



New Mexico Highlands University Board of Regents Meeting
Virtual Meeting
April 24, 2020, 10:00 a.m.

Special Announcement

The New Mexico Highlands University Board of Regents will hold a (virtual) meeting on Friday, April 24, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. The university will comply with the Governor's Office and the NM Department of Health's social distancing mandate which limits mass gatherings to five (5) therefore, the Board of Regents meeting will be held as a virtual meeting only. The university will make every effort to accommodate members of the public as stated in the April 14, 2020 meeting announcement. The items to be addressed at this meeting are time sensitive and cannot wait, thus in accordance with the New Mexico Attorney General's Open Government Division Advisory, the meeting will be held as a virtual meeting only. Members of the public may access the meeting and may also participate in the meeting during the Public Comment section of the agenda via zoom or via phone call:

<https://nmhu.zoom.us/j/122824474>

Or iPhone one-tap:

US: +13462487799,122824474# or +16699006833,122824474#

Or Telephone:

Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

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Webinar ID: 122 824 474

International numbers available: <https://nmhu.zoom.us/u/ac1IDo7Azz>

Or an H.323/SIP room system:

H.323:

162.255.37.11 (US West)

162.255.36.11 (US East)

1. Call to Order – Chairman Leveo Sanchez
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda for April 24, 2020
4. Approval of the Minutes from January 31, 2020
5. Board of Regents Report
 - A. Introduction of New Regents
 - B. Election of Board of Regents Officers – Action Item
 - C. Board of Regents Subcommittee Appointments
6. Vice President for Finance & Administration – Mr. Max Baca
 - A. Tuition and Fees – Action Item
7. President's Report – Dr. Sam Minner
 - A. NMHU Facilities Bldg. Parking Lot/Sidewalks - \$357,000 – Action Item
 - B. Golf Course Discussion

- C. Higher Learning Commission Campus Visit
 - D. Wilson Complex Lower Bleacher Installation Discussion
 - E. Other
8. Public Comment*
 9. Faculty Senate Report – Dr. Robert Karaba
 10. Staff Advisory Senate Report – Ms. Adele Ludi
 11. ASNMHU Report – Ms. Tamlyn Crain
 12. Academic Affairs – Dr. Roxanne Gonzales
 - A. Catalog/Policy Acceptance of Technical and Vocational Credit – Action Item
 - B. Wiley as Third Party for Marketing – Action Item
 - C. NMHU Acceptance of NMNEC RN Courses as Residency – Action Item
 13. Executive Session – (a) limited personnel matters related to the dismissal, resignation, and/or investigation or consideration of complaints or charges against any individual or public employee pursuant to NMSA 1978, § 10-15- 1(H)(2); (b) bargaining strategy preliminary to collective bargaining pursuant to NMSA 1978, § 10-15-1(H)(5); (c) threatened or pending litigation subject to the attorney- client privilege in which the university is or may become a participant pursuant to NMSA 1978, § 10-15-1(H)(7); and (d) real estate acquisition or disposal pursuant to NMSA 1978, § 10-15-1(H)(8).
 14. Public Action as Necessary on Closed Session Discussion – Action Item
 15. Emeritus Status Designation – Action Item
 16. Approval of Naming the Screening Room in the McCaffrey Trolley Building the Halward Screening Room – Action Item
 17. Adjournment

* PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – The agenda for each regular meeting of the Board of Regents shall include an opportunity for members of the public to address the Board on matters of public interest related to the University. Unless otherwise determined by the Chairman of the Board, this public comment period shall last no longer than fifteen (15) minutes and each person addressing the Board shall speak for no more than three (3) minutes. When deemed necessary, persons wishing to address the Board may be required to sign in so that the public comment period may be conducted in an orderly manner. Matters of individual concern, such as employee grievances or student appeals that do not involve a matter of public interest, are not appropriate topics for the public comment period. University policy provides administrative channels to pursue such matters. The Board of Regents may not act on any item raised during the public comment period, but may refer items to be placed on the agenda of a future meeting for action. (NMHU Board of Regents Policy Guide, pages17-18).

