

**Report to Faculty Senate**  
**Wanda Eastman, Chair**  
**April 3, 2008**

- March 7: Senator Brown, Vice Chair Pfeiffer, Associate Dean Gregware, and I met to discuss Policy Manual wording on academic misconduct.
- March 10: Board of Regents meeting. Increases in tuition, fees, student housing, students' meal plans, and parking permits were approved. Renovation and construction projects approved were Gardiner Hall renovations, construction of Native American Cultural Center, re-roofing at Carlsbad campus, and DACC East Mesa construction. The Masters of Science in Bioinformatics and name change to Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Conservation Ecology were approved.
- March 11: Administrative Council meeting. Reports were given on NMSU Worker's Comp injury and illness, and Police Department shared plans on Emergency Operations Plan and the intention to have a preparedness exercise. Office 2007 will be adopted in August 2008 for the campus. Update given on HLC Accreditation site visit.
- March 11: Academic Deans Council: My dietetic program was having its site visit from our national accreditation agency, so Vice Chair Pfeiffer attended on behalf of the Faculty Senate.
- March 17: Academic Deans Council (ADC) emergency meeting: Considered the proposed changes to Viewing a Wider World policy. Senator Amato was there to present and answer questions. These will be discussed on our agenda under "7. New Business." ADC also considered the revisions to the University Research Council. This will be further discussed under "8. Unfinished Business."
- March 17 & 18: University Budget Committee met. Senators Erickson and Montanez were in attendance and will give us a report under "6. Other Reports."
- March 19: President Martin, Provost Cruzado, Dean Moulton, Vice Chair Pfeiffer, and I met to discuss the progress of the Faculty Workload Policy revision. We are seeking clarification if/when ADC approved the policy in spring 2007.
- March 20: President Martin, Provost Cruzado, and VP Taylor met with Faculty Senators who were able to attend to discuss faculty salary issues. The 2% cost of living allowance (COLA) from tuition increases and 0.75% increase in retirement fund contributions had been previously announced. From the elimination of staff positions vacant more than a year, some type of modest increase in faculty salaries could happen by the end of the year. Substantial increases in faculty salaries from the state legislature are not a likely prospect. (Dennis Hazlett, the NMSU Director of State Government Affairs is joining us today.) President Martin discussed the possibility of long term building up an endowment to increase faculty salaries by leveraging the large land holdings and water rights of NMSU.
- March 20 and April 3: Bookstore RFP Committee met. The March 20 meeting was organizational in nature. The April 3 meeting took place just before the Faculty Senate meeting today and I prepared this report on April 1.
- March was a month of great controversy here at NMSU. Media reports, student demonstrations, and strong words being spoken all around. I was greatly saddened by these difficulties. My personal hope is that we work our way collectively through the difficulties. If wrong doing occurred, our policies and the laws of the land have consequences. Let there be justice. Let there be reason. Let there be a better day for all for us.