

**Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
November 29, 2023
Approved January 24, 2024**

SUB 321 and ZOOM: <https://nmhu.zoom.us/j/3145944449>

3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Faculty Senate

- 1. Called meeting to order.**
- 2. Called Roll.**

	ATTENDANCE		
	Present	Absent	Excused
Art & Music; Edward Harrington	X		
Biology; VACANT		X	
Business Administration; Gerardo Moreira	X		
Chemistry; VACANT		X	
Computer and Mathematical Sciences; Gil Gallegos		X	
Education - Counseling; Sulema Perales	X		
Education - Curriculum & Instruction; KwangJong Park	X		
Education - Educational Leadership; Sheree Jederberg		X	
Education - Special Education; Mariana Ulibarri-Horan, At-Large	X		
Education - Teacher Education; Angela Redondo	X		
English and Philosophy; Lauren Fath, Chair	X		
Exercise and Sport Sciences; Kathy Jenkins, At-Large	X		
Forestry; Blanca Cespedes	X		
History and Political Science; Steven Williams	X		
Languages and Culture; Norma Valenzuela	X		
Library; Katie Gray	X		
Media Arts and Technology; Mariah Fox Hausman	X		
Natural Resources Management; Jennifer Lindline, Secretary	X		
Nursing; Siri Khalsa	X		
Psychology; Thomas Brooks	X		
Social Work; Rebecca Moore, At-Large	X		
Sociology, Anthropology, and CJ; Rebecca Alvarez, Vice Chair	X		
President; Sam Minner		X	
Provost/VPAA; Roxanne Gonzales	X		
Staff Senate; Cathryn Brooks		X	
Student Senate; Kayl Rainer	X		

- 3. Approval of Agenda. Motion made and seconded to approve the agenda.** Motion passed unanimously with 17 votes counted.

4. **Approval of Minutes from November 08, 2023 (attachment).** Motion made and seconded to approve the meeting minutes with several corrections. Motion passed unanimously with 16 votes counted.
5. **Communication from the President (S. Minner).** None reported.
6. **Communication from the Administration (R. Gonzales).**
 - Shared that plan for course evaluation is still to have one person from each School and College to test the student evaluation platform.
 - Shared that CAS Dean Search started in terms of putting together a survey for Search Committee and an individual who has put his hat in for Interim CAS Dean and RG interviewing next week.
 - G. Gadsden Chair of OIER Search Committee. Open until filled. Have a few people with whom will be doing interviews before holiday break. Open until filled.
 - Shared good news – Roxanne got a new puppy today!
7. **Communication from the Chair (L. Fath).**
 - Noted that there are Presidential Candidates visiting faculty next week, Monday through Friday. Please attend the Faculty Forums as best as you can. Encourage your students to attend as well.
 - Said will be bringing up building uniform questions for candidates during ES today along with issues with violation of open meeting act.
 - Effective Nov 13, President Minner made decision to drain the pool b/c of large daily water losses. Faculty will discuss how we want to have swimming pool issues progress.
 - Asked if other faculty have received phishing looking emails from HR saying do not reply. LF had an overload issue and received odd automated email response. RA shared same experience. KJ guided faculty to inquire with Dr. Gonzales (faculty hiring authority) and offered Faculty Association's assistance. MU shared experience with abrupt email responses.
 - EH shared that there is a proliferation of automated systems. Would like to see more people, less automation. Size of our university should allow that.
 - Shared updates with T. Law (Foundation Office) information re Faculty Speaker Series. Received info in contrast with what had been conveyed by the President's Office. According to donor agreement, (1) FSS should be housed in the Provost's Office. (2) Provost should oversee the selection of speakers. Feels is an issue we'll have to revisit given new information.
 - Said "thank you" for everyone's patience and assistance in her first semester as FS Chair.
8. **Communication from Academic Affairs (M. Fox Hausman).**

Report of AAC meeting date November 15, 2023

Submitted on November 17, 2023 by

1. Subcommittee Reports
 - a. Ballen Committee. The Call for Proposals was sent out globally last week.
 - b. Undergraduate Appeals. Nothing to report.