**New Mexico Highlands University
Board of Regents Virtual Meeting
April 24, 2020**

The New Mexico Highlands University Board of Regents held a virtual meeting on April 24, 2020. The meeting was streamed via ZOOM from the New Mexico Highlands University main campus in Las Vegas, New Mexico. The university complied with the Governor's Office and the NM Department of Health's social distancing mandate which limits mass gatherings to five (5) therefore, the Board of Regents meeting was held as a virtual meeting only. The university made every effort to accommodate members of the public as stated in the April 14, 2020 meeting announcement. The items addressed during the meeting were time sensitive and could not wait. Thus in accordance with the New Mexico Attorney General's Open Government Division Advisory, the meeting was held as a virtual meeting only. Members of the public may access the meeting and may also participate in the meeting during the Public Comment section of the agenda via zoom or via phone call:

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Chairman Sanchez thanked the administration, faculty, staff, and students for displaying unity and devotion to the university and community during this most difficult time.

Chairman Sanchez read the following statement:

"Thank you for joining the NMHU Board of Regents today, April 24, 2020 for our first virtual Board meeting. The university is complying with the Governor's Office and the NM Department of Health's social distancing mandate which limits mass gatherings to five (5) The university has made every effort to accommodate members of the public. The items to be addressed at this meeting are time sensitive and cannot wait, thus in accordance with the New Mexico Attorney General's Open Government Division Advisory, the meeting is being held as a virtual meeting only. Board members participating in the meeting remotely are: Bill Garcia, Frank Marchi, Danelle Smith, Christopher Ulibarri, and Chairman Leveo Sanchez."

"Also participating in the meeting remotely are Dr. Sam Minner, Dr. Roxanne Gonzales, Mr. Max Baca, Dr. Terri Law, Dr. Kimberly Blea, Dr. Robert Karaba, Ms. Adele Ludi, Ms. Tamlyn Crain, and Ms. Sylvia Baca."

"Should Board members or the university lose connectivity and there is no longer have a quorum, the Board meeting will be suspended and no action will be taken until a quorum is reconvened."

Call to Order – Chairman Sanchez called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Roll Call

Board Members Present via ZOOM: Mr. William Garcia, Mr. Frank Marchi, Ms. Danelle Smith, Mr. Leveo V. Sanchez, and Mr. Christopher Ulibarri

Administrative Personnel Present via ZOOM: Dr. Sam Minner, President; Dr. Roxanne Gonzales, Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs; Mr. Max Baca, Vice President for Finance & Administration; Dr. Theresa Law, Vice President of Student and Donor Engagement; and Dr. Kimberly Blea, Dean of Students

Others Present via ZOOM: Dr. Robert Karaba, Interim Faculty Senate Chair; Dr. Lee Allard, Director of Institutional Research; Ms. Adele Ludi, Staff Advisory Senate President; Ms. Tamlyn Crain, ASNMHU Vice-President; and Ms. Carolina Martínez, Executive Administrative Assistant. Numerous individuals including faculty, staff, students, community members, and the general public participated in the meeting as it was streamed via ZOOM

Approval of the April 24, 2019 Virtual Meeting Agenda

Regent Garcia moved to approve the Board's virtual meeting agenda for April 24, 2020 as presented. Regent Smith seconded. A roll call vote was taken, voting in favor were: Regent Garcia, Regent Marchi, Regent Smith, Regent Ulibarri, and Chairman Sanchez. Motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes from January 31, 2020

Regent Garcia moved to approve the minutes from the January 31, 2020 meeting as presented. Regent Marchi seconded. A roll call vote was taken, voting in favor were: Regent Garcia, Regent Marchi, Regent Smith, and Chairman Sanchez. Regent Ulibarri abstained. Motion carried.

Board of Regents

Introduction of New Regents

President Minner stated that former regents Ms. LouElla Marr-Montoya and Ms. Rebekah Peoble will be acknowledged for their hard work and dedication to NMHU in a future Board meeting.

Newly appointment Regents Danelle Smith and Christopher Ulibarri each provided their professional and educational history.

