll call was taken and voting in favor of the motion were: Regent Long, yes; Regent Salas, yes; and Regent Sanchez, yes. Motion carried and the Board went into executive session at 10:15 am.

Regent Salas moved to come out of executive session into open session. Regent Sanchez seconded the motion. 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. A roll call was taken and voting in favor of the motion were: Regent Long, yes; Regent Salas, yes; and Regent Sanchez, yes. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was called back to order at 11:40 am.

### **President's Report – Dr. James Fries, President**

#### **a) Faculty Promotions – Action Item**

President Fries reported that four faculty members applied for promotion from Associate Professor to Professor. They are Dr. Margaret Young, Associate Professor of Business Administration/Marketing; Mr. David Lobdell, Associate Professor of Art;

Dr. Michael Immerman, Associate Professor of Education; and Dr. Charles Swim, Associate Professor of Management and Management Information Systems. The administration is recommending the promotion of Dr. Young and Dr. Lobdell and are recommending against the promotion of Dr. Immerman and Dr. Swim.

Regent Sanchez moved to approve the promotion recommendations as presented by President Fries. Regent Salas seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Regent Long, Regent Salas, and Regent Sanchez. Motion passed unanimously.

**b) Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA)**

President Fries informed the Board that NMHU provides the HED with annual performance reports. The reports focus on accountability issues for first-time full-time freshman. However, transfer and other students are not typically tracked. The VSA is a broader data collection system being initiated at several AASCU universities across the country. NMHU and all other four-year institutions in New Mexico will begin to participate in the VSA. Participating in the VSA will allow four-year institutions to collect, share, and access student data statewide and nationally.

**c) Golf Course Update**

President Fries reported that progress on the golf course renovations is being made, the greens look good; the Facilities Department is doing an excellent job remodeling and expanding the clubhouse; and the golf carts have arrived.

President Fries informed the Board that Mr. Max Baca agreed to supervise the golf course renovation progress until a golf pro was hired.

**d) Other**

President Fries reported the following:

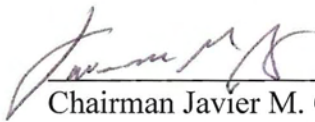
- Dr. G. Doyle Daves was selected as the new President of the NMHU Foundation. President Fries thanked Mr. Leveo Sanchez for his hard work as the NMHU Foundation President and stated that he was glad that Mr. Sanchez was now serving the university as a Regent.
- President Fries informed the Board that he is working with Regent Sanchez and Dr. Daves to revise the Vice President for Advancement job announcement. The VP for Advancement will also serve as the NMHU Foundation Secretary/Treasurer..
- President Fries reminded those present that the General Obligation Bond will be voted on this fall. The Education Bond D includes \$9 million in infrastructure, \$1.8 million for the remodeling of the Lora M. Shields Science Building, and an additional \$4.5 million for Luna Community College.
- The new residence hall walls are going up and construction is on schedule.

- Because of various construction projects throughout campus, a committee was created to contend with parking issues.
- RFP's for architectural service for the remodeling of the Felix Martinez Building; design on the new student center; and a campus master plan have gone out.
- The Board authorized surplus property sale generated approximately \$16,000.
- The Governor's Summit is scheduled for October 1-3, 2008.
- Homecoming is scheduled for October 25, 2008
- Plans for an August Board Retreat are underway

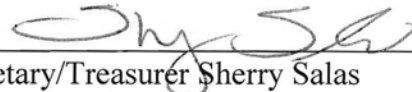
President Fries congratulated Dr. David Lobdell on his promotion.

**Adjournment**

Regent Salas moved to adjourn. Regent Sanchez seconded the motion. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm.



Chairman Javier M. Gonzales  
NMHU Board of Regents



Secretary/Treasurer Sherry Salas  
NMHU Board of Regents