

NEW MEXICO INSTITUTE OF MINING AND TECHNOLOGY

FACULTY SENATE MEETING

Tuesday, September 6, 2022

3:30 p.m. Workman 101

Minutes

1. Call to order

Chair Mike Hargather called the meeting to order at 3:31 pm with a call for approval of the May 12, 2022 minutes.

2. Approval of minutes

Dr. Brian Borchers moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Dr. Anwar Hossain. Motion passed unanimously.

3. President Wells Update

President Wells welcomed faculty back for the semester and thanked everyone for attending our first faculty and staff convocation earlier this semester.

4. New Faculty and Staff Introductions

New faculty, staff, and student representatives were introduced.

5. Reports of Senate Standing Committees

a. Nominating Committee – *Mark Samuels*

Action

Dr. Samuels moved to approve the slate of committees. Motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Hargather asked that the committees meet and identify a chair for the committee within the next month.

Floor nominations were open for officers. Dr. Hargather announced that faculty running for an office should submit a one page maximum statement one week prior to the vote and be prepared to speak for one minute at the next meeting.

b. Curriculum Committee – *Linda DeVeaux*

Info

Dr. DeVeaux announced that the curriculum committee has met this semester and Dr. DeVeaux will continue to be the chair. There is a new form to use that is slightly shortened. The committee would like to have the proposals in by Thanksgiving so that they can be approved in the New Year. She encouraged faculty to work with their representatives.

6. Council of Chairs Report – *Mike Jackson*

Dr. Jackson highlighted some of the recent accomplishments among faculty and staff.

Dr. Jackson noted some things that are happening on campus. Strategic plan and quality initiatives. HED enrollment plan was approved. ABET is coming up for undergraduate engineering programs.

a. Assessment Reports

The target date is October 1.

b. AA Newsletter – Email VPAA@nmt.edu or submit to

<https://www.nmt.edu/academicaffairs/faculty.php>

c. Other AA Updates

i. Barry Goldwater Scholarship: <https://goldwaterscholarship.gov/>.

Focused on sophomores and juniors interested in pursuing a research career who have research experience and high academic performance. Please contact Dr. Mike Jackson with questions.

ii. Standard Schedule Committee:

Please contact Dr. Mike Jackson if you are interested in participating.

iii. A draft Sabbatical Policy is undergoing the approval process.

If the draft Sabbatical Policy is approved soon, then sabbatical applications for Fall 2023 (or Spring 2024 if an early submission is desired) will be due to the department chair by November 15, 2022. Similarly, sabbatical applications submitted to the department chair by March 15, 2023 will be considered for Spring 2024.

iv. Promotion Committee:

Let Dr. Jackson know if you are interested in serving on this committee.

v. Ill Students:

Dr. Jackson thanked faculty for working with students who are ill and unable to attend class. He noted that he appreciates your willingness and assistance with helping our students.

7. Unfinished Business

8. New Business

a. Budget Matters and Shared Governance – Doug Wells

Info

Dr. Wells stated that last spring there was a regents-senate report that was critical of several administrative issues. One issue was related to our finances and that our expenditures should reflect the university's priorities. Dr. Wells noted that in particular, faculty and staff salaries as well as our instructional budget are lower compared to our peer institutions. Dr. Wells presented a variety of information, including data from HED (e.g., instruction and general [I&G] revenues, expenditures, operation & maintenance).

Dr. Wells proposed that we expand the faculty senate budget committee to a university budget committee that advises the President and the Regents on faculty priorities. This would require a substantial commitment from faculty. Another suggestion is to set senate funding goals, metrics, and a timeline so that we can measure how the university is going.

Dr. Brian Borchers moved that we refer this to the budget committee to investigate university priorities and budgets at multiple levels and come back to the faculty senate with a report, seconded by Dr. Richard Sonnenfeld. Motion passed unanimously.

It was noted that the committee will need to meet and decide their priorities as a result of this discussion.

- b. Strategic Plan Goals – *Angela Gautier*** **Info**
Angela Gautier announced that one of the goals of NMT's 2027 strategic development plan is to increase first-to-third semester retention of first-time, full-time first-year students.

The division goals are to increase resiliency of students to be effective in dealing with academic rigor, increase student knowledge and connection to valuable campus resources, and increase support and messaging around major transitions throughout the college experience. She would like to unify this message and how we present it to students across the campus.

Angela also announced that Fresh Check Day is this Friday and asked faculty to encourage students to attend.

9. Announcements

- a. SPIE Digital Library at Skeen – *Michelle Creech-Eakman***
Dr. Creech-Eakman announced that this started in July. If we bump it up high enough, it will be free for our students.
- b. Research Ethic Series – *Chris ChoGlueck***
This year there will be six events. The first will be on September 13 where misconduct and whistleblowing will be discussed.
- c. Career Fair – *Sophie Bauer***
The Career Fair will be on September 20 with 73 companies and graduate schools coming to NMT. Workshops are starting next week such as interviewing and flash resumes.
- d. Mental Health Faculty Input – *Yulia Mikhailova***
This item was discussed last semester and it ended with a recommendation that was not implemented. Students have a mental health committee and it would be

great if faculty support this. Dr. Mikhailova plans to create a proposal by October, email her if you are interested.

e. VP for Research Search – *Aly El-Osery*

Dr. El-Osery announced as the chair of the search committee that there is a small pool and they would like to increase it. He asked faculty to forward the advertisement to their network.

f. CyberReady NM & NMCCoE – *Lorie Liebrock*

Dr. Liebrock stated that the Cybersecurity Center of Excellence's main goal is to make NM a leader in cybersecurity economic development, education, innovation, and research. They have interdisciplinary faculty and are working to engage more faculty. Current work includes mostly grants and contracts and the transdisciplinary cybersecurity graduate degrees.

Dr. Liebrock announced that CyberReady NM has educational pathways, service program, outreach, and research & innovation.

There are opportunities for teaching, research, economic development, outreach, service program, and student opportunities at all disciplines.

g. Writing and Communication Lab – *Steve Simpson*

Dr. Simpson is currently serving as the interim director. They are open roughly in the afternoons on Monday – Thursday with some evenings on Monday, Tuesday, and Sunday.

h. Computer Attack – *Dan Lunceford*

On June 17, there was an attack on the administrative computer system only and it was then shut down for roughly two hours. There was a phishing attack through emails that were opened and ITC was not notified. Within three days, ITC had the systems back so that Payroll could be up and running. Over the next 8 months, some of the surfaces will be rebuilt.

i. Future Zoom Access – *Mike Hargather*

Zoom access for Faculty Senate will be deprioritized. If anyone has an accommodation note, we will provide zoom access to Faculty Senate meetings.

j. Faculty Senate Chair

Chair Mike Hargather was thanked for his years of service to the Faculty Senate.

10. Adjournment

By unanimous decision, the meeting adjourned at 5:05 pm.