

University Administrative Council Minutes
Tuesday, November 13, 2012
Corbett Center, Colfax Room 210

Tilahun Adera, Dorothy Anderson, Judy Bosland, McKinley Boston, Tammie Aragon Campos, Garrey Carruthers, Felicia Casados, Lowell Catlett, Vimal Chaitanya, Shaun Cooper, Roberta Derlin, Greg Fant, Lori Gobble, John Gratton, Glen Haubold, Steve Hottman, Maureen Howard, Margie Huerta, Ricardo Jacquez, Michael Jasek, Cheri Jimeno, Ross Justus, Bruce Kite, Linda Lacey, Fred Lillibridge, Cornell Menking, Bernadette Montoya, Michael Morehead, Tim Ketelaar, Manuel Pacheco, Dennis Prescott, Ruth Prescott, Ricardo Rel, Christa Slaton, D'Anne Stuart, Breeana Sylvas, Angela Throneberry, Elizabeth Titus, Tia Upchurch, Jeff Witte, Ben Woods. (Substitutes are welcome when members cannot attend.)

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of October 9, 2012 Meeting Minutes

The Minutes of the October 9, 2012, meeting of the University Administrative Council were approved as distributed.

III. Old Business

There was no Old Business to consider.

IV. New Business

There was no New Business to consider.

V. University-wide Information/Announcements

- A. Election Results/Legislative Strategy [Rel/Woods] – Mr. Rel reported on the results of the November 6, 2012 elections. Of most importance to NMSU, both GO Bonds were approved by the voters. Dona Ana County will be represented by a total of 14 State Representatives, up two from the last session. The results of House District 37 race between Dr. McMillan and Ms. Ferrari is still unknown. Items of interest include – the Democrats picked up three and possibly four seats in the House of Representatives; depending upon the outcome of the District 37 race, there will be at least 20 freshmen legislators; with the retirement of Speaker Lujan, there will be new leadership in the House; there is a possibility that the Majority Leader position will be open if Representative Kenny Martinez from Grants is selected as Speaker. Other leadership changes will include the House Appropriations where eight of 18 committee members lost their reelection bids or retired, including two Representatives from Dona Ana County. In the Senate, there will be 14 new members. With regard to the upcoming legislative session, the NMSU Board of Regents has established the institutional RPSP priorities and Capital Outlay projects. Mr. Rel indicated that the Office of Governmental Relations will keep its webpage up-to-date on items of interest to campus.

- B. Upcoming Events [Woods] – Mr. Woods reviewed key upcoming events. Dr. Pacheco encouraged participation at the Community Holiday Reception scheduled for Sunday, December 2.

- C. Presidential Search [R. Prescott/Woods] – Ms. Prescott updated the Council on the plans for the Board of Regents’ Listening Sessions designed to solicit input from the stakeholders across the state on characteristics sought in NMSU’s next president. She encouraged attendance and participation in the sessions planned for the Las Cruces campus. The Presidential Search webpage is also up and input can be made through that site.

VI. Updates

- A. President Update [Pacheco] – Dr. Pacheco discussed the circumstances surrounding the resignation and retirement of Executive Vice President and Provost Wilkins.

- B. Faculty Senate Update [Ketelaar] – A summary of Dr. Ketelaar’s report to the Administrative Council is attached to these Minutes.

- C. NMSU Employee Council Update [Lillibridge] – Dr. Lillibridge reported that the Employee Council’s attention has been and will continue to be on efforts to assure the solvency of the ERB. He also reported that election of a new executive council is upcoming and that the pool of candidates is excellent. Questions about why the NMSU prescription insurance plan does not cover prescriptions filled at the NMSU Health Clinic has been raised by employees. The Employee Council felt that the Health Clinic leadership’s response to the questions/concerns was excellent. Dr. Lillibridge asked the policy on reporting changes in institutional policies to employees. Some discussion followed regarding the existing policy and an acknowledgement in the delay of posting a round of recent changes. Mr. Woods and Mr. Kite indicated that this would be addressed. According to estimates, 1200 meals were served at the Employee Picnic and that plans are already underway for next year’s picnic currently scheduled for October 9, 2013.

- D. ASNMSU Update [Sylvas] – Ms. Sylvas reported on a successful week of Homecoming activities, noting a great turnout for Bonfire. She also reported that ASNMSU is conducting elections during the week of November 12 and an update is underway on the ASNMSU webpage.

- E. Graduate Student Council Update [Upchurch] – Ms. Upchurch reported that funds for graduate student research/conference travel has occurred and that plans are underway for the Graduate Research and Arts Symposium scheduled for February 11, 2013. The Graduate Student Council is hopeful that deans and academic administrators will participate as moderators for the symposium and that faculty will allow undergraduate students to attend. She also indicated that the Council will work with the Graduate School to streamline the process for graduate students to secure funding for travel. There is some thought that the process itself is a deterrent to applications.

