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Faculty Senate Summarized Minutes, 1/22/2008

UNM Faculty Senate

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FACULTY SENATE SUMMARIZED MINUTES

**2007-2008 Faculty Senate
January 22, 2008**

The Faculty Senate meeting for January 22, 2008 was called to order at 3:10 p.m. in the Lobo Room, Student Union Building (SUB). Senate President Jackie Hood presided.

1. ATTENDANCE

Guests Present: Chief of Staff Breda Bova (Office of the President), Assistant Dean Barbara Carver (Graduate Studies), Staff Council Liaison Loyola Chastain, Interim Provost Viola Florez, Deputy Provost Richard Holder, Chairperson Rebecca Blum-Martinez (Language, Literacy, and Sociocultural Studies), Faculty Affairs and Services Director Raqui Martinez (Office of the Provost), and Sari Krosinsky (UNM Today).

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was approved as written.

3. APPROVAL OF SUMMARIZED MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 27, 2007 MEETING

The minutes for the November 27, 2007 meeting were approved as written with one abstention.

4. FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Faculty Senate President reported on the following:

- President Jackie Hood welcomed faculty back from winter break.
- The accreditation site visit is in 2009. UNM received a 10-year renewal at the last accreditation visit. Not much has been completed in the Learning Outcomes Assessment portion. Wynn Goering, Nancy Middlebrook, and Tom Root are working on the accreditation materials for the visit. President Hood asks senators to assist devising an assessment process. President Schmidly announced at the Executive Cabinet meeting that assessment is a major focus of accreditation.
- President Jackie Hood asked the administration for an explanation of the increase in Vice Presidents at UNM. Vice President for Human Resources Helen Gonzales was not able to immediately respond as she is working on the new benefits package.
- Chief of Staff Breda Bova (Office of the President) reported the following:
 - President Schmidly has the questions that the Operations Committee submitted. President Schmidly asks the senate to appoint two people to work with Associate Vice President for Budget, Planning, and Analysis Andrew Cullen for the answers to the submitted questions and then report those answers to the Operations Committee and the Faculty Senate. President Schmidly is committed to providing all the information that is asked for.
 - President Schmidly will attend the March 4, 2008 Faculty Senate Operations Committee meeting.
 - Chief of Staff Bova asks that she be emailed for answers to any other questions.

5. PROVOST'S REPORT

The Provost reported on the following:

- Interim Provost Florez and Executive Vice President for Business and Finance David Harris met with the Operations Committee.
- The university retained a good number of students from the Fall 2007 to Spring 2008 semesters. Interim Provost Florez is awaiting the final numbers.
- Accreditation by the Higher Learning Commission for the entire university is very critical. The accreditation includes the Health Sciences Center (HSC).
- There will be a national search for the Vice President of Research. The position posting is currently a rough draft. Provost Florez is working with Jackie Hood to include senators for the search. The position should be filled by the end of the Spring 2008 semester in order to have the person in place for the summer.
- The college performance reviews are underway. Each college made a presentation to the Executive Cabinet and the Provost's Cabinet. The presentations were overviews of the colleges' strengths, weaknesses, budget, etc. President Schmidly wants the reviews to be held every year and the reviews will become more focused, especially on the colleges' mission and needs.
- The legislative lobbying effort is progressing with the clustering of proposals in areas such as student success, research, environments, etc.

CONSENT AGENDA

6. APPROVAL OF FORMS C FROM THE CURRICULA COMMITTEE

The following Forms C were approved by unanimous voice vote of the Faculty Senate:

- Revision of Department in B.S. ECE Program, School of Engineering
- New Department in B.S. ECE Program, School of Engineering
- Revision of Concentration in Conservation Biology, College of Arts and Sciences
- Revision of M.A. in TESOL, College of Education
- Revision of B.A. in Journalism, College of Arts and Sciences
- Revision of Concentration in Latin American Studies, College of Arts and Sciences

AGENDA TOPICS

7. DISCUSSION ON THE STATE OF FACULTY GOVERNANCE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO

Faculty Senate President Jackie Hood divided senators into groups by table. She asked each group to complete two tasks. The first was to devise other questions to ask of President Schmidly and Andrew Cullen. The second was to list what else the faculty and/or the senate could do to ensure faculty governance. The responses from the groups are listed below.

1. Questions and comments for President Schmidly and AVP Cullen:

Mechanism where faculty have input for benefits package (especially Health Care).

Is there a plan to increase faculty salaries to line with peer institutions?

