

**NMSU Faculty Senate
Meeting**
September 5, 2024; 4:00 p.m.
DOM 109 and [Zoom](#)

AGENDA

1. Call to Order Meeting called to order at 4:06 p.m.

2. Recognition of Guests

- Lizely Madrigal, Director Instructional & Research Support with ICT
Lizely Madrigal gave a Power Point presentation on FY25 IT Planning for classroom technology trends, needs and strategies.
 - The purpose of the presentation is to inform the senators about how the funding we received and used to upgrade classrooms in fiscal year 2024. NMSU has a total of 411 learning spaces, including labs and classrooms, with 122 centrally scheduled, and 80 managed by departments.
 - When Lizely Madrigal took over as department head, a key focus was to improve classroom efficiency by implementing a 5-year replacement cycle for equipment like desks, desktops, and projectors. 122 classrooms were enhanced with a performance and reliability Intel processors, and a projector that now has a laser instead of bulbs, which laser have a longer lifespan and will minimize the frequent calls to replace them. This will help minimize disruptions.
 - IT is now analyzing Tdx tickets to identify the top 3 recurring issues and develop automated scripts to address them remotely from our control station. IT's goal is to enhance teaching and minimize interruptions due to technology issues.
 - Feedback from a recent survey on classroom experiences will help IT further improve functionality. Data shows that most undergraduate students prefer face-to-face instruction, while graduate students lean towards hybrid learning. We plan to continue data-driven decision-making to enhance instruction delivery in the upcoming fiscal year.
 - Faculty input on needed classroom technologies is crucial as they plan. IT has a modest budget that could be supplemented with grants or foundation support to meet the requirements. The survey also inquired about desired technologies in the classroom, as customer feedback is vital for our long-term planning.
 - Currently, they are developing the Bloom Room, a space with a large screen made up of 90 tiles, with plans to incorporate this technology in various university buildings in the future. Faculty feedback will guide our planning for the next 2 to 3 years and beyond.
 - Overall, the goal is to create functional and innovative learning environments based on faculty needs and feedback. Honest input, whether positive or negative, is essential in shaping the future of classroom technology at NMSU.
Questions and discussion followed.

3. Approval of Agenda

Moved and seconded to approve agenda.

Agenda approved.

4. Appointment of Parliamentarian and Recording Secretary

Moved and seconded to appoint Lawrence LaPlue as 2024-2025 FS Parliamentarian
Faculty Senate approved appointment.

Moved and seconded to appoint Maria Cisneros as 2024-2025 Recording Secretary
Faculty Senate approved appointment.

5. Approval of Minutes of May 2, 2024, meeting

Moved and seconded to approve minutes.

Minutes approved as submitted.

6. Consent Calendar

- Proposition 01-24/25 – Resolution to change name of the Department of Government to Department of Political Science, Public Law and Administration. Thaddieus Conner (A&S), Timothy Cleveland (A&S), Jamie Bronstein (A&S), Chris Erickson (CoB), Neil Harvey (A&S), Shofiqur Rahman (CoB), & William Walker (A&S).

Moved and seconded to adopt consent agenda.

Senate Vote: YES: 42

NO: -0-

ABSTAIN: 1

7. Emergency Legislation

- Proposition 02-24/25 – Senate Bill Proposal to repeal the Amended Senate Bylaws passed at the 2 May 2024 Senate meeting. Sponsors = Chris Erickson (COB), Tawny Aguirre (DACC), Faruk Arslan (CoB), Nathan Brooks, (A&S), Christopher Brown (A&S), Thaddieus Conner (A&S), Kristian Finlator (A&S), Dylan McDonald (Library), John Sandstrom (Library), William Walker (A&S).

Moved and seconded to consider Proposition 02-24/25 as emergency legislation.

Senate voted in favor; proposition moved to Unfinished Business.

8. Reports of Officers

FS Chair, Vimal Chaitanya-

Chair Chaitanya had some remarks and announcements to make, particularly regarding the busy summer he had. Chair Chaitanya is involved in various committees such as the President's Search Committee, Deputy Pro Research Committee, University System Budget Committee, and Policy Steering Committee. Additionally, is part of the President's Cabinet, Board of Regents meeting, IT Strategic Planning Committee, and Sodexo Steering Committee. Chair Chaitanya and Vice-Chair Brown meet regularly with the interim President and interim Provost. Chair believes there is a strong commitment to shared governance, which is positive. There is a need to focus on improving the efficiency of service offices and strategic use of IDC funds. He will be seeking input from Senators to address these issues. Moreover, they need to allocate more funds for startup packages for faculty in science and engineering disciplines and support a Proposal Development Office.

Full Chair Report on FS Website.

FS Vice-Chair, Christopher Brown

Vice-Chair Brown is active in three standing committees at the University: the Academic Dean's Advisory Council, University Policy Approval Council, and the Policy Steering Committee at ADAC. We are addressing concerns about international students' language capabilities and academic performance. Vice-Chair also talked about the State Fire Marshal has issued violations for fire code non-compliance, emphasizing the importance of keeping fire doors closed. Various topics are under discussion, including degree proposals and policies for low-yield departments. The Policy Steering Committee is instrumental in reviewing University policies and the ARP, with a focus on campus solicitation, free speech, and professional licensure. Efforts are being made to establish a more consistent meeting schedule. Key policies, such as summer teaching assignments and procedures for addressing

harassment, are being reviewed. [Full Vice-Chair Report on FS Website.](#)

Reports of Standing Committees

- Budget and Resources
Senator Steven Hanson introduced himself as the Chair for the Budget and Resource Committee.
- University Planning
Senator Eric Lenhoff introduced himself as the Chair for the University Planning Committee and is looking forward to meeting all the members.
- Curriculum and Programming
Senator Gus Piña introduced himself as the Chair for the Curriculum and Programming Committee.
- Research and Creative Activity
Senator Paul Tian introduced himself as the Chair for the Research and Creative Activity Committee.
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
Senator Karen Kopera-Frye introduced herself as the Chair for the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee and is looking forward to meeting all the members and get rolling on DEI agenda.
- Student Success
Senator Tawny Aguirre introduced herself as the Chair for the Student Success Committee.

