

Faculty Senate Vice Chair Report, October 2024 **Christopher Brown, filed 11.4.24**

Below, I share highlights of work I have completed as Vice Chair in October of 2024. In consideration of peoples' time, I have kept this short, but I am very happy to visit with anyone who would like to gain more data on activities reported.

Meetings with President Torres and Provost Reddi – Chair Chaitanya and I continue to enjoy excellent access to President Torres and Provost Reddi through our weekly meetings, and I share data on issues discussed below.

- **Data on IDC** – D' Anne Stuart, Chris Kinsley, and Kim Rumford will be attending the Senate Budget and Resources Committee meetings to share additional data on how IDC is distributed. Central Admin people are also looking at how our peer institutions use these funds.
- **Discussion of US DoE rules on federal financial aid** - I shared the concerns that faculty have noted, I spoke with Renay Scott on this issue, discussions are ongoing both within FA and Student Success, and I suggested that we invite Renay and Melissa to the November Senate meeting. Our current academic audit software, STAR Audit, is not producing the data we need to sort out the DoE rules, and efforts are ongoing to find a new S/W tool to resolve the issue.
- **Appointment of Provost Fellow on Faculty Success and Associate Provost for Institutional Effectiveness** – Lakshmi is completing his review process of candidates and will be announcing the successful candidates as this process is completed.
- **HR issues** – Hiring delays are continuing to be a major problem, Monica is very aware of this and bringing in an HR expert from The Registry, Marshall Parks, to help, and we should see things improve in the next few months.
- **Pause on researching P&T and FGRB policy due to CBA issues** – Vimal and I were given guidance from the Provost's Office that policy changes that could impact faculty work terms and conditions are on pause until after a bargaining agreement is reached with the faculty union. The Senate FS Committee will continue their work on P&T review and have draft policy ready to move once the pause is lifted.

Meetings of the FSLC with President Torres and Provost Reddi – The FSLC continues to meet with President Torres and Provost Reddi once per month, and I shared notes from these meetings under separate cover in the Outlook invite for the meeting and email reminders. I ask Senators that do not have these at hand to see me for a copy.

Meetings of the Academic Deans Advisory Council (ADAC), University Program Approval Council (UPAC), and the Policy Steering Committee (PSC) - I share highlights below:

- **ADAC** – Discussions have focused on the following:
 - Provost's Office is working on updates to the Carnegie Community Engagement Process,

- Potential plans to place students differently in CHEM 1215G & 1225G were presented by Drs. Lusetti & Vincent-Ruz,
- Dual Credit students entering NMSU with issues on incoming GPAs that lead to loss of scholarship were discussed by Anne Hubbell,
- DoEd Regulations related to federal financial aid were discussed by Rebecca Palacios. Renay Scott noted the importance of understanding how financial aid is awarded to students from foundation and institutional scholarships and Pell grants. The total package cannot exceed the cost of attendance. More details are expected to come from the Provost's Office,
- Graduate Faculty Status process was discussed by Rick Marlatt - Rick would like to look at potentially amending ARP 6.43, to streamline the nomination and renewal processes for graduate faculty at NMSU.
- **UPAC** – In the last few months, we have reviewed many proposals, and I can provide detailed minutes to anyone interested. Proposals reviewed are:
 - BS in AI,
 - Online MS in CS,
 - Decolonial Research Graduate Minor in BEST,
 - Human Rights Undergraduate Minor in CJ,
 - Undergraduate Minors in Meat Science and Interior Spaces,
 - Animation and Visual Effects (3D & VFX Production Studio) Bachelor of Creative Media
 - Four TPAL programs were reactivated as main campus pathways of NMSU Global Programs
 - Grad cert and MA in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages and
 - Grad cert and MA in Bilingual Ed.
- **PSC** – Both meetings for October were cancelled. As stated in my last report, no formal drafts are currently in play, but we are expecting to see action on the following, we just don't know when:
 - ARP 3.63 - Freedom of Expression
 - ARP 16.79 – Sponsored Youth Programs/Minors on Campus
 - ARP New - Professional Licensure and Certification

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