

Report to the Faculty Senate
Wanda Eastman, Chair
November 2007

- Administrative Council met on October 9. I gave an update on our Faculty Senate activities.
- The Communicable Disease Prevention Committee met on October 9. They are seeking greater participation from Faculty Senate. Discussions centered on responses to the upcoming influenza season and potential scenarios of a communicable disease outbreak on campus. Jeff Witte showed a powerful and emotionally wrenching film on the response to the epidemic of hoof and mouth disease in the United Kingdom in 2001. The election of a Faculty Senate representative to this committee is on the November 1 agenda.
- On October 16, I had a meeting with President Martin to update him on our Faculty Senate activities. I requested support for technology improvements to our Faculty Senate chamber so distance participation with our Community College Senators and Cooperative Extension Service Senators could be facilitated. Proposition 09-07/08 will be introduced to seek support for this process.
- The Academic Deans Council met on October 18. I shared with them Proposition 01-07/08 The Proposal to Modify University Policy on Faculty Teaching Loads that passed the Faculty Senate on October 4. Several Deans were seeking some modifications in the wording. After some discussion, the ADC decided to take the word changes to the Administrative Council which is the next group after the Faculty Senate that will consider the policy.
- The Board of Regents met on October 22 here in Las Cruces. I gave a report to them on Faculty Senate activities. Representatives from Common Cause spoke to the BOR on potential ways to have more public comment during BOR meetings. The enrollment figures for fall 2007 were shared with the BOR and we have the largest freshman class ever. If any of you are golfers, when you retire and are emeritus faculty, there won't be free golfing privileges as had been the case in past years.
- The University Budget Committee met on October 24. The Faculty Senate was ably represented by Senator Erickson and Senator Kelly. Staff positions unfilled for more than 6 months will revert back to Hadley Hall. Requests for extensions to hire for positions open more than 6 months were considered by the Budget committee.
- Dr. Tom Gruszka, Faculty Senate Chair at Western New Mexico University met with the Legislative Finance Committee on October 25 and included the NMSU Faculty Senate's Proposition 03-07/08, Memorial to Support the Faculty Salary II Report from the New Mexico Higher Education Department, as part of his remarks.
- I met with Provost Cruzado on October 26. We discussed Proposition 03-07/08 Memorial to Support the Faculty Salary II Report from the New Mexico Higher Education Department. Dr. Cruzado is seeking ways to interact with the Faculty Senate and will be speaking with us during this session of the Senate.