

NEW MEXICO INSTITUTE OF MINING AND TECHNOLOGY

FACULTY SENATE MEETING

Tuesday, September 2, 2014

Workman 101 4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

(prepared by Lyndsey Lewis)

1. **Call to order** - President Richard Sonnenfeld called the meeting to order at 4:03 pm with a request for the approval of the May 9, 2014 minutes.
2. **Approval of the May minutes**
Dave Burleigh moved to approve the minutes and Mike Hargather seconded. The minutes were approved by unanimous consent.
3. **Brief Announcements –**
 - a. **Welcome and introductions of new faculty and staff –**

Clint Richardson introduced Wesley Cook and Christian Carrico as part of the Civil & Environmental Engineering Department.

Oliver Wingenter introduced Mahinda Ranasignhe and Gayan Rubasinghe as part of the Chemistry Department.

Jaime Kimberly introduced Donghyeon Ryu as part of the Mechanical Department.

Ivan Avramidi introduced Michael Maroun as part of the Mathematics Department.

Subhasish Mazumdar introduced Jeff Gordon as part of the Computer Science & Engineering Department.

Gary Axen introduced Ronnie Grapenthin as part of the Earth & Environmental Department.

Mary Dezember introduced Patrick Lopez as the HSI STEM Director

Warren Ostergren mentioned that there are still a number of postings that are outstanding and gave appreciation for the support from President Lopez.
 - b. **125th Anniversary 49ers celebration – C. Guengerich, L. Liebrock**

There will be a research competition for students at 49ers that will be judged by Alumni. It will have awards for departments that received the most participation between faculty, students, and Alumni. Funding has

been provided but there needs to be a commitment that faculty will reach out to Alumni.

The competition for students is similar to SRS. If a student still has their poster that they used in the spring for SRS, they can put it in this competition. There are 14 awards with the first place awards receiving \$1,000. Dr. Liebrock would like departments to really encourage participation in this to really make the 125th Anniversary be something special.

In addition to benefits to the students, there are benefits to the departments. There will be department alumni receptions with a total of \$10,000 in awards to the departments that get the most participation in their receptions. There is \$500 in funding for each department to host the alumni receptions. If faculty host a reception and provide a list of attendees, the departments with greatest attendance can win. First place is \$3,000.

Colleen Guengerich stated that she works closely with alumni and they feel really close to their department. For this reason she is using the departments to help with fundraising. Her office is available to help out. Would really just like to have faculty participate and show up. Lorie Liebrock also mentioned that they need float entries for the 49ers parade.

Dates for these events are: NMT Alumni Reception - October 16th, Department Alumni Receptions - October 17th and the 49ers Parade - October 18th.

c. NMT No. 8 Engineering Program – Tom Engler

NMT Engineering was rated 8th in the top US engineering schools. He would like to thank all faculty, because our students wouldn't be there without the faculty.

d. iClicker – Lisa Beinhoff

The library is out of iClickers and there is not delivery date for future iClickers. They are all back ordered. Mary Dezember mentioned that she is concerned about this and she will follow up.

e. Teaching Coffee Hour - Lisa Majkowski

Would like to welcome everyone and invited faculty meet in the CITL (in Speare Hall) for a faculty led teaching coffee hour every other Wednesday from 12:00pm to 12:45pm. This will be led by Tei Wei. It is a forum to come in, discuss and share ideas about innovative teaching strategies.

f. President's Report

President Lopez provided an update on the issues that will be addressed in the upcoming legislative session. The No. 1 priority for next year's legislative session is salaries. This problem is broader than NMT and there is a concerted effort by the Council of University Presidents to address it. Dr. Lopez is more optimistic this

year than in the past because the state is running the largest surplus of recent years..

Secondly, Dr. Lopez has made progress in fighting for a funding formula that recognizes NMT's uniqueness. For the first time he has the Director of the LFC, the UNM administration, and the Department of Higher Education on board. One of the problems is Tech's mission is so narrow and our student body is so small that under most scenarios we end up losing money when compared to the gains of the institutions. Tomorrow Dr. Lopez is going to participate on a panel discussion on Student Success at UNM. A very good presentation on the things Tech is doing to improve retention and graduation rates was prepared for him and he thinks it will impress the audience.

4. Old Business

Removing ES-111 as a prerequisite for ES 302, 303, and 347 Dropping ES-111 requirement – (Referred to committee) – T. Engler

Dr. Engler wanted a clarification of the April meeting minutes as he could not attend that meeting. The question was about a discussion regarding changing the requirements for ES-111, lead by Dr. Corey LeClerc. Dr. Engler asked if the motion on ES-111 was tabled, or referred to committee, and to which committee it was referred., The Chair reviewed the April minutes and explained that there was strong opposition to dropping ES-111 as a pre-req for ES-302, 303 and 347 because at that point neither ES-110 nor ES-111 would be pre-reqs for any courses at all. This will result in students deferring them indefinitely, and make their role as foundational courses irrelevant. requirement. Therefore, it was referred back to the committee (Council of Engineering Chairs). ES-111 is still a pre-req for other ES courses required and the Council of Chairs should review any proposed changes.

