

New Mexico Highlands University  
Board of Regents Meeting  
Margaret J. Kennedy Alumni Hall  
NMHU Main Campus  
Las Vegas, NM 87701  
July 29, 2009 at 10:30 am

1. Call to Order – Chairman Leveo V. Sanchez
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda for July, 29, 2009
4. Approval of the Minutes from April 29, 2009, May 7, 2009 and June 18, 2009
5. Student Center Design Update – Studio Southwest Architects
6. Consent Calendar
  - A. Quarterly Budget Report – Action Item
  - B. FY11 Capital Projects Request – Action Item
  - C. Five Year Capital Projects Plan – Action Item
  - D. Authorize President to negotiate and enter into Memorandum of Understanding between NMHU and County Office of Emergency Management – Action Item
  - E. University Research Park Corporation – Action Item
    - Revised and Amended Articles of Incorporation
    - Revised and Amended Bylaws
    - Revised and Amended Memorandum of Agreement with NMHU
  - F. Cell Phone Policy – Action Item
7. Academic and Student Affairs Committee – Regent Nancy Long
  - A. Five Year Plan for Possible Graduate Programs – Action Item
  - B. Women’s Studies Minor – Action Item
  - C. Other
8. Finance and Administration Committee – Regent Jesus López
  - A. FY11 Budget Request (RPSP’s) – Action Item
  - B. Options for Financing \$14M Bond Issue – Action Item
  - C. NMFA Loan Resolution – Action Item
  - D. Other
9. Student Senate Report – Mr. Wade López
10. Graduate Student Senate Report – Ms. Georgianne Brown
11. Faculty Senate Report – Dr. Maureen Romine

12. Persons Wishing to Address the Board

13. President's Report – Dr. James Fries

- A. Accreditation Process/Self-Study
- B. Strategic Planning
- C. Other

14. Comments by the Regents

15. 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; and (2) real estate acquisition or disposal. Pursuant to provisions of NMSA 1978, §10-15-1(H)(2)&(8)

16. Adjournment

**New Mexico Highlands University  
Board of Regents Meeting  
July 29, 2009**

The New Mexico Highlands University Board of Regents met in regular session on July 29, 2009 at the Margaret J. Kennedy Alumni Hall, on the New Mexico Highlands University main campus in Las Vegas, New Mexico. Chairman Sanchez called the meeting to order at 10:45 am.

**Attendance**

Board Members Present: Mr. Leveo V. Sanchez, Mr. Pete Aguilar, Ms. Nancy R. Long, Mr. Jesus L. López, Mr. Gregory A. Rael.

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

Others Present: Dr. Maureen Romine, Faculty Senate Chair; Mr. Wade López, ASNMHU President; and Ms. Carolina Garduño, 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, Rio Rancho, Santa Fe, and Raton Centers, and over the KEDP Radio Station.

**Approval of Meeting Agenda for July 29, 2009**

Regent López moved to approve the July 29, 2009 agenda. Regent Aguilar seconded the motion. Voting in favor were: Regent Sanchez, Regent Aguilar, Regent Long, Regent López, Regent Rael. Motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of Minutes from the meetings on April 29, 2009, May 7, 2009, and June 18, 2009**

Regent Long moved to approve the minutes of April 29, 2009, May 7, 2009, and June 18, 2009 as presented. Regent Aguilar seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Student Center Design Update – Studio Southwest Architects**

President Fries called on Mr. Richard Braun and Mr. David Friedlaender of the Studio Southwest Architectural firm to present the student center design update.

President Fries noted that the Ballroom would have the capability to be divided into smaller meeting rooms and that the Student Senate Chambers would be used by the Student Senate, Graduate Student Senate, Board of Regents and others.

President Fries indicated that several architectural firms have agreed that the chosen location of 8<sup>th</sup> Street and National is the best location for the new student center.

### **Consent Calendar**

Regent López informed the Board that the Finance and Administration Committee met earlier in the week and he along with Regents Aguilar and Rael were present. Regent López stated that the consent calendar items were discussed at length and that they recommend approval of the consent calendar items as listed.

