

**The University of New Mexico Faculty Senate
Meeting Minutes
April 28, 2026
3-5 P.M.**

Virtual | <https://unm.zoom.us/j/95868865375> | Passcode: FACSEN2526

(Pending Approval at the August 25, 2026, Faculty Senate Meeting)

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:01 p.m. Faculty Senate President Roberta Lavin presided. Attendance was recorded on the attendance sheet which can be found in the supporting documents.

1. Approval of the Agenda

President Lavin requested a motion to accept the agenda, and the agenda was approved as presented.

2. Approval of March 31, 2026, Meeting Minutes

The March 31 minutes were unanimously approved as presented.

3. President Garnett Stokes Report

President Stokes reported on the following items:

- In March the Board of Regents announced the 5 finalists for president. Two have already visited campus and the last three will be on campus May 11, 12, and 13.
- In March, an agreement to launch Lobo Crossing was finalized. This is a mixed-use retail development that will bring retail, grocery, and dining options to the area near athletic facilities on north campus. Groundbreaking is scheduled for May or June.
- The College of Population Health recently celebrated its 10th anniversary.
- Amy Egan has been selected as the new women's basketball coach, coming to UNM from Linden Wood College in Missouri. She has had more than 300 career wins as well as multiple conference titles and six NCAA appearances.
- DiCE has announced a new immigration working group, led by Vice President for Change and Empowerment, Assata Zerai. The intention of the group is to strengthen support for students, faculty and staff and expand UNM's role as a trusted resource.
- UNM was recognized by the National Academy of Inventors as 52nd in the 2025 top 100 U.S. universities for utility patents.
- Tech Days will be running April 29-30, bringing the UNM campus together to explore emerging technologies through presentations, discussions, and hands-on demonstrations.

- Finalists for the Provost selection will be announced April 29. It is a goal to have these interviews completed before finals week.
- The Honors College is commemorating 40 years of Scribendie, a literary and arts magazine that spotlights the work of not just our Lobo students but the southwest region as well.
- The President visited the Taos campus for the dedication of the Stephanie Mitchell Center for Creative Learning at the Harwood Museum. The newly donated home will be dedicated space for art education.
- The annual health professions symposium brought around 1,700 high school students to campus who are interested in health professions careers.
- UNM has secured Carnegie Community Engagement reclassification as one of only 260 institutions in the nation with such designation. The President thanked work of the Community Engagement Group, the Provost's Office, Tim Castillo and his team.
- A special blessing for the Humanities and Social Sciences complex was held on April 28, acknowledging it as a sense of place in the community and the more than metaphorical importance of having the complex at the heart of campus.

The president then took questions from faculty.

4. Provost Report

Provost Rodriguez reported on the following items:

- 2026 Innovation Awards is happening on April 28 and will celebrate faculty, staff and students who have received U.S. patents, trademarks, or registered copyrights, and will also celebrate Jean-Claude Diels as the Innovation Fellow, a faculty member of Physics and Astronomy Department.
- The Provost has issued three reappointment surveys to the voting faculty at the School of Law at the branch campus of Los Alamos, as well as a reappointment survey consideration for Dr. Eric Scott, Vice President of Student Affairs. Though he is not a faculty member, the Provost is following consistent processes for appointing and reappointing academic leaders who report to the Provost.
- The Provost visit Washington, DC with UNM alumni leadership and government relations leaders to meet with the state delegates, discussing our important work in AI, quantum science, and our work to boost our healthcare workforce.
- First-year student applications for fall 2026 are down by about 10% as compared to last year, as of April 24. This translates to a decrease of about 1,280 applications.
- New Mexico resident applications are up by 2%, or 142 more applications than last year. As expected, international student applications are down significantly. Transfer applications are up about 5.29%.
- Graduate enrollment is also down by about 12%, translating to 180 applications. We are seeing a substantial decrease in international applications at the master's and doctoral level.
- The Provost presented data on central and branch campus faculty candidates for promotion to professor, tenure and promotion to associate professor, the mid-

probationary review, promotion to senior lecturer and promotion to principal lecturer. In total, we have 107 candidates up for these milestone reviews.

