

Faculty Senate Chair Report

Submitted 10.6.16 by Chair Christopher Brown

- **AAG Meeting** – last meeting was 10.3.16, and bills heard concerned numbering changes to investment policy for University cash flow, repeal of existing policy on financial exigency due to being inconsistent with union contract and existing HR and admin policy, and bill dealing with local versus statewide board of Regents. Rolfe and I agreed all would go admin route. Anyone with questions can contact me for more details or copies of the bills.
- **UAC meeting** – last meeting was first read on bills related to Intellectual Property Rights, Investments, Athletics, Change of Name on Employee Health Center, Faculty Care Leave, and Drone Usage on campus. Bill on Faculty Care Leave is coming to the Senate for comment, and I have asked Rolfe and the SLC to review the policy. No old business or final action on past bills, as this was first meeting of the academic year.
- **ADC meeting** – last meeting was on 9.27.16, and majority of meeting dealt with retention efforts that NMSU is pursuing. Judy Bosland and Melody Munson McGee will share some brief thoughts on this effort at the 10.6.16 Senate meeting. Consent agenda was accepted to move credit requirement from 128 to 120 on the U/G ICT program. Changes to kinesiology degree were proposed by Bob Wood, DH of Kinesiology and Dance, in a first read, and Dean Titus requested that Library staff do a needs assessment as the proposal moves through ADC and ADAC.
- **Attendance at the DACC RoundUp** – At the invitation of DACC Vice President of Academic Affairs (VPAA) Monica Torres, I attended the 2016 RoundUp and gave a keynote speech on shared governance at NMSU and how this can be advanced at CC campuses. I also attended several workshops on various aspects of teaching and was very impressed with the quality of the workshops and the caliber of presenters. I also had a chance for an informal discussion with DACC President Renay Scott, Deputy Provost Greg Fant, and VPA Torres in which we shared ideas on articulation, better connections between the CCs and Main Campus, and shared governance. ON the last issue, I have been invited by Kim Lopez Gallagher, Professor of US History, Government, and Philosophy at NMSU-Alamogordo, to visit them to share ideas on shared governance, with a special eye to helping advance this at CC campuses.
- **Regents meeting** – A special meeting was called for Monday, 9.29.16, at which a resolution was discussed and approved to share ideas with HED Secretary Damron concerning possible budget cuts and their impact on higher ed. The case that was made is that NMSU had worked very hard the last 3 years to reduce expenditures while other institutions in NM did not, and future ideas on budget reductions should take this into account. I was not able to attend this meeting, due to attending the SLC meeting, and Donna Alden was gracious enough to attend and read a statement that I drafted to share with the Regents. A copy of these comments are posted to the FS Website.
- **New bills in the works** – In the last month, I have been approached by faculty with an interest in moving bills related to the following;
 - reducing VWW credit requirement from 6 to 3 units for veteran and active duty military that have served overseas,

- changes to the Student Code of Conduct related to maintaining a respectful environment in the classroom, especially with respect to electronic devices in class, and
- policy related to tenure of interim DHs and the process by which they often transition to permanent DHs.
- We have also been approached by ASNMSU Senator Steven Jenkins, and he has asked to speak to the Senate on NMSU grading policy. Senator Rosendorf and I advised Mr. Jenkins to work with Faculty Senate Ex-Officio member and ASNMSU President Matt Bose to secure assistance from a Faculty Senator to explore relevant issues and draft a bill, if and NMSU Faculty Senator agrees to sponsor a bill.