

**NMSU Faculty Senate
Chair's Report
October, 2008
Joe Pfeiffer**

Polycoms! We finally gave up on waiting for Amazon, and ordered the Polycom software/cameras from Provan-tage.com; they arrived just before I left for a conference. I'll be bringing them to the meeting today.

The new workload policy was approved by the Academic Deans Council on September 9. It'll be introduced here as Proposition 05-08/09 today.

The NMSU and UNM Boards of Regents held a joint meeting on Saturday. A major concern they've got is the need for the legislature to recognize the fact that our missions (and, to some extent, NMIT's mission) differ from those of the other universities and colleges in the state, and that this mission differentiation needs to be reflected in the funding formulas for the institutions.

The Faculty Ranks Task Force held its first meeting; there was broad agreement about the approach to take in defining a category of research faculty for NMSU (this will require a change to section 5.15.40 of the Policy Manual). Something that caught us by surprise was the fact that while this section mentions college faculty, it doesn't actually define those positions. A college faculty representative (Cindy Murrell) has been added to the task force to help address this as well.

A Health and Wellness committee has been formed, at the direction of the Provost. I am a member, as Chair of Faculty Senate; the committee is currently considering directions to go in defining a wellness program for NMSU.

The Presidential Search Committee has now met three times, and is making good progress on narrowing the field of candidates for our next president. At the moment we're still on track for selecting a new president on schedule.

Respectfully submitted,
Joseph J. Pfeiffer, Jr.