

NMSU Faculty Senate Chair Report

For March 2022 by Julia Parra

Academic Deans Council

Currently, I am attending Interim Provost Campbell's meetings titled Deans/Faculty Senate Chair meetings. We met on March 22, 2022.

- Welcome to new library Dean Kevin Comerford
- Thank you to Renay Scott for serving as interim provost and now serving as the interim Graduate School Dean
- Proposed budget related items were discussed including: proposed tuition increases - 4% for resident, non-resident, Online undergraduate, 8% Online graduate; proposed \$25 course delivery fee elimination, proposed implementation of academic services fee at \$20 (excluding doctoral, theses, dual credit, NMSUO); DACC is proposing an integrated access fee through Follet at \$24 per credit which would provide all course materials at the start of courses
- The state mandated compensation was discussed and the gap for the unfunded part at Las Cruces campus is noted as approximately 400K
- Regarding the 4% scenario, there was discussion regarding equitable and transparent administration as well as brainstorming in this area
- Interim Associate Vice President for Facilities and Services, Bart Lane requested feedback about NMSU facilities and services

University Administrative Council (UAC) meetings

There wasn't a March Meeting. The next meeting is scheduled April 12, 2022. See the [University Administrative Council](#) site for UAC information and minutes that have detailed information.

Board of Regents Meeting/s

See the [Regent Meetings site for notices, agendas, binders](#). See the [Regent Committees](#) page for membership and charters. A few notes:

- Special Meeting, March 4, 2022, the transition of NMSU-Carlsbad to Southeast New Mexico College pursuant to N.M.S.A. 1978 Section 21-13-27 and 2021 New Mexico Laws Chapter 104 (H.B. No. 212), was discussed.
- Regular Meeting, March 14, 2022, Public comment included many who spoke in support of the graduate students; prior Faculty Senate Chair Chris Brown provided a summary noting - strong support on efforts by the grad students of tuition research, unionizing, etc., noted the important work of GAs, and identified two requests 1) reexamine the budget for graduate student tuition relief, and 2) engage in conversations about recognizing union efforts. Election of Officers occurred with Ammu Devasthali elected as Chair, Arsenio Romero as Vice Chair, and Neal Bitsie as Treasurer/Secretary. Consent Items were approved, see [Binder](#).
- Special Meeting, March 28, 2022, [see Binder](#), Consent Items approved, Action Items focused on tuition and fee rates and budget guidelines; and parking permit rates; the requests for changes were approved. I was asked to weigh in on these requests and noted support for the changes with the caveat that continued efforts towards transparency, especially in areas not fully delineated, such as the investments and the graduate student employees, occur.

Other items and activities

- **Budget:** The 4% state legislated funding is being discussed across the university, join your college conversations and reach out to your Senate Leaders with feedback.

Thank you for your continued investment in the work of the [NMSU Faculty Senate](#). If you have any questions, suggestions or concerns, please email Julia Parra at juparra@nmsu.edu; or email Jamie Bronstein at jbronste@nmsu.edu.

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- **FSLC and Administration:** FSLC met with the Chancellor and Vice Chancellor and separately with Interim Provost Dorothy (Dee Dee) Campbell.
- **Climate Action Team:** Began serving as Co-Chair; the committee is focused on taking action and creating solutions. Will be meeting every other week. See the site for history and upcoming information: <https://united.nmsu.edu/community/csat.html>
- **Native Peoples Commitment and Actions:** There is a group meeting with Chancellor Arvizu to discuss relevant critical issues. The current critical issues include 1) the development of Aggie Uptown amidst concerns from local Indigenous Tribes, communities, and 2) NMSU faculty recruitment, hiring, retention, quality of experience, and 3) Native American Studies.
- **Policy Steering Committee (PSC):** [NMSU Policy Hub](#) is live. We continue to work to identify impact and process mapping as related to the Faculty Senate.
- **Faculty Talk:** Lauren Goldstein, Organizational Development Specialist, from the Chancellor's Office is leading the workgroup that the Chancellor tasked to address the issues brought up in the **03-2122 Resolution**. Workgroup includes Faculty Senators, ICT, MarComm, HRS, General Counsel, and related Operational Policy Facilitator. A meeting was held April 7, 2022 and we have identified and are setting up the pathways for going live before the end of the semester.
- **Learning Management Systems (LMS) Team:** Nothing to report.
- **Goal Team 4:** Linda Scholz provided an update for NMSU EID organization and work.
- **Perozynski Emergency Fund:** For reference here is the link for website with information on history, eligibility, defined emergency, how to apply, etc. It is noted that they haven't had many applications, likely due to lack of knowledge.
https://wellness.nmsu.edu/Employee%20Services/perozynski_emergency_fund.html
- **Parra Senate Chair Office Hours aka Lunch w/ Julz:** Wednesdays, 12-1:00, *on-site in Guthrie Room 109D*, [Zoom link](#), email me if you need the link or phone information. If this day/time doesn't work for you, email me and we can schedule something else.

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