

FACULTY SENATE BUDGET AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Meeting Notes, October 24, 2023

Report prepared by Vimal Chaitanya, Chair FSBRC.

Guests Present: D'Anne Stuart and Kim Rumford

The meeting commenced at 4:00 pm. Vimal invited Kim Rumford and D'Anne Stuart to summarize the budget presentation made at the University System Budget Committee meeting on October 19, 2023.

A summary of the presentation from D'Anne Stuart and Kim Rumford is provided here. Unified priorities of CUP, NMICC, and NMACC from higher education includes recurring funding for general operations, student support, employee benefit enhancements, salary compensation at 5%, and targeted faculty compensation. Non-recurring request includes campus safety (\$8M) and technology enhancement funds. Statewide priorities are for Building Renewal & Replacement (\$50M), Equipment Renewal & Replacement (\$10M), and Expanded Cybersecurity Initiatives(\$11.5M). NMSU's capital priorities include \$20M to plan, design, construct, renovate, and equip critical infrastructure improvements campus wide, including steam and electrical (GO Bond), \$15M to plan, design, construct, and renovate improvements to agricultural science and experiment stations statewide (GO Bond), \$5M to plan, design, construct, furnish, and equip a college of engineering facility (GO Bond), and \$4.7M to plan, design, abate and demolish Cole Village. Additional request for Donna Ana campus is \$2M, Alamogordo (\$7.6M), and Grants (\$3M). The CMI request for \$35 M was not approved. Finally, the RPSP requests for FY 25 show an increase from the FY 24 final allocation. The biggest request increase is for Agriculture College (\$12M), Athletics (\$2M) and Produced water consortium (\$1M).

Vimal discussed the need for a brief document to be sent to Clayton Abbey, who can share it with the State legislators for justifying faculty salary compensation request. A recent salary survey report authored by Laura Madsen and Justin McDonald would be used to prepare this document. Both authors were invited to this meeting, but they expressed their inability due to other conflicting commitments at the same time. Clayton Abbey was in another meeting which lasted longer, and he could not join. Other than the salary survey the document will emphasize consequences such as inability to attract or retain productive faculty, impact on student education and training etc. Following the discussion, concerns were raised about the ability of this committee to gather data for failed faculty searches, inability to recruit top candidate, inability to retain outstanding faculty etc. as such data may be more readily available with HR and administrators.

Next Meeting: November 14, 2023, at 4:00 pm.

Zoom Link: <https://nmsu.zoom.us/j/83979049707>