- F. Other Business – Dr. Boston reported that the Athletic Department is working to update its drug-testing policy and asked any member of Administrative Council who might be

interested in being part of the vetting process to contact him. He also reported that the student athlete graduation rate is 80% and that student athletes who have exhausted their eligibility are graduating at an 88% rate. Lastly, he mentioned the hard work being done on the athletic conference issue.

Dean Morehead reported on the visit of a delegation from Mongolian State University. The visit will involve a number of NMSU's early childhood education faculty. The two universities signed a Memorandum of Understanding last year – NMSU is the first American institution to execute a MOU with Mongolian State University.

Dr. Menking announced that NMSU was observing International Education Week for the first time in university history.

Faculty Senate Update for UAC (November 13th, 2012)

Current Senate Policy Activity

The senate met at its regular monthly meeting on November 1st and passed the following legislation:

- A. **Proposition 04-12/13:** A Proposal to create a Bachelor of Science Major in Counseling Educational Psychology
- B. **Proposition 05-12/13:** A Memorial to Recognize the New University Teaching Council and to Support the Plans and Goals of the University Teaching Council

The senate also introduced the following legislation that was assigned to committee:

- A. **Proposition 07-12/13:** Regularization Policy 5.15.40: Sponsors: Joe Lakey (A&S), Ron McNeel (NMSU-Alamogordo) **Assigned to Faculty Affairs**. Rescheduled meeting: Tuesday, Nov. 29th
- B. **Proposition 08-12/13:** A Memorial Requesting a Change in Policy Regarding Graduate Assistant Pay Schedule. Sponsors: Gary Rayson (A&S), R. Alexander (A&S), D. Bailey (ACES) **Assigned to Scholastic Affairs**. Next meeting: Tuesday, Nov. 13th
- C. **Proposition 09-12/13:** A Resolution Changing the Number of Credit Hours Required or Full Time Status of Graduate Students. Sponsors: Gary Rayson (A & S), R. Alexander (A&S), D. Bailey (ACES), R. Paz (Eng) **Assigned to University Affairs**. Next meeting: Thursday, Nov. 15th
- D. **Proposition: 10-12/13:** A Memorial to Support NMSU's application to the Bicycle Friendly University Program. Sponsors: Rani Alexander (A&S), Gary Rayson (A&S), Derek Bailey (ACES), Joe Lakey (A&S), Liz Miller (Lib), Robert Paz (Eng), Deb McCormick (DACC), Ron McNeel (NMSU-Alamogordo) **Assigned to Long Range Planning**. Next meeting: Thursday, Nov. 8th

Other Senate Activities (distribute documents)

- A. First, on a very sad note, I informed the full senate on November 7th, that our former Senate Recording Secretary, Anne Meek, who had retired from her position in May 2012 passed away after an extended illness on November 5th. The faculty senate is planning to host a memorial event in her honor in the near future (details to be forthcoming).
- B. Tentatively have scheduled a visit to the Faculty Senate by Regent Chair Mike Cheney for our next Full Senate meeting on Thursday December 6th at 4 PM in the Senate Chambers, Garcia Annex.

C. We have scheduled a Faculty-wide Forum on Faculty Salaries to be held in Corbett Center Auditorium, Monday November 26th at 4 PM

Presentation by the Faculty Senate Working Group on Compensation

Introductory remarks (Tim Ketelaar)

Brief History of Compensation at NMSU (Chris Erickson)

Where are we now? Including summary of data recently provided by HR and a FS pre-forum survey concerning faculty salaries (William Boecklen)

Q & A/Discussion

D. At our next Faculty Senate Committee on Committee Meeting on Tuesday December 4th I will be asking the COC to consider forming another Faculty Senate Working Group along the lines of the Faculty Senate Working Group on Compensation, but to address a some what different topic that I will explain in a moment. At the COC meeting I will ask the COC to begin discussing the pros and cons of forming a faculty senate working group to address a recent question posted by Regent Chair Mike Cheney in regards to whether there exists any means of reallocating existing funds to address some aspects of our current faculty salary challenges.

At this recent meeting with Regent Cheney I mentioned the recent activities of the University's Efficiency and Effectiveness Committee. This was a committee comprised of Nine Upper Level Administrators and their staff, three faculty members and two students. This committee produced excellent recommendations for improving the efficiency and effectiveness of our institution. The Faculty Senate applauds that effort.

However, it has occurred to Faculty Senate leadership that it may be useful to form a faculty senate working group to explore whether there are any funds that would be available to address faculty salary challenges that could result from reallocating funds currently being used for Upper level administrative positions (positions above the level of Department Head).

At this stage the focus is not on the issue of whether any of our upper level administrative positions are undercompensated over overcompensated, but rather whether our institutional mission would be better served by increasing, decreasing, or maintaining the current number of upper-level administrative positions.

This issue is currently in a strictly exploratory phase. At the December 4th COC meeting we will discuss whether to form a Working Group on this issue. Typically such a working group would develop a mission statement and a timeframe for producing a set of actions (such as recommendations to our University President). I suspect that if such a working group is formed, that they may have a set of recommendations for our President as early the end of Fall 2013 semester. We are currently interviewing faculty senators as potential chairs for this proposed working group.