

**The University of New Mexico Faculty Senate**  
**Draft Meeting Minutes**  
**February 28, 2023**  
**3:00 P.M.**  
**ONLINE**

*(Pending approval at the March 28, 2023, Faculty Senate Meeting)*

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 3:06 p.m.

**2. Approval of the Agenda**

The agenda was approved.

**3. Approval of the January 31, 2023, Meeting Minutes**

The January 2023 minutes were approved.

**4. Consent Agenda**

Curricula Changes

The consent agenda was approved.

**5. President's Report**

President Garnett Stokes reported the following.

- There have been many people that have spent a lot of time at the State Legislature; attending committee hearings in Senate Finance and House Appropriations.
- The committees are adopting the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) budgetary recommendations. There have not been many changes for higher education.
- There are some things in the "Junior Bill" that affect UNM and the Opportunity Scholarship.
- House Bill 2 has passed the House and is now with the Senate Finance Committee. The bill will soon be sent to the senate floor.
- UNM is looking at one percent new money, which is \$2.2 million, and a five percent compensation package, although ten percent was requested. She reminded the Faculty Senate that the compensation increases are not funded at 100%. In general, it is funded at 80% for Central Campus and the Branches. Instruction and General (I&G) funding goes up roughly three percent. There is some added direct program funding. The Education Retirement Board (ERB) is looking at \$2 million. There is also some targeted faculty compensation. It is funds to help the University retain faculty. It has not been specified the way in which the funds are used.

- There is an additional \$1 million for Health Sciences for faculty compensation. This is the first real substantial increase for Health Sciences. Some of the issues UNM has been raising are starting to be heard.
- Additional funding for the Opportunity Scholarship has come with some stipulations about not using it for bridge funding for first-semester students. The Higher Education Department (HED) and the governor support having it.
- There has been a push against raising tuition and fees.
- During this academic year, the Opportunity Scholarship program has supported over 11,000 UNM students. They have been awarded more than \$60 million.
- Research and Public Service Projects (RPSP) funds a lot of different programs. There is a lot of attention being paid to that mechanism for funding.
- UNM is involved in a comprehensive study of safety improvements.
- The Albuquerque Police Department (APD) is considering establishing a substation command on South Campus. It will redirect the attention of police to concentrate more patrols in the university area. This is a significant development for the university and the neighborhoods surrounding it.
- There has been a big push over the last year related to mental health. It is a national issue, not just for UNM students. There are a lot of mental health needs. They are working on a metric called The Center for Collegiate Mental Health, a clinical load index. UNM's load index was among the highest in the country. UNM is currently understaffed for the students. Student Health and Counseling (SHAC) will be built out with more counselors and support staff. It is a difficult environment to recruit. There are some signs of success, one being wait times for students.
- UNM is teaming up with New Mexico State University (NMSU) on telehealth.
- The mandate for the COVID vaccine is being reviewed. There was a successful town hall held. Information gathering is continuing. There should be an announcement in the next 7-10 days. They are looking into if the University can have vaccine clinics.
- Tomorrow is the annual State of the University address. It will be at 11:00 a.m., in the Student Union Building (SUB). It will be a look-back over the last five years, and what has been done in the last year. It is longer than her normal address. It will be live streamed.
- It is also President Stokes' 5-year anniversary at UNM.
- There are two and a half weeks left in the legislative session.
- We are waiting for the governor to announce the new regents.

## **6. Faculty Senate President's Report**

Faculty Senate President Finnie Coleman reported the following.

- There are still conversations ongoing about Policy C70: Confidentiality of Faculty Records. That policy should be going back to the Board of Regents (BOR) Student Success, Teaching, and Research (SSTAR) committee.
- Faculty Senate meetings will be held on the final Tuesday of the month rather than the fourth Tuesday of the month. It will really help with the Thanksgiving holiday.

- Faculty elections are in process. Nominations are still needed for the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee. Once the Faculty Senate elections are complete, senators can consider running for President Elect or membership on the Operations Committee.

**7. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**8. Meeting adjourned at 3:26 p.m.**