

**Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes**  
**October 28, 2020**  
**Approved November 11, 2020**

**ZOOM** - <https://nmhu.zoom.us/j/91283810526>; **3:00 to 5:00 p.m.**

**1. Call to Order.**

**2. Roll Call.**

Arshad, Ali (Business Administration); Buchanan-Farmer, Melanie (Education-Teacher Education); Chadborn, Daniel (Psychology); Ensor, Kevin (Education-Counseling & Guidance); Fox Hausman, Mariah (Media Arts and Technology); Garcia, Justine (Biology); Gardner, Sandra (Nursing); Hayward, William (Exercise & Sport Sciences); Karaba, Robert (Education-Education Leadership); Kent, April (Library); Lindline, Jennifer (Natural Resources Management); Massaro, Beth (Social Work); Sammeth, David (Chemistry); Tamir, Orit (Sociology, Anthropology & Criminal Justice); Valenzuela, Norma (Languages and Culture); Villarreal, Ben (English & Philosophy); Williams, Steven (History & Political Science)

**Absent:** Education-Curriculum & Instruction Representative; Education-Special Education Representative; Forestry Representative; Garcia-Nuthmann, André (Visual & Performing Arts); Jeffries, John (Computer & Mathematical Sciences)

Also in Attendance: Bogda, I. Crespín, C. Duran, G. Gadsden, B. Kempner, R. Martinez, R. Moore, M. Petronis, J. Rivas, R. Walker-Gonzales, A.J. Warwell

3. **Approval of Agenda.** Motion passed with modification. Item 12.d. changed from Strategic Budgeting Listening Session to B.S. in Wildlife Biology and Conservation.

4. **Approval of Minutes from October 14, 2020 (attachment).** Motion passed unanimously with corrections provided by S. Williams.

5. **Communication from the President (S. Minner).**

- Thanked all who participated in the virtual homecoming. Positive feedback from alumni. The brief TED talks from faculty were popular with alumni and the president is working to continue these for the rest of the year.
- COVID-19. Gave explanation of reporting of cases. Students who test positive, even if not on campus, are reported in our stats. Communication sent out about safety challenges. Assistance is needed in stopping doors being propped open on campus. Considering purchasing the antigen testing machine. Doesn't meet all testing requirements for NCA, but would be useful.
- Facilities. Reminded about bond measures are on the back of the ballots. Bond C and Bond b would affect higher education. Working on first charging station for electric vehicles. Commitment to purchasing electric vehicles when replacing models in the fleet. President asked Dr. Tamir about having a faculty committee on environmental issues.
- Grants. Shared that university awarded PED grant and GEER grant. These grants will help our students. Thinking about grant management.

- Athletics. Shared that there are no athletic this fall. Spring 2021 schedule is big decision point.
- Fiscal. Shared that devoting much time to Legislative Finance Committee meetings. Changes are expected. Required to prepare a budget with a 5% cut.
- Questions and discussion about environmental efforts and athletics.

**6. Communication from the Administration (R. Gonzales).**

- Sent to Dr. Tamir and Chairs a link to the LFC session. Encouraged faculty to listen and know what the legislation is looking at in terms of higher education perception.
- Shared that AAO is working with Faculty Association on CBA 12 payout (Independent Studies, Direct Studies, Thesis Completion, etc.). Reminded – there is a deadline!
- Shared that there will be a pay increase, based on years in rank and other parameters. Prescilla is thrilled 😊.
- Encouraged faculty to reach out to faculty colleagues, especially new members, to support during these unusual times. Reminded people that, just like in the classroom, you set the parameters for course requirements (synchronous, asynchronous). Pay attention to your office hours and try to step away when not required to be at computer.
- Reminded people to take care of health. If not feeling well, stay home and take care.

**7. Communication from the Chair (O. Tamir).**

- Shared that FS EC noticed heaviness of 10/28 agenda. Asked S. Weaver from University Relations to come to first November meeting to address the web page issues discussed at last meeting.
- Thanked J. Garcia for thorough report on behalf of the Operational Management Team.
- Updated that the BOR approved the changes in the makeup of the Grievance Committee and Faculty Handbook procedures.
- Updated that the BOR approved the new Hemp Certificate Program.
- DC commented that A. Maclachlan (University Relations) is willing to meet with and work with faculty to update department websites. Also willing to provide training and access to faculty to do unit updates.

**8. Communication from Academic Affairs (A. Kent).**

- Shared that the lack of student appeals was investigated. No appeals appear to be on the way to the committee.
- Updated on Program Review:
  - Education program reviews have been reorganized to work better with the school. All programs will have an individual review within report.
  - Forestry program review was presented.
- Shared that Geology's Intro to Geospatial Technology course was approved.
- Shared that the B.S. in Wildlife Biology and Conservation was approved with one minor change in language. Faculty from Biology and Chemistry presented their

positions on other proposals. Lively discussion ensued and will continue at the next AAC meeting on Biology's other two proposals.

