



Faculty Senate Budget Committee

FINAL

Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 20, 2021

11:00 AM-12:00 PM

Via Zoom Video Conference

Voting Members Present: David Hurley, Osbjorn Pearson, Mary Rice, Irene Vasquez, Melody Avila, Sudharman Jayaweera

Absent Voting Members-Excused: Michael Davis, Robert Gary, Pim Higginson

Absent Voting Members-Unexcused: N/A

Ex-Officio, Guests and Minutes: William Stanley, Felisha Martinez (Office of the University Secretary)

Meeting called to order @ 11:15 AM.

Quorum was met.

1. **Review and Approval of Agenda**

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A motion to approve the agenda for December 20, 2021, was made. The motion was seconded and approved by unanimous decision.

2. **Discussion with Associate Provost**

William Stanley

In August, the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) sent a letter to the University President with questions regarding Research and Public Service Projects (RPSP). There were projects sponsored by Representative William Stapleton, who was recently indicted for fraud in connection with Robotics Learning Management, LLC. This is a vendor that has contracts running through APS. In wake of this situation, the LFC wanted to look at UNM RPSP's for further examination. The three RPSP's are listed below.

- Distance learning project through Charlie Morrissey Hall associated with Africana Studies. This contract had been going for 13 years.
- A grant to UNM Gallup to set up an education center.
- Student Affairs have a program addressing career soft skills and technical education. This program was not involving Robotics LLC but has the same pattern of having awards going through UNM and passing on to another firm. There were some people in common with new vendor and Robotics Learning Management, LLC.

Bill was asked to look at those RPSP and identify areas of concerns. The program through Charlie Morrissey did show it may not have met the standards described. He also found that the nonprofit out of Gallup is not in good standing with the state as their license is suspended.



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The way the RPSP's work is that the state has a standard excel spreadsheet with questions regarding the project. Other than that, UNM has not looked at other performance indicators. Going forward they will be monitoring the projects through a committee. This review process will include new and expansion RPSP's. They will also add a review of renewing RPSP's with a 1/3 of them being reviewed each year. This will help prevent projects from going on for too long than what is worth the cost. This committee will encourage projects to direct measures of their project impact. They will also provide guidance to directors of those projects on creating techniques of measure. RPSP's that fall under Academic Affairs, will be reviewed. All others, like HSC, will not be included in the review. Governmental Relations does not have the capacity to provide a more robust review the RPSP's. The RPSP review committee will be contacting Faculty Senate for names of those who can commit to a few years' service to the committee. They will be looking at FY24 RPSP's and will use InfoReady, which is the same program the Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR) uses. This will allow them to ask more specific questions to those applicants. In past years, Governmental Relations would make recommendations of which to fund, the University President reviews those recommendations, followed by the Regents, which is the final vote before going to the legislature. The Higher Education Department (HED) does make recommendations in the spring of what their focus is for that year. Governmental Relations then gives out a form to UNM proposers to fill out and submit.

3. **Review and Approval of Minutes**

Budget Committee

A motion to approve the meeting minutes for November 2021 was made. The motion was seconded and approved by unanimous decision.

4. **Next Meeting**

Monday, January 24, 2021

Via Zoom Video Conference

5. **Adjourned:** 12:00 PM