Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes, 11/22/2011

UNM Faculty Senate

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The Faculty Senate meeting for November 22 was called to order at 3:03 p.m. in the Roberts Room of Scholes Hall. Faculty Senate President Tim Ross presided.

1. ATTENDANCE

Guests Present: Provost Chaouki Abdallah, Assistant Professor Rebecca Lubas (University Libraries), Charlie Shipley (Daily Lobo), Deputy Director Timothy Thomas (Center for High Performance Computing), and Associate Director John Vande Castle (CREATE).

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was approved as written.

3. APPROVAL OF SUMMARIZED MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 25, 2011 MEETING

The minutes were approved as written.

4. FOOTBALL COACH HIRING

Faculty Senate President Elect Amy Neel (Speech and Hearing Sciences) reported on the status of the football coach hiring.

- The letter drafted by the Operations Committee to Athletic Director (AD) Paul Krebs regarding the football coach hiring was not delivered. The Operations Committee sent the letter to the Committee on Governance and the Athletic Council for comment. The Committee on Governance had no changes for the letter. The Athletic Council rewrote the entire letter and did not return it to President Elect Neel until after the hiring.

- President Elect Neel served on the selection committee. She flew with Board of Regents President Jack Fortner, AD Paul Krebs, Executive Vice President for Business and Finance David Harris, and a few others to the interviews of the candidates. The hiring of Coach Bob Davie was a deal. Coach Davie was the only candidate that did not have an agent. According to a 2010 USA Today report, the average salary for a Division 1 Football Coach is $1.5 million, on the low end Kent State at $190,000 and the high-end with Alabama at $6 million. The average salary of a Mountain West Conference Football Coach is $877,000. There were other candidates that would have cost UNM more and come with more baggage. Coach Davie will get a six-year contract. The first year he will earn $600,000 plus incentives and then the second and subsequent years $750,000 plus incentives.

- President Elect Neel was able to address everything in the letter with Board of Regents President Fortner, AD Krebs, UNM senior ADs, and each of the candidates; she explained why the letter was drafted. The candidates were concerned with a new president coming to UNM in 2012. The candidates were very aware of the high-dollar coach opposition coming from the faculty and the community. Coach Davie favors a grade performance; he would check-in weekly with the ADs.

- President Elect Neel would like to see implementation of the Athletics advising model on main campus. Athletics advising has tutors, advisors, therapists and a resident psychologist. Athletics has a $30 million budget with $1.5-$2.0 million coming from Instruction and General (I&G) funds. They get a budget line-item from the state and $1.8 million in student fees. Other sources of revenue include the Pepsi contract, the Mountain West Conference television contract, and the
Lobo Club. This year, Athletics ended $7,500 in the black mainly due to its share ($600,000) of TCU winning the Rose Bowl. There will be nothing like that bonus this year.

- President Tim Ross added that perhaps UNM should not compete in Division 1 football. Senator Jeffrey Nuremberg (Pharmacy) replied that it is vital to the student community and UNM should try to bring to football what men’s soccer did.

5. FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT’S REPORT
Faculty Senate President Tim Ross reported the following:

- The Faculty Senate restructure proposal has been reviewed by the AF&T Committee, the Committee on Governance and the Operations Committee. Revisions were incorporated and sent to the Faculty Senate Committee chairs for committee review with a response requested by December. President Ross intends to send it to the Faculty Senate with a vote in January or February 2012.
- The Faculty Disciplinary Policy has been through Deans’ Council and will be presented to the BOR Academic Student Affairs and Research Committee on December 7, 2011.
- The Faculty Workload Policy is currently with the FS Policy Committee. Chair Richard Holder is reviewing the drafts. The Provost’s Office is waiting on a Banner System implementation for the tracking of faculty workload. The Operations Committee will move forward on the policy revision.
- The Endowed Chair Policy is with the FS Policy Committee. It will be sent to the deans after the Policy Committee.
- The Honors College proposal is making progress. It will soon be sent to various FS Committees, Undergraduate, Curricula, etc. President Ross hopes the Faculty Senate will be able to consider the proposal during the Spring 2012 semester. A major obstacle is implementation, i.e., a Form D would require state approval after UNM.

6. LECTURER PROPOSAL UPDATE
The Lecturer Proposal should be going out for a faculty vote soon. The Main Campus Deans have reviewed it. North Campus Deans will review next as will the HSC Council.

7. RECOGNITION OF DR. URSULA SHEPHERD – U.S. PROFESSOR OF THE YEAR
Provost Chaouki Abdallah accompanied Associate Professor Ursula Shepherd to an awards reception at the White House. She was awarded U.S. Professor of the Year by President Barak Obama. The Faculty Senate formally acknowledged the distinction she brought to herself and to UNM with a round of applause.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- New Concentration of Information Assurance in Master of Accounting, Anderson School of Management
- Deletion of Bachelor of Arts in Russian Studies, College of Arts and Sciences
- Deletion of Bachelor of Arts in Economics Philosophy, College of Arts and Sciences
9. FALL 2011 DEGREE CANDIDATES
The Fall 2011 Degree Candidates were approved by unanimous voice vote of the Faculty Senate.

