

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
February 27, 2019
Approved March 27, 2019

Sininger Lecture Hall 100 and via ZOOM, 3:00 to 4:00p.m.

1. Call to Order.

2. Roll Call.

Present: Chadborn, Daniel (Psychology); Coggins, Kip (School of Social Work); Ensor, Kevin (Counseling & Guidance); Garcia-Nuthmann, André (Visual & Performing Arts); Gardner, Sandra (Nursing); Houliez, C. (Business); Jeffries, John (Computer & Mathematical Sciences); Jenkins, Kathy (Exercise & Sport Sciences); Karaba, Robert (Education; Education Leadership); Kent, April (Library); Jennifer Lindline (Natural Resources Management); Meckes, Shirley (Education; Teacher Education); Meron, Angela (Media Arts & Technology); Moreno, Yvonne (Education; Special Education/Gifted); Rodriquez, Elaine (History & Political Science); Romine, Maureen (Biology); Sammeth, David (Chemistry); Tamir, Orit (Sociology, Anthropology & Criminal Justice); Valenzuela, Norma (Languages and Culture); Villarreal, Ben (English & Philosophy)

Also Present: C. Chen (Business; Marketing); G. Gallegos (Computer & Mathematical Sciences), L. Gonzales (Business Office); S. Jederberg (Education; Education Leadership); S. Gurunam Kaur Khalsa (Nursing); E. Massaro (Social Work); R. Rock (Education)

Absent: Education; Curriculum & Instruction representative.

3. Approval of Agenda. MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to approve the agenda with modifications. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Approval of Minutes from February 13, 2019. MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to approve the meeting minutes. Motion passed with 1 abstention.

5. Communication from the Administration (R. Gonzales).

- Made offer to Director of Online Learning; outcome pending.
- Hired a person (J. Moreno) to manage the Albuquerque Center Site.
- Made call for Faculty Recognition Event in April. Self or colleague recognitions – please respond.
- Looking for a grad person to take care of CTE position on interim basis ASAP.

6. Communication from the Chair (Sammeth).

- Shared that the Faculty Senate motion in response to proposed reorganization from 01/27 Faculty Senate meeting read at last BOR meeting. At that time, several faculty colleagues communicated position as well to not reorganize.
- Shared that President Minner feels important to support scholarship. Was surprise to find out that only money was in indirect from faculty garnered grant. Feels very strongly about having more monies for faculty professional development.
- Announced need for faculty marshals for 2019 commencement. K. Jenkins and O. Tamir volunteered. J. Lindline will send out email solicitation to General Faculty.

7. Communication from Academic Affairs (S. Gardner).

- Shared that AAC looking at Add/Drop policy. Seeking input from Provost and Deans about what constitutes a hardship. In process of drafting policy for active military students.
- Shared that there is a discussion about Handbook Policy procedures.
- Shared that AAC considering charge about non-thesis Master's Degree. No consensus on that; many thought that the issue should be considered at department level. They should have input on their own about what constitutes a Master's level work.
- Shared several program changes: Women's Studies changed to Gender and Women's Studies; Environmental Geology Program modifications approved; English Program's proposal tabled for now; Psychology course revisions going through more discussion.
- KJ – questions why is AAC going to administration to define hardship? Should be coming from faculty; troubled that AAC is asking the administration to solve this and not coming to the FS. It is a Senate issue to resolve.
- KJ – bothered by hearing that AAC voted to basically ignore the FS and send things forward to administration.

8. Communication from the Staff Senate (A. Ludi).

- Shared that Staff has been identifying and confirming representation on various governance bodies.

9. Old Business.

a. Plan for development of new NMHU Strategic Plan.

MOTION MADE AND SECONDED for the Faculty Senate to provide the following recommendations for the development of NMHU's new strategic plan.

The current mission and vision statements are on target but would benefit from small adjustments and editing that would increase specificity. The inclusion of well-defined objectives, e.g., best in class..., would allow a more direct connection between actions and budgeting priorities. The final mission statement needs to be developed with input from all stakeholders. We recommend that the committee include students, staff, faculty, administration, and community members.

Mission

New Mexico Highlands University is a public comprehensive university serving our local and global communities. Our mission is to provide opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students to attain an exceptional education by fostering creativity, critical thinking and research in the liberal arts, sciences, and professions within a diverse community.

Vision

Our vision is to be a premier comprehensive university transforming lives and communities now and for generations to come.