Board of Regents Office Elections – Action Item

Regent Smith moved to elect Mr. Leveo Sanchez as Chair of the Board. Regent Garcia seconded. A roll call vote was taken, voting in favor: Regent Garcia, Regent Marchi, Regent Smith, Regent Ulibarri, and Chairman Sanchez. Motion carried.

Regent Marchi moved to elect Regent Bill Garcia as Vice-Chair. Regent Smith seconded. A roll call vote was taken, voting in favor were: Regent Marchi, Regent Smith, Regent Ulibarri, and Chairman Sanchez. Regent Garcia, abstained. Motion carried.

Regent Garcia moved to elect Regent Frank Marchi as Secretary/Treasurer of the Board. Regent Smith seconded. A roll call vote was taken, voting in favor were: Regent Garcia, Regent Marchi, Regent Smith, Regent Ulibarri, and Chairman Sanchez. Motion carried.

Board Committee Appointments – Chairman Sanchez

Chairman Sanchez re-appointed Regent Marchi as chair of the Budget and Finance Committee.

He appointed Regent Garcia to chair the Student Affairs and Strategic Enrollment Management Committee. He appointed Regent Christopher Ulibarri to serve on the SA & SEM Committee.

Chairman Sanchez appointed Regent Smith chair of the Academic Affairs Committee.

Board Report

Regent Marchi reported that the Higher Education Regents Coalition (HERC) met earlier this week, former NMHU Regent LouElla Marr-Montoya and HERC Chair was replaced by Ms. Yolanda King, Regent at New Mexico Tech. During the meeting presentation were made by: Dr. David Abbey, Director of the Legislative Finance Committee; Mr. Marc Saavedra, Executive Director of the Council of University Presidents; and Ms. Carmen Lopez, NM Higher Education Deputy Cabinet Secretary. Items of discussion included virtual graduation plans, student regent terms, and the state's budget and how it effects university budgets.

A discussions regarding the COVID-19 pandemic and how it is effecting university processes, budget, and tuition & fee rates were also held.

Finance & Administration – Mr. Max Baca

Tuition – Action Item

President Minner called on Mr. Baca to present the Tuition & Fees action items presentation (**Attachment A**).

An in-depth discussion regarding programs, enrollment, state funding, retention, student athlete and COVID-19 was held.

Regent Marchi motioned for approve a 5% increase on all tuition and fees with the exception of asynchronous online courses. Regent Smith seconded. A roll call vote was taken, voting in favor was: Regent Marchi. Opposed were: Regent Garcia, Regent Smith, Regent Ulibarri, and Chairman Sanchez. Motion failed.

Regent Garcia motioned for approve a 4% increase on all tuition and fees with the exception of asynchronous online courses. Regent Ulibarri seconded. A roll call vote was taken, voting in favor were: Regent Garcia, Regent Marchi, Regent Smith, Regent Ulibarri, and Chairman Sanchez. Motion carried.

President's Report – Dr. Sam Minner

NMHU Facilities Building Parking Lot/Sidewalks - \$357,000 – Action Item

Regent Garcia moved to approve the NMHU Facilities Building Parking Lot/Sidewalks item in the amount of \$357,000 (**Attachment B**) as presented. Regent Smith seconded. A roll call vote was taken, voting in favor were: Regent Garcia, Regent Marchi, Regent Smith, Regent Ulibarri, and Chairman Sanchez. Motion carried.

Golf Course Discussion

President Minner stated that his goals for the golf course remain the same, which are to maintain the course, make improvements if possible, and not to add to the ongoing debt.

The golf course is closed. He has reached out to the City Mayor elect regarding the golf course. He plans to meet with potential partners. The Higher Learning Commission and the New Mexico Department of Higher Education, our accreditors, have warned the university not spend more money on the golf course or axillary services.

Regent Garcia directed President Minner to postpone working on golf course issues until after COVID-19 budgetary issues are resolved.

Higher Learning Commission Campus Visit

The campus focus visit was rescheduled for October 5-6, 2020, to date, it will be an in-person visit. Regent Garcia and Regent Ulibarri will meet with the HLC focus visit team.

