

**Faculty Senate Meeting**  
**November 11, 2015**  
**Approved December 9, 2015**

**Singer Hall, room 100- New Mexico Highlands University, 3:00 p.m.**

**1. Call to Order: 3:02 p.m.**

**2. Roll Call:**

**Present:** Dr. Andrew Israel as Proxy for Aguilar, Teresita (VPAA); Burns, Jim (School of Education); Christensen, Todd (Visual & Performing Arts); Dr. Warren Lail proxy for Derkas, Erika (Social & Behavioral Sciences); Izaguirre, Ariadna (Student Senate – Undergraduate); Jenkins, Kathy (Exercise & Sport Sciences); Kempner, Brandon (English & Philosophy); Dr. Mariah Hausman proxy for Loewen, Kerry (School of Business, Media & Technology); Maestas, Henrietta (Staff Senate); Main, Douglas (School of Education/Counseling & Guidance); Martinez, Edward (Natural Resource Management); Minner, Sam (President); Rodriguez, Elaine proxy for Abbas Manafy (History/Political Science/Language & Culture); Romine, Maureen (Biology & Chemistry); Thompson, Wally (School of Education, Curriculum & Instruction); Williams, Emily (School of Education); Zebrowski, Cheryl (Library)

**Excused:** Coggins, Kip (School of Social Work); Williams, Susan (Nursing)

**Absent:** Ortiz, Luis (School of Business)

**Also Present**

- 3. Approval of Agenda:** - MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously
- 4. Approval of Minutes:** – MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to approve the Minutes from October 28. Motion passed with 3 abstentions
- 5. Communication from the Administration**
- a. Dr. Israel was here to represent the administration. Dr. Burns wanted to know what our outreach has been to veterans. Dr. Kempner will ask at next week's executive meeting.
- 6. Communication from the Chair**
- a. The Student Affairs committee is working on disciplinary procedures due to some legal issues.
  - b. There were four volunteers for the Campus Climate Task force, and the names forwarded to President Minner.
  - c. Proposed procedure for the President's Leadership initiative plan: Faculty Senate would solicit applications, and then an Executive Team (Possibly President Minner, Dr. Aguilar and Dr. Kempner) would review them, with the president making the final decision.
  - d. The New Mexico Higher Education Department Secretary Dr. Barbara Damron met with a few faculty and staff members to listen to our concerns, as well as let us know

her priorities. She is happy that Highlands has already adopted 120 credits for graduation. She would like better articulation with all lower division classes. She wants all undecided majors to be put into “Meta-Majors”, which would be broad subject categories. The State will begin to look at the 35 credit core.

- e. The President had suggested a retreat to discuss shared governance issues. Faculty felt that it would be better to work on a project to build trust, because retreats tend to become venting forums. Possible forum to work on the Strategic Plan?

#### **7. Communication from Academic Affairs**

- a. Todd Christensen reported on registrar issues. Michael Raine continues to look at courses to delete. Graduate students need to apply for certificate programs.
- b. Ballen call for proposals has gone out with deadline early December.
- c. Academic calendar discussions are still ongoing.

#### **8. Communication from the Student Senate**

- a. The senate still has money for this semester: \$6000 for undergraduate students, and \$600 for graduate students.
- b. They donated \$600 to social work club for their Turkey Basket. Dr. Ortega will take other donations.

#### **9. Communication from the Staff Senate**

- a. All vacant positions on the Staff Senate have been filled.
- b. They are working on doing a radio program.
- c. They want to survey faculty & staff regarding suggestion boxes on campus.
- d. An Ad Hoc committee is looking at adding other universities for tuition waivers.

#### **10. Old Business**

- a. Evaluation of Administrators
  - i. It should be short with 4-5 questions regarding their goals, and space for other comments.
- b. Faculty Development Week
  - i. Should the Ad Hoc committee continue, or move to CTE, with advisory committee? Preliminary schedule should be done by May. Dr. Emily Williams wants to get started now.
  - ii. Should staff be allowed to attend so that it is more Professional Development, not just Faculty Development?
  - iii. Need a slightly different committee of folks from different departments & schools. What role does CTE have?
  - iv. Executive Committee will work on charge.

#### **11. New Business:**

- a. Faculty credentials
  - i. Accrediting agency wants us to have better defined qualifications for teaching at various levels.
  - ii. Perhaps should go to Faculty Affairs?
- b. New Issues to Work on for 2015-2016
  - i. Role of online education at NMHU
    - 1) Departments should still make decision regarding mode of delivery. Who in department should make that decision?
    - 2) Need a broader group to share information about what works, assessment, best practices.

- 3) There are coding problems with registrar
- 4) Education's CONNECTADO grant is looking at assessment for online programs.
  - ii. Faculty Senate Project for 2015-2016: Big Ideas Book Group.
  - iii. Ad-hoc committee dedicated to looking at issues at the Centers
  - iv. Professor/Teacher/Researcher/Artist of the Year Award
  - v. Exit interviews for departing faculty
  - vi. Discussion of sustainability versus growth
  - vii. The role of accreditation at NMHU

**12. Committee Reports and Announcements**

**13. Meeting adjourned at 3:59 p.m.**