

**The University of New Mexico Faculty Senate
Meeting Minutes
Nov. 26, 2024
3-5 P.M.
ONLINE**

(Approved at the Jan. 28, 2025 Faculty Senate Meeting)

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:07 p.m. Faculty Senate President Cris Elder presided. Attendance was recorded on the meeting attendance sheet which can be found in the supporting documents.

1. Approval of the Agenda

President Elder requested a motion to modify the agenda to move the closed session for Honorary Degrees to be held prior to the breakout group agenda item to ensure a quorum is held. The agenda was approved as modified.

2. Approval of the Oct. 29, 2024, Meeting Minutes

The Oct. 24 minutes were approved as presented.

3. Provost's Report

Provost Holloway reported on the following:

- The new UNM Athletics Director, Fernando Lovo, was announced over the weekend. He comes from The University of Texas-Austin. He starts Dec. 1.
- The legislative season begins in January. UNM Day will be Jan. 29. Many departments will be invited to have tables and displays.
- Students are registering for spring semester. About 1,500 students are not registered and we are working to get them registered by looking at accounts with less than \$200 owed and deploying scholarship funds to get balances paid down. There are about 100 to 200 with advising holds and the advising centers are reaching out to address any issues to get those holds removed.
- Last month the issue of the number of books held in the humanities building and solutions for temporary storage on campus. There are currently about 90,000 books that need to be moved. Staff are working on solutions to find them homes for the next couple of years.
- Budget preparation for FY26 is under way. There is a process underway for a multi-year planning process to look at what resources are needed including faculty lines, operating funds, staff lines, and any other needs. Academic Affairs has received about \$17.5 million in requests.

- There is not a sense yet as to whether the Board of Regents will raise tuition. Their default position is not to raise tuition rates, but they are interested in differential tuition. The Provost Office is preparing a report to present a report on what differential tuition rates would look like.

Provost Holloway took questions from faculty regarding the issue of differential tuition.

4. Faculty Senate President's Report

Faculty Senate President Cris Elder reported the following:

- The faculty union began negotiations today with UNM administration to negotiate their second contract.
- President Elder attended President Stokes's executive cabinet meeting on 11/25. Revisions to the cell phone reimbursement policy were discussed. Aso, there is a new cyber security training that was added late to Learning Central for all employees entitled "Securing the Human." Be sure everyone completes this additional training by Jan. 31. Additionally, the legislative session was discussed. There are 29 new legislators, and this will create new leadership in committees. Committee chair assignments will be made in January. This session will be a 60-day session and ends March 22. There is a 20-day signing period and so by April 11 we will know what our budget is.

5. Council Reports:

HSC Council: Senator Roberta Lavin reported out for the HSC Council. The council has reinitiated the HSC Policy Subcommittee with a new set of members. They are looking at a substance use policy, as there is inconsistency across departments regarding drug testing policies.

Branch Community Colleges Council: Senator John Burke reported on the council's continued work in monitoring workload guidelines for the branch campuses to ensure they are being followed. They are also continuing to support faculty at branch campuses who are on a tenure track who need mentors in this area.

6. Consent Agenda

- Fall 2024 Degree Candidates
- Curricula Changes
- Faculty Senate Committee Appointments

The consent agenda was approved as presented.

7. Faculty Handbook Policy Approvals

Policy A53: Development and Approval of Faculty Policies and Policy E120: Effort Reporting Policy were presented by Senator Eve Espey, chair of the Faculty Senate Policy Committee.

Policy A53 and Policy E120 were approved as presented.

8. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

9. Social Justice Committee Introduction

Senator Justin Bendell presented about the new ad hoc committee, including the draft charge and invited any interested senators to join the committee.

10. Closed Session

At 3:56 p.m. a motion was made by Senator Sever Bordeianu to enter a closed session to discuss Honorary Degree nominations for the spring 2025 commencement. Following the closed session, a motion to return to the open session was made and approved. Key decisions were made during the closed session that will be communicated to relevant parties as necessary.

10. Discussion of Faculty Priorities Survey

Faculty separated into breakrooms to discuss faculty senate priorities. Each group was asked to select on representative to report back to President Elder for next steps.

11. Meeting adjourned at 4:48 p.m.