

Faculty Senate Policy Committee
Meeting Notes
November 5, 2025
11:45 am – 1 pm
Zoom Meeting

Members Present: Ezra Depperman, Eve Espey, Michele Head, Subramanian Iyer, Grace Murphy, Megan Murphy, Karen Patterson, Svetlana Poroseva

Members Absent: Caitlin Wells (excused)

Ex-Officio Members Present: Nancy Middlebrook, University Secretary; Rebecca Sanchez, Interim Associate, Interim Director for Faculty Academic Affairs; Brandon Toensing, Office of University Counsel

Ex-Officio Members Absent: Aksay Sood

Staff Present: Carol Stephens, Professional Consultant, Office of University Secretary, Vivian Valencia, University Secretary Emerita, HSC Academic Affairs

Meeting called to order at 11:48 am by Chair Eve Espey. Quorum was met.

1. Approvals

The agenda was approved as written.

The meeting notes from the October 1, 2025 meeting were approved with one edit for the information item on C215 Parental leave to add the word “to” to the last sentence as noted in red below:

C215 “Parental Leave”

The Faculty Senate passed the parental leave policy as amended without the postdoctoral fellows listed in the covered titles. The policy will now go to President Stokes for signature.

2. Information/Policy updates

Policy C215 “Parental Leave” had been approved by the Faculty Senate and by President Stokes, with the effective approval date of October 10, 2025. The policy has been updated on the website and the notice announcing the policy revision was sent out to the All-faculty listserv earlier in the day.

Interim Provost Rodriguez has provided a follow up email that has been shared with the Faculty Senate Operations Committee and the leadership of the Policy Committee regarding extending parental leave benefits to post-doctoral fellows. She indicated that the benefit will be listed on the Office of Academic Personnel website, but for the longer term they will be working to develop a UAP Policy that specifically addresses benefits for post-doctoral fellows. Currently, post-doctoral fellow benefits are outlined in their contracts. It

was asked when the parental leave benefits will start for the post-doctoral fellows. Rebecca Sanchez will check on when this will start and will get back to the committee with the information.

3. Consent Agenda

It was requested that two of the three items on the consent agenda, E50 “Export Control” and E110 “Conflict of Interest in Research” be removed from the consent agenda so that the comments and their resolution be discussed by the committee.

The remaining item on the consent agenda, A63.5 “Information Technology Committee” was approved to move forward without further discussion. The policy will be forwarded to the Faculty Senate for approval.

4. Action/Discussion Items

E50 “Export Control”

The committee discussed the comments and agreed that the word “commodity” needed further definition. The comments were provided to the UNM Industrial Security Officer, who provided some text to address definition concerns raised by the comment. It was also agreed to move the language regarding exceptions to the exclusions to the end of the section, instead of having them at the beginning of the section and to alter the first sentence introducing the exceptions to provide a little more clarity.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the policy with the revisions. However, the motion was not passed due to members wanting to get a little more clarification on definitions for commodities and for physical exports. The committee then discussed the best way to resolve the questions. Grace Murphy volunteered to touch base with the Industrial Security Office to get more information to inform any other revisions. The committee also agreed that if those questions could be resolved, then they would be willing to vote electronically to approve the policy with any new revisions incorporated into the document.

E110 “Conflict of Interest in Research”

The committee reviewed and discussed the comments but agreed that most of the substantive comments could not be incorporated since they were regarding changes that were made to be in compliance with federal regulations. A motion was made and seconded to approve the policy to move forward to Faculty Senate for approval. The motion passed.

E40 “Research Misconduct”

The committee reviewed the proposed changes. The only proposed changes that were above the line, were minor technical changes that OUS is able to make. The significant changes all occur below the line and were made to comply with federal regulations and also to update processes. A question was raised regarding which ROI or Office of Research would apply to branch campus faculty and it was agreed to change references to “main campus” to be “central and branch community college campuses.” A motion was made and seconded to approve the policy with that change and forward it to the Faculty Senate Operations Committee for final approval. The motion passed.

Proposed Policy Committee In-Person Retreat, Wednesday, January 14, 2026

Committee members were asked to consider if they would like to have a mini-retreat the week before the Spring 2026 semester begins. The proposed time would be on the morning of Wednesday, January 14. All were asked to check their schedules. More information will be forthcoming.

5. Future Business

The items under future business were not discussed due to time constraints.

Meeting adjourned at 1:05 pm.