

NEW MEXICO INSTITUTE OF MINING AND TECHNOLOGY

FACULTY SENATE MEETING

Tuesday, December 7 2021

4:00 p.m. Workman 101

Minutes

1. Call to order

Chair Mike Hargather called the meeting to order at 4:03 pm with a call for approval of the November 02, 2021 minutes.

2. Approval of minutes

Dr. William Stone moved to approve, seconded by Dr. Michelle Creech-Eakman. Motion passed unanimously.

3. President Wells Update

President Wells will update us in February.

4. Reports of Senate Standing Committees

a. Curriculum Committee – *Linda DeVeaux*

action

Dr. DeVeaux announced that they have had several proposals successfully reach the Curriculum Committee. As a reminder, the process is that you request the proposal from the committee, our assigned representative will set you up with a proposal, and then get it sent out to various infrastructure for approval. The Chair, Dean, and representative must review before it goes before the committee.

Dr. DeVeaux announced that there will be a discussion on three proposals today. They are also available on the Faculty Senate website for review at any time.

Dr. DeVeaux discussed the Bachelor of Arts in Biology. The main difference between the BS degree is that they are not requiring the lab courses for this BA degree. It has a broad Biology base but still extends beyond the sciences into other areas that will help the career choices that students pursue. Students will still have to take the intro labs and a microbiology or environmental microbiology lab.

Motion was moved and approved for the BA degree in Biology. Motion passed with one abstention.

Dr. DeVeaux discussed changes for the Master of Science in Biology. They are proposing to remove from degree requirements completion of 6 hours of 500 level coursework. Additionally, they have proposed a new course, BIOL 419 and 519 for Ecotoxicology.

Motion was moved and approved with an update and a new course. Motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Borchers discussed a proposed change to add language to the description for MATH 2420.

Motion was moved and approved for this change. Motion passed unanimously.

b. Honorary Degree and Awards Committee – *Caitano da Silva*

The committee has one nomination for an Honorary Degree for John Shipman. Send nominations to the committee by Jan 07, 2022. This will be discussed in the February meeting.

5. Council of Chairs Report – *Doug Wells*

a. Catalog – *Doug Wells*

Dr. Wells stated that when we created a curriculum committee, it has raised questions with the faculty on how we raise academic policies in the catalog. Dr. Wells proposed that these would still go to the Council of Chairs and/or Graduate Office before coming to the Faculty Senate.

b. Final Tenure Reports – *Doug Wells*

Dr. Wells stated that the policy on our tenure report stated that input will be solicited from all tenured faculty for faculty who are coming up for tenure. We will treat them as we do for those who are up for full professor. Academic Affairs will send out the emails and create a binder where faculty can come in to review them. We should name them or we may not get any answers.

Thoughts on this included that it not necessary to go institute wide for tenure and should only be within the candidate's department. Transdisciplinary programs may need the additional support from other departments. Service also extends across the entire campus. It was noted that this change came as a result of candidates from soliciting their own internal letters.

Dr. Borchers moved that only the CV is made available to tenured faculty for review. Comments will be sent to Academic Affairs and then given to the committee. This year, the committee can reconsider recommendations based on the comments and late timeframe. Additionally, in the future refer to the Academic Freedom and Tenure committee to fix this procedure, seconded, by Lorie Liebrock. Motion passed with one nay.

Dr. Stone moved that this year an email listing the names with their CVs is available to look at in Academic Affairs goes out to all tenured faculty. Seconded by Dr. Borchers. Motion passed with two nays.

6. Unfinished Business

7. New Business

a. NMT Mental Health & Wellness Self-Assessment – *Snezna Rogelj*

Dr. Rogelj provided some statistics with mental health issues that are increasingly prevalent among college students. Given the pre-existing and well known mental health challenges of students across higher academic institutions, a self-assessment of NMT students' mental health and wellness is in order. Dr. Rogelj proposed forming an ad-hoc review of our current status from the perspective of undergraduate and graduate student mental health on this campus over the past decade.

It was noted that withdrawals without prejudice should be included in the data.

Dr. Rogelj proposed to create this report, seconded by Dr. Cook. Motion passed

Dr. Hargather appointed an ad hoc committee to help with this report and coordinate what data we use.

Friendly amendment to only include data from 2016 that is digital and easily available.

8. Announcements

a. Assessment Reports – *Mike Jackson*

Dr. Jackson announced that he is still collecting assessment reports. He noted that 26 are complete, 12 are under review, and 10 are still outstanding.

Dr. Jackson discussed the institute wide student learning outcomes. They are not required and they are not being used. It was noted that these were developed by the 2015 strategic plan committee.

Dr. Borchers moved that we refer this to the Assessment Committee, seconded by Dr. Liebrock.

Dr. Jackson announced that notifications of new degree programs have to go to the HLC. If it's a new CIP code, they go under more scrutiny. Let Dr. Jackson know in advance so that he can help make this an easy process to get approved.

b. Career Fair – *Tristine Hayward*

Tristine announced that the Career Fair is next semester and will be held as a virtual fair on January 31 and in person on February 1. The week prior there will be an elevator pitch workshop and Sandia will hold resume reviews for students.

c. Santa's Workshop & the Holiday Prize Drawings – *Lisa Majkowski*

Lisa announced this Saturday from 11:00 to 3:00 there will be an event where you can take photos with Santa, decorate cookies, write letters to Santa, etc. It will be located in the parking lot on College and Leroy. There will also be a holiday gift

giveaway. Employees will be contacted by email with a gift number where you can pick up your items from Speare.

9. Adjournment

By unanimous decision, the Faculty Senate adjourned at 5:20 pm