

# The University of New Mexico Faculty Senate Draft Meeting Minutes

Sept. 24, 2024

3:00-5:00 P.M.

SUB, Lobo A & B

*(Pending approval at the Oct. 29, 2024, Faculty Senate Meeting)*

## 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m.

## 2. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved. A Point of Order was called by President Elder. Recognition was given to Dr. Finnie Coleman, who has served Faculty Senate in various capacities over the past four years. President Elder provided Dr. Coleman with a plaque in recognition of his service.

## 3. UNM President's Report

President Garnett Stokes reported the following:

- **HSC:** President Stokes provided updates regarding the appointment of Mike Richards as interim executive vice president for Health Sciences and thanked Dr. Zeodonis for his leadership. Their first priority will be a major initiative to increase the number of healthcare workers, and there will soon be a massive new project related to the School of Medicine and faculty. Town halls related to this initiative will be held soon.
- **Athletic Director Search:** UNM has hired the Parker Executive Search firm to conduct the search for a new athletic director, with the loss of Eddie Nunez to the University of Houston. The firm has been involved in previous coach searches for UNM. Currently, Dave Williams is serving as interim athletic director.
- **Mountain West Conference:** The Mountain West has been fortunate to maintain stability in its members over several years, but with many of the shifting conferences within the NCAA, particularly PAC, the Mountain West may see changes. Several schools have accepted invitations to join other conferences. UNM will be staying where we are, and some schools are undecided or still making determinations. The future of the Mountain West is uncertain currently. The conferences matter to both the State of New Mexico and many of our constituents including Alumni, donors, etc.
- **Legislative Finance Committee:** Last month's meeting with the LFC was very productive and had some of the most positive interactions they have seen. They are working with government relations to promote the needs of our institution going forward.
- **Enrollment:** Enrollment is up, and transfer students are a large portion of that. Currently 58% of our transfer students come from CNM.
- **Basic Needs Survey:** The basic needs survey for faculty and staff are being reviewed and President Stokes is working to deal with the issues that we face as an institution for our faculty, staff and students in that area.

#### 4. Provost's Report

Provost James Holloway reported the following:

- **Enrollment Data:** Comparison data was provided to 2019, as sometimes year to year it is difficult to see overall trends. Total enrollment for central and branch campuses is down and undergraduate enrollment is down 2.4%. However, undergrad enrollment in Albuquerque is up 2% compared to 2019, including part time and full-time students, with an increase of 5% for just full-time undergrads. Central campus is seeing modest, steady growth in undergrads, while grad students have remained flat. Branches saw significant enrollment decreases during the pandemic, which has shown a trend of decreased enrollment over the last five years.
- **Grand Challenges:** Over \$100 million of external research funds has been brought in between the substance use disorders and water grand challenges, one of which being the Arid Institute, a new category three center.
- **Welcome Center:** The new Lobo Welcome Center will be opening Wednesday, Oct. 2 at 11 am. The Welcome Center is a new center where parents and prospective students can come to learn about the University.
- **Lobo Oasis:** The Lobo Oasis is a new wellness space for students, staff, and faculty to have a quiet space to pray, meditate, or just get away from the hustle and bustle. It will open on Oct. 4 and is part of the wellness initiatives. The formal open house will be Oct. 4 from 1-4 pm. Lobo Oasis is in the SUB, room 317.
- **Transfer Students:** As President Stokes mentioned, many of our transfer students are coming from CNM, but many also come from Santa Fe Community College and San Juan College. Typically, it is not uncommon for transfer student GPA's to drop and 14% drop out after their first term, compared to 9% of non-transfer students. Work with the transfer students is critically important. Towards the end of October, during National Transfer Student Week, will open a transfer and transition center that will focus on helping those students, helping their retention in that first term, helping them build social connections, and become part of the community to be successful.
- **Center for Collaborative Arts Technology:** Groundbreaking is scheduled for Oct. 15 at parking lot A.
- **Humanities and Social Science Complex:** On the GO Bond ballot this fall. Relocations for departments has begun and the demolition of the building will begin late spring, assuming bond passes.
- **Restructuring of Provost Office:** Bill Stanley, Associate Provost for Faculty Success, term ends in December and he will be returning to his Department of Political Science. His duties will be divvied up between Senior Vice Provost Rodriguez and Associate Provost Pamela Cheek. Pamela Cheek, who is currently titled Associate Provost for Student Success, will be retitled Vice Provost for Student Success. Two new assistant vice provost positions will be created under each role, with Senior Vice Provost Rodriguez's faculty affairs group focusing on faculty success and Associate Provost Cheek's group focused on student success.

