

**NMSU Faculty Senate
Chair's Report
April 2009
Joe Pfeiffer**

We have Regents! Javier Gonzales, Isaac Pino, and Christopher Anaya have been confirmed by the state Senate. There will be a special meeting of the Regents next Wednesday; I don't have an agenda yet.

As with everyone else, NMSU's endowment has had significant losses recently. According to Nick Franklin, the endowment has lost 30.1% since last July (as a point of comparison, the S&P 500 has lost 41.5% in the same period). This won't be affecting payout immediately, but it is possible that endowment-funded activities, such as scholarships, will be affected soon.

NMSU was able to cover budget cuts this year from reserves. The Deans have been asked to prepare contingency plans for a 2.5% and a 5% cut next year in the event that this becomes necessary.

Interim President Cruzado has begun a discussion with the regents about NMSU's organizational structure. The goal is to see how well our current structure will meet our needs over the next 5-10 years, and see what adjustments may be needed.

The RFP for the electronic Faculty Recordkeeping System went out to three vendors; only Digital Measures responded. Negotiations with them are beginning. Design of the data needed, and data sources for things that can come from Banner and other existing databases, will be continuing over the summer. The goal is for this system to be available for faculty annual reports this fall. The biggest challenge identified so far is ensuring that the broad range of intellectual contributions can be appropriately identified.

Some upcoming events of interest:

- Joe Garcia, president of the National Conference of American Indians, will be speaking next Tuesday at 1:00 PM. He'll be outdoors, west of the Duck Pond.
- J. Paul Taylor Symposium on Social Justice for Youth will be held April 14-16.
- GRAS will be April 22 and 23.

There will not be an opportunity to submit new legislation through our regular process this academic year. It will only be possible to consider legislation submitted after now as emergency legislation (note that new academic programs cannot be considered as emergency legislation, per the policy manual).

Respectfully submitted,
Joseph J. Pfeiffer, Jr.