

Faculty Senate Policy Committee

Meeting Notes

September 4, 2019

3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

- Members Present:** Lora Stone (Co-Chair), Leslie Oakes (Co-Chair), Ronda Brulotte, Karen Patterson, Monika Nitsche and Elizabeth Hutchison
- Members Absent:** Jamal Martin and Lee Brown
- Ex-Officio:** Barbara Rodriguez, Senior Vice Provost, Provost Office, Katherine Miefert, Associate University Counsel, University Counsel Office, Kenedi Hubbard and University Secretary, Office of the Secretary
- Ex-Officio Absent:** Amy Levi, HSC Vice Chancellor, HSC
- Staff Present:** Felisha Martinez, Office of the Secretary, Administrative Assistant III, Carol Stephens, Office of the Secretary, Professional Consultant
- Guest Present:** Finnie Coleman, Faculty Senate President

Meeting began at 3:30pm

- 1.** The regular meeting of the Faculty Senate (FS) Policy Committee was called to order at 3:30PM on Wednesday, September 4, 2019 in Scholes Hall, Room 101 by Co-Chairs, Lora Stone and Leslie Oakes.
- 2. Approval of Agenda**
Approved
- 3. Approval of Meeting Notes**
Approved
- 4. Introductions.**
Introductions of all new committee members and co-chairs.
- 5. D175 “Undergraduate Student Conduct and Grievance Policy and D176 “Graduate and Professional Student Conduct and Grievance Policy”.**
This committee has been working on revising this policy for a few years. The initial concern over this policy originated when the Department of Justice came (DOJ) to the university campus

to review the process for student grievances. The student grievance procedures which are found in the Pathfinder (student handbook), previously linked directly to D175 and D176 in the Faculty Handbook. Changes were made to the procedures in the Pathfinder. At that point the policy documents (Faculty Handbook/Pathfinder) became out of sync. The Faculty Handbook has controlling interest over D175 and D176 regardless of what is in the Pathfinder. The DOJ asked that the policy documents all be brought into sync. At that point the FS Policy Committee started reviewing those policies, created a taskforce and had various representation (GPSA, DOS, ASUNM, GPSA, and Deans) across the board to make those policy revisions comprehensive. The two policies went out for campus comment on two occasions. Substantive comments were addressed and worked into the policy revision. The FS Policy Committee approved the final draft and is now ready to move forward to the Faculty Senate for approval.

6. D170 “Student Attendance”.

This policy revision request on student attendance came from primarily students. It was requested that the policy be reviewed and updated. A taskforce was created and worked on revisions and the FS Policy Committee refined. D170 went out for comment in early spring of this year. Concerns from faculty were submitted and addressed by the committee. The committee felt they adjusted the policy according to faculty concerns. Accommodations for ADA students were requested and included. Some comments were not fully addressed. This policy is now ready to go back to faculty for a second review and comment period. The comment period lasts for 30 days.

Faculty Senate President. Faculty Senate President, Dr. Finnie Coleman attended this meeting briefly to meet with the committee. There were short introductions and an update from President Coleman. Clarification on process for policies D175 and D176 was discussed between President Coleman and the FS Policy Committee members. A brief overview of the history and process was provided to President Coleman. The concern was expressed, with regard to process, there are already a number of pending policies in front of the FS Operations Committee. In terms of protocol, President Coleman indicated that D175 and D176 should circle back to FS Operations Committee in its finale form for discussion, not for review and revision but for collaborative approval to go forward to the Faculty Senate. President Coleman would like to see the final draft of this policy and present it to the FS Operations Committee.

There are some fundamental issues that need to be resolved in terms of policies moving forward. President Coleman referenced processes to get rid of back log by systematically scheduling with FS Operations Committee to address delayed policies. This is suggested in order to move policies forward successfully.

Dr. Coleman wants a schedule set for when the delayed policies will be presented to FS Operations Committee. Again, this should be done systematically. Dr. Coleman assured the FS Policy Committee that once this process is set in place the polices will be addressed with faculty input in an expeditious manner. A memo will go forward to FS Operations Committee regarding D175 and D176.

President Coleman addressed two other issues. He addressed the dissemination of memos by the FS Policy Committee and executive authority. President Coleman indicated that the FS Operations Committee should not only be promoted after a communication has gone it. The

Faculty Senate Policy Committee Co-Chairs expressed that a commitment was made that nothing will go forward that President Coleman is not aware of. This is also to allow a process for input.

President Coleman also discussed the creation of taskforces. He stated that there should be a process for that. President Coleman has asked co-chairs to develop a more formal procedure for taskforces. For example, how is it created, is it necessary in certain areas, membership/representation etc. The FS Policy Committee agreed with clarifying the role of taskforces.

An issue pertaining to curricula was brought forward by President Coleman. He is going to forward further information on to the FS Policy Committee for their input.

7. Policy Status Report.

Carol Stephens prepares this report at the end of each academic year for the University Secretary, Kenedi Hubbard and the FS Policy Committee. It is a summary of the work the committee did that year. The categories are policies that are approved and published in the Faculty Handbook, policies pending approval after comment period, and policies with this committee in various stages of work. The FS Policy Committee has purview over all faculty policies except for Section B of the Faculty Handbook.

Policies in the Faculty Handbook have different requirements and approval pathways. Approval requirements encompass varying levels such as University President, Regents, Faculty Senate etc.

8. CoG Report

This report reflects what policies have been addressed, which have not, and which ones will not be addressed. The Committee on Governance is the entity with the ability to call all faculty together.

9. Section B Taskforce

This section of the Faculty Handbook is currently under review to revise and update. This section is under the purview of the Academic Freedom and Tenure (AF&T) Committee.

10. Consensual Relationships Policy Taskforce.

This was brought forth to the committee. Currently there is not a policy in the Faculty Handbook on this subject. There is a list of issues for the taskforce to consider. An invitation letter was not sent out; however, it was drafted and is pending with President Coleman. Two questions were raised, is there a need to develop such a policy in the Faculty Handbook and is the definition clear? It was explained that this behavior occurs at other universities and is nothing new. It was asked if there is research to examine the effects of creating this type of policy? In October, the committee will strategize and develop a timeline on how this will be addressed to the FS Operations Committee.

11. A53.1

This policy needs review. This policy needs to be updated to reflect changes, deletions, additions etc. Carol Stephens will bring the changes forward to committee and faculty will be notified. It was noted that this table can be updated at any point. This table should be updated annually by the FS Policy Committee. Approval will come from the FS Operations Committee.

12. Alignment of UNM Policies

Board of Regents policies to supersede with exception of law. Faculty Handbook supersedes UAP. All have to comply with everything above it. UAP2310 will be updated in the next week or so.

13. Adjourn: 5:00pm