- c. Graduate Appeals. Nothing to report.
 - d. Policy Subcommittee.
 - o Motion approved to send the Dual Credit Handbook recommendations, with an official AAC vote, back to Faculty Senate as is.
 - o Academic Calendar: The policy subcommittee reviewed and discussed with the Registrar. Motion approved to send it as is, back to the Faculty Senate.
2. Program Review Subcommittee Reports
 - a. Native American Hispano Cultural Studies. Nothing to report.
 - b. Biology. Awaiting decision in Faculty Senate.
 - c. Conservation Management. Meeting with Dean on November 28, 2023.
 - d. Sociology/Anthropology BA, BS, Minor (Soc and Anth) [Criminal Justice Studies BA, Minor] [Social Behavioral Sciences AA]. Final report of program review presented and on the way to the VPAA/Provost.
 3. Communication from the Chair

The chair met with the Registrar. Any new or revised 1000-2000 level course proposals must match HED transferrable courses or include a justification for why they need to be listed differently. AAC Chair encouraged members to share this information (posted on Brightspace) with their departments.
 4. Communication from the Registrar (Romero)
 - a. Fall 2023 Enrollment: Total UG – 1733; Total GR – 1110; Total overall headcount – 2843; overall 1% increase from same time last year
 - b. Enrollments continue for Fall 2023 for intersession courses
 - c. Spring 2024 Enrollment: Total UG – 605; Total GR – 444; Total overall headcount – 1046 overall 16% decrease from same time last year
 - d. Degree Works upgrade – scheduled for Monday, November 20-21, 2023 at 6:30pm. A guide on how to use the new responsive dashboard will be distributed to campus.
 5. Communication from the Graduate Council. Nothing to report. Meets Friday, November 17.
 6. SACJ Department – Program Revision - Crim Justice Studies Major and AA in Soc & Beh Sciences. Removed from the agenda and will be re-introduced next spring.
 7. School of Business – New course Approved: BMIS 5XXX Cybersecurity Risk Anal & Manage. The course is part of an agreement with New Mexico Tech; need to list for Spring 2024.
 8. Social Work – Discussion items.
 - a. New Course-SOWK 6XXX Social Work Practice in Tribal Communities
 - b. Practicum Course Catalog Description Revisions for SOWK 4340/5340/6340
 - c. Program Deletion/Suspension - Removal of Substance Use Focus
 9. Dept of Forestry – Master of Forestry and M.S. in Natural Science. Discussions.

- a. Both master's programs were presented to be vetted. AAC appeared to demonstrate more support for the M.S. in Natural Sciences with a concentration in Forestry; Master of Forestry needs work to meet accreditation standards. Recommendations were made by the committee and Registrar. Provost Gonzales reminded NMHU will be an official facility for the state reforestation initiative, a great opportunity for incoming students.
 - b. New Course: 6XXX Concepts and Principles in Forest Ecology and Management
10. School of Business – Curriculum Changes - Marketing Concentration. Discussion.
11. Counseling. Discussion item.
- a. New Program: Addictions Counseling Certificate.
 - b. Program Revision: Counseling Program-On Ground to Distance
12. Educational Leadership MA w/ Concentration in Math Teacher Leadership. Discussion item.

Submission Reminders

- Any proposals requiring a catalog change must be submitted to the AAC no later than Thursday February 22, 2024 by 5pm
 - Stood for questions. KJ asked about the timing (heavy advisement, heavy registration) for the Degree Audit migration. HR shared that never a good time. Did best with staff considerations. Will hold sessions and answer questions as timely as possible. KJ asked for faculty to have input the next time a major migration is planned. LF concurred and requested that RG and/or HR provide proposals for future initiatives to present to faculty for consideration and input.
- 9. Communication from the Student Senate (K. Rainer).**
- Shared that Student Senate is getting better organized. Awarded several students conference attendance awards. Working on inviting faculty to attend Student Senate meetings. Thanks faculty who do not assign coursework during. Much appreciated!
 - Stood for questions. SK asked if money is available for graduate student conference attendance. KR said yes; will share information.
- 10. Communication from the Staff Senate (C. Brooks).**
- Shared that Staff Newsletter went out today that highlighted “Home Grown”, noted “perks”, and recognized new staff members.
 - Received kudos from Senators on newsletters.
- 11. Communication from Presidential Search Committee (B. Kempner).**
- Shared a lot of complexities in bringing final 5 Presidential Candidate Search finalists. Will post zoom links day before each session so as to avoid zoom bombs. Wants everyone to meet, listen to, and interact with candidates. Wants feedback by 12/11 so BOR has the responses in advance of their 12/15 meeting. Remember – the Search Committee isn't

deciding on a candidate, only providing strengths and weaknesses. Be clear, be direct, say what you want to say. Search Committee's last meeting is Monday, 12/11, during which they will develop their strengths/weaknesses list. Hitting mark on timetable and legal notices. Word is circulating on social media and to alumni.

