



## **General Faculty Meeting Minutes**

**September 25, 2024**

**Location: SUB 321 or Zoom**

**4:00 to 5:00 p.m.**

Approved October 23, 2025

### **1. Call to Order.**

### **2. Approval of Agenda.**

MOTION to approve agenda. Seconded.

Faculty member asked for a change to agenda.

Motion withdrawn by motioning and seconding members.

MOTION to approve agenda with a new concern about delayed reaction on campus to item 5a. Seconded. 18 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions. Motion carried.

### **3. Approval of Minutes of August 8, 2024.**

MOTION approve minutes. Seconded.

K. Jenkins asked for non-faculty to leave meeting. Discussion ensued about whether general faculty meetings are open. K. Gray noted that there is nothing in the handbook stipulating that General Faculty meetings are closed. D. Sammeth noted that in the past a vote was held if meetings were going to be closed. Chair asked that non-faculty leave meeting unless asked to be there.

Vote on motion:

19 ayes, 1 nay, 3 abstentions. Motion carried.

### **4. Communication from the Faculty Senate Chair (L. Fath).**

Chair reported that Ian Williamson is looking for faculty willing help with strategic planning. Interested faculty should contact Dr. Williamson.

Chair reported that she attended the vigil for Marty Lujan and thanked Kathy Jenkins and Andrea Crespin for putting it together.

Chair noted that she has been getting letters of concern from faculty. Some of the issues go to the Senate, some go to the Association, and sometimes, they're

appropriate for neither. Chair asked that faculty be considerate of the Senate's time but stressed that serious concerns are welcome.

## **5. Old Business**

### **a. Emergency Communications Plan (L. Fath).**

Chair stated that for years now, there's been no clear path of communication in emergency situations and can include the website, a specific webpage, etc. Chair noted that since our university seems to be emergency prone, we should try to make this communication consistent but that the nature of different emergencies make that difficult. Chair noted that M. Remke brought up that this is something that the President's policy committee should be working and that the President heard that suggestion at the Senate.

D. Chadborn stated that it is a good idea to get suggestions from the President's committees. Dr. Chadborn noted that there is a pattern of problems going on at the university brought forward by faculty, staff, and students and that they are getting the runaround. Dr. Chadborn mentioned that leaking roofs are being ignored by the VPAA. Dr. Chadborn noted that G. Gadsden's office roof has been leaking for 5+ years and that University Archives are leaking and at risk of mold. Dr. Chadborn stated that the Albuquerque center has no security, that faculty were expected to deescalate situations, and that the Dean is acting as security and is walking people out at night. Dr. Chadborn reported that there are two job postings, but it's nerve wracking to think that there are faculty who don't feel safe and are being told there's nothing that can be done. Dr. Chadborn noted that there are constant reports and issues, and no one is being proactive. Dr. Chadborn stated that faculty don't feel listened to and that some are ready to call for resignations and votes of no confidence.

Chair noted that we need documentation instead of hearsay.

MOTION for the issue of safety to be an item for the Faculty Senate to investigate and report back to the General Faculty. Seconded.

M. Petronis stated that the faculty should remind the Regents that's there's a standing vote of no confidence.

Vote on motion:

19 ayes, 1 nay, 0 abstention. Motion carried.

## **6. New Business**

### **a. Oversight for administrators and part-time administrators with teaching duties in contracts. IPRA updates (L. Fath).**

Chair noted that this issue is about positions not people. Chair reported that positions are being created that are academically outside academic oversight, and the problem becomes who makes sure those people's teaching meets quality control standards.

E. Rodriguez brought forward a concern about the legislative fellowship leadership for students. Dr. Rodriguez stated that it's been successful and that the new President decided to move the program under government relations (David Lepre) and hired the videographer to lead the program. Dr. Rodriguez stated that the program was designed to teach students leadership skills but is now about becoming lobbyists for the university instead of their own capital outlay projects. Dr. Rodriguez noted that she's been excluded from the program as has been Dr. Blea. Dr. Rodriguez wondered why they would change a successful program.

Dr. Gadsden noted that this is a shared governance issue and asked how they can change a program that affects students without discussing it with faculty. Dr. Gadsden stated that she was going to encourage two students to apply but would now reconsider.

MOTION for Chair of the Senate to inquire why this program changed without going through the Senate and governance. Seconded.

D. Sammeth stated that faculty have no voice and are not applying pressure that matter. Dr. Sammeth suggested that faculty have to do something different or they won't get a different response.

