

**Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
February 14, 2024
Approved February 28, 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 (G. Glover as proxy)	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; Elaine Rodriquez	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; David Pan	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			
Student Senate; Kayl Rainer	X		

- 3. Approval of Agenda.** Motion made and seconded to approve agenda with addition of “Reallocation of Space” under **12.g. Capital Outlay Report**. Motion passed with 16 in favor; 0 to oppose; 0 to abstain.

4. **Approval of Minutes from January 24, 2024 (attachment).** Motion made and seconded to approve the meeting minutes (with typographic correction). Motion passed with 16 in favor; 0 in opposition; 1 to abstain.
5. **Communication from the President (S. Minner).**
 - Shared that Legislation Session nearing end. Disappointed at landing on 3% compensation increase. Talk that there could be talk among Presidents, Chancellors about tuition increase but looks like remaining as is. Gave feeling that Higher Education is not high on 2024 agenda.
 - Thanked P. Linder for stepping in as Interim Dean CAS.
 - Shared happy with incoming President.
 - Commented on DNP – we will be a niche and a first in the comprehensive university doctorate landscape.
 - Shared large amount of money involved in caring for human remains related to Sininger remodel.
 - Shared asking for funds for various improvements (Lora Shields, Sininger, others).
 - Responded to question and diverged on musings on presidential housing.
6. **Communication from the Administration (I. Williamson).**
 - Shared working on Grants Brochure, incorporating edits.
 - Shared that Faculty Excellence Awards Ceremony will be held on March 21st.
 - Announced that R. Gonzales will return next week.
7. **Communication from the Chair (L. Fath).**
 - Shared that sent out Spring 2022 HLC Report via GLOBAL. Received (finally!) through an IPRA request.
 - Shared that Faculty Senate is coordinating with Departments to oversee Chair Elections. Informed that questions re Co-Chairs, Resignations and Appointments should be directed to appropriate Deans.
 - Updated that BOR responsive re FS issue about AVPAA-Forestry gave VPAA's report that included enrollment data. Faculty is working on that and will report by next meeting.
 - Announced – the Faculty Lounge is open (code 243612).
 - Reminded about new item – will be repurposed.
 - Shared that General Faculty meetings are scheduled for 4th Wednesdays in March and April (03/27 and 04/24).
8. **Communication from Academic Affairs (S. Jederberg).**
 - Reported on Subcommittees:
 - Ballen Committee: no appointees for Spring 2024. A call will go out for Fall 2024.
 - Undergraduate Appeals Committee: (1) – going out for vote.
 - Graduate Appeals: (1) – going out for vote.
 - Policy Subcommittee; reviewing the Retroactive Drop/Withdrawal policy, specifically regarding the ability of students to resubmit the same petition.
 - Reported on Program Reviews:

- Native American Hispano Cultural Studies, Conservation Management, Business Administration MBA, BBA, Minor, Certificate(s), Public Affairs MA [Sociology] are in progress.
- Biology: awaiting decision by VPAA and Conservation Management) in final stages.
- Spanish BA, Minor and Public Affairs MA [Political Sci & History] are postponed.
- Shared Program Change Submissions:
 - Department of Forestry M.S. Natural Sciences Concentration Forestry proposal and new course proposal in review.
 - A.A. Social & Behavioral Sciences - Program Revision in discussion.
 - Criminal Justice Studies Major Reorganization (discussion item; Gadsden).
 - ENGL 3070 course revision approved.
- Shared Action Items:
 - SENATE CHARGE - Add, Drop, Withdrawal Policy. Motion made and approved to return to the Faculty Senate with approval.
 - SENATE CHARGE - Readmission of Service Members Policy. Motion approved to return to the Faculty Senate with approval.
- Shared Student Advising Concerns (Chadborn) discussed. The AAC Chair will draft a memo, and work with Ms. Montoya, to send the update of roadmaps recommendation to the Senate.
- Shared Recommendations by UG Appeals Subcommittee (Retroactive Drop/Withdrawal Policy Change – No Resubmissions Allowed) in review.
- Shared Communication from the Chair (Gadsden).
 - Reminded members that any proposals resulting in a change to the catalog must be submitted for review to the AAC by Feb 22 if the program wants that change to appear in the next catalog.
- Communicated Faculty Senate Liaison Report.
- Communication from the Administration (I. Williamson).
 - Provided an update on the OIER Director search. An offer was made, and the candidate must respond by Friday, Feb 9.
 - Announced the celebration of faculty excellence which is scheduled for March 21.
 - Discussed the problem of balancing the use of computer labs with outdated/useless computers. They plan to investigate possible solutions.
 - Addressed the problems with payroll, especially regarding graduate assistantships. A former employee entered several graduate assistants as “Fall only,” which prevented these GAs from receiving pay last Friday, Feb. 2. Several other problems with grad assistant pay are still being addressed.
 - Discussed working with Media Arts to create a brochure announcing, discussing, and celebrating grants received by NMHU. The brochure will be released soon.
 - Mentioned the possibility of creating an A.A. in Liberal Studies.

9. Communication from the Student Senate (K. Rainer).

- Shared that SS is working on guest speakers.
- Shared that he and other student workers experiencing PayCom woes, behind on receiving pay.