DS solicited discussion. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

b. **Resolve conflicting language in NMHU Catalog.**

DS – reminded Faculty Senators that they have been given the conflicting catalog language. Big decision. Need as much input as possible. Encourage to talk to your departments and disciplines to see what they think about standing. We have a lot of questions about transfer credits. This is a big one that overshadows many of the others.

KC – shared that in SSW, accepting ACE over HLC accredited institutions will call into question the School of Social Work standing. If we have to look course by course at what was taken at an accredited school, will cost time and cause problems. It is a slippery slope for NMHU to accept credits from non-HLC accredited educational bodies.

MR – questioned what does it take to be ACE standardized? What are their standards? DS suggested going to their website for listing. RG said that ACE is not a body that accredits anything. They are a body that lobbies for accredited institutions. They have a division that advocates for government aid. When we take CLEP or Dante exams, they are ACE recommendations. When we take military credits, they are ACE recommendations. They are not an accrediting body, but they hire educational professionals to make these recommendations. Caution that if we don't take military credits, we will not get adult learners.

MR – said that Department of Business Administration accepts several Straighterline courses.

RG – said that there may be components (military) that we want to take and components (Straighterline) that we don't want to take. Can leave option up to departments, programs.

OT – offered that if option left to departments, student could encounter problems if switches major and was told a Straighterline course (like Writing) could count in one major but doesn't in another.

c. **Nursing: RN to BSN Program.** MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to charge the Academic Affairs Committee to create a matrix showing what credits are awarded toward a bachelor's degree when a student transfers to NMHU with an ADN or ASN degree. In particular, break out the NMHU core, extended core, university proficiency, credits toward major, and total credits granted. Please analyze the results and provide recommendations, if any, concerning current policy, or lack of policy.

According to the current undergraduate catalog, NMHU currently accepts the following Associate degrees:

1. Associates of Arts (AA)
2. Associate of Science (AS)
3. Associate of Applied Science (ASS)

The Nursing Program would like the university to consider also accepting the following Associate degrees:

1. Associate Degree in Nursing (ADN)
2. Associate in Nursing Program (ASN)

Motion passed unanimously.

- d. **ACC charge: Review of agreement with NNMC for course collaboration.** Tabled.

10. New Business.

- a. **Election of Faculty Senate Chair** – Term begins August 2019.

- Accepting nominations for Faculty Senate Chair. Nomination for Orit Tamir and Jennifer Lindline (declined). All in favor of Orit Tamir serving as 2019-20 FS Chair with 3 abstentions.

b. **Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual.**

MOTION MADE AND SECONDED to move the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual to the Faculty Affairs Committee for review. The FAC needs to determine if any of the manual updates change any working conditions with regard to Contingent Faculty (FAC purview). If there are changes, the FAC is asked for their recommendations. Motion passed unanimously.

- KJ – Noted that if they do find something that changes working conditions, it could be that the FAC will need to update Contingent Faculty Handbook.

- c. **20k to Assessment Committee.** DS asked OAC Chair to share thoughts on how to move forward. The OAC has considered how to reallocate the monies during this budget cycle with the acknowledgement that the money is still there for next budget cycle with input from the Faculty Senate. If we do receive the money next year, we will seek a charge from the FS on how to distribute those monies. For now, since DS relayed that the mini-grants were not supported, we want to consider don't want to move forward at an unreasonable pace but do want to support supplementary enrichments and learning experiences that are tied to SLOs and support student achievement.

- KJ – have heard from several administrative avenues that in Financial doo doo. Recommended putting money it back in the department budgets. Need money to address all of the nuts and bolts issues. Responsible thing is to return the allocated 20K to fix the things that are broken here and the emergency in which we find ourselves.

MOTION MADE AND SECONCED to return the monies to the I&G funds to address financial emergencies and consider, if the finances are better in AY19, more specific Department and Outcomes Assessment activities and needs. Motion passed with unanimous consent.

- d. **Leadership/Drop in Enrollment.**

OT – encouraged FS to consider 3 prong approach.

1. Stop the bleeding. Understand why students are leaving.
2. Undergraduate enrollment. Looking for out-of-the box ideas, including some freebies like providing free dormitories, free iPads, and others.
3. Graduate enrollment. Graduate student programs currently lack attention at this university.

- e. **Charge - Instructional Technology Committee.**
- f. **Auditing Policy.**
- g. **Athletic Rosters - charge for Faculty Affairs (where to post travel information).**

11. Executive Session.

12. Public Action as Necessary on Other Closed Session Discussions.

13. Adjournment at 4:01.