This change will provide them with more capacity and support for all the work they do. Provost Holloway commended them for their hard work.

- **Creative Works Award:** In 2019, the Faculty Senate Research Committee came to the Provost Office to advocate for the creation of an award for faculty focused on research. From this, the Provost Office created the Creative Works Award. The following faculty will be awarded:
  - Assistant Professor Alicia Bolt, College of Pharmacy

- Assistant Professor Julie In, Department of Internal Medicine
- Professor Andrew Sussman, Department of Family Community Medicine
- Associate Professor Jeremy Hogeveen, Department of Psychology
- Associate Professor Yu Yu Hsiao, FC and the College of Education and Human Sciences
- Professor Carmelo de Los Santos, College of Fine Arts (Music)
- Associate Professor, Abdullah A. Mueen, Computer Science Department
- Professor Vanessa Svihla, Organizational Information and Learning Sciences

## 5. Faculty Senate President's Report

President Elder reported on the following:

- Theresa Sherman was introduced as the new Administrative Officer for the Office of the University Secretary, replacing Rick Holmes.
- **Social Justice Committee:** President Elder discussed the development of a new faculty senate committee, the Social Justice Committee. Justin Bendel will head up the group to begin to develop the charge and make up of the committee. If you are interested in volunteering for the committee, please reach out Justin at [bendell@unm.edu](mailto:bendell@unm.edu). Once the charge and possible make up of the committee have been determined, they will present to the larger faculty for vote.
- **Well-Being Program:** In addition to the new Lobo Oasis reported out by Provost Holloway, SHAC is asking faculty to encourage our students within our departments and schools to respond to a well-being survey link that went out to students. The survey is a standardized benchmarking survey from the American College Health Association and students who participate will be entered into a drawing for a \$50 gift card.
- **FERPA Training:** Senior Vice Provost Rodriguez reported to President Elder that FERPA training is required of all graduate students teaching and with research assistantships. The Provost Office is working with Human Resources regarding the logistics of putting FERPA Training into Learning Central.

## 6. Faculty Senate Council Reports

- **HSC Council:** President Elect Lavin reported out regarding the Health Sciences Center Council. Due to the pandemic the policy committee with HSC Council went away so they are working on bringing it back. Next year, Natalie will be the HSC Council Chair, replacing President Elect Lavin and the committee hopes to report out more information on a regular basis.
- **Branch Community College Council:** James Burke reported out last spring Faculty Senate approved a resolution regarding branch campus workload, treating all faculty equitably with 15 credit hour total workload. That includes 12 hours of teaching and then service and scholarship. This resolution was due to branch campus faculty teaching 15 credit hours plus service and scholarship, a higher workload than other campuses.

## 7. Consent Agenda

- **Approval of Curriculum Items:** No curriculum items were presented.
- **Approval of Faculty Senate Committee Appointments:** The following Faculty Senate Committee Appointments were approved unanimously:

| <b>Name</b>           | <b>Committee</b>            | <b>Term</b> |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Laura Belmonte        | Curricula                   | 2024-2027   |
| Tiffany Otero         | Curricula                   | 2024-2027   |
| June Bryan De La Pena | Research Allocations        | 2024-2026   |
| Marissa Greenberg     | Research Allocations        | 2024-2026   |
| Sara Nottingham       | Research Allocations        | 2024-2026   |
| Arunachalam Muthaiyan | Research Allocations        | 2024-2026   |
| Pisarn Chamcharatsri  | Research Allocations        | 2024-2026   |
| Ziaozhoung Yu         | Research Allocations        | 2024-2026   |
| Claudia Pratesi       | Research Allocations        | 2024-2026   |
| Cesar Lopez           | Campus Development Advisory | 2024-2026   |
| Christine Cogil       | Campus Development Advisory | 2024-2026   |
| Patricia Siegel       | Campus Development Advisory | 2024-2026   |

**8. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**9. Open Discussion on Faculty Senate Priorities and Breakout Room Results**

Senate members broke into groups and discussed the attached senate priorities as discussed from the August meeting. Members were asked to review the priorities and rank them by most important. Output from each table and online breakout rooms were discussed and collected. President Elder will send the results in a survey to narrow down the scope of the priorities.

**10. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:52 p.m.