Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

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UNM Faculty Senate

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The Faculty Senate meeting for August 28, 2007 was called to order at 3:05 p.m. in the Student Center, Anderson School of Management (ASM). Senate President Jackie Hood presided.

1. ATTENDANCE

Guests Present: Connie Beimer (Inauguration Committee), Assistant Dean Barbara Carver (Graduate Studies), Staff Council Liaison Loyola Chastain, Director Art Gonzales (Office of Equal Opportunity), Deputy Provost Richard Holder, Sari Krosinsky (UNM Today), Associate Dean Tracy Skipp (University College) and Interim Dean Amy Wohlert (Anderson School of Management).

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was approved as written.

3. APPROVAL OF SUMMARIZED MINUTES FOR APRIL 24, 2007 MEETING

The minutes for the April 24, 2007 meeting were approved as written.

4. MEMORIAL MINUTE FOR PROFESSOR TIMOTHY MOY

Associate Professor and Senator Kimberly Gauderman (History), presented the following memorial minute for Professor Timothy Moy. This was followed by a minute of silence in his honor.

MEMORIAL MINUTE

We have not had much time to reconcile ourselves to the sudden and tragic death of our friend and colleague, Timothy Moy. I know I speak for his colleagues in History when I say that we are still struggling with our shock, sadness, and disbelief over the loss of someone so important to us. As historians, we work with the dead, but this practice gives us no greater understanding or acceptance of death. Since Tim’s passing, there have been many opportunities for us to grieve anew; this time with you is another such moment. Our grief is so eternally fresh, and so ancient.

Tim was a professor of the history of science, a voice of reason in the debate of creationism vs. evolution in the public schools, an advocate of reducing nuclear stockpiles, a consummate bureaucrat in the best sense of the word, a revered teacher and advisor, a loving husband to his wife, Rebecca, and a devoted father to his son, Luke. Tim made vital contributions to the most important issues we face as individuals, parents, educators, and citizens. As one colleague has stated, “none of us can begin to fathom what life will be like without Tim Moy. We are reduced to a list of words: brilliant, generous, dedicated, modest, funny, careful, caring.” He loved the life of the mind and he was full of joy. He deftly managed conflict in our department with his characteristic thoughtfulness and calm – and by enforcing Roberts Rules of Order. Tim loved process. And discussion. As another UNM colleague put it, “he had a knack for thinking out loud, examining all dimensions of a situation, raising ‘serious’ issues and then giving each issue a proper weight.” He is one of the few people that I have known to have introduced a motion, and then, after provoking much spirited debate, to have voted against his own motion. For those around him, Tim noticed all the little things, and he was always willing to set aside his own concerns to help someone else.
with her own.

A UNM Presidential Teaching Fellow, Tim’s ability to teach and advise students was legendary. He served as the Graduate Coordinator for our department for five years. He embraced the tedious and necessary work that it takes for us to engage students individually, and to inspire them to explore possibilities and reach a higher level of critical thinking. As one student put it, he believed that “even the clumsiest among us were entitled to improvement and to redemption.” Students remember the jokes he told in class, and the way he laughed at his own jokes, noting in one case their grief at losing “the finest professor, at any level, in any subject, at any school.”

Tim was also a treasured member of so many communities beyond UNM. He was a member of the Advanced Concepts Group at Sandia National Laboratories, whose focus is on emerging national security threats. Every year he went tirelessly up to the New Mexico legislature to argue for the retention of evolution as the core for science education in our public school system. At UNM he was working with colleagues in the sciences to investigate public attitudes about evolution. As a parent, he served on the Montezuma Elementary School PTA and he taught children there how to play chess. At his memorial service, a parent at Montezuma related how dedicated Tim was to his son, advocating relentlessly for Luke and all the children at Montezuma. She recounted how, in the last six years, Tim had never once been late to pick up Luke from school; he was so involved with his son’s education that, for the first two years that she knew him, this parent thought Tim didn’t have another job except that of caring for his son.

Tim drowned in Hawaii on July 22, saving his son Luke from the treacherous currents of the Pacific. In his life, Tim demonstrated almost daily his belief that, in making difficult decisions, we need be true to ourselves and act with compassion for others. I know that Tim does not regret his last decision and that he would make that same, tragic, choice again if necessary. There is really nothing more honorable or more historically significant than Tim’s last act on that day in Hawaii. We weep for him now, but we will forever be blessed by the triumphant mark he made upon the world.

The minute was adopted by the Faculty Senate and will be presented to the family of the deceased.

5. POSTHUMOUS DEGREE FOR JANICE DAVIS
Associate Dean Tracy Skipp (University College) presented a request for a posthumous degree request for Janice Davis. Dean Peter White (University College) and Associate Dean Tracy Skipp recommend the approval of a posthumous degree for Ms. Davis. She was a nontraditional student who has been perusing her degree over the last ten years. When Ms. Davis passed, she was only 3.26 credit hours away from completing her degree in Bachelor of University Studies (BUS).

