

New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
Tuesday, February 6, 2024
3:30 p.m. Workman 101
Minutes

1. Call to order

Dr. Brian Borchers called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. with a call for approval of the December 5, 2024 minutes.

2. Approval of the Minutes

Dr. Iain Crump moved to approve the minutes seconded by Dr. Chelsey Hargather.

The motion was approved unanimously.

3. Reports of Standing Committees

a. Curriculum Committee *Dr. Linda DeVeaux*

The committee had 6 Curriculum Proposals. They were addressed as follows:

1. 0055 AY 2024-2025

There was no discussion.

The committee made the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

2. 0059 AY 2024-2025

There was no discussion.

The committee made the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

3. 0060 AY 2024-2025

There was no discussion.

The committee made the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

4. 0069 AY 2024-2025

There was no discussion.

The committee made the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

5. 0076 AY 2024-2025

There was no discussion.

The committee made the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

6. 0077 AY 2024-2025

There was no discussion.

The committee made the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

4. Grad Council Report-*Dr. Aly El-Osery*

a. Minutes of the January 9 Grad Council Meeting (Minutes were provided)

- Dr. El-Osery gave updates on applications. Please respond to all inquiries and make sure your department is responding to them. Applications are up by 18% compared to the same time last year. Spring enrollment is up by 10% compared to the same time last year. Please review the applications as soon as they come in so that we may get the offers out to incoming students. It is a good idea to reach out to students who are admitted into your program but haven't accepted the offer.

- A workshop for Administrative Assistants was given so they would know how to process the information requests that were in the Slate.
- For International Students who are close to finishing up, make sure they know about the additional requirements. They have to be aware of the timeline.

Dr. Brian Borchers asked if the Departments could get a notification when new applications appear in the bin. Notification does go out once a week to the Dept. Chairs. If faculty would like to get the notification just let Dr. El-Osery know.

Discussion was held.

5. Council of Chairs-Dr. Michael Jackson

- a. Draft Minutes of the January 16, Council of Chairs (Minutes were provided)

VP Jackson reported on the Assessment Reports that about 3/4 have been received and reviewed. The Task Force will meet in February and try to have the report ready for the March or April Faculty Senate Meeting. Other items mentioned include: Dept. Chairs, program directors, and Administrative Assistants were reminded to upload course syllabi to the shared drive (for use in our upcoming HLC visit); a reminder that Sabbatical Applications are due by March 15, 2024, to Department Chairs for the Spring of 2025+; proposed 2024 Summer Orientation dates are June 20 & 21 and July 11 & 12.

- b. Catalog language on Commencement (Document with clean and track changes versions were provided)

VP Jackson reported that regents approved changing the commencement language in the catalog so that it is treated as a ceremony rather than as confirming the degree conferral. Previously, faculty had to submit grades for graduating seniors early so that confirmation of degrees occurred before commencement. Since the process has been revised, grades for all students will be due at the standard time and graduating students may have the opportunity to participate in commencement (e.g., undergraduate students completing their degree requirements during the summer). Heather and the Scheduling Committee are working on next year's schedule.

The Committee made a motion to accept catalog language on commencement and the motion was approved unanimously.

- c. Faculty Qualifications

HLC changed its policy on Faculty Qualifications. In prior years they had set standards. What we have done is to use the language from the previous HLC policy and substituted it into our policy. This document is now being given to the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee which will review and bring it forward. The document was presented now as an information item so that if there is any feedback, please provide it to the committee via Dr. Stone.

Discussion was held.

6. Report of the Ad Hoc Faculty Pay Raise Task Force-Dr. Taffeta Elliott

- Ad Hoc Task Force sent out a survey in December to all faculty to get their input on a set of ranked priorities that could guide VPAA in the future to distribute possible portions of unrestricted or merit-based salary funds allocated by the state legislature for raises. The survey got 88 responses from the faculty.
 1. Recommendation #1 - The survey results suggested that funds be distributed at 39% by rank, 31% by equity, 6.8% by VPAA Discretionary Recognition, and 23% by Merit

based on PARs and DARs with a different distribution if merit was not permitted or insufficient given the level of effort involved. Discussion was held.

