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Faculty Senate Summarized Minutes, 10/27/2009

UNM Faculty Senate

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FACULTY SENATE SUMMARIZED MINUTES

2009-2010 Faculty Senate
October 27, 2009

The Faculty Senate meeting for October 27 was called to order at 3:05 p.m. in the Domenici Auditorium Building. Senate President Douglas Fields presided.

1. ATTENDANCE

Guests Present: Committee on Governance Member Elenia Bastea (Architecture and Planning), Associate Dean Philip Ganderton (Arts and Sciences), Merle Kennedy (Staff Council), Committee on Governance Member Tim Lowrey (Biology), and Committee on Governance Chair Ursula Shepherd (University Honors).

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was approved as written.

3. APPROVAL OF SUMMARIZED MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 22, 2009 MEETING

The minutes were approved with as written.

4. FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Faculty Senate President Douglas Fields reported the following:

- President Fields reviewed the visit by Board of Regents President Raymond Sanchez at the August meeting. It is important for the regents and the administration to understand that they have the authority, but should defer to the faculty. The faculty have a lot of knowledge on the working of the university.
- A revision of the Faculty Governance news letter will be sent out. The September 30 date for the General Faculty meeting is incorrect. The announcement was premature as the Committee on Governance has not confirmed the date.
- There is nothing new regarding the retirement incentive. A study by Associate Chair Richard Coughlin (Sociology) will be posted on the Governance web site.
- There is now a directory of working documents on the Faculty Governance web site.
- Faculty Senators are encouraged to serve on Faculty Senate committees. Committee service is open to all faculty but it would be very beneficial if senators served on committees. There are some rather substantial holes on some committees.
- Associate Past President Pamela Pyle (Music) presented two television commercials from Route 66 Casino featuring the UNM Lobos mascot Lobo Louie and the Route 66 pinup model. The commercials have many UNM branded clothes, mugs, pennants, etc. There have been complaints from faculty. The message of sex is very clear. A faculty member heard of the commercials on an ESPN program. The commercials are also being shown locally during prime-time on many channels.

The commercials depict UNM in a negative light and are offensive to scholarly work. Deputy Provost Richard Holder summarized a conversation he had with Vice President for Athletics Paul

Krebs. The commercials are the property of Route 66 Casino. The commercials cost \$100,000 each to produce. Vice President Krebs took personal responsibility for not reviewing the final versions and is going to ask that the commercials be re-edited.

The Faculty Senate unanimously passed the following resolution:

The Faculty Senate of the University of New Mexico finds offensive the currently-running Route 66 Casino ads utilizing UNM logos and symbols. These ads in no way reflect our mission as an institution of higher learning and they devalue our focus as a Research I institution. We object to this presentation of UNM, as it fails to represent any of the University's core research and teaching mission.

We hereby request that these ads be removed.

- There is a grass-roots movement to get the neighborhood associations around UNM to have a vote on the Campus Development Advisory Committee. The Graduate and Professional Students Association (GPSA) has passed a resolution in support. The Faculty Senate Operations Committee does not feel that this is a path the senate should follow. The Operations Committee and the senate have control of what comes out of CDAC since it is a Faculty Senate Committee. President Fields asked faculty to read the information about the CDAC in the news letter.
- President Fields met with the Board of Regents Audit Committee. There were mixed feelings among the faculty that attended the meeting regarding the outcomes. There were compromises on a couple of issues. The audit will cover fiscal year 2005 and not fiscal year 2003 due to the conversion to Banner. It would cost considerably more since in the audit firm Moss Adams only has experience with Banner and would have to recreate the old system. A change from the state auditor is that Finance and Administration (F&A) is excluded because of the recent F&A audit. The important Instruction and General (I&G) portion is still there. President Fields requested all access to any conversations regarding the audit. He believes the committee has agreed to that. President Fields reserves the right to resign if he does not feel the audit is proceeding properly.

5. SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE SESSION IN OCTOBER

Government and Community Relations Director Marc Saavedra reported the following:

- There is information on the Government and Community Relations website regarding the special session in October and the regular session in January.
- A specific percentage amount of possible cuts has not been given. The cut is currently proposed to be between zero and five percent.
- Senate Pro Tem Timothy Jennings sent a letter to President Schmidly, the directors of the branch campuses, and cabinet secretaries in July. The letter says to prepare for a special session and a first glance at revenue estimates. The revenue was not picking back up. Gross receipts tax, personal income tax (PIT), and gas and oil revenues are continuing to dip or stay flat. There would be a resulting shortfall in the current fiscal year, FY10.
- The Council of University Presidents is comprised of the seven presidents of the state's four-year institutions. The Council has been discussing solvency and the need for flexibility to deal with cuts. It is possible that there would be a three percent cut to higher education. Public schools should also be considered for cuts. The more state entities that are cut results in a lesser amount for each. The Council is also asking for a zero tuition credit. The current funding formula does not take into consideration research. A result is that UNM is not allocated any funds for research.

- There has been talk of furloughs and layoffs and is a last resort. Revenue estimates will come out October 15. Governor Richardson is currently proposing zero cuts to higher education.
- Fiscal Year 2011 will have revenue difficulty as well.

6. INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES

Vice President Steven Beffort of Institutional Support Services (ISS) presented the following slideshow regarding the Institutional Support Services Department:



- ISS was charged with completing the Master Plan in December 2008 and was prepared to deliver it. Based upon faculty and staff concerns about not having a chance to review the plan, the BOR delayed taking action. There have been about 30 additional meetings with faculty, staff, students, community members, and neighborhood associations since December 2008.
- UNM is negotiating with American Campus Communities (ACC) to lease land to build dormitories. ACC is putting up the capital to build. At the end of the contract period (74 years) the buildings will revert back to UNM. UNM will receive land-lease revenues. This will allow UNM to have additional beds on campus without having to come up with the money to build. The negotiated settlement may preclude UNM from building dorms itself.

The Faculty Senate unanimously voted to extend the meeting past 5:00 p.m.

7. CARS PRESENTATION

Director Steven Rugala from Counseling, Assistance, and Referral Services (CARS) presented the following slideshow. CARS is a free and confidential service available to faculty and staff. Records fall under the HIPPA regulations. Director Rugala reports directly to Deputy Provost Richard Holder and not to Human Resources (HR).

8. FACULTY TRENDS

Past President Howard Snell presented the following slide show about faculty workload trends at the University of New Mexico. He will present this to the BOR. Please send comments to Dr. Snell or to the Faculty Senate email senate@unm.edu.

9. CDAC RESOLUTION

The Faculty Senate unanimously voted to table the CDAC resolution.

10. NEW BUSINESS AND OPEN DISCUSSION

Two new items were presented:

President Elect Richard Wood presented a resolution in support of President Douglas Fields regarding the audit. The following resolution was unanimously passed by the faculty senate.

Whereas, the faculty of the University of New Mexico at our General Faculty Meeting of February 2009 requested an audit of university expenditures in recent fiscal years; and

Whereas, Faculty Senate President Doug Fields has worked to advance that audit in dialogue with the UNM President and Board of Regents;

Therefore, the UNM Faculty Senate hereby endorses the approach adopted by Faculty Senate President Doug Fields in moving ahead with said audit on the revised terms agreed upon at the September 19, 2009 meeting of the Audit Subcommittee of the UNM Board of Regents. We further authorize the Faculty Senate President to withdraw faculty support from that audit process if in his judgment it is not pursued in a reliable and transparent way.

Senator Andrew Burgess presented the following resolution. After brief discussion the resolution was passed.

Whereas the UNM faculty need additional time to evaluate and recommend changes to the Master Plan;

Whereas the decisions about the UNM Master Plan may profoundly affect the UNM faculty, staff, and students;

Therefore, we the members of the UNM Faculty Senate ask that a decision on the UNM Master Plan not be voted on at the Regents' 9/29 meeting, but that a new comment period be extended through December 2009.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Holmes
Office of the Secretary