The provost then took questions from faculty.

5. Faculty Senate President Report

President Lavin reported on the following:

- Please complete the survey for the election of operations committee members and the president-elect position for Faculty Senate.
- Presidential candidate evaluations are on a very short time frame so be sure to attend all presidential and provost search forums and complete the evaluations, noting that UNM is unique in it's interaction with the University President and Provost so these searches are very important to Faculty Senate.

6. Posthumous Degree Request

Lisa Lindquist, LoboRESPECT Advocacy Center Director, presented a proposal for the approval of a posthumous degree nomination for Marie von Hass, a doctoral student in the history department.

The request was approved by Faculty Senate majority vote.

7. Consent Agenda

The consent agenda for curricula changes and the Spring 2026 Degree Candidates was unanimously approved as presented.

7. Policy Approval

- a. FH Policy E10 "Classified Research" was unanimously approved as presented.
- b. FH Policy E130 "Foreign Talent Recruitment Programs (FTRPs) Policy" was unanimously approved as presented.

8. New Graduate Certificate Program in Special Education PreK-12 Licensure

Sarah Vogt and Yen Pham of the Department of Special Education presented the newly proposed Certificate Program in Special Education PreK-12 Licensure.

The program was approved by Faculty Senate majority vote.

9. New Graduate Certificate Program in Global and National Security Policy

Philip Hultquist of the Department of Political Science presented on the new proposed Certificate Program in Global and National Security Policy.

The program was approved by Faculty Senate majority vote.

11. New Bachelor of Science in Economics

Cristina Reiser with the Economics Department presented on the newly proposed Bachelor of Science in Economics.

The program was approved by Faculty Senate majority vote.

12. New Bachelor of Science in Bioengineering

Darryl A. Dickerson with the Chemical and Biological Engineering Department presented on the newly proposed Bachelor of Science in Bioengineering.

The program was approved by Faculty Senate majority vote.

13. New Graduate Certificate Program in Educational Leadership with K-12 Administrative Licensure

Brandelyn Tosolt with the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy presented on the newly proposed Graduate Certificate Program in Educational Leadership with K-12 Administrative Licensure.

The program was approved by Faculty Senate majority vote.

14. New Graduate Certificate in Substance Use and Behavioral Addictions Counseling

Cortny Stark with the Department of Individual, Family and Community Education presented on the newly proposed Graduate Certificate in Substance Use and Behavioral Addictions Counseling.

The program was approved by Faculty Senate majority vote.

15. New Graduate Certificate in Collaborative Printmaking

Patrick Manning with the Department of Art History presented the newly proposed Graduate Certificate in Collaborative Printmaking.

The program was approved by Faculty Senate majority vote.

16. New Graduate Certificate in Ethical AI for Autonomous Systems

Meeko Oishi with the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering presented on the newly proposed Graduate Certificate in Ethical AI for Autonomous Systems.

The program was approved by Faculty Senate majority vote.

17. Immigration Working Group

UNM DiCE Vice President Assata Zerai presented on the [Immigration Working Group](#), and initiative focused on University response to address issues related to immigration, to include DACA and undocumented students in addition to individuals coming from other countries.

The group has been charged with generating input to UNM's strategy to promote education and support to Lobos, including recent and ongoing policies and executive actions affecting U.S. immigration procedures. The initiative has been placed under the work of Goal Three of UNM 2040.

President Stokes has requested for the working group to recommend a coordinated university-wide structure for addressing change due to federal immigration procedures and policies, clear communication of processes and procedures and accessible resources to include academic support to students, support for faculty with regard to promotion and tenure, mental health support for students, faculty and staff, and other supports.

The working group has been broken into four subcommittees- visa and work issues, mental health and well-being, enforcement related response, and communications and education.

18. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

19. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.