- A. Quarterly Budget Report – Action Item (**Attachment A**)
- B. FY11 Capital Projects Request – Action Item (**Attachment B**)
- C. Five Year Capital Projects Plan – Action Item (**Attachment C**)
- D. Authorize President to negotiate and enter into Memorandum of Understanding between NMHU and County Office of Emergency Management – Action Item (**Attachment D**)
- E. University Research Park Corporation – Action Item (**Attachment E**)
  - Revised and Amended Articles of Incorporation (**Attachment F**)
  - Revised and Amended Bylaws
  - Revised and Amended Memorandum of Agreement with NMHU
- F. Cell Phone Policy – Action Item (**Attachment G**)

Regent López moved to approve items 6A-6F of the consent calendar presented. Regent Rael seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

President Fries stated for the record that all the Board of Regents Subcommittee meetings are noticed in accordance with Open Meetings Act.

### **Academic Affairs and Student Affairs Committee Meeting – Nancy R. Long**

Regent Long informed the Board that Mr. Sean Weaver presented information on NMHU's marketing via Facebook, YouTube, Twitter and Regroup pages.

### **Five Year Plan for Possible Graduate Programs – Action Item**

Vice President Rivera informed the Board that the faculty has recommended a five year plan for possible graduate programs. Vice President Rivera stated that of the five programs one has already been approved by the Board of Regents (**Attachment H**). President Fries clarified that the administration is requesting Board approval of the five year plan for possible graduate programs for submission to the Higher Education Department and not actual approval of the five programs.

Regent López moved to approve the Five Year Plan for Possible Graduate Programs as presented. Regent Aguilar seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Women's Studies Minor – Action Item**

Regent Long informed the Board that, if approved, the Women's Studies Minor would be offered this fall semester and that only two new courses would be added to the NMHU curriculum (**Attachment I**). Vice President Rivera added that the program is an interdisciplinary program.

Regent Long moved to approve the Women's Studies Minor as presented. Regent Rael seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Finance and Administration Committee – Regent Jesus López**

Regent López stated that all of the action items from the Finance and Administration Committee were reviewed and discussed at length and the committee is recommending Board action.

**FY11 Budget Requests (RPSP's) – Action Item**

Regent López called on President Fries, Mr. Trujillo and Mr. Nesbit Hagood, NMHU Comptroller, to present.

President Fries stated that the administration received several requests for increased funding from existing RPSP programs at NMHU plus one new funding request. President Fries reported that the RPSP's have become a target for potential state funding reductions. President Fries stated that the university had received a letter from the Higher Education Department outlining the State's budget situation and directing state agencies to request flat budget requests for FY11. President Fries recommended that no new RPSP funding be requested at this time.

Regent Aguilar moved to approve that the University not request increased funding for the FY11 Budget Requests (RPSP's) as recommended by President Fries (**Attachment J**). Regent Rael seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Options for Financing \$14M Bond Issue – Action Item**

Mr. Trujillo presented an overview of the System Revenue Bonds for the Student Union Building and other capital projects bonding options.

President Fries stated that the administration is proposing that the Board authorize the administration to employ the bond option that is most favorable in terms of total repayment costs for the university at the time when the university needs to move forward.

Regent López moved to authorize President Fries to approve the most favorable option for financing a \$14M bond issue (**Attachment K**). Regent Aguilar seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**NMFA Loan Resolution – Action Item**

Mr. Trujillo informed the Board that at the recommendation from the New Mexico Board of Finance the Student Service Center/Student Union title was changed to the Student Union Building. Mr. Trujillo informed the Board that the resolution was revised to state that the remaining balance from the Student Union Building project would be used for other capital projects for the benefit of the governmental unit and its students, faculty and staff.

Regent Long moved to approve the NMFA Loan Resolution as presented (**Attachment L**). Regent López seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Mr. Lopez, ASNMHU President informed the Board that the ASNMHU Executive Committee held one meeting during the summer to discuss plans to host a Welcome Back Fiesta for students during the first weeks of the semester.

**Graduate Student Senate Report – Ms. Georgianne Brown**

No AGS member attended the Board meeting and no report was provided.

