

Question to address at the meeting with Bishop Ramirez on October 31, 2005

1. Who conducts the vote and pays for the voting process?
2. What group or groups of employees benefit from AFSCME membership?
3. What exactly are the benefits?
4. Who pays dues and what is the dollar amount of the dues?
5. What type of union agency will NMSU be (i.e. Open, closed or union shop)?
ACAP recommends that a detailed description of the different agency formations be described by AFSCME.
6. How do employees notify AFSCME that they do not want to be contacted?
7. Will all of the employees who will be affected by the union have an opportunity to vote?
8. If an affected employee votes "No" are they assessed dues? What does fair share mean?
9. Is there any other mechanism other than a vote for employees to organize?
10. Is paying dues voluntary?
11. Who decides the dues level and if it can change? If the dues change, do employees have any say?
12. What are the dues collections used for? How much is used locally? At the district level? At the national level?
13. Since AFSCME supports political candidates, who decides which candidates are supported?
14. Which employees will be in a union? Only those in Las Cruces? State-wide employees? Community college employees? County extension employees? What is the definition of a collective bargaining unit?
15. If state-wide and community college employees are included, how will they vote? Participate?
16. In 2005 the state gave AFSCME employees a smaller raise than NMSU gave its employees (1.75% vs. 2.25%). In the future, will NMSU-AFSCME employees receive the same raises other state AFSCME employees receive?
17. With respect to benefit costs, how does AFSCME propose lowering them for NMSU employees? Different packages? Dropping NMSU retirees from the pool? Raising tuition?
18. What other work condition issues would AFSCME seek?
19. What happens if I ignore this union issue and don't vote?
20. What if a unit is organized and employees are unhappy with the union?
21. How does the union determine what issues will be taken to the bargaining table?