- Shared that student emails about needed to complete the semester before Thanksgiving break were discussed. Communication about no changes to the academic calendar this fall was sent out.

9. **Communication from the Undergraduate Student Senate (C. Ulibarri).**

- Shared that SS is currently going through filling membership process. Asked that faculty encourage student involvement. Question was asked SS opinion re Spring Calendar. CU will share at appropriate time.

10. **Communication from the Staff Senate (I. Crespin).**

- Shared that SS is talking about holding a virtual Employee Appreciation event.
- Shared that SS is discussing better training for University Police for active shooting, racial discrimination, and sexual misconduct. Has reached out to Dr. Ruthie and DEI council to inquire about training.
- Reported that starting to discuss a Staff Strategic Plan.

11. **Old Business.**

- a. **Spring Calendar.** OT gave a recap on the Spring Calendar changes proposed by AA Office and other ideas discussed by Faculty Senate.

- CU shared that the Student Senate suggested having several extended weekends.
- Several Senators shared that their units want the calendar to remain as-is with scheduled Spring Break.
- Several Senators supported a modification to the calendar but with a sprinkling off days throughout the term.
- Motion made and seconded to reject the proposed Spring Calendar Changes. Motion passed; 9-3-0.

Motion made and seconded for the administration to add 3 mental health/snow days at its discretion throughout the Spring 2021 term. Motion passed; 11-2-2.

- b. **2020 Amendments – User Guide to Purchasing and Accounts Payable Manual**  
Motion made and seconded to approve the manual. Motion passed; 13-0-2.

12. **New Business.**

- a. **Faculty Senate Committee Elections**

**Athletics Committee:** Five at-large members elected by Faculty Senate, 3-year terms limited to 2 terms. No school or department with more than 1 member.

**Nominees:**

- Mario Gonzales (CAS; Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice)
- Donna Vigil (School of Business)

**Financial Planning Committee:** Six members elected by the Faculty Senate, no school or department may have more than one member.

**Nominees:**

- Rey Martinez (School of Social Work)

**International Education Committee:** One Faculty member from each School and College plus at least two at-large members.

Nominees:

- Ali Arshad (School of Business)
- Melanie Zollner (School of Business)

**Library Committee:** One elected member from each School and five from the College. No more than 2 from the same discipline.

Nominees:

- Eric Griffen (CAS-Biology)
- Ben Vickers (CAS-Exercise Sports Sciences)

**Student Affairs Committee:** Twelve faculty members elected by the Faculty Senate; no School or Department shall have more than 2 members. One member from the Faculty Senate.

Nominee:

- Monica Rossetti (CAS; Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice)

**Technology Committee:** One from each School and two from the College. One librarian Ex-Officio Educational Outreach Services, Informational Technology Services

Nominee:

- Taik Kim (School of Education; Teacher Education)

**Motion made and seconded to approve the faculty nominees.** Motion approved unanimously; 16 votes recorded.

b. **Black Lives Matter (Gadsden) (attachment)**

- G. Gadsden shared some ideas about ways to take items under consideration Recommended an ad hoc committee to lead discussions and explore issues. Mentoring program, events, and others. Before turn into a proposal, interested in Faculty Senate feedback.
- Several faculty members volunteered to serve on committee (Arshad, Sammeth, Gardner, Villarreal, Ulibarri, Crespín, among others.) Interested individuals asked to email D. Chadborn with contact information.

c. **Graduate Dean Position.**

- RG mentioned that her office's top budget priority was for a Director of Research. Understands the history of the Graduate Dean position, but said that this is not an academic position. This person now serves more as liaison to state and is more operational in aspects. Her thoughts are to split Ian's position out and have someone in pre- and post-grant proposals. Asked *how do we want the Graduate Dean position to look?*
- Discussion ensued as to whether the Faculty body wants to pursue a Search and Screen for the Graduate Dean position, currently held by I. Williamson supplemental to his AVPAA role. Senators encouraged to discuss with their units and provide feedback, including should the search be internal or external (?).

d. **B.S. in Wildlife Biology and Conservation (Rivas).**

Motion made and seconded to approve the new major. Motion passed unanimously; 16 votes recorded.

e. **DEI Campus Climate Survey (Moore) (attachment)**

- R. Moore gave history of visits with Faculty Senate and exploration, through DEI Committee and other roles in which she serves, to develop a DEI instrument to survey the campus and research campus climate. Idea is for survey to be anonymous, be available for 3 weeks, and be housed in ORSP for analysis. Once data has been disaggregated and reanalyzed. Instrument will be available to faculty, students, staff, and administrators. Language is sensitive to intended participants.
- DC asked if the instrument will be sent out for feedback. RM responded that this was for informational purposes only. OT also input that theirs is an ad hoc committee and not responsible for reporting to the Faculty Senate.

**13. Executive Session.**

**14. Public Action as Necessary on Other Closed Session Discussions.**

**15. Adjournment.**