

NMSU Faculty Senate Student Success Subcommittee Chair Report

Meeting: 1/22/2026

Submitted by: Kristian Finlator

Committee Attendance: Seven committee members attended; two were absent

Guests: none

I. 16:02 Quorum Established and Agenda Approved

There was no official business, so Student Success used the time to continue its discussion of Digital Device Use in the Classroom, which was begun on 11/13/2025.

II. Discussion of Digital Device Use / Misuse in the Classroom

- A. The committee discussed the pro's and con's of access to laptops, tablets, cell phones, and smartwatches in the classroom. In all cases, some benefits were seen to be in competition with some risks. Some ideas for best-practice recommendations were noted.
- B. It was agreed that KF should draft a menu of syllabus options from which faculty can choose a digital device policy to incorporate into their syllabus. This can be modeled after the Georgetown University Syllabus [options](#).
- C. A separate document can also be drafted that steps through "best practices" regarding management of digital device access in the classroom.
- D. Afterwards, these should be forwarded to DAS and a DAS representative invited for discussion about accommodations and accessibility, as there are legitimate reasons why some students might need access to their digital devices in the classroom.

III. 16:50 Adjournment