The Ad Hoc Faculty Pay Raise Task Force made a motion to accept recommendation # 1 and the motion was approved unanimously.

2. Recommendation #2 - Recommends that the Merit Policy that was adopted in 2002 should be updated through the standard policy for policy revision.

Discussion was held

Motion to amend the original motion to appoint an Ad Hoc Committee was made by Dr. Bill Stone. Discussion was held. Dr. Brian Borchers made a call for volunteers. Dr. Brian Borchers, Dr. Corey Leclerc, and Dr. Megha Khandelwal agreed to volunteer. Dr. Mark Samuels will work on getting more volunteers for this committee.

Motion amended to appoint an Ad Hoc Committee was made by Dr. Bill Stone and approved unanimously.

7. Strategic Plan-Dr. Michael Jackson

- VP Jackson reported that the action plan is being wrapped up and will correspond with the Strategic Plan. The overview was presented to the Faculty Senate. Key talking points included:
 - December 2022 this was endorsed by the Faculty Senate and approved by the Board of Regents.
 - Along with proposed changes to the Mission, Vision, and Values, the Strategic Plan is centered around six strategic themes.
 - Phase II of the process is the development of an associated Action Plan.
 - The Action (and Strategic) Plan is a living document that can be modified as the document is implemented in the years to come.
 - The structure of the Initiative will remain the same. There will be a Task Force that has an executive board, with Dr. Peter Phaiah as the chair. The Faculty Senate Chairperson will serve on the executive board and the group will be overseen by the President, Cabinet, and the Board of Regents.
 - There are 6 different working groups which would be responsible for each theme. Initiatives would be undertaken by existing campus committees and offices with information collected, analyzed, and disseminated by the working groups.
 - Two examples were given in the presentation to illustrate the action elements that were added to the strategic plan.
 - If you would like to volunteer please email strategicplaneb@nmt.edu. Contacts were provided for the Executive Board. QR Codes were provided as well. A Summary Timeline was presented.
 - The Executive Board would like the Faculty Senate to endorse the action plan so that it may be presented at the March Board Regents for approval. A presentation on the plan will then be given to the President Amouzegar in April/May.

A motion was made that the Faculty Senate endorse the Action Plan that was presented.

All were in favor of endorsing the Action plan. Action Plan was approved unanimously.

8. Old Business-None

9. New Business

- Dr. Brian Borchers wanted to mention that there are Faculty Senate Committees that have not reported this year. If a committee has not reported this year, please prepare a brief report on what has been done this year. If you haven't met yet, please meet and let us know if your committee needs to exist.

10. Announcements

a. Multi-Factor Authentication in Google-*Dan Lunceford*

- We are in a place where we need to have heightened security. For years, Multi-Factor Authentications (MFA) has been optional but is now mandatory and required by Federal Compliance. This new implementation will require MFA on all accounts by June 1, 2024. You will start getting notices to set up the MFA if you don't have it. Any questions please contact GWSHelp@nmt.edu.

Discussion was held as to whether there was a way to check to see if MFA was enabled. Dan indicated yes and encouraged individuals to go to settings and security. A question was asked by Dr. Taffeta Elliott if it was going to be for Banner as well. The goal is to protect each data source based on risk. MFA will eventually be on everything.

b. Science Olympiad-*Dr. Sharon Sessions*

An information flyer was given to the faculty. She did express to make sure all doors are locked to offices or labs as there will be many participants and they tend to wander and find spaces to hang out.

c. Science Fair-*Dr. Sharon Sessions*

Looking for volunteers. The flyer was presented.

d. Student Research Symposium-*Aga Gabor da Silva*

Registration opened on January 16. The Symposium is April 16-19. Information was given on the flyer. We are looking for evaluators please let SRS know. Registration closes on March 15.

e. Dr. Stone, on behalf of the Faculty Senate Faculty Development Committee, also announced that Dr. Chelsey Hargather will be talking about her Career Award this Friday at 3:30 p.m. at the Deju House.

f. Dr. Sally Pias mentioned that a Biomedical-related conference is being held on campus on June 9-14. Let Dr. Pias know if you are interested.

11. Adjournment

The motion was made by Dr. Iain Crump at 4:52 to adjourn. Seconded by Dr. Ken Minschwaner.