

General Faculty Meeting Minutes
September 27, 2023
Approved January 31, 2024

SUB 321 and ZOOM: <https://nmhu.zoom.us/j/3755944464>
4:00-5:00 p.m.

1. **Call to Order. Called meeting to order at 4:05.**
2. **Approval of Agenda.** Motion made and seconded to approve the meeting agenda. Motion passed unanimously with 27 counted in favor; 0 to oppose; 0 to abstain.
3. **Approval of Minutes from April 26, 2023, May 3, 2023 and August 23, 2023.**
 - Motion made and seconded to approve April 26th meeting minutes. Motion passed with 22 in favor; 0 to oppose; 4 to abstain.
 - Motion made and seconded to approve meeting minutes from May 3rd. Motion passed with 23 in favor; 0 to oppose; 3 to abstain.
 - Motion made and seconded to approve meeting minutes from August 23rd. Motion passed with 23 in favor; 0 to oppose; 3 to abstain.
4. **Chair Report (L. Fath).**
 - Shared that taking over FS Chair role after R. Rock's resignation. Offered online and in person office hours on Tuesdays at 12:30-2:00.
 - Asked for faculty's cooperation in keeping membership records straight and up to date.
 - Asked for FS Committee chairs and members to acknowledge charges and let know if not in receipt.
 - Shared that FS requesting committees to report out.
 - Stood for question.
 - *What is status of send out of results of Evaluation of Administrators?* LF said information is incomplete. She has only received two forwarded emails from former FS Chair about send-outs of administration results. Unclear if the others were ever sent.
 - *What was the date of those send-outs?* LF responded August 28th.
 - Suggestion made for Faculty Senate Executive Committee to issue a statement on status of last year's evaluation of administration, and intention to resume process in Spring 2024.
 - HS: Offered that lack of anonymity may have contributed to low turn-out.
 - SK: Offered that only had one email about evaluation process. Suggested maybe send reminder emails.

- JL: Shared that FS has talked over several evaluation seasons about how long (2 weeks, 4 weeks) process should be in order to garner participation. Landed on 2-3 weeks for best return. Shared, too, that FS has talked about a computerized system to ensure anonymity.
- KJ: Said process happened last Spring, all invited to participate, results were shared with General Faculty in spring (in minutes just passed!), results not shared with Administration. For whatever reason, results not shared. This is a process in the Faculty Senate Handbook. We didn't close the loop as a Faculty Body. Need to think about -- How make sure anonymous? How garner a higher turnout? How evaluate what they did if we do it too early?
- GGadsden: Said need later discussion about the anonymity. Knows is frustrating that the admin doesn't respond or modify operations based on results, but doesn't mean we shouldn't participate in the process.
- Motion made and seconded for Faculty Senate Executive Committee to issue a statement on status of last year's evaluation of administration, and intention to resume process in Spring 2024. Motion passed with 27 in favor; 0 to oppose; 0 to abstain.

5. Presidential Search Update (B. Kempner).

- Shared that the job description is posted around mid-September; open until mid-October. Planning ~ 2 week review then putting forward finalists, scheduling airport interviews, narrowing slate, making recommendations.
- Gave one piece of bad/funny news – AI scraped JD and posted as Las Vegas, NV (!).
- Stood for questions.
 - *Is Search Committee and/or BOR involved in airport screening?* BK responded that Search Committee is conducting airport interviews of semi-finalists after which will make recommendations to BOR.
 - *Can you comment on the number, quality of candidate pool?* No.

6. Discussion of ongoing NMHU Faculty Concerns re APVAA-Forestry.

a. 05/09/23 response from President Minner (attachment; sloan seven issues w appendices.doc).

- LF shared that this issue is a game of hot potato. Issues that are being brought to table of this position and its academic oversight have still not been addressed, nor have the issues of awarding tenure and promotion to the individual in question.
- KJ offered more insight. IPRA requests continue to not be honored. The General Faculty has made motions several times charging action, including the letter drafted Fall 2022. BOR did not answer that November email until June. A matter of contention. In the meantime, the GF was frustrated of stonewalling and misinforming. This group voted for the Faculty Senate to keep addressing this.

There was a General Faculty meeting and vote for the Faculty Senate to work in coordination with the Faculty Association to bring Vote of No Confidence to media. Noted that the CBA has a window for an ability to file a grievance when an article has been violated. The slow walking by admin with answers and information took us out of that window. This is an important issue that no one wants to see happen again.

- SW: is there something in terms of the Labor Board that we can do re slow walking IPRA requests? LF: yes, we can demonstrate that what we requested has not been satisfied. Univ Relations sent some stuff, not all stuff. There are many more out there.
- Discussion ensued about role of Labor Board.
- We still do not have the information.
- JL gave context to two attachments. (a) was sent to Rod Rock on 05/09, 6 days after last General Faculty meeting. (b) was sent to selected individuals in mid-July. General Faculty was not privy to either email until now.
- GGadsden: made a motion for the Faculty Senate to follow up on status of IPRA requests. **Motion seconded.**
- JL: Read out loud Paragraph 1 of Article 37 in attachment (a). The administration's own notes indicate that individual was granted some time toward tenure and was evaluated for tenure upon hire, breaching article.
- JG: Thanked for clarification; not out of my mind (!).
- SK: Did a vote take place? Yes, but it was a breach of the CBA. The vote was illegal, violated Article 37.
- Motion made and seconded for the Faculty Senate to follow up on status of IPRA requests. Vote taken. 22 in favor; 0 to abstain; 0 to oppose. Lacking quorum, idea to move forward with wishes of faculty. FS EC will re-send IPRA requests to University Relations, emphasizing the length of time out of compliance.

b. 07/13/23 letter from BOR Chair Garcia to Faculty (attachment).

7. Other.

8. Adjourned meeting at 5:10 p.m.