9. New Business

- Proposition 03-24/25 – Senate Bill Clarifying Exceptions to Final Exam Requirements in ARP 4.50. K. Finlator (A&S); J. Burchett (A&S), M. Burkardt (NTT, A&S); J. Jackiewicz (A&S), M. Prescott (A&S).
Proposition 03-24/25 was assigned to Curriculum and Programming Committee.

10. Unfinished Business

- Proposition 07-23/24 – Senate Bill Called for NMSU leadership to establish a fund for open access article publishing/processing charges for tenured, tenure-eligible, and non-tenure-track faculty, research scientist, research scholars, research center directors, and librarians. Taryn Price-Lopez (DACC), Susan Beck (Library), Sangu Angadi (PES-ACES), Faruk Arslan (College of Business)
Proposition 07-23/24 calling for NMSU leadership to establish a fund for open access article publishing charges. Currently, these fees are burdensome for departments and faculty without grant funding. The proposal was previously discussed but tabled for further review and later response by interim President, Gouge. With a new interim President and Provost, discussions are ongoing to potentially conduct a study on the legislation, which currently allocates 0.5% of R&D expenditure for this purpose. Discussion and comments followed. Senator Sandstrom volunteered to write an amended legislation allocating 0.5% of Indirect Cost by the next meeting.
- Proposition 09-23/24 – Resolution Waiving Viewing the Wider World Classes. T Aguirre (DACC), M Elshinawy (Engineering), B Hampton (A&S), J Rice (HEST), M Valadez (DACC), T Allred (NMSU-A), T Conner (HEST), K Finlator (A&S), S Lynch (HEST), J Mullen (Engineering), M Mapp (A&S)
Senator Aguirre sent a draft for feedback without intending to assign a number. They withdrew it to reconsider and potentially rewrite a new proposition. The goal was to ensure consistency in course waivers for broader perspectives. Initially, Senator Aguirre based it on information from a dean's presentation, but later learned it was not entirely accurate from guest speakers Tony Marin and Marissa Fowler. Therefore, they decided it would be better to conduct further research and revise the proposition for

accuracy.

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Senator Chris Erickson gave a brief statement.

Discussion and comments followed by Senators.

Move to approve made and seconded.

Senate votes in favor.

Senate Vote

YES: 43

NO: -0-

ABSTAIN: 2

Motion passes: Proposition approved by senate.

11. Other Business - NONE

12. Remarks and Announcements

a. FS Chair, Vimal Chaitanya

Chair Chaitanya shared information on the President's search. The five candidates will visit on their respective days of campus interview. The open forums will be for 45 minutes. If you cannot attend open forums they will be recorded. Your vote, whether in favor or against a candidate, holds significant weight and can impact the outcome greatly. Attend in person if possible or view the recording before voting. The Faculty Senate Leadership Committee will have lunch meetings with each candidate from 12 noon to 12:45, providing an opportunity to assess them thoroughly. I was part of the open and transparent selection process where every candidate was discussed, and votes were cast confidentially. Five candidates were selected by the board of regents from the eight names forwarded. The process was rigorous, and we are confident in the candidates presented for final selection.

b. FS Vice-Chair / SLC Chair, Christopher Brown

Vice-Chair made a brief comment on the ARP. 9. 2 and 9. 3, which addresses tenure and promotion processes, at NMSU. 9. 2 applies to hires before 2018, while 9. 3 applies to hires after 2019. Faculty hired under 9. 2 have completed the process. Amendments to 9. 2 and 9. 3 were being considered by the Policy Steering Committee but will now be assigned to a standing committee for wholistic review.

13. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 5:28 p. m.

Present: Chair V. Chaitanya, Vice-Chair C. Brown, T. Conner, P. Tain, F. Motoko, S. Ellis, K. Finlator, S. Walker, I. Pedraza, W. Walker, E. Hetrick, R. Gioannini, S. Gordon, T. Aguirre, C. DeBlieck, T. Stolte, T. Allred, C. Erickson, F. Arslan, B. Hampton, G. Piña, J. Tamaka, F. Bousten, A. Romero, S. Hanson, D. McDonald, D. Magoc, A. Ashley, J. Hunter, T. Manz, E. Oskey, J. Rice, Z. Shen, N. Brooks, L. Hermanson, K. Knight, K. Groover, O. Bello, K.T. Manis, J. Dalager, G. Duff, C. Garcia-Anaya, R. Figueroa, E. Gamboa, L. Grant, I. Rodriguez, O. Holguin, K. Lopez-Gallagher, H. Badawy, J. Sandstrom, K. Koper-Frye, S. Hanson, S. Lynch, J. Cook, E. Lehnhoff, Parliamentarian L. LaPlue, RecSec. Cisneros

Guests: Dr. James McAteer.