- LF asked about inviting non-Search Committee faculty in response to the Candidate spouse requests (questions about kids and other areas). BK said of course.

12. Old Business.

- a. **Appointment of NMHU Government Relations Liaison.** Lively discussion ensued about disappointment in D. Lepre's productivity as VP University Relations and uncertainty of productivity in new appointment. Noted that there is attention to one program and not to others. Faculty has no doubt that enrollment declines and program struggles are because of the individual's lack of attention and workflow. *How can one person do both jobs when the named person cannot do his current one?* There have been complaints for his entire tenure here about little to no responses, little to no support of academic units.
 - Mentioned about how this impacts student and faculty recruitment. Many ongoing searches where candidates are looking up old, outdated department information.
 - Noted that no honoring of deceased faculty, even after writing it up ourselves and handing it to University Relations Office.
 - Faculty mentioned how old info is on NMHU FB page. Nothing current about homecoming, Mantanza, and other events.
- b. **Issue of Swimming Pool.** LF shared that the choice has been made to drain pool. Now, how do we see this space being utilized? Pool, gym, recreation space, other?
 - KJ feels a strong need for a pool at Highlands. Movie nights, receptions, gatherings. So much potential. To close it down would be really said. We'd miss out on a huge opportunity for campus life.
 - LF said understands cost is biggest factor.
 - EH was moved by KJ's words. Also feels need for pool. Said his students suggested skate park.
 - Many supported the continuance of a pool.
 - **Motion made and seconded that FS prepare a statement to Administration in support of continuance of swimming pool for all of the reasons discussed, including it being an integral part of campus life and northern New Mexico communities.**
 - C. Brooks shared that the Staff Senate was not consulted. This Faculty Senate meeting is the first hearing about it.
 - K. Rainer shared that the Student Senate was given a presentation by J. Dominguez and asked for feedback. Half students wanted to keep pool; half students wanted a new gym.
 - **Motion passed with 14 in favor; 0 in opposition; and 1 to abstain.**

13. New Business.

- a. **Academic Calendar (attachments).** G. Gadsden shared AAC's review and unanimous support of proposed Fall 2024 through Spring 2029 calendar. LF shared that she reviewed and checked start/end dates. She noted that one of the years has a tight window from Fall

Recess (Thanksgiving) to finals. **Motion made and seconded to approve the proposed Fall 2024 through Spring 2029 calendar.** Discussion ensued.

- Question raised: *how going to get students back after Fall Recess?* Faculty shared it happens all the time – students disappear – regardless of one week or two weeks between breaks.
- **Motion passed unanimously with 16 in favor.**

b. Dual Credit Handbook Recommendation from AAC (attachments) (G. Gadsden).

- G. Gadsden shared confusion of AAC in reading handbook. Mix of legal language, HED text, and others. Unsure who intended audience (students, faculty, community). Recommends getting further in the Dual Credit program before creating a handbook.
- RM responded that handbook drafted by committee in Spring 2020. This program is a requirement by the state HED so that students get credit and begin their progression to higher education and trade school. Said there was a program years ago and has been consistent for last year and a half, which is brining up enrollment numbers. It took years of building relationships with local schools to garner enrollment. This handbook is required by administrative agencies. Intended as draft for AAC's feedback. 90% of DC students have successfully passed their classes.
- DC Coordinator finally advertised. Big responsibilities. Confusing dealing with schools, teachers, registrar's, students.
- KJ shared that most faculty do support Dual Credit offerings. Each aspect of our works is covered under various handbooks (Faculty Handbook, CBA, and Contingent with Research Handbook off to side. Maybe have DC as an operational manual.
- GG said that AAC is wholeheartedly in support of DC programing and appreciated KJ's suggestion to possibly subdivide/parcel into 2 manuals with different functions.

Motion made and seconded to table items 13 c., d., and e. and move to Executive Session. Motion passed unanimously with 16 in favor.

c. Faculty Lounge Access.

d. Bookstore Inclusive Access Program.

e. Discussion of Artificial Intelligence in Academics; Session II.

14. Executive Session.

15. Action and Statements as Necessary on Executive Session Discussion.

Motion made and seconded for Faculty Senate Executive Committee to prepare statement for inclusion in LF's report regarding violation of open meetings act at last BOR meeting and presentation therein. Motion passed with 12 in favor; 0 in opposition; 0 to abstain.

16. Adjourned at 5:05. Motion made and seconded to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously with 12 hands counted.