

NEW MEXICO INSTITUTE OF MINING AND TECHNOLOGY

FACULTY SENATE MEETING

Tuesday, March 1, 2015

Workman 101 - 4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

1. Call to order and approval of minutes

Chair Dave Raymond called the meeting to order at 4:03 pm with a call for approval of the December 1, 2015 minutes.

Dr. Kevin Wedeward moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Dr. Michelle Creech-Eakman. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Short announcements

1. Honesty Update – Suzanne Barteau

Most of us have an invested interest in who are elected officials are and we know the importance of voting. However, your students may not yet have learned what their responsibility is. As your roles as teachers and mentors, encourage your students to exercise their right to vote.

2. Introductions - Navid Mojtabai

Dr. Navid Mojtabai introduced Dr. Bhattacharyya as a new faculty member in the Mineral Engineering Department.

3. State Articulation & Transfer Committee – Bill Stone

Dr. Bill Stone discussed the three initiatives coming down from the state department of higher education. Dr. Steve Simpson will be discussing the first, which is the revisiting of general education requirements. We have already discussed the meta-majors and how we may have to do some adjustment to our programs to fit into a meta-major where students need to decide their general area of interest for the first year. Thirdly, there is a state law that by August 17 all lower division classes will be articulated and have a common course name and number. Faculty committees will be formed from the various institutions for each of the areas. A math and English committee has already been proposed. Dr. Stone is on the articulation and transfer committee which is overseeing all of these, chaired by Secretary Damron and Chancellor Carruthers. About every month from now until November, there will be new courses that will have to have syllabi submitted to Academic Affairs. Those calls will be coming. We are trying to take those classes with their learning outcomes and see how they match across institutions. Then once it has been decided that at least 80% of the learning outcomes are the same, those classes across the institutions will have the same number, same name, same prerequisites, same course description, and same credits.

4. Gen Ed State Steering Committee – Steve Simpson/Lisa Majkowski

Dr. Steve Simpson, Lisa Majkowski, and Dr. Kevin Wedeward are on another committee that is part of this whole initiative that is looking at the Gen Ed Core. Right now they are at the process of going through and coming up with a sense of what people want to see students coming out of a general education with. There is a survey circulation so that they can collect feedback. They will also hold an information session in March where they will collaborate with Dr. Stone.

3. State of the Legislature – President Dan López

President López stated that the budget could have been worse. The initial proposals were to cut higher education disproportionately to the other agencies. We came out as well as one could hope for given the revenue shortfall. The Legislature arrived at sweeping accounts that had balances and put them into its general fund. From there, they will try to address on a short term basis where the cuts would not have to be so severe. From our capital programs we have \$5.5 million to redo Jones, \$2 million for MRO, and \$90,000 from our Senator from Silver City.

In terms of the general budget, this year we will have to deal with a \$300,000 shortfall for the current budget. Finance staff are working on some scenarios that would hopefully decrement each budget by a proportional amount as is calculated by the cut. However, we might be able to back fill and try to put those funds in reserves in your own budget. When we move into the next fiscal year, the budget will be looking at almost a \$1 million cut. We will have to look into how we are going to handle this. The first proposal is a 5% tuition increase that the board would need to approve. This would take care of half of that deficit. We would still be left with \$500,000 that we need to resolve. We have some pro forma's that would do that. We also have a 2% salary increase across the board into that pro forma. Department chairs will be advised of the numbers within the next week.

President López also noted that if we continue on this downward slide on the revenue collections, the Governor has additional authority to .5% that she can decrement on all the budgets across the State without having to have a special session.

President López will meet with the Board of Regents in March to discuss these issues in hopes that they will support us.

4. Senate Committee Reports

None

5. Report of Council of Chairs – Warren Ostergren

Dr. Warren Ostergren noted that the major items are the course changes.

- a. **Hydrology – Dr. Penny Boston discussed the hydrology changes. Dr. Boston moved to accept these changes. Motion passed. One abstention.**
- b. **CLASS - Dr. Steve Simpson discussed the CLASS department changes. Dr. Simpson moved to accept these changes. Motion passed. One abstention.**
- c. **Electrical Engineering – Dr. Aly El-Osery discussed the electrical engineering changes. Dr. El-Osery moved to accept these changes. Motion passed.**

- d. **Engineering Science – Dr. Kevin Wedeward discussed the engineering science changes. Dr. Wedeward moved to accept these changes. Motion passed.**
 - e. **Environmental Engineering – Dr. Clint Richardson discussed the environmental engineering changes. Dr. Richardson moved to accept these changes. Motion passed. One no.**
 - f. **Information Technology – Dr. Dongwan Shin discussed the information technology changes. Dr. Shin moved to accept these changes. Motion passed. One abstention.**
 - g. **Management – Dr. Frank Reinow discussed the management changes. Dr. Reinow moved to accept these changes. Motion passed. Sara Grijalva made a comment that after the Council of Chairs meeting, Marketing and Finance requisites were changed.**
 - h. **Mechanical Engineering – Dr. Andrei Zagrai discussed the mechanical engineering changes. Dr. Zagrai moved to accept these changes. Motion passed.**
 - i. **Physics – Dr. Michelle Creech-Eakman discussed the physics changes. Dr. Creech-Eakman moved to accept these changes. Motion passed. One abstention.**
- 6. Report of Graduate Council – Lorie Liebrock**
- a. **CLASS – Dr. Steve Simpson discussed the CLASS changes. Dr. Simpson moved to accept these changes. Motion passed.**
 - b. **Hydrology – Dr. Penny Boston discussed the hydrology changes. Dr. Boston moved to accept these changes. Motion passed.**
 - c. **Masters of Science Teaching – Dr. Mark Samuels discussed the MST changes. Dr. Samuels moved to accept these changes. Motion passed.**
- 7. Old Business**
- 8. New Business**
- 9. Discussion**
- 10. Adjournment.**
The meeting adjourned at 5:09 pm by unanimous decision.