Wilson Complex Lower Bleacher Installation Discussion

President Minner called on Ms. Sylvia Baca, Facilities & Planning Director, to present. Ms. Baca reported that the lower level bleachers in the John A. Wilson have exceeded their useful life. Ms. Baca stated that there is an urgency to replace the bleachers, which could be rendered unusable at any time. Norcon Co., who maintains the university's bleachers, informed that they would no longer service the bleachers due to their poor condition.

New bleachers will cost approximately \$406K-\$410K. The university can utilize some of the \$4M infrastructure funds received through the 2018 GO Bond. The project will go before the NMHED for final approval.

Other

President Minner informed the Board that he established three priorities to guide the campus through the COVID-19 pandemic. The first is to protect the health and safety of all students, employees, and campus visitors by closing the university. The second priority is to preserve the university's instructional mission. The university rapidly switched to online/distance learning to help students earn their credits to complete their courses moving towards graduation. Thirdly, was to the best degree possible, was not to add an additional layer of anxiety. Therefore, he ensured that all NMHU faculty, staff, and students receiving a paycheck from NMHU still receives one. He commented that he is proud to do so.

He credited the administration for their work to keep the university running stating the following:

- Academic Affairs rapidly and successfully pivoted to online and distance education
- Grants/external funding continues to be received
- Student Affairs continues to ensure that the students that had to remained on campus are fed and well taken care of
- Our new athletic director continues to do a great job. He hired a new head women's basketball coach and a head volleyball coach. The AD has introduced a new televised/streamed program that highlights the HU Athletic and university department.

- The newly hired head football coach has recruited a West Las Vegas High School student athlete to the NMHU football team.
- The university is approaching the \$2 million fiscal year fundraising goal.
- A new recruitment plan was developed which includes statewide TV ads on all three of the network stations and ads on several social media outlets.
- We are encouraging students to register for summer and fall courses.
- We continue to use our success coaches to improve retention.

Regent Smith highly recommended that the university recruit local high schools students.

Public Comment

Mr. Brian Lindsey typed the following questions in the ZOOM Chat box.

1. NMHU is still one of the most affordable universities, and some increase is natural, but any increase can cause hardships for most students.
Does preparing online courses incur more costs for the university
2. Could online courses attract more students if HU is more affordable than other Universities.
3. Would some students from other universities be looking for more affordable options?

Dr. Gonzales addressed Mr. Lindsey's questions.

Faculty Senate Report – Dr. Robert Karaba

He provided a written report in advance of the meeting (**Attachment C**). Dr. Karaba commended President Minner for doing an exemplary leading the university through this crisis. President Minner has articulated to the entire campus community his priorities of safety-first, instructional mission second and financial security of all of the New Mexico Highlands employees third. Dr. Karaba also commended the faculty for their willingness to provide a new course delivery to continue to serve all of our students.

Dr. Karaba noted that the faculty have incurred some costs having to deliver courses from home.

Staff Advisory Report – Ms. Adele Ludi

Ms. Ludi reported the following:

- Elections to fill senate vacancies will be held in May
- Projects have slowed since staff are no longer on campus
- SAS plans to create a podcast

Ms. Ludi echoed Dr. Karaba's sentiments regarding President Minner's exemplary leadership and for keeping the campus community well informed with his bi-weekly, and now weekly, updates.

ASNMHU Report – Ms. Tamlyn Crain

Provided a written report in advance of the meeting (**Attachment D**).

Ms. Crain informed the regents that a special ASNMHU meeting would be called to determine how to best utilize the ASNMHU's remaining fund balance.

Academic Affairs – Dr. Roxanne Gonzales

Dr. Gonzales announced that Dr. Brandon Kempner selected as the new Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences. The other dean position searches are in the final stages.

Catalog/Policy Acceptance of Technical and Vocational Credit – Action Item

Dr. Gonzales recommended the change to drop the terms “vocational” and “technical” from the Transfer of Credits Policy in the Undergraduate Catalog.

Regent Garcia motioned accept the change drop the terms “vocational” and “technical” from the Transfer of Credits Policy in the Undergraduate Catalog as presented (**Attachment E**). Regent Smith seconded. A roll call vote was taken, voting in favor were: Regent Garcia, Regent Marchi, Regent Smith, Regent Ulibarri, and Chairman Sanchez. Motion carried.

