

New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology
Board of Regents Meeting
9 a.m., Friday, October 7, 2016
Macey Center Copper Room

The New Mexico Tech Board of Regents convened at 9:03a.m. with Board of Regents Chair Deborah Peacock presiding. Other Board members present were Regent Jerry Armijo, Regent David Gonzales, Regent Donald Monette and Regent Myissa Weiss. University administrators, staff, and guests who were also present included:

MINUTES

Stephen Wells	Robert Lucero	Lorie Liebrock
Lala Garcia	Robert Balch	JoAnn Salome
Peter Mozley	Matt Rhoades	Dave Lepre
Richard Cervantes	Kevin Wedeward	David Manzano
Melissa Jaramillo-Fleming	Bill Stone	Charles Hendrickson
Van Romero	Colleen Foster	Alex Garcia
Steve Simpson		

1. **Proof of Meeting.** Chair Peacock called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. Ms. Garcia reported that proper legal notice was given as required.
2. **Approval of Agenda.** The Agenda was approved unanimously on a motion by Regent Monette and a second from Regent Weiss.
3. **Minutes for September 2016.** The Minutes from the Sept. 16, 2016 meeting were approved unanimously on a motion from Regent Monette and a second from Regent Weiss.
4. **Announcements.**
Induction Ceremony. Regents were informed that “everything is in motion” for the afternoon’s Induction Ceremony for President Wells in Macey Center following a successful rehearsal the previous day. The event will be streamed from the Fidel Ballroom for those who want to watch it there, followed by a reception and dance.
Enrollment Updates. Ms. Jaramillo-Fleming reported results of an Oct. 6 “snapshot” showing more returning students, while new-student enrollment is down somewhat compared with last year. She agreed to provide Regents with a report detailing the reasons for student withdrawals. The V.P. noted that the numbers do not project a trend except in Petroleum Engineering, where students are opting for other fields due to the oil market slump. Dr. Balch added that in the past, petroleum students had jobs lined up

before they graduated, while today's market has more graduates than available jobs. Other factors cited were the economy and fewer high school graduates in the pipeline. *Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology*. Drs. Mozley and Wedeward updated Regents on the ABET reaccreditation process for engineering programs, which they described as an intense process. The University submitted a Self Study in July and hosted an ABET team on campus for three days in September including a meeting with the President and engineering program representatives. Tech will try to resolve any shortcomings before filing a formal response to ABET in December. Official accreditation would follow in July 2017.

Honor Code. President Wells introduced the subject of a proposed honor code for faculty, staff, students and the administration, including Regents. According to Dr. Liebrock, the process started last April as a Strategic Plan initiative, with a draft developed to start discussion and generate feedback. Forums will follow for faculty, staff and students. As proposed, individuals would sign the Honor Code. Liebrock said studies show that physically signing a document shows a level of buy-in and commitment from the signer. She is working with Human Resources, the Affirmative Action office and legal counsel to see how an Honor Code would fit in with policies already contained in the student and employee handbooks. Discussion elicited such issues as students turning in one another, potential retaliation, legal concerns, the rise in student cheating and enforcement. "The intent is good," said Regent Armijo. "Unintended consequences are my concern." Encouraging "tattle-telling" would be dangerous, noted Regent Weiss, and "would tear the students apart." The Honor Code is a long-term process, and the reporting aspect may not be in the final draft, noted Dr. Mozley, adding that such a policy would enhance the University's reputation for the quality of its students and could help with accreditation. Regent Gonzales sees the policy as a social issue, emphasizing that Regents are not "social police." The President called the discussion healthy, and encouraged further discourse.

Faculty Senate. Dr. Simpson reported on behalf of new Faculty Senate Chair Dr. Tom Kieft, who could not attend due to teaching commitments. Dr. Simpson will remain as Vice Chair, and Dr. Brian Borchers will serve as Parliamentarian.

President's Report. Dr. Wells provided a legislative update from the Special Session. He outlined several agency cuts and the cancellation of 119 capital projects. New Mexico Tech will sustain a 5 percent budget reduction. Mr. Manzano provided additional budget details. Several times Regents noted that higher education in the state in general is being painted "with the same broad brush stroke" as that applied to UNM, whose fiscal woes are widely annotated; and that New Mexico Tech is not being rewarded for its efficiency. Mr. Cervantes, citing UNM's "bloated administration," noted that Tech's overall administrative budget is 7 percent, "pretty low." It was agreed that because of its emphasis on STEM fields, Tech cannot be compared with the state's four-year schools. The President suggested developing a statistic sheet and mounting other efforts to

showcase the school's unique qualities. "We want real performance measures and a real (funding) formula," said Regent Gonzales. The President said being told how to make the mandated budget cuts sets a dangerous precedent. "Without flexibility, the Institute's hands are tied," he said.

