

New Mexico Highlands University
Special Board of Regents Meeting
President's Conference Room
Rodgers Administration Building
NMHU Main Campus
Las Vegas, NM 87701
April 10, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.

AMENDED AGENDA

1. Call to Order – Chairman Sanchez
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of the Agenda for April 10, 2015
4. President's Report – Dr. James Fries
5. Executive Session – (1) limited personnel matters related to the hiring, promotion, demotion, dismissal, assignment, resignation, or investigation or consideration of complaints or charges against an employee; (2) bargaining strategy preliminary to collective bargaining; and (3) threatened or pending litigation subject to the attorney-client privilege in which the University is or may become a participant. Pursuant to provisions of NMSA 1978, §10-15-1(H)(2)(5)&(7).
6. Public Action as Necessary on Closed Session Discussions – Action Item
7. Adjournment

**New Mexico Highlands University
Board of Regents Special Meeting
April 10, 2015**

The New Mexico Highlands University Board of Regents held a special meeting on April 10, 2015 in the President's Conference Room in the Rodgers Administration Building on the New Mexico Highlands University main campus in Las Vegas, New Mexico. Chairman Sanchez called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Attendance

Board Members Present: Ms. Ryan Andrews-Armijo, Mr. Frank Marchi, Ms. LouElla Marr-Montoya, Ms. Sandra Turner, and Mr. Leveo V. Sanchez

Administrative Personnel Present: Dr. James Fries, President; Mr. Max Baca, Interim Vice President for Finance & Administration; Dr. Fidel Trujillo, Dean of Students; and Mr. William Wootton, Vice President for Advancement

Others Present: Ms. Mariposa Padilla-Sivage and Mr. Stevan Looney, NMHU Legal Counsel/Sutin Thayer & Browne Law; Ms. Carolina Martínez, Executive Administrative Assistant; and numerous other individuals in the audience, including faculty, and staff.

Approval of the Meeting Agenda for April 10, 2015

Regent Marchi moved to approve the April 10, 2015, agenda as presented. Regent Marr-Montoya seconded. Voting in favor were: Regent Andrews-Armijo, Regent Marchi, Regent Marr-Montoya, Regent Turner, and Chairman Sanchez.

President's Report – Dr. James Fries

President Fries reported the following:

- Student Research Day began at 9 a.m. today in the Student Union Building.
- NMHU-Rio Rancho's commencement speaker will be Mr. Hector Balderas, New Mexico Attorney General and NMHU alumni.
- Dr. Maggie George, President of Diné College, will be the commencement speaker at the main campus ceremony which is scheduled for May 9th at 2pm.
- 903 students are eligible to graduate from NMHU this May; 461 are undergraduates and 442 are graduate students. Of those 903 students, there will be 30 international students graduating from 15 different countries; 12 of those international students are from India.
- Today is the last day for Governor Susan Martínez to sign or veto bills. NMHU's \$100,000 oil and gas bill was vetoed again this year.
- Mr. Max Baca attended a meeting at Hill Air Force Base regarding the hydrazine remediation patent owned by the university. It was a positive meeting.

- The most recent admissions report (**Attachment A**) shows the number of admitted freshman is up by 123 from last year. The number of transfer students is up by 17.
- Undergraduate student financial support data collected by the Council of University Presidents (**Attachment B**) shows that 61% of NMHU students receive the Pell Grant, this number is significantly higher than those at Eastern New Mexico University and Northern New Mexico College but essentially the same as Western New Mexico University.
- University scholarship information was provided (**Attachment C**). President Fries noting that the Board approved the scholarships last fall. Currently 182 freshman have accepted a scholarship offer; 69% of those students have a high school GPA of 3.0 or higher. The number of students accepting the Dean's scholarship are as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Students</u>
2012	78
2013	66
2014	58
2015	92 (so far this spring)

Complete financial aid packages will go out this week.

- 50 students from Desert Mirage High School in California visited the campus this week. The school is part of the Coachella Valley School District which has ten high schools. All ten school average 500 graduates each yearly. Highlands is increasingly making some in-roads in the district.

A lengthy discussion regarding the Pathways Agreement was held. The agreement had been in place for the past three years. Mr. Wootton reported that NMHU will be working with Pathways to finalize financial details regarding the agreement and hope to have it back in place by next year.

- A day long open house is scheduled for April 24th for students who are interested in entering the honors program at Highlands.
- Five orientation sessions are scheduled for this summer.
- The university is exploring billboard advertising opportunities.

Executive Session – (1) limited personnel matters related to the hiring, promotion, demotion, dismissal, assignment, resignation, or the investigation or consideration of complaints or charges against an employee; and (2) bargaining strategy preliminary to collective bargaining; and (3) threatened or pending litigation subject to the attorney-client privilege in which the University is or may become a participant. Pursuant to provisions of NMSA 1978, §10-15-1(H)(2)(5)&(7). Regent Marchi moved to enter into executive session for the sole purpose of discussing the items listed. Regent Turner seconded. A roll call was taken; voting in favor were: Regent Andrews-Armijo, Regent Marchi, Regent Marr-Montoya, Regent Turner, and Chairman Sanchez. Motion carried. The Board entered into executive session at 10:46 a.m.


Regent Marchi moved to return to open session. Regent Marr-Montoya seconded. Regent Marchi stated for the record that only those items specified under the executive session were discussed and no action was taken by the Board. Regents present confirmed. Voting in favor of returning to open session were: Regent Andrews-Armijo, Regent Marchi, Regent Marr-Montoya, Regent Turner, and Chairman Sanchez. Motion carried unanimously and the Board returned to open session at 1:43 p.m.

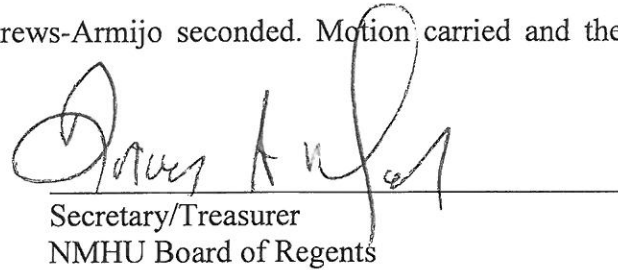
Public Action as Necessary on Closed Session Discussions – Action Item

No action was taken.

Adjournment

Regent Turner moved to adjourn. Regent Andrews-Armijo seconded. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.


Chairman
NMHU Board of Regents


Secretary/Treasurer
NMHU Board of Regents