

# NEW MEXICO INSTITUTE OF MINING AND TECHNOLOGY

## FACULTY SENATE MEETING

Tuesday, November 3, 2020

4:00 p.m.

### Minutes

#### 1. Call to order

Chair Mike Hargather called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm with a call for approval of the October 6, 2020 minutes.

#### 2. Approval of minutes

Dr. Anwar Hossain moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Dr. Sharon Sessions. Motion passed unanimously.

#### 3. President Wells Update

President Wells stated that the NMT campus has eight confirmed COVID-19 cases. Of those, five are students and three are staff members. He stated that this is remarkable considering the uptick of cases we have had in the State. There will be enhanced testing this week on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday afternoon with the saliva test.

President Wells stated that students can return to the campus after the Thanksgiving break if they follow the State guidelines. This will help student employees maintain their jobs.

President Wells stated that Dr. Van Romero is working with ICASA and Dr. Lorie Liebrock on an app for contact tracing on campus. There have been some problems to get it functional. However, this shows that we are taking security risks seriously. This should be available by next semester. Additionally, we are hoping that upon the return of the holiday break, rapid testing with saliva testing will be set up here. We are still working on acquiring the testing approval.

#### 4. Reports of Senate Standing Committees

**action**

##### a. Student Discipline Committee

Dr. Jaime Kimberly briefly reviewed the proposed adjudication process for NMT's new Title IX procedures. He stated that sections A and B are an overview of the changes that are going on with updates to Title IX at the national level. Essentially there is a formal process and an informal process. Looking forward, we needed to develop a new procedure, with section C being the recommendation that was developed in consultation with and is supported for adoption by the student discipline committee. The committee tried to capture a procedure that is balanced with the number of people that sit on these hearing panels and appropriate representation.

A question was asked how full-time employees/students would they be treated. Dr. Kimberly stated that we would treat them in the role they were involved in when the incident occurred. Each incident there would be a unique panel assigned and they would have a right to recuse themselves.

Dr. Kimberly proposed to vote in support of this new procedure as is outlined in section C as it does not need a Faculty Senate vote to be adopted. Motion passed with one nay.

**5. Council of Chairs Report – *Doug Wells***

**a. SRS – *David Cox/Mike Hargather***

David Cox announced that this upcoming year, the Student Research Symposium will be expanded. The current dates that are being looked at are April 14 – 16. They are hoping to not only have the traditional categories of oral presentations, the 3-minute presentations, and the posters, but also have as many possibilities for departmental senior and junior projects. They would like to make it so that people cannot only participate that are students, but departments can have more influence and participation in the entire process.

Dr. Hargather noted that several departments have already committed to joining. If you are interested in participating, contact David Cox.

**b. Spring Break**

Dr. Wells stated that Academic Affairs sent an email on the consequences of the deliberation of the COVID-19 task force, President Wells, and the survey's that were sent to both students and faculty. Of all the options that were on the table, the students were relatively neutral with roughly equal representation for all of the options. Faculty strongly favored to either end early or a delayed start at the beginning of the semester. President Wells chose to end the semester earlier as it minimizes the potential of breaking back COVID-19 to the campus.

Dr. Hargather noted that as a result of this change, commencement has moved up by one week.

**c. Math – *Anwar Hossain***

Dr. Hossain discussed the Math catalog changes. A minor change to the course number for Math 2XX Vector Calculus was changed.

Dr. Hossain moved to approve. Motion passed unanimously.

**d. CLASS – *Taylor Dotson***

Dr. Dotson discussed the CLASS catalog changes.

Dr. Dotson moved to approve. Motion passed unanimously.

**e. Civil Engineering – *Clint Richardson***

Dr. Richardson discussed the Civil Engineering catalog changes. Discussion on the design sequence was held. One will always be offered in the fall and the other in the spring. If a student wants to do it all in one semester, they won't object. However, they prefer that they take it in sequence.

Dr. Richardson moved to approve. Motion passed unanimously.

**f. Mineral Engineering – *Navid Mojtabai***

Dr. Mojtabai discussed the Mineral Engineering catalog changes.

Dr. Mojtabai moved to approve. Motion passed unanimously.

**g. Mechanical Engineering – *Bin Lim***

Dr. Lim discussed the Mechanical Engineering and Explosives Engineering catalog changes. Dr. Hargather noted that their department will work with the Registrar's office in tracking down number changes if other programs points to this course.

Dr. Lim moved to approve. Motion passed unanimously.

**6. Graduate Council Report – *Aly El Osery***

**a. Civil Engineering – *Clint Richardson***

Dr. Richardson discussed the Civil Engineering catalog changes. For the new course CEE 5XX, Infrastructure that is cross-listed with CE 4XX, Dr. Richardson stated that the intent is if a student takes a co-listed 400-level course in steel design, they could not take the 500-level course in steel design and get credit.

Dr. Richardson moved to approve. Motion passed unanimously.

**b. Mineral Engineering – *Navid Mojtabai***

Dr. Mojtabai discussed the Mineral Engineering catalog changes.

Dr. Mojtabai moved to approve. Motion passed unanimously.

**c. Mechanical Engineering – *Bin Lim***

Dr. Lim discussed the Explosives Engineering catalog changes.

Dr. Lim moved to approve. Motion passed unanimously.

**7. Unfinished Business**

**action**

**8. New Business**

**a. DEAB - *Aly El-Osery***

Dr. Aly El-Osery stated that the Distance Education Advisory Board (DEAB) was asked to review the IP policy, specifically in regards to the copyright related to distance education courses and to what point does NMT own it. The DEAB met and

after reviewing a survey that was provided by Dr. Peter Anselmo of what other universities have done, the DEAB is in agreement that the policy as is, is in favor of faculty rights more than anything else. The burden would be on the university to try and change that. Without written permission for release of copyright, then that is the faculty's ownership. The recommendation from DEAB is to keep this as is and in the case of any conflicts or grievances, an adhoc committee would need to be formed with legal representation.

A question was posed regarding branding. Dr. El-Osery stated that if you put the logo on the presentation that is given during a class, it is not a concern unless the person is doing this activity outside of NMT.

No changes to the current policy were made.

## **9. Announcements**

### **a. Fireside Chats – *Michael Voegerl***

Dr. Voegerl announced that Student Affairs and Student Life have been hosting fireside chats. These are informal conversations. Last night, turkey recipes were discussed as well as struggles that student, staff, and faculty are having. He stated that they have averaged twenty five to thirty students in attendance. The next fireside is on November 4 with Michael Voegerl hosting. He would like to have more diverse participation and asked that those who wish to participate contact him.

## **10. Adjournment**

By unanimous decision, the Faculty Senate adjourned at 4:55 pm.