

NEW MEXICO INSTITUTE OF MINING AND TECHNOLOGY
FACULTY SENATE MEETING
Tuesday, September 4th, 2012
Workman 101

Minutes

1. Call to order.

Having reached a quorum the Chair called the meeting to order at approximately 4:01 p.m. by calling for a motion to approve the minutes of the last meeting.

2. Approval of the minutes of May 11, 2012

Anwar Hussein moved to approve the minutes.

Elaine DeBrine-Howell seconded, the motion passed unanimously.

3. Announcements.

a. Introduction of New Faculty and Staff

The following new faculty members were present and introduced at the meeting:

Dr. Sally Pias in Chemistry

Dr. Pabitra Choudhury in Chemical Engineering

Dr. Abdelmounaam Rezgui in Computer Science

Mr. Scott Chadde, Instructor, Computer Science

Dr. Daniel Cadol in Earth and & Environmental Science

Dr. Musa Jad Hussein, Visiting Professor in Earth and Environmental Science

Dr. Rosario Durao in CLASS

Dr. Terry Lowe, Visiting Professor in Materials Engineering

Dr. Sung Hoon Chung, Visiting Assistant Professor in Mathematics

Dr. Annette LaRussa, Math Education Specialist

Dr. Jamie Kimberley in Mechanical Engineering

Dr. Tie Wei, Visiting Professor in Mechanical Engineering

Dr. Michael Hargather in Mechanical Engineering

Dr. Chelsey Zacherl, Engineering Education Specialist

New faculty members were photographed by the El Defensor Chieftain.

b. Enrollment Update – Sara Grijalva

Total of 2138 students, with all types of students at both graduate and undergraduate level included for a net result in 136 more students than last year, or a 7% increase. Dis-enrollment happens this week. Three semester retention rate is 75.00% currently. New Freshman number 373 students, Transfers number 106 students. This is compared to 416 freshman and transfers students totaled together from this time last fall.

c. President's Update

President Lopez provided an update on the issues that will be addressed in the upcoming legislative session, as he works to address the issues with the State and the changes that

are being proposed which affect the budget, funding formula and policies regarding retention, completion and graduation rates.

He called the development of the new funding formula an “Unknown route to a known destination.” And added that he hoped that we, as universities, will have a major impact on the final design of the formula, which will hopefully help universities to become even more successful, especially by allowing our voices to be heard since the university community has a deeper understanding of what it means to be a successful university.

Dr. López addressed the need to centralize and integrate a strong and well organized computing capabilities and services to the Tech community. The restructuring of computing services will not be done without the input of the university. Second, he mentioned that this can't and won't be done overnight. This issue involves a lot of vested interests but must be part of an overall initiative to fully centralize and create a sustainable computing support center. Cost savings will be realized by consolidation of personnel and certain functions and these savings will be reinvested in upgrading our computing support services. No critical function will be eliminated. This process has started with two meetings so far, and the process ahead will take a considerable length of time and efforts will be made to try to satisfy the majority of interests at stake.

Health insurance continues to be reviewed and an inventory is being conducted of what is available from other potential insurance providers and what we currently have in place. Finally, last year's committee recommendation for a new insurance provider was rejected based on the uncertainty how much the new proposed service provider would increase its premiums once the contract was signed. As it turned out, the service provider that was recommended for Tech raised its premiums significantly on other insured groups shortly after we rejected their proposal.

And a bond issue will be on the November Ballot regarding the completion of the Bureau of Geology Building.

d. Other Announcements

Emma Aafloy's Last day in Academic Affairs is Friday, September 7th. She was promoted to Associate Director of Budget.

Jacoby Boles who was Bureau of Mine Safety Administrative Specialist is now the Administrative Assistant to Peter Gerity.

Diversity training in the CITL will happen next Friday, September 14th by Rusty Barceló, President of NNMC and Patricia Trujillo.

Bill Stone- Gave a brief eulogy of Emeritus Ralph Ball. Professor Ball came to New Mexico Tech in 1966 and was brought in by Stirling Colgate, he was previously at Appalachian State. He was known for his teaching and violin playing, and he was a prominent local player. Ralph Ball led various bands of students on 4 wheelers out into the desert and sometimes brought them back.

B. Borchers- Starfish, our new early alert system, will have training on how to use it in the CITL. Surveys were sent out for the 100 level courses on how students are doing. Please respond to surveys and the advisors will be notified. “Starfish was not hard”- Bill Stone. The Starfish mechanism also has praise/ positive reinforcement component, not just to warn of failing grades.

Alisa Stromberg- The GSA is made up of grad student volunteers and the fee pays for services, not for paying staff; therefore officers are volunteers and are needed again this year. Please let your grad students know. The next meeting is Wednesday at Noon, and there are officer positions, second year, and third year positions available. The location for the meetings is Library 212.

4. Committee Reports.

a. Nominating Committee – The Slate of Nominations was reviewed. Mark Samuels moved to make the nominating 4 members instead of 3.

Approved Unanimously.

Motion to approve the slate of nominees for the committees by Mark Samuels, as Chair of Nominating Committee

Approved Unanimously.

b. Nominations for Officers- No other nominations were received at the meeting.

Bill Stone moved to extend the nominating period for the officers by 2 more weeks. Second by Mark Samuels. Approved Unanimously.

Nominations close 2 weeks from today.

5. Old Business.

6. New Business.

7. Adjournment.

Motion to adjourn by Lorie Liebrock. Second by Lisa Beinhoff, by unanimous consent the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jacoby Boles