Faculty Senate Summarized Minutes, 9/26/2006

UNM Faculty Senate

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The Faculty Senate meeting for September 26, 2006 was called to order at 3:10 p.m. in the Lobo Room, Student Union, Room 3037. Senate President Virginia Shipman presided.

1. ATTENDANCE

Guests Present: Senior Advisor to the President Breda Bova, Deputy Provost Richard Holder, and Staff Council Liaison Vanessa Shields.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was approved as written.

3. APPROVAL OF SUMMARIZED MINUTES FOR AUGUST 29, 2006 MEETING

The minutes for the August 29, 2006 meeting were approved as written.

4. POSTHUMOUS DEGREE FOR CYNTHIA YOUNG

Gloria Napper-Owen read the following posthumous degree request for Cynthia Young:

Dr. Gloria Napper-Owen, associate professor in the department of Physical Performance and Development, submitted a memo to the Department faculty on August 15, 2006 requesting that Cynthia Young, PhD student in the Curriculum and Instruction concentration area be awarded a Ph.D. in HPER posthumously. Cynthia passed away in May 2005 as a result of a brain aneurysm. She had one semester of coursework left at the time of her passing. In addition to being an outstanding doctoral student, she was a full-time faculty member at Adams State College and regularly drove to Albuquerque to take evening classes. She was highly respected by faculty and graduate students in her program at UNM. Among her accomplishments, she was awarded the Educator of the Year Award by the Colorado Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance in 2003. The original memo is attached for your perusal that includes more of Cindy's background and accomplishments.

The faculty of the Department of Physical Performance and Development approved the request for awarding this posthumous degree at its August 17, 2006 faculty meeting. On behalf of the faculty, I am forwarding this memo to the Faculty Senate for consideration.

The posthumous degree was unanimously approved by the Faculty Senate and will be presented to the family of the deceased.

5. FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Faculty Senate President reported on the following:
The characteristics for the next UNM President that the Faculty Senate voted to affirm during the September Faculty Senate meeting have been forwarded to each of the Regents.

President Shipman thanked the faculty for their participation in the Committee on Governance general faculty meeting. Over 130 faculty attended the meeting. Two resolutions were drafted, discussed, and passed. The resolutions were sent to the Regents, the Executive Cabinet, and to all of the faculty.

The search committee for the university president has been named. Nine of the twenty-one members are faculty.

The Faculty Senate will be reviewing the Constitution, the Faculty Senate Bylaws, and general procedures.

A comment was made at the last Board of Regents (BOR) meeting that there is not much faculty participation. The Regents encourage faculty to come with questions and issues and participate in the BOR committee meetings.

CONSENT AGENDA

5. APPROVAL OF THE SUMMER 2006 DEGREE CANDIDATES
Approval of the Summer 2006 Degree Candidates passed by unanimous voice vote of the Faculty Senate.

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

- New Concentration in PhD. of Communication and Journalism, Communication and Journalism
- Revision of PhD. in English, English

AGENDA TOPICS

8. ALIGNMENT OF UNM SPRING BREAK WITH APS SPRING BREAK
Associate Professor Melissa Binder (Economics) from the Work-Life Committee presented information regarding aligning UNM and Albuquerque Public Schools (APS) Spring Break schedules. APS is now considering the proposal and the committee would like to have a joint resolution passed by the Faculty Senate and the Staff Council to show support for the initiative. Historically, APS has tied their spring break to the Easter holiday. APS’ schedule is now going to be governed by the No Child Left Behind regulations and therefore may need to adjust their break. UNM’s spring break has occurred in the middle of the sixteen week semester and divided the two eight week sessions. The first academic calendar that would be affected is 2008-2009. New Mexico State University, Western New Mexico University, and New Mexico Tech presently align their breaks with the local public school or consolidated school districts. This is a family-friendly measure that affects faculty, staff, and students. The Work-Life Committee wishes to return in October for a vote on a resolution supporting the initiative. APS will be setting their calendar at a November meeting. The Registrar is working with the committee on the proposal, and the Faculty Senate will have final approval of the academic calendar.

9. COMMITTEE RESTRUCTURING
President Shipman asked senators to divide into groups by sitting at the table with the heading that most interested them. Each group was given a faculty responsibility as listed in the Constitution. Current Faculty Senate committees that fall under those headings were assigned to the groups. The Senators were instructed to develop ideas to reduce the number of committees that are within the category by consolidating, eliminating, or turning it over to an administrative unit. Proposals are going to be presented at the October Faculty Senate Meeting. The faculty responsibilities and the current Faculty Senate Committees are:
10. NEW BUSINESS

No new business was raised.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Rick Holmes
Office of the Secretary