5. Special Report

Changes to payroll system – L. Marquez, W. Ostergren

When Tech implemented the Banner financial system, a large part dealing with HR and Payroll was not implemented. Over the past year Mr. Marquez has been working with consultants from Banner to try to add this functionality . As part of the new implementation, Finance wastrying to have students and employees who are on campus use electronic timecards. It worked well with some of the Administrative Departments but with the Academic Departments there have been some challenges. Mr. Marquez asked his staff to go and visit with these departments and work with them as a beta test to see what the issues were. He believes they tried to move too fast to implement this change without finding out what the issues were. They are now backing off and he met with some departments to find out what the issues are and will try to modify it before going any further.

Warren Ostergren stated that there are some advantages to this new system. You can charge different rates for different jobs for students. Also, it will put the responsibility on the assigned P.I. to sign off on the work of

students on research contracts as opposed to the department chair. He mentioned that one thing that was surprising was the number of student employees. There are 500 student employees and that's a challenge to pay-roll to make a system like this work.

Lonnie Marquez mentioned that in some of these discussions something that was brought up is to have graders on contracts as they work unique hours. He mentioned that they are looking into some issues similar to that and will try to make things less complicated for everybody. They need to find out what the issues are for each department and will address these concerns.

6. Committee Reports

a. Officers Committee

– *Presenting the hybrid committee proposal*

(This item was moved until after the nominating committee discussion)

b. Nominating Committee – *Presenting slate of candidates*

The Slate of Nominations was reviewed. There were changes made to the committees. New members were added to:

ADA Committee - Student member

Assessment and Retention Committee - Office for Student Learning

Computing on Campus Committee - Temporary extra member

Distance Education, Computing, and Assessment Committee - Graduate Dean

Mark Samuels made a move to amend the policy and accept the changes to the committees.

Friendly amendment was made to include Associate VP Academic Affairs, Academic Standard and Admission Committee, and ADA as ex-officio members.

The motion to approve changes to the bylaws and ex-officio members passed unanimously.

Motion to approve the slate of nominees for the committees by Mark Samuels, as Chair of Nominating Committee. Approved unanimously.

Voting for the officers will happen at the next meeting.

7. New Business

Nomination of Officers – *Samuels/Rogelj*

Dave Raymond – Faculty Senate Chair

Kevin Wedeward – Faculty Senate Vice-Chair

Steve Simpson – Parliamentarian

Discussion/Confirmation of Faculty Senate Committees – *Samuels/Rogelj*

Hybrid Committee Proposal

Richard Sonnenfeld discussed a new proposal that would make better use of Faculty Senate Committees. We do not want to change the structure of the Faculty Senate Committees or rewrite the bylaws. However, we would like to create hybrid committees. Hybrid committees have members that are identical to (or a subset of) the equivalent faculty senate committee, but they have staff and/or administrative members as voting members. The chairs of the hybrid committee would be elected by the hybrid committee, and might or might not be the same as the chair of the faculty senate committee. The purpose to this proposal is to empower Faculty Senate Committees to make decisions that will actually be implemented to run Tech.

Videotape – *Richard Sonnenfeld*

Dr. Sonnenfeld asked the faculty if they would agree to the automatic video recording of faculty senate meetings. He was asked to use judgment (in that some topics might be too confidential to record) but no one expressed opposition to the proposal. Faculty Senate meetings will be automatically recorded from 4 to 5 pm.

8. Longer Announcements

a. Update on Strategic Planning - *L. Liebrock*

There are six very active task forces on Strategic Planning. The first three are Community of scholars, Communication & Processes, and Transdisciplinary Education and Research. They are nearing completion and will be publicly posting reports for your input this week. The last six are Funding, Technology, and Quality Growth and will be posted in two weeks. There is also a small task force that the chairs of the other task force that have come together to help work on the accreditation paperwork.

b. Graduate Council Report – *L. Liebrock*

SU Courses cannot be used to meet credit requirements for graduate programs with the exception of independent study 3 credits, thesis 6 credits, and dissertation 24 credits.

Also, has sent in the request to the legislative calendar to have the Graduate Education Day with the legislator in late January. There are six spaces for each graduate school in the state to have the students go and present.

9. Adjournment.

By unanimous consent the Faculty Senate adjourned at 5:09 pm