Faculty Senate Business Council Minutes

Draft 1

Meeting Date and Place: Wednesday, 12/2/15, 9:00 am, Zimmerman Library, Herzstein Latin American Reading Room

Members Present: Fran Wilkinson, Jon Wheeler and Lee Brown.

Members Excused: Carol Bernhard, Janie Chermack and Ann Brooks.

Members Absent:

Minutes: Dennis Dunn, Office of the University Secretary.

	Subject	Notes	Follow-Up
1	The Meeting (Fran Wilkinson)	 Fran Wilkinson began the meeting at 9:00am. Since quorum was not met the agenda and minutes could not be approved; For committee members who were not able to attend Business Council meetings Fran and Dennis will combine the minutes from October, November, and December into one set of minutes and distribute to the Council members. She will also contact Steven Yourstone (Campus Development Advisory Committee) for his committee's goals and include them in the combined minutes; The spring council meetings will continue to address the issue of achieving the stated goals; Fran will work with Dennis Dunn to send out a Doodle Poll to set meeting dates for the spring semester to help improve attendance. Information Technology Use Committee Report (Jon Wheeler): Quorum was not met at the December 3, 2015 meeting, so it was a short meeting and the minutes were not approved; A goal has been set for the committee to come up with departmental profiles and the faculty survey that is done each year will be the starting point for the profiles. This year the survey will be sent to teaching faculty and focus on classroom technology; Jon will also be meeting with the IT people in order to find out exactly who owns UNM's emails that are sent out; A discussion followed with Lee Brown as to the roll of the Committee on Governance in the distribution of surveys on both the UNM and Health Science Center (HSC) campuses. 	Send out Doodle Poll to set spring semester meeting dates. Dennis to work with Fran to combine the three previous Business Council minutes into one document for distribution to the council. Dennis to assist Fran with sending out a Doodle Poll in order to set up meeting dates for the spring semester. Fran will supply Dennis with the dates. In January Fran will contact the Policy Committee to propose writing a new policy for approving and sending out surveys at UNM. She will also contact Stefan Posse and
	G	 Government Relations Committee Report (Lee Brown): Lee reported that the first meeting was held on November 20, 2015, and quorum was met and he was elected chair of the committee; The first order of business for the committee was to set their goals for the coming year. The first goal being making plans to go to Santa Fe for the 30 Day Legislative Session in early February for one day to educate members of the Legislature on the benefits UNM brings to the state of New Mexico. They will also talk to the Legislature about underfunded and unfunded mandates that are imposed on UNM and the underfunding of UNM's branch campuses; The committee will also be issuing a survey that will deal with the issue of underfunded and unfunded mandates. It will be sent out at a future date after it receives approval to be sent out. Fran also mentioned that there needs to be better clarity on how surveys are approved for distribution at UNM; Discussion followed on various techniques for lobbying in both Santa Fe and Washington D.C.; 	Pamela Pyle on this issue, too.

		 The second issue the committee will address is approaching the legislature in order to request a memorial supporting the concept of appointing a UNM faculty member to the Board of Regents, which would require the approval of the Governor. Many schools around the country have faculty members on their Board of Regents. Faculty Senate Budget Task Force Report (Fran Wilkinson) For the fall semester the Faculty Senate Budget Committee has been folded into the newly created Faculty Senate Budget Task Force, headed up by Faculty Senate President Stefan Posse. The Task Force has reviewed many documents and reports and Stefan will be presenting the Task Force's findings and recommendations to the Board of Regents in December. Faculty & Staff Benefits Committee Report (Fran Wilkinson) Fran reported that she, and co-chair Carol Bernhard, are meeting with Aon, the university's new benefits consultant, who are working on a three to five year plan for best practices in health care for UNM; The Retiree Association will address the committee in January 2016 to discuss issues affecting pre and post age 65 retirees; The committee has heard from the Board of Regents that UNM insurance will increase 11% in 2016. At this time Fran does not have any details on this increase. Other Business Fran would like to set up a meeting with the University Secretary's Office for clarification on how surveys are approved and then sent out. This will take place in January 2016; Lee Brown suggested that Fran contact the Policy Committee in order to draft a policy on the proper way to get surveys approved and sent out. She will also contact Faculty Senate President Stefan Posse and Faculty Senate President Elect Pamela Pyle for further clarification on using surveys and if a stakeholder's meeting needs	
3	Next Meeting	TBD	None needed
4	Adjourn	Meeting adjourned at 9:50am.	