

**New Mexico Tech Board of Regents Meeting
1:00 pm, Friday, August 31, 2018
Fidel Center, Ballroom A
Socorro, New Mexico**

MINUTES

The New Mexico Tech Board of Regents convened at 1:07 pm with Chair Deborah Peacock presiding. Other Board members present were Jerry Armijo, David Gonzales, Donald Monette and Emily Silva.

Stephen Wells	Tom Kieft	Hillary Pineda
Lala Garcia	Lorie Liebrock	Yesenia Perez-Gonzales
Vanessa Grain	Charles Hendrickson	Emma Aafloy
Cleve McDaniel	Colleen Foster	Matthew Dougherty
Doug Wells	JoAnn Salome	Ernestine Chavez
Melissa Jaramillo Fleming	Alex Garcia	Henry Narvaez
Van Romero	Peter Mozley	Vicky Gonzales
Nelia Dunbar	Tony Ortiz	Valentina Avramidi
Robert Balch	Reynaldo Maestas	Valerie Kimble
Mike Stanley	Mark Adams	

1. **Proof of Meeting.** Chair Peacock called the meeting to order at 1:07 pm, and Ms. Garcia reported that proper legal notice had been given.
2. **Approval of Agenda.** Regents unanimously approved an amended agenda, at the suggestion of the Chair, on a motion by Regent Armijo and a second from Regent Gonzales.
3. **Minutes.** The minutes from the special Board meeting of June 29, 2018 were reviewed. Regent Monette moved to approve the minutes. Regent Gonzales seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
4. **Announcements.**
 - a. *Introductions: Vanessa Grain and Richard Luarkie.* President Wells introduced new Executive Assistant Vanessa Grain and summarized her work experience, including a financial position at EMRTC. Mr. Luarkie was unable to attend the meeting and will be introduced at a future session.
 - b. *Enrollment Updates & Admission Presentation.* Dr. Doug Wells noted that N.M. Tech was at some level a victim of its own success in that smaller incoming class numbers lag behind higher-than-expected graduation rates. President Wells commended the Admission staff for its recruitment efforts. Ms. Jaramillo-Fleming reported that final enrollment numbers will be posted next week, noting the nonstop, 18-month recruiting cycle. Mr. Ortiz delineated aspects of a custom-built software system that electronically simplifies the application process with immediate feedback to the applicant, implemented in mid-July. Mr. Maestas, Ms. Perez-Gonzales and Ms. Pineda outlined details.

Responding to a question from the Chair, Mr. Ortiz explained that the office absorbed the \$50,000 cost. The system will free up time and save money in the long run, added Regent Monette.

- c. *President's Report.* With a projection of \$1.2 billion in new revenue for the state, the CUP is framing its request to restore lost monies and boost salaries, the President reported. One challenge is potential formula funding changes that could adversely affect N.M. Tech and other universities in STEMH and research areas. He also listed five indices cited by an outside evaluator ranking the state 21st nationwide in science and technical capabilities, including a jump in human capital index; i.e., the skill sets of the current and future workforce.
 - d. *Advancement Report.* Ms. Foster credited work by her staff and Dr. Romero for the success of the Founder's Day event at MRO, and reported recent grant and donation funds. The office has hired a consultant to assist with a \$20 million capital campaign. President Wells commended Dr. Corale Brierley, recipient of this year's Founder's Day Award, for her gracious speech, and lauded the Advancement team for its work.
 - e. *Capital Projects Update.* Dr. McDaniel in highlighting elements of his written report, noted that the design team and contractor will work together to reduce the projected shortfall for the Jones Hall remodel without impacting its scope. If all goes well, the project will be within the 10 percent state limit for over-projection, and the university has shown due diligence to the state.
 - f. *Petroleum Recovery Research Institute.* Dr. Balch reported new internal and external income streams for PRRC in working to increase overall funding. President Wells commended the research division for its remarkable level of interaction with campus academic departments.
 - g. *Bureau of Geology Funding and IT Upgrades.* Dr. Dunbar reported bringing employment levels up to speed, and two new NSF-funded proposals. Of note is a project with the American Geosciences Institute with Bureau staff and Jemez Pueblo eighth graders.
 - h. *Faculty Senate Update.* Dr. Kieft, noting the end of his two-year term as Faculty Senate chair next month, cited advancements in shared government under the Wells administration as important to faculty morale and accreditation.
 - i. *SGA, GSA Updates.* Mr. Dougherty, interim SGA executive officer, announced an election for all SGA offices next week, as results from a previous election were thrown out. President Wells thanked Mr. Dougherty for stepping up to the job, and the opportunity to hear first-hand student concerns.
 - j. *Sabbatical Leave.* Dr. Doug Wells reported approved sabbatical leaves for Dr. Sue Bilek and Dr. Glenn Spinelli, both with the E&ES Department.
 - k. *Other.* Dr. Romero reported on efforts to successfully meet FEMA standards in clean-up of a hazardous material incident in the Fidel Center involving mercury from a defective blood pressure device. Cost is still to be determined. He also announced three NSF grants to faculty totaling \$712,000.
5. **Financial Assurance for Radioactive Material License.** N.M. Tech has licenses regarding radioactive materials, one covering a broad spectrum, another for depleted uranium, both of which require a letter of financial assurance in the event of a clean-up. Dr. Romero noted that the

