

# Faculty Senate Budget Taskforce Minutes

## Draft 1

**Meeting Date and Place:** Tuesday, 8/25/15, 1:00 pm, **Scholes Hall, Room 101**

**Members Present:** Douglas Thomas, Andrew Cullen, Fran Wilkinson, Beth Tigges, Trish Steinbrecher, Edl Schamiloglu, Janie Chermak, Scott Hughes, Charlie Paine, Kramer Woodard, Charlie Steen, Stefan Posse, Faculty Senate President, and Norma Allen, Associate Director – Office of Planning, Budget and Analysis, Nicole Dopson, Financial Officer Provost Office, Ann K. Brooks, ASM, Department of Accounting.

**Members Excused:**

**Guests Present:**

**Members Absent:** Ajna Hamidovic.

**Minutes:** Dennis Dunn, Office of the University Secretary.

	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Follow-Up</b>
1	<b>Call to order</b> (Stefan Posse)	Faculty Senate President Stefan Posse, opened the meeting at 1:00pm and welcomed, and thanked, everyone for attending.	None needed
2	<b>Opening Remarks and Approval of Minutes</b>	<p>President Posse's opening remarks consisted of a status review of the Budget taskforce. He discussed the documentation related to the budget process that had been provided by the Budget Office. He reported on his meetings with constituents around the UNM campus who provided valuable input into a wide range of topics related to budget planning and the education and research mission of the University. He asked the Task Force members present to send him suggestions regarding (a) the budget process and (b) specific budget items that he can integrate into the presentation to the Board of Regents. He specifically asked for suggestions to identify budget positions that may be negotiable. At the end of the taskforce process he would like to have a document created that he can present to the regents that will outline the suggestions from the taskforce. He described the budge cycles of federal research funding agencies is different from that of UNM and that research funding is not a predictable as it has been in years past. This will impact the UNM budget along with other universities and institutions budgets. He ended his opening remarks by thanking the taskforce members for hard work, research and contributions they are bringing to the taskforce.</p> <p>President Posse then asked for the August 18, 2015 minutes to be approved. A motion was made to approve and was quickly seconded. All present agreed to approve the minutes and there were no abstentions.</p>	None needed
3	<b>New ListServe</b>	Dennis Dunn, Office of the Secretary, informed the taskforce members that a new listserv has been set up specifically for the Budget Taskforce. It consists of the Faculty Senate Budget Committee members and any new members who join the Budget Taskforce. The address of the new listserv is <b>FS_BUDGET_TASKFORCE-L@unm.edu</b>	None needed
4	<b>College of Education Survey</b> (Trish Steinbrecher)	Trish Steinbrecher, College of Education, reported that a survey was done through the College of Education which received a 22% response rate. The results of the survey show that the majority of UNM faculty support increased compensation. Other issues brought up in the survey that were of concern to the faculty included facility maintenance, trash removal and overall building efficiency on campus. She mentioned that a cost calculation can be done as to cost savings of even one degree difference in a building's thermostat settings.	None needed

5	<b>Fran Wilkinson's Report</b>	<p>Fran Wilkinson, Deputy Dean, University Libraries, contacted faculty within her college and received a 30% response. Her research found that compensation was a top priority followed by benefits. The overall infrastructure of the campus was another big concern of the faculty Fran Wilkinson contacted. Some classrooms on campus are so old that they are almost impossible to teach from, lacking Wi-Fi and decent acoustics. Issues within the Zimmerman library include lack of funding for collections and off site storage for the more than three million volumes within the library's collection. More space for student study is also needed.</p>	None needed
6	<b>Arts &amp; Sciences Survey</b>	<p>A formal survey has not yet been done but individual comments from the faculty state that compensation and infrastructure issues are their primary concerns. In regards to compensation, there have been only two raises in the last seven years. There is no consistency on campus for faculty compensation when compared with UNM's peer institutions. There are also serious issues concerning the condition of the Arts &amp; Sciences building that are either not being addressed or can take years to be resolved due to budget issues. An example was given regarding carpeting in Arts &amp; Sciences. They recently had new carpeting installed, but it was the first time in 22 years.</p>	None needed
7	<b>Group Discussion</b>	<p>The members of the taskforce are in agreement that the two most important issues for the faculty are compensation and the campus infrastructure. Andrew Cullen, Budget Office, suggested that the taskforce provide the regents with an overarching framework to the discussion and that the regents will in turn ask for supporting data. Kramer Woodard, School of Architecture &amp; Planning, suggested creating a questionnaire from the taskforce and stated that there is a need to achieve a balanced budget. Perhaps the taskforce should come up with suggestions on how to attain a balanced budget. Ann Brooks suggested that the faculty might have to make sacrifices.</p> <p>Another suggestion dealt with capital improvements and how small things, like improving windows, could add up to savings in the budget. Fran Wilkinson pointed out that the university has selected three buildings on campus for funding from the legislature. These buildings are the Anderson School of Management, Physics &amp; Astronomy, and the Johnson Center. Andrew Cullen pointed out that this has been reduced to one building, the Physics &amp; Astronomy building and a bond is being considered to finance this project in the fall of 2016 and the legislature will have to put this on the ballot for 2016. This will be for a new Physics &amp; Astronomy building. He mentioned that a facility audit was done, though he is not sure when. It should list all UNM buildings from the worst to the best. This audit could then be presented to the regents outlining a plan for these buildings over the next three years. This audit would look at windows, carpeting and HVAC systems, among other things.</p> <p>Andrew Cullen was asked if the regents are considering a tuition increase. He said they considered a 3% increase back in April. He mentioned that utilities increase 3% a year, on average, and that this could be justification for the tuition increase. Andrew Cullen also stated that one of the basic problems with the budget is that UNM cannot get tuition and compensation on the same level as UNM's peer institutions.</p>	None needed

8	<b>The Survey</b>	<p>It was suggested that the taskforce create an opinion survey that could be sent out to all UNM faculty. President Posse suggested that the plan for this survey could be included in the materials presented to the regents as an ongoing survey for the next three to five years. A question on the survey could be what are faculty member willing to give up in order to attain the budget goals. President Posse suggested that perhaps the taskforce should create a subcommittee to address the issues of what questions to put in the survey.</p> <p>Nicole Dopson, Academic Affairs, informed the taskforce that her office has recently sent out a memo to the deans asking the question of what they would be willing to give up for the budget. The responses to this memo are due back to the Provost's Office by September 11, 2015. The memo is called the Four Year Funding Plan and will give the dean's perspective regarding the budget. Nicole Dopson will see that the taskforce members each receive a copy of the memo so that they can review its contents.</p>	Nicole Dopson will provide the taskforce with a copy of Academic Affairs' three question memo that was sent out to all UNM deans.
9	<b>Next Meeting</b>	Tuesday, September 1, 2015, 1:00pm Scholes Hall Room 101.	
	<b>Adjourn</b>	Meeting adjourned at 2:10pm.	