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

Dr. Maureen Romine informed the Board that the Faculty Senate is working on Faculty Handbook revisions related to collective bargaining activity and membership selections.

Dr. Romine informed the Board that the Faculty Senate Academic Affairs Committee is revising the academic dishonesty policy which will be ready for review in the spring.

Dr. Romine stated that faculty will have a Strategic Plan/Master Plan presentation during the Faculty Development Week.

**Persons Wishing to Address the Board**

Chairman Sanchez asked if anyone would like to address the Board, no one came forward.

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

President Fries thanked the Board for their attendance and support of the Residence Hall Opening and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

**Accreditation Process/Self-Study – Action Item**

President Fries informed the Board that an eight-member North Central Accreditation Team will be evaluating the main campus and centers on November 2-4, 2009. President Fries presented the Higher Learning Commission Institution Accreditation Overview (**Attachment M**).

**Strategic Planning**

President Fries provided a draft of the Strategic Plan (**Attachment N**) and noted that the university's goal is to develop a strategic plan that is meaningful for the university.

**Other**

- President Fries informed the Board that an Issues/Actions List for the past year was provided in the meeting packet (**Attachment O**). President Fries noted that the list indicates the progress of each item.
- President Fries reported that the Faculty Development Week is scheduled for August 10-14, 2009 and that Dr. Vincent Tinto will be the keynote speaker.
- The university is offering three days of mediation training which all members of the Faculty Grievance Committee are required to attend. Several supervisory staff will also attend.
- Dr. Jean Hill is working to develop a new institutional Peer Group for comparative purposes.

- Dr. Margaret Young's class conducted a survey on the potential consolidation of the two school districts in Las Vegas. A community meeting to discuss the topic will take place on campus.
- President Fries informed the Board that he was appointed to the New Mexico Data Warehouse Council by Governor Richardson, to look at public education and higher education and develop systems to track student progress and movement to improve student success and retention.
- Standard & Poor's evaluated NMHU's bond rating and reaffirmed our A-rating.
- The NMHU Volleyball Team was awarded the 2009 AVCA Team Academic Award by the American Volleyball Coaches Association.
- Fall semester courses begin August 17, 2009.
- President Fries reported that at last week's Foundation Board Meeting only two members were absent and five new members were introduced. President Fries commented that there was a new sense of commitment, and excitement evident at the meeting.

Dr. G. Doyle Daves, Foundation Board President thanked Chairman Sanchez and President Fries for staying during the entire Foundation Board Meeting which was rather lengthy.

#### **Comments by the Regents**

Regent Rael commended Ms Thomasinia Ortiz-Gallegos, Director of Academic Support, for her hard work organizing the Student Orientation sessions.

Regent Long thanked the administration for the well planned Residence Hall Opening and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony held prior to the Board meeting.

Regent Aguilar and Chairman Sanchez reiterated Regent Long's comments regarding the morning's events.


**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; and (2) real estate acquisition or disposal. Pursuant to provisions of NMSA 1978, 10-15-1 (H) (2) & (8).** Regent López moved to enter into executive session. Regent Long seconded the motion. A roll call was taken and voting in favor were: Chairman Sanchez, Regent Aguilar, Regent Long, Regent López, and Regent Rael. Motion carried and the Board went into executive session at 12:40 pm.

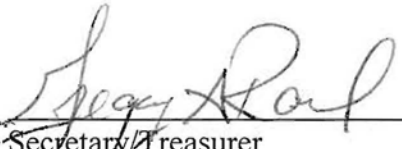
Regent Long moved to come out of executive session into open session. Regent López seconded the motion. For the record, Regent López stated that only those items cited in the motion were discussed in executive session and no action was taken. Regents present confirmed the statement. A roll call was taken and voting in favor of the motion were: Regent Sanchez, yes;

Regent Aguilar, yes; Regent Long, yes; Regent López, yes; and Regent Rael, yes. Motion carried unanimously and the meeting was called back to order at 1:51pm.

**Adjournment**

Regent López moved to adjourn, Regent Long seconded. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 1:55 pm.

  
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Chairman  
NMHU Board of Regents

  
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Secretary/Treasurer  
NMHU Board of Regents