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Staff Council Meeting, 3/19/2013

UNM Staff Council

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University of New Mexico
STAFF COUNCIL MEETING
March 19, 2013
SUB, Lobo A&B

Members Present: Elisha Allen, Emily Arzate, Pam Castaldi, Bob Christner, Mary Clark, Marjorie Crow, Janisha Garcia, Mike Gatchell, Danielle Gilliam, Lisa Gilmore, Veronica Griego, Carolyn Hartley, Gene Henley, Nathan Holscher, Traci Jastrzemski, Juan Larranaga, Karen Mann, Cindy Mason, Suzanne McConaghy, Linda McCormick, Marie McGhee, Kathy McKinstry, Ann Rickard, Frances Rico, Carla Sakiestewa, Kathy Turner, Gina Urias-Sandoval, Chelsea Beth Walker, Justin Walters, Daniel Weems, Tracy Wenzl and James Wernicke.

Members Excused: Kendall Alexander, Carol Bernhard, Natalie Bruner, Anne Burtnett, Michael Chavez-Kerr, Renee Delgado-Riley, Jean Griffin, Karen Kinsman, Ana Parra Lombard, Stella Ramos, Mark Reynolds, Joni Roberts, Candy Romero and Marie St Claire.

Members Absent: Danelle Callan, Kenneth Carpenter, James Clayton, LaNika Espinoza-DeVault, David Luna, Shannon McCoy-Hayes, Lee McGehee, Amie Ortiz, Andrea Rodgers, Susy Salvo-Wendt and Bridgette Wagner-Jones.

Parliamentarian: Adam Hathaway, Professional Registered Parliamentarian.

Call to Order: at 1:05 p.m. by Speaker Tracy Wenzl.

Agenda, approved.

Minutes of February 19, 2013 approved with changes.

Constituent Comments: None.

President's Report, President Mary Clark

The 2013 Legislative session ended on 3/16/13 and the ERB solvency discussions went down to the wire. Representative Mimi Stewart served as a champion to help scale back reductions to the pension plan. Clark suggested that the Councilors write to Representative Stewart to thank her for her work. UNM is entering the new budget cycle and President Frank has proposed several hundred thousand dollars of new initiatives. In addition, faculty is demanding a meaningful compensation increase. Clark stated that she addressed the issue of staff salary compaction to the three new Regents. The Retiree Health Care Task Force will present their recommendations to the Regent's Finance and Facility Committee on 4/5/13. Clark thanked UNM Press for donating 32 cases of children's books to the Read to Me Donation Drive that is sponsored by the Staff Council Student Success Committee.

Executive Committee Report, President Elect Gene Henley

Henley briefly reviewed the highlights of the 2013 Legislative session. Governor Martinez has until 4/5/13 to act upon legislation. During discussions in the Retiree Health Care Task Force, questions were raised about the Voluntary Employee Benefits Association (VEBA) and it will impact current employee and retirees. The Student Tuition and Fee team is working to balance the increasing needs of funding with students' ability to pay. Renovation to Johnson Center, which will bring it up to ADA compliance, has been the driving force behind the tuition and fee discussions. Recent events of violence racial incidents at

UNM have resulted in several efforts to bring awareness and action on campus.

Speaker's Report, Speaker Tracy Wenzl

The Staff Appreciation Month Steering Committee will meet on 3/22/13 and Wenzl suggested that Councilors who are interested in helping out should attend the meeting. Wenzl recommended the appointment of Joanne Kuestner to the vacant Precinct 1 seat. This was approved by the Council.

Guest Speaker

Josephine De Leon, Vice President for Equity and Inclusion spoke about the Hate/Bias Incident Reporting Process.

New Business: None.

Committee Reports:

Government Relations, Gene Henley

Henley reviewed the ERB solvency bill that was passed by the Legislature. The bill asks more of current employees but goes a long way to ensure pensions will be in place when current staff retires. Henley suggested that the Councilors contact the Governor's office to support the ERB bill. The 1% compensation increase is still in question and Henley suggested Councilor contact the Governor to endorse this part of the bill. Henley thanked the Staff Council Government Relations Committee, the UNM Government and Community Relations Office, the Faculty Government Relations Committee and the UNM Retiree Association for all of their work during the Legislative session.

KUNM Radio Board, Elmo Riggs

The average age of the KUNM listener audience is 55 and KUNM is looking at ways to broaden their listening base. The Board makes recommendations to the UNM Regents regarding programming changes and Riggs asked for suggestions from the Councilors. Because of the recent sequestration, KUNM will lose \$12,000 and this will be detrimental to the radio station. Riggs introduced Katherine Cordova, KUNM Development Coordinator, who spoke about the upcoming pledge drive scheduled for 4/6/13 – 4/12/13 and the KUNM Auction, which will be held in May.

Councilor Comments:

Carolyn Hartley, Mary Clark, Joanne Kuestner, Gene Henley and Bob Christner made comments about ERB and retirement issues.

James Wernicke and Elisha Allen made comments about how the number of staff members at UNM is defined.

Meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Kathy Meadows, Administrative Officer, Staff Council Office.

The meeting, in its entirety, can be viewed by going to <http://staffcouncil.unm.edu>.