

New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology
Board of Regents Meeting
2:30 p.m., Thursday, January 26, 2017
National Center for Genome Resources, 2935 Rodeo Park
Santa Fe, New Mexico

MINUTES

The New Mexico Tech Board of Regents convened at 1:35 p.m., with Chair Deborah Peacock presiding. Other Board members present were Jerry Armijo, David Gonzales, Donald Monette and Myissa Weiss. University administrators, staff and guests who were also present included:

Stephen Wells	Peter Mozley	Alex Garcia
Lala Garcia	Tom Kieft	Robert Lucero
Cleve McDaniel	Jenny Ma	Bin Lim
Douglas Wells	Colleen Foster	Arleen Valles
Charles Hendrickson	Peter Anselmo	Tony Ortiz
Melissa Jaramillo-Fleming	Ali El-Osery	Joe Romero
Van Romero	Kevin Wedeward	Clarke Cagle
Carlos Romero	Joe Franklin	Thom Guengerich
Nelia Dunbar	Emily Silva	Valerie Kimble
Lorie Liebrock	Gabriel Montoya	

1. **Proof of Meeting Notice.** Ms. Garcia confirmed that proper legal notice had been given in the *Albuquerque Journal* and *El Defensor Chieftain*.
2. **Election of Officers.** Regent Monette moved to nominate Regent Peacock as Board President and Regent Armijo as Treasurer. Regent Gonzales seconded the motion which was unanimously approved. Chair Peacock received official notice on Monday that she had been reappointed for another six-year term on the Board. She recognized Regent Weiss for her two years' service as the Board's student representative, especially during the presidential search process. Regent Weiss termed her service a wonderful experience, and announced that she had been accepted to medical school. Ms. Silva, a sophomore majoring in biology, was introduced as the incoming student Regent pending confirmation by the N.M. State Senate.
3. **Approval of Agenda.** Regent Monette moved to approve the agenda as amended in rearranging several items and adding one pertaining to the university residence. Regent Weiss seconded the motion which passed unanimously. The Chair said there would be an executive session.
4. **Approval of Minutes.** The Minutes from the Nov. 10, 2016 meeting were unanimously approved as presented on a motion by Regent Armijo and a second by Regent Monette.

success. His wife will join the Biology Department as faculty this summer. Assoc. VPAA Mozley was recognized for serving in the interim.

Information on Center for Genome Resources. A presentation was delivered earlier in the day by Dr. Callum Bell, president. The center is a 501c (3) research institute; Dr. Romero chairs its board of directors.

Enrollment Updates. Ms. Jaramillo-Fleming reported a drop in paid admissions compared with this time last year, adding that the President has been apprised of details. Admission has been working to review and streamline its processes, including eliminating the \$50 admission fee. President Wells agreed that current procedures are cumbersome. In related discussion, Ms. Jaramillo-Fleming reported that the face of the revamped NMT website should be up and running by summer/fall 2017.

Advancement Update. Ms. Jaramillo-Fleming noted an error in the report discovered just prior to the meeting and awaiting correction, but that \$175,000 was raised in January alone. Ms. Foster added that she and Dr. Liebrock are anticipating \$100,000 for each of the next three years, including funds to retain women students in Computer Science. President Wells thanked Ms. Foster for the well-attended alumni event the previous evening, and recognized Chair Peacock and Regent Gonzales for organizing a trip to Farmington. He acknowledged accolades for the University on the Legislative floor that morning during "Tech Day," as well as the introduction of two memorials, one regarding the Center for Technology Commercialization (CTC) headed by Dr. Anselmo. "I'm impressed with what he does," said President Wells. "He's making change in a really positive way and I know faculty are deeply appreciative." Dr. Anselmo noted that Tech, with its exceptional faculty and students, has something to sell. The President said he was looking forward to the second annual inventors' workshop in April which will highlight success stories at New Mexico Tech.

Legislative/President Update. President Wells said dealing with a total budget reduction of ~\$2.6 million has been a significant challenge, forcing NMT to scrounge resources to cover the growing hole in state funds. The University will hire seven new faculty under a goal to "invest in human capital." Mr. Montoya, president of the undergraduate Student Government Association, noted that while no one wants a tuition increase, it is something students would be willing to take on, and suggested the University develop and stick to a multi-year plan. "We're ranked number-one in the state, and want to stay competitive," he said. Raising tuition is a sensitive item, noted the President, something to be discussed internally, adding that NMT is fourth from the bottom of 71 regional institutions in faculty salaries. "I'd like to put together a team to look at this," he added. During discussion, it was reported that the LFC has "zeroed out" Science Fair/Science Olympiad, which included scholarship funds for MST students.