N. Valenzuela stated that the new President keeps saying it happened before he got here. Dr. Valenzuela noted that faculty have complaints about David Lepre, and now he's over something so important to students and the university and that excluding Dr. Blea and Dr. Rodriguez is troubling.

Dr. Jenkins stated that, in order to affect change, you have to be stepping forward, watching, documenting, and bringing forward effectively.

Dr. Rodriguez stated that Dr. Blean worked on the first 2 years of the program and then stepped back. Dr. Rodriguez further stated that David Lepre didn't follow up with many things, so Dr. Blea had to step in and coordinate and depended on a student regent to help. Dr. Rodriguez noted that the President said they didn't mean to exclude her and will have another meeting in October, but two months have already passed.

Dr. Sammeth stated that Dr. Woolf is surrounded by Dr. Minner's appointees, that the Board has no respect for faculty, and that Dr. Woolf is only hear one point of view.

Chair mentioned that the upcoming board meeting will be in Rio Rancho.

Dr. Jenkins called the question.

19 ayes, 1 nay, 0 abstentions. Motion carried.

Dr. Chadborn asked about IPRA documents. Chair noted that these were sent to the Senators to be passed along to their departments.

Chair noted that many IPRA documents that were requested came back “no record.” Chair reported that the P. Linder (CAS Dean) stated that E. Martinez was appointed interim chair which is the Dean’s purview, but the contract lists him as chair, not interim chair; this contradicts information from the Dean.

Dr. Jenkins noted that it’s obviously a one-year contract for contingent and that she is more concerned about duties and responsibilities. Dr. Jenkins noted that Dr. Martinez is the only chair who doesn’t have to teach more than one class. Dr. Jenkins questioned why it includes building bridges with departments, which implies some kind of problem. Dr. Jenkins stated that there is favoritism toward forestry. Dr. Jenkins noted that A. Dixit’s contract states that his is administration, but he is teaching.

Chair noted that that is also an offer letter and doesn’t list duties and responsibilities.

Dr. Chadborn stated that it includes a full release with only 1 class to teach, and that it’s ridiculous. Dr. Chadborn noted that staff have taught classes before, but there is oversight to that.

Dr. Rodriguez stated that chair duties continue to increase but that they don’t get increased course releases, which is insulting.

J. Lindline noted that there is nothing that would justify that imbalance of chair duties and that it is irrational favoritism.

Chair noted that she would welcome suggested action. Chair stated that she will revise and resubmit IPRA requests that garnered no such documents exist, and that the issue might be that the reforestation center has operated under multiple names.

Dr. Sammeth suggested sending an email to the President Ccing everyone on campus. Chair stated that a global about this would not be taken seriously.

Dr. Jenkins noted that we’re still in the early days of Dr. Woolf’s Presidency and that there are people left over from Dr. Minner’s term.

MOTION for the Executive Committee to meet with Dr. Woolf and discuss these issues, including lack of honest response to IPRA requests and why these contracts were enacted and are so out of step with other positions and to report back to Faculty Senate. Seconded.

Dr. Sammeth asked why just the Executive Committee should meet with the President. Dr. Jenkins stated that it would be more useful for the Executive Committee to frame the conversation first, open lines of communication, and then bring it before the larger faculty.

Dr. Valenzuela noted that R. Gonzales signs off on a lot of this and that she's been MIA for the past few years. Dr. Valenzuela stated that Dr. Gonzales has a myriad of other people approve for hires and that there is no confidence in Dr. Gonzales.

Dr. Remke stated that it is great to try to get the ear of the President and that his department hasn't had a say in any of this. Dr. Remke stated that there should be dialog with tenure track faculty.

Dr. Rodriquez stated that Dr. Woolf is surrounded only by administrators.

Vote on motion:

21 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions. Motion carried.

**b. Financial Planning Committee: Report on Administrator Position and Salary Growth with a Comparison to University Salary Trends (S. Karpowicz).**

S. Karpowicz began presenting findings of the Financial Planning Committee concerning administrator positions and salary growth.

MOTION to table this conversation for now and continue at another meeting when there is sufficient time to discuss it in detail, table remaining items, and adjourn the meeting. Seconded. Motion carried.

**c. HLC Report Update (A. Kent).**

**7. Questions and Comments from Faculty.**

**8. Adjournment.**

Meeting adjourned at 5:00.