

Faculty Senate Policy Committee

Meeting Notes

April 1, 2026

11:45AM – 1PM

Via Zoom

Members Present: Eve Espey, Karen Patterson, Michele Head, Megan Murphy, Svetlana Poroseva, and Caitlin Wells

Members Absent: Ezra Depperman, Subramanian Iyer, and Grace Murphy

Ex-Officio Members Present: Akshay Sood, Interim Director of HSC Faculty Affairs

Ex-Officio Members Absent: Nancy Middlebrook, University Secretary; Rebecca Sanchez, Interim Vice Provost for Academic Personnel, and Brandon Toensing, Office of University Counsel

Staff Present: Carol Stephens, Professional Consultant, Office of the University Secretary; and Jackie Freitas, Operations Specialist, Office of the University Secretary

Meeting called to order at 11:50AM by Chair Eve Espey. Quorum was met.

1. Approvals

The agenda was approved as written.

The meeting notes from March 12, 2026 were approved as written.

2. Information/Policy updates

Carol Stephens informed the committee that policies C170, C190, and C305 are out for faculty comment and comments are being posted but nothing too concerning.

3. Consent Agenda

Motion was made and seconded to remove Policy E10 from Consent agenda and discuss – Approved unanimously.

4. Action/Discussion Items

- **E10 Faculty Comments Reviewed** - Concern regarding a comment received questioning lack of reference in E10 Policy of classified research and tenure

review. Akshay Sood asked, *can we include in definitions that classified research can be considered for promotion credit.*

Comment regarding the removal of Executive Vice President for Health Sciences (EVPHS) from Procedures 3.2 – Akshay Sood inquired if this was correct and why. Carol Stephens explained that according to the FSO, the current EVPHS is not a KMP (key management personnel).

Motion made and seconded to send Policy E10 to Faculty Senate for approval – unanimously approved.

- **Review of Policy E130** – proposed language changes made with FSO input. Motion made and seconded to send **Policy E130** to Faculty Senate for approval – unanimously approved.
- **Review of Policy A53** – Carol Stephens informed the committee of policy’s background and explained the need for this policy. Discussion and suggestions regarding wording in Policy Statement 3.1 *“Proposed new faculty policy statements, in their entirety, and changes to the Applicability, Policy Rationale, and Policy Statement sections of existing policies will be posted on the Faculty Handbook website for review by UNM faculty members. The Office of the University Secretary in consultation with the committee and/or taskforce to Chair of the FSPC will address any comments received from faculty and will forward the final proposed draft to the authority(s) listed at the top of the policy Faculty Senate for approval. Due to the nature of the policy or previous approval history, specific policies will also require approval at more than one level i.e. UNM voting faculty, the UNM Board of Regents, and/or the UNM President. and/or Provost or Executive Vice President for Health Sciences. If a higher-level approving authority wishes to change a proposed policy document that was approved at a lower level, the President/Chair of the faculty governance body with authority for the policy will negotiate with the higher-level approving authority on behalf of faculty on changes that would be acceptable to their constituency.”*

Amended Policy Statement 3.1 by leaving the word “also” and adding the phrase “with the higher-level approving authority” and removing the word “second” in Policy Statement 3.2, 3.3, and Procedures 1.4. In 3.2 of Policy Statement add the word “relevant” before *committee/taskforce*. Motion made and seconded to send **Policy A53** to FS Operations Cmte. for approval – unanimously approved.

Akshay Sood provided a brief update on the C130 policy and would like to present the policy at the May meeting.

- Due to time constraints discussion of **A91** Creation, Review, Reorganization of UNM Research Center and Institutes – moved to May meeting and should include Tito Busani for comments and questions.
- Explanation and discussion of **A61.6** Senate Social Justice Committee charge, comment on Definitions and strikethrough source material. In Procedures, change eight members to seven members and change two-year terms to

three-year terms. Carol Stephens will look at other policies for standard wording on membership and terms served.

Meeting adjourned at 1:05PM.