

Faculty Senate Vice-Chair's Report for September 2021

Hello my friends:

As Vice-Chair, all I did besides get ready for this meeting was to work on proposition 4 and go to a couple of ADAC meetings. Here are the minutes I took from those two meetings. If there is anything that came up that you think we should talk about, please let me know!

ADAC Meeting 9/13/21

Among the topics discussed at the meeting:

--there is a terrible shortage of Minimester 2 classes and there was concern about this but no specific plan to address it.

--courses need to sunset every 5 years if they are not taught, because the catalogue is a "contract" between students and departments and if courses are listed but not taught "there could be legal ramifications."

--in order to promote more diversity, the MAP program is lowering the GPA for graduate admissions to 2.75 from 3.0, although colleges can individually still use the higher number.

--the committee discussed the problem of getting students to register early enough to have fewer issues with classes being full and students not having classes available, but it seemed like Financial Aid was a large stumbling block because students can't register if they owe more than \$1200.

--the university is moving toward having all faculty put in their course requests a year in advance and students registering a year in advance. Kori Plank is the one organizing the training for this, so maybe the Curriculum and Planning committee wants to invite her to do a presentation?

--I asked whether we could survey students about how they would prefer that individual classes be taught, so there could be better matches between student preferences on hours, days, formats etc. and what we actually offer, but there was a giant silence after my question so I assume that is beyond the capacity of NMSU.

--Diana Dugas said that anyone who needs a microphone or a camera or anything else for teaching should contact classroomtech@nmsu.edu because they have a lot of HEERF money.

ADAC Meeting 9/27/21

--The ADAC committee met Linda Scholz, the new VP for DEI. She described her ideas and there was some discussion about the proposition on DEI that the faculty senate passed last year, but which she had not yet had a chance to read.

--NMSU is working on a new Web landing page for NMSU and you are going to have to sign in with your full NMSU email.

--Shelly Stovall looked over student reporting of faculty members and there was hardly any, and the portal which is supposed to be used for students was used by faculty members to report students. Also, complaints were sitting around in the system and nobody was updating them. This is a thing that the Higher Learning Commission follows so we need to do better. Right now the process if a faculty member

is being toxic is the student needs to approach that faculty member or their department chair. I think that's inappropriate, but there wasn't time to really deal with this stuff at the meeting.

Other issues that have arisen:

Use of Duolingo in addition to the TOEFL to attest to student language proficiency for international students; Chris Erickson will be addressing this at FSLC and Luis Cifuentes is supposed to be coming to the next Senate meeting.

The impact of COVID on student GPAs: Anne Hubbell will be presenting this before the Student Success Committee.

Whether or not there should be a university-wide policy on electronic harassment.

Best,

Jamie