The posthumous degree was unanimously approved by the Faculty Senate.

6. FACULY SENATE PRESIDENT’S REPORT
The Faculty Senate President reported on the following:

- President Jackie Hood welcomed senators and guests to the ASM Student Center. The Faculty Senate will return to the Lobo Room of the Student Union Building (SUB) with the September 25, 2007 meeting.
- Shared governance is vital for an effective university. Senators need to communicate with their constituencies. The senate should attempt to have an impact now that there is a new University President and soon a new provost. President Hood has met with University President Schmidly two times over the summer. At both meetings, President Schmidly was open to any discussion. University President Schmidly will meet with the Operations Committee throughout the year.
- President Hood thanked 2006-2007 Faculty Senate President Virginia Shipman for her service last year.
President Hood introduced the Operations Committee: Associate Professor Joy Griffin (Physical Education), Professor Jeanne Logsdon (Organizational Studies), Professor Timothy Ross (Civil Engineering), President-Elect Professor Howard Snell (Biology), Assistant Professor Pamela Pyle (Music), and Past-President Professor Virginia Shipman (Individual, Family, and Community Education).

Committee restructuring began last year and will be a long process. The committee restructuring project will continue this year. There is still much work to be done on the committee charges and finalizing the entire committee structure. The concept of shared governance works well with a strong and functional committee structure. Most of the work of a faculty senate must occur in the committees. President Hood encourages senators or anyone with concerns to contact her or one of the Operations Committee members. President Hood also encourages senators to contact their peers to serve on committees. Those interested can contact President Hood or the Office of the University Secretary (OUS).

President Hood has asked the Teaching Enhancement Committee to look into the findings that were reported in the Princeton Review claiming that UNM faculty were inaccessible and least preferred among those universities that were surveyed.

CONSENT AGENDA

7. APPROVAL OF THE SUMMER 2007 DEGREE CANDIDATES
Approval of the Summer 2007 Degree Candidates passed by unanimous voice vote of the Faculty Senate with one abstention.

8. APPROVAL OF FORMS C FROM THE CURRICULA COMMITTEE
The following Forms C were approved by unanimous voice vote of the Faculty Senate with two abstentions:

- Revision of M.A. in Bilingual Education, Language, Literacy, and Sociocultural Studies

AGENDA TOPICS

9. INAUGURATION OF PRESIDENT SCHMIDLY UPDATE
Inauguration Committee member Connie Beimer presented an update on the planned inauguration of President David Schmidly. The web site for inauguration information is http://www.unm.edu/inauguration/

There will be announcements and more information in the UNM News Minute and Campus News. During the week of inauguration there will be six symposia. There will be symposia on main campus and on north campus.

There will be a reception on the University House lawn on Wednesday, October 3, 2007, from 3:00-5:00 p.m. There will be a reception for retirees on Thursday, October 4, 2007, 9:30-11:00 a.m. at the Science and Technology Park Rotunda. The North Campus reception will be Thursday, October 4, 2007, from 1:30-3:30 p.m. in the Health Science Center (HSC) Dominici Plaza.

On Saturday, October 6, 2007, there will be Explore UNM. Explore UNM is an open house for departments and schools. Saturday is also senior day for current high school seniors. It is Parent Weekend as well. At 12:00 p.m. there will be lunch for the UNM community at the Duck Pond on main campus.

The installation ceremony is Sunday, October 7, 2007 at 2:30 p.m. in Popejoy Hall (PJH). There will be a reception following at University House.

Please check the web site for the most current information.

No public funds are being used for the events involved with inauguration. Private funds from the Alumni Association, the UNM Foundation, and from corporate sponsors are being used for the events.
10. CIVIL RIGHTS/SEXUAL HARASSMENT TRAINING
Director of the Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO) Art Gonzales presented a proposed civil rights/sexual harassment training program as an information item.

Director Gonzales explained that the state legislature passed a law requiring that all state employees, including those in New Mexico higher education institutions, must take a civil rights/sexual harassment training course. The law went into effect on July 1, 2007. The OEO receives civil rights/sexual harassment complaints in various forms. There are still many situations around campus. Proactive training would help. There were 26 formal civil rights/sexual harassment complaints last year. There were more than 50 informal complaints and more than 75 inquiries last year.

Less than fifty faculty and staff attended the training that OEO offered last year. There are over 400 higher education institutions that use some type of training whether it is online or classroom. The training would be available for students, faculty, and staff. The online training would be less than an hour to complete. Director Gonzales would like new faculty and new staff to take the training.

The cost to the university would be $40,000.00 for three years. University Council, OEO, and Human Resources have reviewed and approved the program. President Schmidly supports the initiative. The program could result in lower risk management insurance premiums.

11. NEW BUSINESS
Senator Stephen Hersee (Electrical and Computer Engineering) stated that the research crisis at UNM should appear on a Faculty Senate meeting agenda as soon as possible.

12. ADJOURNMENT
The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Holmes
Office of the Secretary