

MINUTES OF THE 3RD MEETING OF THE NMSU FACULTY SENATE
FACULTY SENATE CHAMBERS, GARCIA ANNEX
October 30, 2008

Members Present: Pfeiffer (Chair), Erickson (Vice Chair), Alexander, Amato, Andersen, Bloomquist, Bosman, Bronstein, Cramer, de Boyrie, Erben, Fitzpatrick, Fortin, González, Holtzman, Huttlinger, Kelly, Ketelaar, Knight, Lakey, Mathis, McNeel, Montañez, Munson-McGee, Ni, K. Oliver, R. Oliver, Prentice, Rayson, Reyes, Rosencrans, Schultz, Storm, Teich, M. Torres, P. Torres, Winn.

Members Absent: Bailey, Bejarano, Blair, Brown, Buckholz, Buckingham, Bugbee, Cecil, Christman, Chung, Hampton, Hardee, Hubbell, Idriss, Nishiguchi, Ranade, Wojahn.

Ex Officio Members Present: Cooper, Dominguez, Zimmerman, Chappell, Dulany.

Guests: Charlene Shroulote, ASNMSU Faculty Senate Representative; Steven Loring, CAHE/AES, Chair, NMSU Sustainability & Climate Change Task Force.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Pfeiffer at 4:05 pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was amended by Chair Pfeiffer to add the new Bicycle Facilities Committee to the call for Faculty Senate Representatives to NMSU Organizations (9C). The agenda was then approved as amended.

3. Minutes of October 2, 2008, Faculty Senate Meeting

The minutes of the October 2, 2008, Faculty Senate meeting were approved as distributed.

4. Reports of Officers

A. Chair's Report

Chair Pfeiffer reviewed his report of October activities which was distributed earlier. (Appendix A)

B. Vice Chair's Report

Vice Chair Erickson reviewed his report of October activities which was distributed earlier. In the last sentence of the Provost Mercer Advisory Committee report he corrected the word *mean* to *median*. The \$1.8 million allocation in this report is for permanent raises in January; the BOR did not approve the one-time bonus. This allocation may not be distributed in January due to the NM financial state, especially oil and gas revenue shortfalls. We should get about \$4 million in growth money this year which would be adequate to fund the first year of our raises proposal which the administration supports; however, this may not be available to distribute. It was noted that there is a provision that main campus faculty and staff may get raises even if community

campuses don't. Vice Chair Erickson noted that the administration is committed to making sure that college-track faculty also receive raises. (Appendix B)

5. Reports of Standing Committees

A. Faculty Affairs: Christopher Brown, Chair

Reporting for Chair Brown, Senator Rosencrans reported that the committee studied Proposition 05-08/09 Faculty Workload Bill. Lively discussion followed Sponsor Erickson's presentation including valuable input from Senator Winn. The committee felt that the bill dealt with the issues in a reasonable manner and recommended "Do Pass". The motion to accept his report was approved.

B. Long Range Planning: Kathleen Huttlinger, Chair

Chair Huttlinger reported that the committee studied Propositions 06-08/09 and 07-08/09, both proposed amendments to the Policy Manual. The committee made minor changes to #6 and recommended "Do Pass as Amended", and added language to #7 recommending "Do Pass as Amended". Chair Pfeiffer noted that these bills have not yet been approved by ADC. The motion to accept her report was approved.

C. Scholastic Affairs: William Storm, Chair

Chair Storm reported that no legislation was assigned to his committee and they did not meet.

D. University Affairs: Lynn, Kelly, Chair

Chair Kelly reported that the committee studied Proposition 03-08/09 Academic Room Scheduling and recommended "Do Pass as Amended". The motion to accept her report was approved.

6. Other Reports

A. Report on Progress of Approved Legislation

Chair Pfeiffer reviewed his report which was distributed earlier. (Appendix C)

B. Bookstore RFP Committee Final Report: Wanda Eastman, Former FS Chair

Chair Pfeiffer reviewed Dr. Eastman's report which was distributed earlier. (Appendix D)

7. New Business

There was no new business.