10. 2011-2012 FACULTY SENATE COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS
Additions to the 2011-2012 Faculty Senate Committees were approved by unanimous voice vote of the Faculty Senate.

AGENDA TOPICS

11. COMPUTER USE COMMITTEE NAME AND CHARGE REVISION
Computer Use Committee Chair Rebecca Lubas presented the following charge and name revision for the committee. The revision incorporates the suggestion of the Operations Committee to include ‘Information’ in the title. The spirit of the charge is to indicate that the committee will work with any Information Technology group on campus. It is intended to include communication (i.e., VOIP) technology.

The revision was unanimously approved by the Faculty Senate.

A61.6
Policy

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY USE COMMITTEE

The Information Technology Use Committee, in cooperation with UNM IT and other core technology providers, is advisory to the office of the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs on all matters relating to technology access. Through communication with the academic and administrative units, it represents the needs and concerns, particularly of the academic community, for computing resources and information technology needs. Its purview includes, but is not limited to, articulation of needs, advocacy of innovative and effective instructional technologies, active participation in planning, advice on IT budgets, recommendation for priorities and liaison with academic as well as administrative computer users. The Committee reports to the Faculty Senate through regular procedures and submits a yearly report to the Senate.

(Fifteen members of the faculty appointed by the Faculty Senate, including one member from the University Libraries; one member of the Research Policy Committee selected by the committee; two undergraduate and two graduate students appointed by the Associated Students of UNM (ASUNM) and the Graduate and Professional Student Association (GPSA) respectively. Ex-officio members shall include the Vice Provost for Research, the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs, and the Chief Information Officer. The chairperson is elected by the Committee).

12. PROVOST’S REPORT
Interim Provost Chaouki Abdallah reported the following:

- The Provost has formed a Diversity Council of faculty, staff, students, and community members to look at what UNM has done and what other universities are doing. The goal is to have an actionable plan ready for the new president to consider. For the most part there has been positive energy, but there are some skeptics.

- As part of the formulation of the Academic Strategic Plan, the Provost is inviting three people from academia to hold open lectures. The first to visit is Don Randel, President of the Melon Foundation.
- The Board of Regents Academic Student Affairs and Research Committee is taking a more active role under committee chair Regent Bradley Hosmer. The committee is formulating a work-plan for the year. The committee will begin driving discussions of the other BOR committees as well as the full BOR. In addition, the Provost has been invited to sit on the BOR Finance and Facilities Committee as a full voting member.

- Provost Abdallah recently visited the UNM Taos Campus. Access to faculty there is amazing. He explained that there are promotion and tenure differences at the branch campuses. The community needs to know the mission of the university and the mission of the branches.

- The Faculty Contracts Office (FCO) is stabilizing. The director is on medical leave. The Provost’s Office is managing the day-to-day operations. They are in the process of automating some of the functions of the FCO. Provost Abdallah asks that faculty please contact Associate Provost Jane Slaughter with issues.

- The deadline for an Honors College is this year (2011-2012). The president wants a report in early 2012. The Provost’s Office is meeting with the various groups within University College and University Honors Program. University College houses several multi-disciplinary programs. There has not yet been one recommendation to the Provost. They are discussing many options and scenarios. The various costs are being investigated.

- The Department of Justice, through the Office of Equal Opportunity, has requested 12 departments to submit vitae for their faculty. They are conducting an analysis of faculty salaries.

13. FACULTY STAFF BENEFITS COMMITTEE UPDATE AND ERB RESOLUTION
Faculty Staff Benefits Committee member John Vande Castle provided a summary of recent committee activities and a resolution for Faculty Senate consideration.

- The committee closely looked at each of the four scenarios presented by the Education Retirement Board to address fund solvency. The committee agreed that it did not want a minimum retirement age of 62. They did not want the minimum age to go beyond 60 and actually preferred 55. The average age of a retiree is 55.

- The ERB will make a recommendation to the state legislature. The ERB used $300,000 for a consultant. Everyone is asking for an analysis. The one that has the most information and the best analysis will have a louder voice.

- When a person does not retire from ERB, the ERB keeps the contributions.

- Dr. Vande Castle presented the following resolution passed by the FSB Committee. Senator Howard Snell (Biology) moved that the senate accept and endorse the resolution. The motion was seconded by Senator Pat Risso (History). The motion was unanimously passed to endorse the resolution.

  Educational Retirement Board Scenario Resolution

The Faculty & Staff Benefits Committee (FSBC) reviewed and analyzed the six possible plan design change scenarios being considered by the NM Educational Retirement Board (NMERB) as possible recommendations for the 2012 NM Legislative Session.

The FSBC found Scenario #6 completely unacceptable and Scenario #3 unacceptable. The committee was of mixed opinion on the other four scenarios. Therefore, the FSBC recommends to the Faculty Senate and the Staff Council that scenario #1, 2, 4 or 5 be proposed to the legislature to ensure ERB solvency.
The FSBC vote on this recommendation was unanimous.

