

**Minutes for Faculty Senate Budget and Resources committee meeting,
1/20/26, Meeting began at 4:05 pm in N128 Skeen Hall and via Zoom.**

Agenda items discussed

1. Updates from valued standing guests who we missed in Dec.

- a. D'Anne Stuart- Assc. VP Admin and Finance
 - i. Legislative session overview
 1. Faculty raises likely to be at 1%
 2. Some long term RPSP's like Nursing are likely to be rolled up into NMSU's base budget.
 3. Grad student fringe rate change to include tuition @ 9 credits as a benefit requested by NMSU, will make this easier for NMSU to administer.
 4. Governor has until ~3/11 to sign budget, D'Anne expects to have an analysis to present to the B&R committee at our April meeting.
- b. Hanson and Stuart- Faculty Support Business Process Improvement Committee
 - i. Improvements to travel processes coming, Dec. meeting with procurement and IT re: software procurement was productive.

2. Update on Sponsors of prop 04-25/26

- a. Passed in full Faculty Senate meeting
- b. Committee discussed the request from Senate leadership to attach a short executive summary of proposition 04-25/26 to the bill when it is transmitted to upper Admin to help upper admin get through the large and dense bill.
 - i. Various options ranging from a re-write of the proposed sustainability measure to a simple executive summary were discussed. It was ultimately agreed that all the details are in the amended proposition that passed, and the committee agreed that S. Hanson work with the chair of C&P to draft a brief executive

summary / guidance paragraph to accompany the bill when it is transmitted to NMSU upper admin.

3. The balance of the meeting was used for discussion of AI tools for research.

- a. Is NMSU behind the times in providing researchers access to AI tools?
- b. If so, FS-B&R try to facilitate a discussion between appropriate parties to move it forward in our March or April meeting?
- c. The committee decided to encourage all groups working on software and AI to come together under a single umbrella since all of the various initiatives revolve around common themes, especially Shared Governance.
- d. The committee decided that S. Hanson would invite relevant admin representatives from IT, possibly procurement, and outside faculty with relevant input to our February meeting to discuss how to make progress on issues related to software procurement, adoption, and AI (both university wide and program specific AI).