What is the connection between resource allocation and the stated mission of UNM? For example: When a new Vice President position is created, is there an assessment of how that will improve progress towards goals derived from the mission?

Banner Software Issues:

Will we evaluate Banner and improve accordingly? If so, when?
How long are we committed to the Banner System?

Is there a secondary process for unresolved problems?
Is the problem systemic or staff issues (training, consistency, etc.)?
What was the acquisition process for Banner?
What does a system like this cost?

2. What else the faculty and/or the senate could do to ensure faculty governance:

There should be a process for creating Vice Presidents (rationales) like a process faculty has to go through to obtain faculty lines. Salary increases for administrators should be linked to faculty salary increases.

Have a Faculty Regent.

How can we build safety and trust between faculty, regents, administration?

Have more combined faculty and regent committees.

How much do Regents know about Faculty Governance?

Meeting of Faculty Senate Operations Committee and Regents: present concerns of faculty (for example, in various Regent Task Force Committees)

How does the faculty gain access to institutional research data at UNM?

When the Regents and upper administration make decisions regarding UNM, what percentage weight is given to faculty input? 60/40? 50/50? How does this vary for different issues?

Suggest a resolution requesting faculty senate representation on the UNM executive cabinet.

Is there some systematic long-term process for tracking recommendations from FS to Regents (and Regents' action on these)?

Would keeping the Faculty Senate President for more than one year provide continuity?

Is there a way to increase Regent appearances and reports to the Faculty Senate (or vice versa)?

Can we be more informed about the Board of Regents':

- Formation
- Operation
- Key functions
- Members and their backgrounds

At what points and on what issues do the Regents and Faculty Senate missions overlap? (Assuming Regents deal with far broader issues than the Faculty Senate).

Explain faculty governance to the Regents and get consensus on the duties and responsibilities of the various groups. (President Jackie Hood could give her PowerPoint presentation to them).

Series of town halls by the President with groups of faculty (e.g., one with the HSC; one with the professional schools; several with Arts and Sciences faculty, etc.)

Joint Regents-Faculty Senate meeting held annually.

President invited to present a "state of UNM" or "what we need to be working on together" report each semester at a Faculty Senate meeting.

Webcast the Regents meetings.

"Ask the administration" link be placed on the President's web site in which individuals could post questions and the right person in administration would post the answer (great opportunity to provide real transparency).

8. REPORT FROM THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Library Committee Chair Bob Berrrens (Economics) provided a brief summary of the committee. The Library Committee meets three times each semester. There currently are vacancies on the committee, but there is a core group of dedicated faculty. There are three graduate students on the committee this year. The success of the Library Committee is greatly aided by the participation of the library administration. The committee works closely with the Deans and Associate and Assistant Deans of University Libraries and their counterparts at the HSC Library and Informatics Center.

The mission of the Faculty Senate Library Committee is to address issues and make recommendations related to University Library policies, budgets, and other issues and to facilitate communication among the libraries and between libraries and faculties.

The committee was involved in addressing the damage and repair of the fire at Zimmerman Library and then the recent flooding. The committee participated in their own focus groups and user focus groups on how to provide services more efficiently. The committee has forwarded University Library budget recommendations to the Faculty Senate for the annual budget summits. The committee has had discussions on digital archive preservations and the DSPACE initiatives. In response to student raised issues, they have discussed the demand and feasibility of pilot programs that may keep select areas of the library potentially open for 24 hours during specific times of year. They hosted a series of open faculty forums for the University Library Dean candidates. The committee regularly discusses space issues and planning.

The University Libraries are critical to all aspects of the core mission of the university. The Faculty Senate passed a Library Committee sponsored resolution in 2005. The resolution states that two percent of all main campus Facilities and Administration (F and A) funds be allocated annually to the University Libraries for support of research at UNM. There needs to be sustained revenue streams for research and to prevent serial and journal cuts. In 2006-2007 New Mexico State University allocated \$717,000 from their F and A for their university libraries, whereas UNM has allocated only \$25,500 per year for the last 20+ years. Other universities typically allocate between one and seven percent. The UNM University Libraries' collections (books, serials, etc.) were funded at more than \$5.8 million per year for expenditures. Peer universities spend more than \$9.2 million per year. Dean Martha Bedard (University Libraries) has briefed the Executive Cabinet on the funding issues and President Schmidly has asked for a history of the funding.

9. NEW BUSINESS

No new business was raised

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Holmes
Office of the Secretary