Wiley as Third Party for Marketing – Action Item

Dr. Gonzales stated that the recommended Board action approve the partnership with Wiley Education Services to serve as the NMHU online program management provider for asynchronous online programming (**Attachment F**). A lengthy discussion regarding the Board’s concerns with the agreement was held. Comments will be collected and submitted to legal counsel for review.

Regent Garcia moved to authorize the administration to engage in contract negotiations with Wiley as a third party for marketing with regent input provided in this discussion. The final master services agreement/contract will be provided to the President and the Board for final approval. Regent Smith seconded. A roll call vote was taken, voting in favor were: Regent Garcia, Regent Marchi, Regent Smith, Regent Ulibarri, and Chairman Sanchez. Motion carried.

NMHU Acceptance of NMNEC RN Courses as Residency – Action Item

Regent Garcia moved to accept the NMNEC RN courses as residency (**Attachment G**). Regent Ulibarri seconded. A roll call vote was taken, voting in favor: Regent Garcia, Regent Marchi, Regent Smith, Regent Ulibarri, and Chairman Sanchez. Motion carried.

Executive Session – (a) limited personnel matters related to the dismissal, resignation, and/or investigation or consideration of complaints or charges against any individual or public employee pursuant to NMSA 1978, § 10-15- 1(H)(2); (b) bargaining strategy preliminary to collective bargaining pursuant to NMSA 1978, § 10-15-1(H)(5); (c) threatened or pending litigation subject to the attorney- client privilege in which the university is or may become a participant pursuant to NMSA 1978, § 10-15-1(H)(7); and (d) real estate acquisition or disposal pursuant to NMSA 1978, § 10-15-1(H)(8). Regent Marchi moved to enter into executive session for the sole purpose of discussing the items listed. Regent Ulibarri seconded. A roll call vote was taken, voting in favor: Regent Garcia, Regent Marchi, Regent Smith, Regent Ulibarri, and Chairman Sanchez. Motion carried. The Board entered into executive session at 2:47 p.m.

Regent Marchi moved to return to open session. Regent Ulibarri seconded. Regent Marchi stated for the record that only those items specified under the executive session were discussed and the Board took no action. Regents present confirmed. A roll call was taken, voting in favor of returning to open session were: Regent Garcia, Regent Marchi, Regent Smith, Regent Ulibarri, and Chairman Sanchez. Motion carried and the Board returned to open session at 3:33 p.m.

Emeritus Status Designation – Action Item

Regent Smith moved to award Dr. Jane Gorman, retired faculty member from the Facundo Valdez School of Social Work, Emeritus Status. Regent Garcia seconded. A roll call vote was taken,

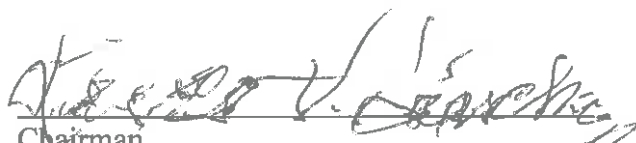
voting in favor: Regent Garcia, Regent Marchi, Regent Smith, Regent Ulibarri, and Chairman Sanchez. Motion carried.

Approval of Naming the Screening Room in the McCaffrey Trolley Building the Halward Screening Room – Action Item

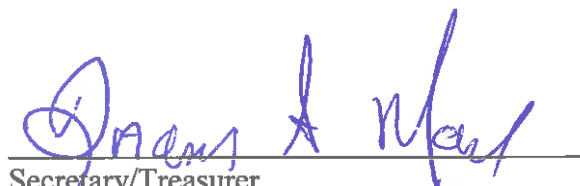
Regent Smith moved to approve the naming of the screening room in the McCaffrey Trolley Building the Halward Screening Room in honor of departed media arts student David Halward (**Attachment H**). Regent Marchi seconded. A roll call vote was taken, voting in favor: Regent Garcia, Regent Marchi, Regent Smith, Regent Ulibarri, and Chairman Sanchez. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Regent Garcia moved to adjourn. Regent Ulibarri seconded. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 3:47 p.m.



Chairman
NMHU Board of Regents



Secretary/Treasurer
NMHU Board of Regents