

General Faculty Meeting Agenda

March 22, 2023

Approved April 26, 2023

SUB 321 and ZOOM: <https://nmhu.zoom.us/j/3755944464>

4:00-5:00 p.m.

1. **Call to Order.** > 25 members in attendance (quorum).
2. **Approval of Agenda.** Motion made and seconded to approve the meeting agenda. Motion passed unanimously with 23 votes counted in favor.
3. **Approval of Minutes from February 22, 2023.** Motion made and seconded to approve the February 22 meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously with 21 votes counted in favor; 0 in opposition; 3 to abstain.
4. **Chair Report (R. Rock).**
 - a. **IPRA requests.** Shared that he has not received any additional documents. System at stand-still. Discussion ensued.
 - KJ – want better moving forward.
 - JG – no other documents signed by JS? JL – can anyone in the room respond whether he is reviewing and signing student paperwork?
 - RR – in an email from 03/02/23, President Minner said that all documents needing a signature are going to Ian and Terry. No word beyond that.
 - KJ – we know that he is signing on thesis paperwork. They are suggesting that no one is graduating? Find that hard to believe. Know that he is signing in slate. At least 2 instances where that is not true.
 - RR – we can come back to this as part of our other discussions.
 - RM – obviously he is receiving payment and has signed some other contract. There must be something in HR that defines his role. DC said that has been given to us.
 - b. **HLC Report.** RR said he reached out to HLC for report, given response that it is against their procedures to hand out the report. RR made it part of his report to BOR and discussed with Minner at last meeting. Minner said that there were administrative items that HLC was concerned about and that they (admin) were responding to the items on a limited basis. Making sure that

there is not information individually identifiable in their report. Discussion followed.

JG – we’ve heard that before. What is the timeline? What does “limited availability” mean? Thinks it is appropriate to push back.

GG – insane! Where is the transparency, inclusiveness? We were all in it to write report and participate in visit. Why not all in to respond to issues?

KJ – B/c he hasn’t found requirement to share he isn’t going to share? Faculty is upset and must be shared with BOR. Why is it secret and why doesn’t faculty know what is going on?

DC – BOR meeting next Fri 03/31. Good place to participate and voice concerns. Security is relative (!).

RR – shared that did send note to BOR about IPRA request shortfalls and HLC issues that included the 7 action items from Fall 2023 letter written at bequest of General Faculty (summarized).

JL – what action is the BOR planning to take?

SW – found President’s response unsatisfactory. Minner can say he addressed but how did he address? Admin has forever cherry-picked lines from the FH to cobble together arguments for whatever it is what they want to do. Laughed (sort of) about the written response. Pulled passages from there and there to support their actions.

SJ – signatures; nothing done. Meetings, nothing done. Getting items on record is critically important not just as a 3-minute presentation but as part of written record. Would like to suggest that Board of Education be aware of what is going on to awaken HLC about lack of transparency.

MR – concerned that BOR has not given FS time to report in writing and in speech. They MUST take whatever time it takes to report. If we can do something about it, we should.

KJ – we’ve tried this, gone to BOR, exhausted this, our votes of no confidence, we do not have any information how they have been received or responded to.

RR – recalls that SM offered his resignation to BOR in response to the GF vote of no confidence in President. BOR rejected his resignation.

GG – thinks that there has to be a way to share with HLC that we exhausted process, got nothing. If we all sign up for a 3 minute presentation to voice concerns. BOR will pay attention. There is a public comment period.

RR – shared HLC email responses and stipulations for moving forward re IPRA, HLC report, AVPAA-Forestry.

JG – made a motion for EC to file a complaint to HLC about not receiving the HLC report. Motion seconded. Motion passed with 25 votes counted in support. 0 in opposition and 0 in abstention.

KJ – made a motion to file a complaint to HLC about lack of response to votes of no confidence in administration (HR, payroll, VP Finance, Dean School of Business, VPAA Academic Affairs). Motion seconded. 23 votes counted in support; 0 in opposition; 0 to abstention. SJ asked to include evidence. RR asked for faculty to submit evidence.

c. NMHU Faculty Concerns.

i. AVPAA-Forestry.

Member – *What is the added value of having this person in this position? There was never a discussion with NMHU community. How does this high salary position support NMHU?* Discussion ensued.

Member – asked, *Does it make sense to send a letter about AVPAA-Forestry to HLC?* Discussion ensued that supported this notion. Suggestion made that we send a letter to SAF Accreditation about issues. Suggested holding off until hear back from BOR.

ii. HLC Report.

5. Faculty Handbook Updates (Sabbatical). RR will distribute proposed changes for consideration by General Faculty.

Member – The administration relies on the fact that we are off campus. Important enough issue that it is in forefront. Encouraged another meeting. It has implications for salary, working conditions, and other areas.

KJ – raised concern about assuring that the Sabbatical language in FH aligns with CBA.

6. Other.

7. Adjournment.