

Faculty Senate Policy Committee

Meeting Notes

May 6, 2026

11:45am – 1:00pm

Via Zoom

Members Present: Eve Espey, Karen Patterson, Subramanian Iyer, Grace Murphy, Svetlana Poroseva, and Caitlin Wells

Members Absent: Michele Head, Ezra Depperman, and Megan Murphy

Ex-Officio Members Present: Akshay Sood, Interim Director of HSC Faculty Affairs and Nancy Middlebrook, University Secretary

Ex-Officio Members Absent: Brandon Toensing, Office of University Counsel

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

Guest: Tito Busani and Melissa Lehan Mackin

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 April 1, 2026, were approved as edited with removal of duplicated paragraph and grammatical error correction.

2. Information/Policy updates

Jackie Freitas updated committee on the current status of policies E10 and E130 as they have been approved by Faculty Senate and moved forward for President's approval.

Meeting suspended at 11:57am for a conversation of voting committee members only as requested by Tito Busani. Meeting called back in session at 12:07pm.

3. Action/Discussion Items

- Discussion of charge **A61.6 Faculty Senate Social Justice Committee**

Melissa Lehan Mackin presented an overview and activities of FSSJC. Carol Stephens provided additional information regarding **Procedures** section of A61.6 specifically the membership composition of committee. Further discussion on the definition of social justice and addition of **C150** to **Related Policies**. Members expressed concern over the language and possible alternative definitions. Nancy Middlebrook explained the current status is working as an ad hoc committee with the goal of formalizing under the purview of the Faculty Senate. Nancy suggested and committee agreed that the definition and language be worked on with the SJ ad hoc committee over the summer. A61.6 was tabled and will be revisited in the next academic year in preparation for A61.6's campus review.

- Discussion of **A91 Creation, Review, Reorganization of UNM Research Center and Institutes**

Tito Busani provided brief background on policy.

Motion to approve policy A91 as written with grammatical corrections, seconded.

Committee discussion ensued and Tito provided additional policy information on research centers. Caitlin raised question of the "Note of explanation" in the policy, asking if it will be removed. Carol explained that it would be removed and was temporarily placed in policy for committee review to bring attention to specific language being stricken.

Tito explained the compensation and course load of center directors.

Chair called for a vote and A91 was unanimously approved and will go out for campus comment at the beginning of the academic year.

Due to time constraints the remaining agenda item will be addressed in the next academic year.

C130 Outside Employment & Conflicts of Commitment

Review of Policy List (3/26/26)

Review Policies C170, C190, and C305 Faculty Comments

Meeting adjourned at 1:05pm.