

New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
Tuesday, September 05, 2023
3:30 p.m. Workman 101
Minutes

1. Call to order

Dr. Brian Borchers called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm with a call for approval of the May 11, 2023 minutes.

2. Approval of minutes

Dr. Sally Pias moved to approve the May 11, 2023 minutes seconded by Dr. Tom Engler. Motion was moved and approved unanimously.

3. Presidents Report – *President López Update*

President López welcomed faculty and spoke about the budget. He thought the Institute was in fairly good shape provided we monitor our budgets and expenditures and focus on recruitment and retention. If the Strategic Plan is successfully executed, with a focus on recruitment and retention initiatives, finances should be turned around within 2 years. The Legislature is predisposed to look at higher education to see if there are any funding gaps that need to be addressed. There is a recognition that some of the Universities are unique. NMT fits in that category.

A question about NMT's legislative priorities was raised. President López indicated we are still working out details that should be addressed by the October meeting. The goal is to have NMT properly supported by I&G funding, which will be a big push at Legislative Session.

4. Introductions of new Senate Members – *Dr. Michael Jackson*

There are 15 new faculty members. Introductions were made by the various departments.

5. Report of Standing Committees

A. Curriculum Committee – *Dr. Linda DeVeaux*

Reminder to request and submit Curriculum Proposals as early as possible so they can be reviewed and voted on by December meeting. This will provide the Registrar's with time to incorporate them into the online catalog. There is a revised form and instructions can be found online. Anyone can initiate proposals. Proposals go to the Curriculum Committee, then a representative from the committee will respond. This is true for all proposals, undergraduate and graduate. For graduate proposals, once the Curriculum Committee approves a proposal it will be forwarded to the Graduate Council. Faculty have access through the google drive that contains the approved proposals from prior years. All proposals need to be in by December.

Discussion was held regarding access to the Google Drive (as there is a known broken

link on the website) and the online catalog. Regarding the online catalog, the Registrar believes it should be posted by the start of October.

B. Nominating Committee – Dr. Mark Samuels

The list of proposed membership for the NMT Senate’s 2023-2024 Academic Year Standing Committees was presented to faculty.

A call was made for an Engineer faculty volunteer to serve on the Regents Faculty Conference Committee. No one volunteered and the call will be kept open.

A motion was made and approved to close nominations. A motion was moved and approved unanimously to approve the committee membership list.

C. Executive Committee – Dr. Bill Stone

Motion was made to make some minor editorial corrections to the Faculty Senate Standing Rules (e.g., changes in position titles, such as the Dean for Student Success Initiatives). The document was provided with changes.

Motion to make changes to the Faculty Senate Standing Rules was moved and approved unanimously.

Discussion was held on the Emeritus Members. There are some that are deceased. Members were asked to review the list and provide the Senate with updates. The rules for membership in the Faculty Senate Standing Rules are a little confusing when it comes to part-time instructors. It is clear when individuals are Full-Time employees and paid out of Academic Affairs. However, for other situations, it is unclear. A request was made to have a few individuals serve on an Ad Hoc Committee to propose clearer language.

Discussion was held on the duties/scope of the Ad Hoc Committee. Discussion included who is eligible to vote in the Faculty Senate.

Motion was made to have an Ad Hoc Committee to look at the rules for membership and Faculty Senate Standing Rules for Part-time Faculty. This includes clarifying language on who is eligible to be a member. Dr. Stone will chair this committee with Dr. Fred Phillips and Dr. Ben Duval who volunteered to serve.

Motion was moved and approved unanimously.

6. Grad Council Report – Dr. Aly El-Osery

Unofficial numbers were provided to Faculty Senate Members. These numbers will be official next week. So far, numbers are up and at an all-time high. Dr. El-Osery thanked the Departments for all their hard work. Graduate enrollment increased by 10% and there was a 20% increase in new graduate students. The big difference is in the numbers for offers accepted which was 56%. There was also a 23% increase in applications. Research Degrees are up. The trend for Professional Degrees are also up.

The Grad Student Academic Integrity has had a

information will be used to demonstrate to the HLC our ability to ensure DE courses have regular and substantive interaction. Gathering this information is critical.

We have created a Seminar/Colloquium Calendar. If departments have Colloquia, we encourage you to use this calendar to promote the event.

Degree Conferrals. In May each year, there is a frantic race to get grades in for everyone who will be graduating. The Registrar's Office then

9. Strategic Plan update – *Dr. Michael Jackson*

Information on the NMT Strategic Plan can be found at:

<https://www.nmt.edu/leadership/strategicplan.php>

Updates and key Fall 2023 dates can be found in Enrollment and NMT Strategic Plan.pptx.

During the month of September the Task Force will be asking for feedback and suggestions on the draft action plans.