

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2018
Approved March 28, 2018

Lora Shields room 265 and via ZOOM, 3:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order: 3:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call:

Present: Bustos, Leon (Psychology); Broughton, Leslie (Library); Coggins, Kip (School of Social Work); Cruz, Patricia (Education; Educational Leadership); Ensor, Kevin (Counseling & Guidance); Fath, Lauren (English & Philosophy); Gardner, Sandra (Nursing); Harrington, Edward (Visual & Performing Arts); Jeffries, John (Computer Science & Math); Jenkins, Kathy (Exercise & Sport Sciences); Lindline, Jennifer (Natural Resources); Meckes, Shirley (Teacher Education); Meron, Angela (Media Arts & Technology); Rodriguez, Elaine (History and Political Science); Romine, Maureen (Biology); Sammeth, David (Chemistry); Sedillo, PJ (Education; Special Education/Gifted); Swim, Charles (for Luis Ortiz (School of Business); Valenzuela, Norma (Languages & Culture); Ward, Tom (Sociology, Anthropology & Criminal Justice; Yerende, Eva (Education; Curriculum & Instruction)

Also Present: Arshad, Ali; Martinez, Edward (Strategic Enrollment Management); Marrs, Diana (Center for Teaching Excellence); Tamir, Orit

3. Approval of Agenda: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to approve the agenda with addition of **Communication from Strategic Enrollment Management** and reordering Old Business items (c) and (d). Motion passed.

4. Approval of Minutes: MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to approve the Minutes from February 14th. Motion passed.

5. Communication from the Administration (I. Williamson).

- White paper will soon be released to the Faculty Senate, Academic Affairs, General Faculty, Deans, and Executive Management Team. Will include an article from on post-traditional learners. Dr. Gonzales would like to hold a campus form on education of post-traditional learners in non-traditional delivery modes around the white paper content.
- HLC update:
 - Group of 4 (SM, RG, BK, and MB) going to talk to Institutional Action Council in Chicago action committee next week.
 - Lee Allard is the new Director of Institutional Effectiveness and Research. He, along with IW, will be taking over many of BK's Outcomes Assessment related responsibilities: LA will be assuming data collection responsibilities while IW will be overseeing how units are using the OA data. All are trying to keep the momentum gathered during HLC site visit process.

- Met with Executive Committees to talk about how deal with various petitions (drop/add/withdrawal, independent study/independent research, and hardship). Faculty leadership wants to keep hardship petitions on the AA side of the house but maybe OK to move the other things down to a lower level (Dean) then appeal to AA if applicant not happy with decision.
- Trying to get Faculty Research Handbook revisions through FRC, particularly biohazards oversight committee.

6. Communication from the Chair (T. Ward).

- Requested that Faculty Senators stay for Academic Vision discussion at General Faculty meeting. Want to talk about OUR vision for institution.
- Announced that he will be attending another Commencement Committee meeting this Friday. Committee is considering between 4-8 marshals; asked faculty to look for announcements, consider volunteering.
- Shared that President discussed with Executive Team having a faculty member sit on Foundation Board (ex officio). It is not in the handbook, would not be voting member, would be good opportunity. Would involve attending board meetings (every couple of months).
- Announced that there is a Board of Regents meeting tomorrow (Thursday, March 1st). Shared that sabbatical award announcements were circulated yesterday. This year's cycle included 9 applicants and 5 awardees.

7. Communication from Academic Affairs (E. Harrington).

- Shared happenings from 02/21 Academic Affairs meeting:
 - Registrar says that Department Chairs and Program Coordinators should have received catalog text for review. Deadline for edits approaching (mid-March).
 - Distance Learning; there is no contact time requirement for online courses, particularly asynchronous. AA considering having a policy in writing.
 - Catalog deactivation of courses; question about whether actions implemented by former Registrar Michael Raine are valid. *Are they deactivated or deleted?* Discussed that courses are never really delete, b/c we have to actualize student transcripts.
 - Graduate Handbook under extensive review and rewrite.

8. Communication from the Student Senate (N. Lujan). None provided.

9. Communication from the Staff Senate (L. Thornton). None provided.

10. Communication from Strategic Enrollment Office (E. Martinez).

- Shared that HLC cited NMHU for not having a strategic enrollment management plan to guide enrollment activities and decisions. The SEM office wants to develop a Strategic Enrollment Management Committee asks the Faculty Senate for assistance in soliciting volunteers. The more faculty involvement, the better input to retaining students and growing enrollment. Current membership includes Jeanie Flood (Nursing), Keith Tucker (School of

Business, Media & Technology), Kevin Ensor (School of Education; Counseling), Rey Martinez (School of Social Work).

- Distributed NMHU Strategic Enrollment Management Plan handout.

11. Old Business

a. Current Academic Calendar (Action Item).

- Doing this *post hoc*; university has been operating under this calendar, though not every formalized. MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to approve the 2017-18 Academic Calendar. Motion passed unanimously. All in favor; no abstentions or oppositions.

b. 2018-19 and 2019-20 Academic Calendars (Action Item).

- MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to approve the 2018-19, 2019-20 Academic Calendars. Motion passed unanimously. All in favor; no abstentions or oppositions.

c. Honorary Bachelor's Degree Policy (Action Item).

- Guidelines for the Awarding of Honorary Bachelor Degrees (handout) were distributed to FS for consideration.
- Question – *does this parallel posthumous degree?* To some degree, yes.
- Concern – *are we making a policy for one person or because we found a gap in our policies?* The policy was developed with an awardee in mind and because one does not exist at this time.
- Question – *what's the difference between Honorary Doctorate versus Honorary Bachelor Degree?* Only the level of degree conferred.
- MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to approve the Honorary Bachelor Degree guidelines. 17 favored; 2 opposed; 2 abstained.

d. Academic Vision/Identity Forum (Discussion Item).

- Lively discussion took place. One Senator expressed the haphazard, disorganization of the forums and concern that his name being attached to statements on which he was not involved in preparing. Some senators through recommendations being pressed, railroaded. TW reminded group that administration has repeatedly said that any recommendations arising from the Task Forces will funneled through appropriate channels.
- One Senator concerned with lack of transparency. A faculty member who shared a document outside of the Task Force committee was called a “mole.”
- One Senator does not think that any of these recommendations should go to FS. FS should gather data, take into consideration, and make own recommendations, not impel the administration's agenda.
- One Senator shared that the Faculty Senate should hold forums.

12. New Business

a. Create of a General Education Committee.

- MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to solicit members from discipline areas to participate in General Education Committee. All in favor; no abstentions or oppositions.

b. Charge Academic Affairs to develop a policy for determining and implementing course substitutions within a Program of Study.

- MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to charge Academic Affairs to develop a policy for determining and implementing course substitutions within a Program of Study (handout with extended charge language). 17 favored; 2 opposed; 0 abstained.

13. Adjournment at 3:55.