10. Communication from the Staff Senate (C. Brooks).

- Reported that Staff Senate has not met this month.
- Shared that working on Spring Newsletter, looking to highlight “homegrowns.”

11. Old Business.

- a. **Appointment of NMHU Government Relations Liaison.** LF gave synopsis of concerns raised (unmet marketing needs for units, unmet responses on IPRA requests, overloaded responsibilities and overpaid position. **Motion made and seconded for Fath to report to BOR the synopsis of concerns. Motion passed with 18 in favor; 0 to oppose; and 0 to abstain.**

b. Academic Affairs Program Approvals

- a) **Program Addition; Addictions Counseling Certificate (Counseling Department, School of Education) (attachment).** G. Glover represented SoE. Shared that Certificate is post-graduate certificate for professionals to receive substance abuse licensing. Question asked about credit requirement for certificates, sees range 15-18. G. Glover said Dr. Romero shared that 12 is accepted minimum. **Motion made and seconded to approve the program. Motion passed with 17 in favor; 0 to oppose; 0 to abstain.**

- b) **Program Revision; Counseling Program as Approved Distance Program (Counseling Department, School of Education) (attachment).** G. Glover represented SoE. Shared that **Teaches courses in distance format.** Maintains credit requirements and synchronous learning. Purpose today it to go through NMHU process of recognizing it as a distance education program. **Motion made and seconded to approve the distance classification. Motion passed with 17 in favor; 0 in opposition; and 0 to oppose.**

- b. **Bookstore Inclusive Access Program.** Ongoing discussion. Major issue is requirement to “opt out” rather than “opt in” and lack of book access after class ends. Other issue is flood of emails pre-semester to take advantage of this system.
- One faculty member shared that their unit can download a .pdf copy of text for posterity.
 - Other faculty reiterated concerns of click out for program and access issues to bookstore portal.
- Motion made to have Lauren Fath (FS Chair) reach out to Bookstore Director for concerns about the opt in issue. Motion passed unanimously with 15 in favor; 0 to oppose; 0 to abstain.**

12. New Business.

- a. **Reconstitution of Grievance and Conciliation Committee.** The Faculty Senate is seeking nominations among the tenured faculty to serve on the G&CC. Look for correspondence, consider serving, and assist with moving forward with issue.
- b. **IPRA Requests - Status.** Shared that L. Fath’s attempt to IPRA past IPRA request failed (ha!). Informed that with new system, need new requests. Will work to develop new tickets, new requests. Noted that within new system, the HLC report was received within a week.
- c. **Academic Affairs Program Approvals.**
- a) **School of Business curriculum changes (attachments).**

G. Moreira shared that Business Department conducted curriculum comparison throughout state, region and industry needs throughout state, region. Looking to give curriculum a facelift and implement marketing analytics and changes to graduate coursework. Accredited by Business degree is accredited by Accreditation Council for Business Schools & Programs. Proposed changes bring into better alignment. **Motion made and seconded to approve SoB curriculum changes. Motion passed with 16 in favor; 0 in opposition; and 0 to abstain.**

d. **Faculty Lounge Access.** Item covered in LF's earlier report.

e. **Graduate Council Recommendations.**

a) **Clearance form requirements (attached).** No questions raised.

b) **Definition of graduate faculty (attached).** Concerns raised about the laxness of an individual being considered as Graduate Faculty. Faculty shared historical process of nominating and awarding of individuals to Graduate Faculty status. The inclusion of "titled" faculty was to be the exception, not the rule. Need to get back to history.

Motion made and seconded to take 12.e.(b) back to their departments for further feedback. Motion passed with 17 in favor; 0 to oppose; 0 to abstain.

Motion made and seconded to table everything (12.e.(a), (f)-(i). Motion passed with 17 in favor; 0 to oppose; 0 to abstain.

f. **Student Support Service Survey (R. Maestas).** Tabled.

g. **Capital Outlay Report (S. Baca).** Tabled.

Allocation of space in Lora Shields Building. Tabled.

h. **HLC Update (K. Tucker and/or A. Kent).** Tabled.

i. **Discussion of Artificial Intelligence in Academics; Session II.** Tabled.

j. **Faculty Evaluation of Administrators (30 minutes).** LF gave synopsis of issue (maintaining Faculty Handbook timeline, ensuring anonymity, encouraging participation). Said 2 main questions: (1) What mechanism are we going to develop to ensure anonymity? (2) What questions do we want to consider?

- One Senator shared wanting to maintain existing questions. Can only fix one problem at a time. Said most recent year with high response was when FS Secretary (Chadborn) used his Qualtrics account.
- One Senator suggested that the University purchase Qualtrics. Budget request considered an option, but time constrain recognized.
- One Senator suggested reaching to OIER, President's Office for assistance purchasing and maintaining the software.
- DC said a single account (Faculty Senate) is an inexpensive option.

- KJ noted how difficult it would be, even if software acquired, to learn and implement the survey through Qualtrics. Suggested including Psychology professors (Pan, Chadborn) in process.

Motion made and seconded that this year's **Faculty Evaluation of Administrators include the 2023 questions and involvement of Qualtrics mechanism with expert faculty assistance. Motion passed with 17 in favor; 0 to abstain; 0 to opposed.**

13. Executive Session.

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

15. Adjournment.