university policy reads the same as that for NMSU and UNM, and President Wells assured that funds are available. Regent Armijo moved to approve Board fiduciary responsibility pursuant to state statutes with assurance that required funds were available in reserves. Regent Monette seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

6. **Public Comment Policy.** Discussion was held on a policy for public comment at Board meetings. The Regents agreed to further review the policy regarding flexibility before it return for approval. Dr. Balch and Dr. Dunbar offered to share public comment policies from boards on which they have served.
7. **Financial Analysis for June 2018.** Dr. McDaniel reported consistent trends for the month ending the fiscal year, noting fund transfers and expenditures, including the high cost of utilities. The university posted a drop in tuition and overhead recovery for which adjustments were made. Regent Gonzales noted that the Institute is doing better than budgeted. Regent Armijo moved for approval. Regent Monette seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
8. **Quarterly certification for June 2018.** Regent Monette moved to approve the quarterly certification report for June 2018. Regent Gonzales seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
9. **Resolution to Authorize the Associate VPAF Signature Authority.** In recommending approval of the resolution, President Wells noted the need to timely sign documents in his absence and that of other administrative officers, such as urgent grant proposals and payroll issues. The resolution authorizes the VPAF to delegate signature authority to a designated individual in the absence of the President, VPAF and VPSUR from campus. Regents unanimously approved the resolution on a motion by Regent Monette and a second from Regent Gonzales.
10. **Restricted Funds Purchase Notification.** Information item.
11. **RPSP Rankings and Requests.** In stepping up a review of RPSP entities, each was asked to complete a form to evaluate progress, including a statement of value and revenue enhancement to the university. This, noted the President, will provide N.M. Tech with the data it needs to argue for any increases. He also noted difficulty in ranking the programs, and formation of the Cybersecurity Education and Research Center (CERC). Under Professional Development, the university is reviving its Alternative Licensure Program (ALP) to improve math and science education in schools. Dr. Liebrock noted the need for 3.5 million workers in cybersecurity by 2022, and credited Dr. Mozley for his help. The ranking and requests were unanimously approved on a motion by Regent Armijo and a second from Regent Gonzales.
12. **Degree Conferrals.** Information item.
13. **Executive Session.**
 - i. Pursuant to 100-15-1(H)(2) & 10-15-1(I)(2),
 - ii. NMSA 1978 (To Consider Legal and/or Personnel Matters).

Regent Monette moved to adjourn the regular meeting and meet in executive session. Regent Gonzales seconded the motion and Ms. Grain conducted a roll-call vote which was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 2:53 pm.

14. **Action, if any, Following Executive Session.** Regents returned to their regular meeting at 4:22 pm. The Chair announced that no items were discussed other than in accordance with statute, and that no action was taken. Regent Monette moved to approve a \$15,000 bonus for President Wells for meeting and exceeding established goals. Regent Gonzales seconded the motion which passed unanimously. The President thanked the Board for its confidence.
15. **Individual Board Members Comments.** Regent Monette commented on the successful Founder's Day at MRO. Regent Silva expressed appreciation for the message and news updates from President Wells.
16. **New Business.** Ms. Garcia and Regents discussed logistics for the October meeting at the Playas Research and Training Center (PRTC), agreeing to leave Socorro on Friday, Oct. 26 and return the following day after a tour of the facility and meeting. President Wells thanked Mr. Adams for his role in shaping by-laws for the Board, which will aid in HLC accreditation and to be presented at the October meeting. Regent Gonzales proposed to raise funds to benefit petroleum students at the university through a partnership between his company and oil and gas sponsors. His concern that using the university's name might be a conflict of interest was noted by Mr. Adams, who said the concept sounded fine, and suggested the Board include it on its October agenda.
17. **Adjournment.** Regents unanimously adjourned the meeting at 4:35 pm on a motion by Regent Armijo and a second from Regent Monette.



President

Attest:



Secretary-Treasurer