

# NEW MEXICO INSTITUTE OF MINING AND TECHNOLOGY

## FACULTY SENATE MEETING

Friday, May 12, 2017

Workman 101 10:00 a.m.

## Minutes

### 1. Call to order and approval of minutes

Chair Tom Kieft called the meeting to order at 10:05 am with a call for approval of the May 2, 2017 minutes.

**Dr. Brian Borchers moved to approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.**

### 2. Short announcements

### 3. Approval of Graduate Degrees

Sara Grijalva presented the May 2017 graduate list part 1 for conferral. Ms. Grijalva stated that there are still seniors taking final exams at this moment and therefore they are not on this list. The grades for these students are due Monday at 5:00 pm. On Tuesday we will have a conferral list as we do monthly. This will not affect students walking in the graduation ceremony. The ceremony starts tomorrow at 9:00 am. Faculty are to come in regalia around 8:30 am.

Sara Grijalva moved to approve this list, seconded by Dr. Lorie Liebrock. Motion passed.

### 4. Awards

- a. Langmuir Award
- b. Founders Award
- c. Brown Award
- d. Cramer Award

An executive session was held where the senate approved these awards for the 2017 commencement.

Description of the Founders Award where it states “recipient of an advanced degree” will need to be discussed and defined next semester.

Dr. Bill Stone moved to have Academic Affairs send out congratulatory notes to all students who were nominated that did not receive an award, seconded by Dr. Brian Borchers. Motion passed unanimously.

### 5. Report of Graduate Council – *Lorie Liebrock*

#### a. Grade Change

Dr. Liebrock discussed a proposed modification to the grade change that was approved at the last Faculty Senate. Occasionally a student who could not retake a class due to it not being offered would need to appeal. The intent is any course

that they have the support of the department to appeal; they can get a substitution for a class. The proposed updated statement in the catalog will state:

*“At the time of graduation, the cumulative GPA must be 3.0 or higher for all courses numbered 300 or above. A student who has not been able to retake a course due to the course not being offered, may, with the support of their advisor and Department Chair, appeal to the Graduate Dean to take an appropriate course as a substitution. Only courses with a grade of “C” or higher may count towards the graduate degree.”*

Discussion was held regarding if we are lowering our standards. It appears we are making a rush to get students out the door instead of having them meet our standards. Students may also abuse this and may get an impression that this is not serious. Dr. Liebrock stated that she will make it clear and lay out what the expectation is. She stated that she has seen 3 or 4 within the last few years.

Dr. Liebrock moved to accept this change. Vote was held by hand count. Motion did not pass.

Dr. Hargather made a friendly amendment to add support of their advisor and committee, seconded by Dr. Snezna Rogelj.

**6. Old Business**

**7. New Business**

**8. Discussion**

**9. Adjournment.**

By unanimous decision the faculty senate adjourned at 11:43 am.