

Faculty Senate Policy Committee

Meeting Notes

October 4, 2017

3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

- Members Present:** Martha Muller (Co-Chair), Kimberly Gauderman (Co-Chair), Jamal Martin, Leslie Oakes, and Barbara Hannan
- Ex-Officio:** John Trotter, HSC Vice Chancellor Emeritus, Kimberly Bell, Deputy University Counsel, University Counsel Office, Kenedi Hubbard, University Secretary, Office of the Secretary
- Members Absent:** Marsha Baum and Melinda Tinkle
- Ex-Officio Absent:**
- Staff Present:** Candyce Torres, Office of the Secretary, Administrative Coordinator, Carol Stephens, Office of the Secretary, Professional Consultant
- Guest Present:** Pamela Cheek, Associate Provost, Timothy Lowrey, Associate Dean of Graduate Studies, Elaine Clark, Associate Professor and Michele Marsee, Chair, Los Alamos Branch

Meeting began at 3:30pm

1. The regular meeting of the Faculty Senate (FS) Policy Committee was called to order at 3:30PM on Wednesday, October 4, 2017 in Scholes Hall, Room 101 by Co-Chairs, Kimberly Gauderman and Martha Muller.
2. **Approval of Agenda.** Approved
3. **Updates. A61.6: Information Technology Use Committee.** This policy and its revisions were presented to the Faculty Senate Operations Committee on October 3, 2017. It was mentioned that this policy draft currently lacks language regarding the HSC and HSC IT Advisory Board Committee. The policy draft will be sent to HSC Vice Chancellor and Interim CIO Richard Larson for further input. **A66: Policy Committee.** The need to modify policy language was discussed as ex-officio it is not defined at all in the charge. Being that University Counsel

provides an advisory role to the Committee the way they are currently represented as ex-officio is incorrect. Senior Vice Provost/Chancellor serve as ex-officio non-voting members. **C20: Employment of UNM Graduates.** This policy was also presented to the FS Operations Committee on October 3, 2017. It was determined that C20 will be sent out for review and comment to all faculty as the faculty have not yet had the opportunity to comment on the revised draft. The revised draft serves as an alternative to the deletion. **D90: Posthumous Degrees** was also presented on October 3, 2017 to the FS Operations Committee. The concern was raised regarding the approval of documentation. Some additional language changes will need to be re-worked. **E110: Conflict of Interest.** A response memo to Vice Chancellor Larson from the FS Policy Committee and University Counsel will be sent regarding the policy revisions he is proposing (this recommendation was made on the basis of an outside audit for the HSC's COI policy in preparation for an OIG audit). **F10: Role and Function of UNM Branch Community Colleges.** This policy and its revisions were presented to the Faculty Senate Operations Committee on October 3, 2017. The FS Operations Committee had no further recommendation to the policy and was approved to be released for faculty review and comment.

- 4. D176: Graduate Student Conduct and Grievance Policy.** Regarding student grievance the issue of a student attorney and faculty attorney for this process was discussed. Associate Dean of Graduate Studies Timothy Lowrey indicated that the term attorney caused a lot of contention for the Student Graduate and Professional Committee. The legal status of student note taking involved in a student grievance matter was also discussed. Being that personal notes belong to the student the difference in the notes being permissible vs. being admissible was addressed. It was clarified that the notes do not take on legal significance. The term "academic judgement" was also heavily debated at this meeting. One member asked what defines "academic judgement" as it is not defined in the Faculty Handbook. The question was raised, "is it merely a matter of grading or does it encompass "academic dishonesty?". Lowrey explained that the Student Graduate and Professional Committee wants a definition for "academic judgement". Lowrey also asked what constitutes campus-wide "academic dishonesty". The point was emphasized that relating to "academic judgement" on one else has the right to assign a grade other than that instructor. The other point was made that the process for assigning grades should not overrule "academic judgement. The term "academic judgement" vs "non-academic judgment" was discussed further. One member expressed that a matter becomes "non-academic judgement" the moment a faculty member applies punishment. Another member cautioned that a definition for "academic judgment" should not be defined too narrowly.

Action-A definition for "academic judgment will not be added at this time. It will be left as is to see what happens during the review and comment period. A blurb will be sent out with this policy during the review and comment period.

- 5. F100: Teaching Load.** Branch campus representatives attended this meeting to discuss this policy with the Committee. Both representatives expressed that the primary purpose of the branches is teaching and there is not a need to have release time. Being that their primary service is release time, faculty at the branches do not have an obligation to do research. The common practice at the branch campuses is 15 load units. The branch representatives were asked what other states do regarding teaching load. The response was that others require between 15-20 load units.

Action- The FS Policy Committee determined to add FTE., so faculty can overload if they want. In addition, insert the language “more or less than”. Language will be re-worked to state, “typically a full-time teaching load is 15 units for a faculty member at a branch community college”. Also, “Each branch shall have a written faculty workload policy”. A motion to accept this language was approved unanimously.

Adjourn: 5:00pm