Update on Infrastructure (Chemistry, Data Center and Jones Hall). Dr. McDaniel referred to a written update of the three projects, deferring discussion on the Data Center to later in the meeting. Construction on the Chemistry building is 80 percent completed, on time and on budget. Jones Hall renovations have been ongoing for some time, and the \$5.5 million in funds allocated won't cover all the costs. Dr. McDaniel outlined three cost scenarios, noting that he has been working with Dr. Wells in allocating space to different departments. A cost of \$8.7 million would be reasonable compromise, culling funds from plant and internal sources; however, no action would be taken now.

University Residence. Mr. Garcia reported that the architect has come up with a schematic design, and a committee is working with President and Mrs. Wells on final details. The goal, said the President, is to retain the back and pool area and to use the current residence for Foundation and alumni events; he suggested calling it the Colgate House after the former president who built it.

Sabbatical Leave. Dr. Wells announced that sabbatical leave had been approved for Dr. Brian Borchers, Mathematics, to write a textbook; and to Dr. David Grow, Mechanical Engineering, for a biomedical research project funded by LANL. Regent Weiss noted students are unhappy that a course taught by Dr. Grow had been moved to Electrical Engineering, even though ME students have no background in EE. VPAA Wells said he would look into the situation.

Faculty Senate – Dr. Tom Kieft. Faculty are happy and optimistic with President Wells on board, reported Dr. Kieft, adding that faculty salary adjustments instigated by the President were totally unprecedented. He also lauded a new procedure to allocate funds to departments. Regent Weiss noted that students also are pleased with the direct interest the President has shown in student life.

Other. President Wells raised the idea of establishing an inclusiveness center in a residence across from Brown Hall students could utilize as needed, reiterating his pledge to invest in human capital.

10. Public Comment. None.

11. HED Project Summary Sheet on the Data Center. Dr. McDaniel reported that following informal meetings with the HED and Secretary Damron, the University needed to adjust its plans for a new Data Center in finding an equivalent-sized space to raze. Mr. Garcia noted that with Board approval today, it might be possible to get on the BEF agenda for its March meeting. Regent Armijo moved to approval the transmittal sheets once an exact site is chosen. Regent Monette seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

12. Creation of a Ph.D. Program for Electrical Engineering. Dr. El-Osery explained that the new program with a certificate in cyberelectronics systems has two cores, electrical warfare and positional navigational timing, and will allow students to pursue classified research with support from ICASA and Playas. The program would start in Fall 2017 and is unique to New Mexico Tech. Dr. Liebrock noted that the HED only approves new programs in March and October. “This is right in our space, and the opportunities for students are tremendous,” said President Wells. Regents unanimously granted program approval on a motion by Regent Armijo and a second by Regent Weiss.

13. December 2016 Degree Conferral. Information included in Regents’ packets.

14. Restricted Fund Purchase Notification. Information included in Regents’ packets.

15. Security Managerial Group Resolution. Mr. Carlos Romero explained that the resolution exempts the Board from having security clearances and safeguards classified projects. Ms. Loretta Reineke serves as the University’s counter-intelligence officer. The

resolution was unanimously approved on a motion by Regent Monette and a second by Regent Weiss.

16. Emeritus Status Requests (Dr. David Love, Dr. William McIntosh). Dr. Dunbar requested emeritus status for Dr. Love, an environmental geologist who joined the Bureau of Geology in 1980; and for Dr. McIntosh, who since joining the Bureau in 1991 spearheaded an internationally recognized geochronology lab. Regents unanimously approved the request on a motion by Regent Armijo and a second by Regent Monette.

17. Individual Board Member Comments. Regent Armijo reported on a meeting with the HED and Secretary Damron regarding the Lottery Scholarship, now funded at 90 percent, to drop to 60 percent without supplemental funds. "Everything is on the table from needs-based to merit-based," he said, adding that HED will take no position, just report facts. A state strategic plan for higher education is in the works (President Wells is on the committee) to review what Regent Armijo called a "broken system...the current higher education system in New Mexico is not sustainable." New Mexico Tech, he added, is highly respected, focused on its mission and well positioned to sustain what it has. Regent Monette expressed thanks for everything done for his late sister-in-law, Marliiss Monette. She was a remarkable employee and dearly loved, said the President. Chair Peacock announced that NMT alumnus Gordon Moore, president of Lectrosonics, received an Academy Award and wants to speak at the inventors' workshop. Dr. Anselmo offered to get in touch with him.

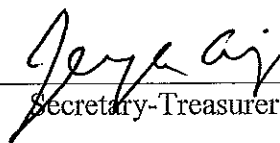
18. New Business. Ms. Garcia and Regents set March 6 as the tentative date for the next Board meeting, also in Santa Fe.

19. Adjournment. The regular meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m. on a motion by Regent Monette and a second by Regent Armijo.

Attest:



President


Secretary-Treasurer