Vice President for Academic Affairs Appointment. President Wells announced Dr. Douglas Wells (no relation) as the new Vice President for Academic Affairs effective January 5, 2017. Dr. D. Wells is a nuclear physicist most recently Dean of Graduate Education and Professor of Physics, South Dakota School of Mines. His wife, Linda is a professor of biology and will come in on a tenure track; the couple will live in Socorro. *Other.* The President reported on a successful visit to Dubai lead by Dr. Balch and with Dr. Romero. The first day of the SPE conference drew 9,000 people, and the University's booth was flooded with people interested in Tech's programs. Ms. Foster added that an alumni reception drew 20 individuals, including 12 new alumni. As a result of Dr. Romero's visit to the American University of Sharjah in UAE, Tech has been tasked with developing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the two schools. *NMT Day.* Dr. Liebrock announced that Jan. 26, 2017 will be New Mexico Tech Day in the state Capitol. Scheduled are a press conference and demonstrations showing what the University can do for students and economic development in the state.

5. **Public Comment.** N/A

6. **Academic Tenure and Full Professor.**

- **Dr. Stephen G. Wells, Earth and Environmental Science.** Dr. Mozley brought forth a recommendation of academic tenure and appointment as full professor for President Wells, citing his many accomplishments and a stellar publications record, even as an administrator. Regent Monette moved to accept the recommendation. Regent Weiss seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- **Dr. Douglas Wells, Department of Physics.** Dr. Mozley's second recommendation for academic tenure and appointment as full professor was for Dr. Douglas Wells. Dr. Wells, a full professor at two universities, brought in \$30 million in research funding over his career. Regent Armijo moved for approval. Regent Gonzales seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

7. **Financial Analysis for August 2016.** Mr. Cervantes prior to giving his report introduced Mr. Charles Hendrickson, the Associate V.P. for Administration and Finance since last May, and reported that two months into FY 17, tuition and overhead are up, with overall revenue up 4 percent, but added that predicting any trends would be difficult. President Wells commended Cervantes for formatting the report to reflect beginning and ending balances. The format for Research and Public Service Projects (RPSP) also was changed and now shows actual expenses as related to the budget. As part of the finance

report, Mr. Garcia updated Regents on ongoing capital projects including the Chemistry Building which remains on budget and on schedule for a February 2017 completion. The University also will receive General Obligation Bond revenue, should voters approve the statewide measure on the Nov. 8 ballot. Garcia said that if approved, bond funds could generate some 1300 jobs statewide. Regents unanimously approved the financial analysis on a motion by Regent Gonzales and a second by Regent Monette.

8. **Executive Session Pursuant to 100-15-1(h)(2) & 10-15-1(I)(2), NMSA 1978 (To consider Legal and/or Personnel Matters).** Regents unanimously recessed their regular meeting at 10:41 a.m. to meet in Executive Session on a motion by Regent Armijo and a second by Regent Monette, followed by a roll call vote conducted by Ms. Garcia. Regents returned to their regular session at 11:38. Chair Peacock reported that only items related to the session were discussed.

9. **Individual Board Member Comments.** Chair Peacock announced that the next Board meeting is on Nov. 11. As the date coincides with the 37th Annual New Mexico Mineral Symposium hosted by New Mexico Tech, she suggested a morning field trip to the Copper Flat Mine in Hillsboro. Regent Armijo reported that the committee developing plans for the proposed President's residence chose Van Gilbert as project architect from a number of proposals. Work will start in a couple of weeks, with the project out to bid by the end of the year. The biggest unknown is holding the project to \$1.3 million. Armijo noted that he and Regent Monette are volunteers on the N.M. Regents Coalition. "Armijo said his goal is that the coalition be a forum for exchanging ideas, but that he would be uncomfortable with any lobbying on the part of the coalition.

10. **New Business.** N/A

11. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 11:49 a.m. on a motion by Regent Monette and a second by Regent Armijo.

Attest:



President



Secretary-Treasurer