All staff & faculty are encouraged to pass their opinions on to the NMERB and most importantly to their legislators.

14. RESOLUTION ON UBPPM POLICY 2680 PAYROLL OVERPAYMENTS AND COLLECTION
The Operations Committee presented the following concern discovered by Senator Howard Snell regarding University Business Policy and Procedures Policy 2680 Payroll Overpayments and Collection. The policy addresses overpayments and how the employee notifies the University.

As presented on the UNM web page (http://www.unm.edu/~ubppm/d2680.htm) this policy seems oddly lopsided. It makes detailed provisions for identifying and recouping overpayments made to UNM employees of all types. However, there is no provision for identifying and correcting underpayments made to UNM employees of any type. Unless underpayments are treated in other policy this lopsided tone suggests to me that UNM is only concerned with errors that favor employees and sees no need to correct or identify errors that might harm employees. Assuming that we wish to maintain a fair and equitable workplace, I suggest that the policy be rewritten in a completely balanced manner giving equal treatment to all types of errors in payment - both those that favor and those that harm employees. I realize that the State Statue quoted in the draft policy may not recognize errors of under payment, but hopefully UNM is more enlightened.

Senator Howard Snell made a motion that the Operations Committee review, improve, and send the notice of concerns to the UNM Policy Office. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

15. (Un)OCCUPY ALBUQUERQUE RESOLUTION
President Tim Ross present the following resolution from the Operations Committee on the (Un)Occupy Albuquerque movement. Senator Gutan Vora (Anderson School of Management) moved to accept the resolution; it was seconded by Senator Sever Bordeianu (University Libraries). Senator Vora proposed an amendment to eliminate the first six paragraphs. The amendment was defeated with two in favor and one opposed.

Senator Howard Snell moved to call the question; it was seconded by Operations Committee member Pamela Pyle (Music). The resolution was unanimously approved with one abstention.

Proposed Faculty Senate Resolution on Right
to
Free Speech and Assembly
on
UNM Campus

Whereas the Occupy Wall Street movement is a non-violent movement against vast and increasing economic inequality, with its resulting threat to political democracy, that began in the United States on September 17, 2011 with an encampment in the financial district of New York City; and

Whereas (un)Occupy Albuquerque began its non-violent, peaceful assembly of students and community members at the University of New Mexico campus in solidarity with the Occupy Wall Street and We Are The 99% movement on October 1, 2011; and

Whereas, (Un)Occupy Albuquerque has complied with UNM requests to reapply for appropriate permits; and

Whereas, the protesters have complied with restrictions imposed by UNM concerning the permissible hours for protest activities at Yale Park; and
Whereas, universities have historically been vibrant public spaces for political debate, civil protest, and intellectual discourse; and

Whereas, (Un)Occupy Albuquerque consists in part of individuals from the UNM student body; and

Whereas, for democratic life to thrive and for society to flourish, political and intellectual dialogue must be forever protected and cultivated;

Now therefore be it resolved that the UNM Faculty Senate affirms the right of (Un)Occupy Albuquerque to peaceful assembly and protest, and supports the continuation of its activities on university grounds, to be limited to the minimum extent necessary for reasonable provision for the safety and security of protest participants and members of the University and wider communities; and

Let it be further resolved that the UNM Faculty Senate calls upon the University administrative leadership and Board of Regents to take all steps necessary to assure that the University permanently retains a campus climate conducive to vigorous intellectual and political dialogue and non-violent protest.

16. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE
Governmental and Community Relations Director Marc Saavedra presented the following legislative update:

- The upcoming session will be 30-days because it is an even year. Odd years have 60-day sessions.

- Discussions on the new Higher Education Funding Formula began in March/April of 2011. The funding formula suggestions were sent to the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) on November 17. UNM and higher education have been through three years of budget cuts. UNM is presently at the Fiscal Year (FY) 2006 funding level. Outcomes that are being figured into the new formula are course completion rate, number of degrees awarded, workforce development, and the number of at-risk (Pell Grant) students.

- New information will be posted on the Governmental Relations website as it becomes available. http://govrel.unm.edu/

- The number one priority will be supporting the new formula, a base plus budget plus the new funding model. The second priority will be funding by mission and research outcomes. The university will continue to support elimination of the tuition credit. The university is considering requesting a compensation increase.

- Director Saavedra thinks that there is a 99% chance UNM will not experience further cuts.

- Even years allow for General Obligation (GO) Bonds. There should be a bonding capacity of $170 million for higher education. GO Bonds are only to be used for teaching facilities. Over the next year, UNM will focus on the new funding formula and the GO Bond.

17. NEW BUSINESS AND OPEN DISCUSSION
President Ross provided an update on the University Presidential search:

- There are 15-18 candidates under consideration. There are some that are still undecided.
• The list of finalists will be released the first week of December.

• On-campus interviews will begin the week before winter break (finals week).

18. ADJOURNMENT
The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Holmes
Office of the Secretary