8. Unfinished Business

- A. Proposition 03-08/09 Amended: Memorial to Allow Academic Departments to Schedule Their Own Traditionally-controlled Rooms (Bronstein, A & S) was presented by Sponsor Bronstein. Dr. Cooper reviewed his comments on the concerns raised in the memorial (Appendix F); it appears that all have been satisfactorily addressed in the Ad Astra scheduling program. Registrar Zimmerman noted that this software is a tool which expedites academic room scheduling; it was used for the Spring 2009 schedule. The program recognizes the various requirements in each room request and assigns rooms accordingly; it also retains this historical information to be used in future scheduling. He assured Senator Kelly that she can continue to schedule certain Engineering courses in specific rooms, and stated that some departments will continue to schedule certain rooms which the program will not schedule; he also noted that there are still some problems to be worked out but feels that in time satisfactory solutions will be found. Senator Amato said he is now assured that Ad Astra appears to be a competent and reliable scheduling tool and, as the purpose of the memorial has now been satisfied, passage is no longer necessary. The motion to approve this memorial failed with 1 aye, 4 abstentions and the rest nays. (Appendix E)

- B. Proposition 05-08/09: A Proposal to Modify University Policy on Faculty Teaching (Erickson, Business). Sponsor Erickson briefly reviewed the history and development of this bill, noting that while it is not perfect it is a major improvement over the present policies which frequently are not applied. Among other provisions, the proposal requires that a department's faculty develop their own policy subject to review and approval by department heads and deans. Several senators spoke against the bill (individual difficulties in negotiating workload; questionable fairness in application) and others in favor; Sponsor Erickson pointed out that the bill contains an appeals process. The motion to approve passed with 2 nays, 2 abstentions. (Appendix G)

- C. Proposition 06-08/09 Amended: Proposal to Amend Section 5.98 of the NMSU Policy Manual (Brown, A & S; Rosencrans, CAHE) (Appendix H) **AND**
- D. Proposition 07-08/09 Amended: Proposal to Amend Section 5.45.20 of the NMSU Policy Manual (Brown, A & S; Rosencrans, CAHE) (Appendix I)

Chair Pfeiffer stated that as neither proposal has been approved by ADC (5B) he will move to recommit both bills to the LRP committee pending ADC's action. The motions, not subject to debate, passed unanimously.

9. Other Business

A. 2009-2010 Academic Calendar Draft

Chair Pfeiffer asked for comments on the 2009-2010 academic calendar draft distributed earlier on the FS listserv. He has determined that the spring break corresponds to the Las Cruces Public Schools' break, and has received a request to include minimesters. In response to Senator Amato's question Mr. Zimmerman said they would review tomorrow the request (Proposition 02-08/09) to move the graduation sign-up deadline forward. Senator Winn requested that the beginning of spring semester be arranged as fall semester, having faculty report Monday 1/11, Curriculum/instruction on Tuesday 1/12, Convocation on Wednesday 1/13 and instruction beginning Thursday 1/14, all in the same week. Senator Myriam Torres asked for a 2-day fall break allowing faculty time to "catch up"; Mr. Zimmerman responded that was tried about 10 years ago but it was removed after conflicts with teaching schedules and labs arose. Senator de

Boyrie added that increasing the students' Thanksgiving break to 5 days (full week) gave them a longer fall break. Chair Pfeiffer will send these comments to the administration's calendar committee tomorrow.

B. Steve Loring: NMSU Sustainability Efforts

The NMSU Sustainability & Climate Change Task Force, founded in April 2007, is in charge of developing NMSU's policies and procedures regarding climate neutrality such as energy usage, recycling and student involvement; he is encouraging faculty to integrate sustainability measures into the curriculum, and a supplemental minor has been started. UNM has a sustainability studies program and he asks if NMSU wants to do something comparable to UNM, either stand-alone or in cooperation with UNM. See their website at www.nmsu.edu/~energy/goals.

C. Call for Faculty Senate Representatives to NMSU Organizations

- a. NMSU Sustainability and Climate Change Task Force: Russ Winn volunteered.
- b. ASNMSU: no volunteers at this time.
- c. Corbett Center Student Union Board: no volunteers at this time.
- d. Bicycle Facilities Committee: need not be a senator; no volunteers at this time.

10. Announcements

FS Election Results: Vice Chair Erickson announced the results of the two FS elections in his report.

11. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Meek, Faculty Senate Recording Secretary

Election Tally:

- A. FS Constitutional amendment to allow college-track representation: 138 yes, 38 no.
- B. FSIPE Review Board: Gary Rayson, member: 93 votes.
Kathy Landers, alternate: 91 votes
- C. University Appeals Board: Dana Christman, regular member; 93 votes.
Gary Rayson, regular member: 91 votes
Pamela Schultz, alternate member: 89 votes.