



## Faculty Senate

MSC 3445  
New Mexico State University  
P. O. Box 30001  
Las Cruces, NM 88003-8001  
575-646-2593  
facultysenate.nmsu.edu

### **Faculty Senate Chair March Report for February 2024 Activities**

Dr. Gaylene Fasenko

**Chair Office Hours:** Tuesdays 11am-12 noon: Hadley Hall Room 20

To schedule an appointment: 575-646-3402 or [gfasenko@nmsu.edu](mailto:gfasenko@nmsu.edu)

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#### **Election Results for Faculty Senate Chair:**

Vimal Chaitanya – 203

Glenn Duff - 73

Congratulations to Faculty Senate Vice Chair Chaitanya who will serve as the Chair of Faculty Senate for the 2024/2025 academic year beginning on Monday, May 13, 2024.

Thank you to Senator Duff for agreeing to participate as a candidate in this election, and for your leadership on Faculty Senate.

#### **Updates on Ongoing Searches:**

##### 1) [NMSU President](#)

- Five candidates visited campus last week:
  - Feb 26 – Wayne Jones (Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs- University of New Hampshire)
  - Feb 27 – Richard Williams (Former President of Utah Tech University)
  - Feb 28 – John Volin – (Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost – University of Maine)
  - Feb 29 – Michael Galyean – (Paul Whitfield Horn Distinguished Professor in the Department of Veterinary Sciences and former Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs -Texas Tech University)
  - March 1 - Austin Lane (Chancellor – Southern Illinois University)
- Richard Williams has accepted a position at Missouri State (See press release [here](#)) and has withdrawn his application for consideration.
- Board of Regents (BOR) will be announcing their decision regarding the President Search at the March 11, 2024 meeting which starts at 2pm.
- Agenda and materials will be posted [here](#). – Zoom link to the live Webcast of this meeting is posted [here](#)

## 2) University Controller

- Search committee submitted feedback a few months ago
- no updates have been provided

## 3) Chief Information Officer

- position is awaiting approval from Human Resources
- Search Chair – Chancellor Sherry Kollmann
- Faculty Senate Representative on the Search Committee – Senator Zixing Shen (MBA Program Director and Associate Professor, Department of Management)

### **Legislative Session Summary:**

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/>

Please see appendix of this report for documentation from the NMSU Government Relations Office

### **Update on Propositions:**

Signed by Provost and President:

- 1) 03-23/24 Memorial Calling on the NMSU Administration Financially to Support Programming for Indigenous Peoples Day
- 2) 06-23/24 Resolution to Formalize New Senator Onboarding/Orientation

Provost Signed and Indicated he would respond more at a later date (President has not signed yet):

- 1) 07-23/24 NMSU leadership to establish a fund for open access article publishing/processing charges for tenured, tenure-eligible, and non-tenure-track faculty, research scientist, research scholars, research center directors, and librarians.

No Response to date from Provost and President:

- 1) 04-23/24 Memorial Urging the NMSU Administration to Respect Faculty Rights Under the Public Employees Bargaining Act (Sent to NMSU General Counsel's Office for Review)
- 2) 05-23/24 Senate Bill to Create the Online Learning Council to advise the Chancellor of NMSU-Global

### **Important Highlights from Reoccurring Committee Meetings:**

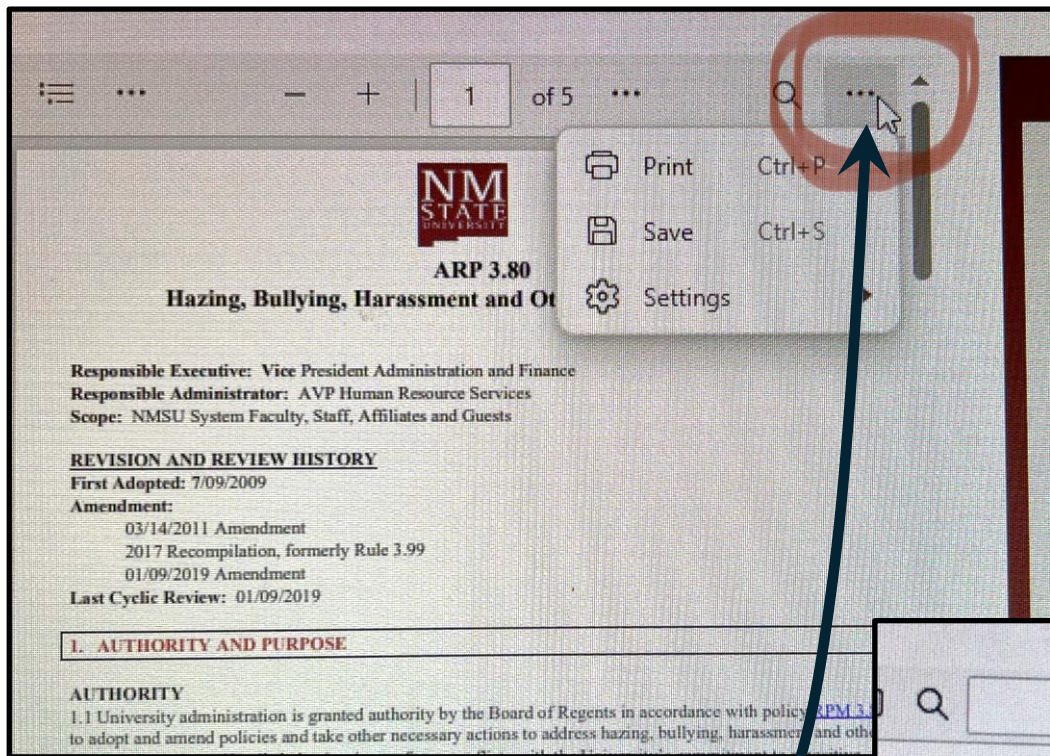
- 1) Policy Steering Committee (PSC)

- Two Administrative Rules and Procedures (ARP) 3.80-Hazing Bullying Harassment and Other Hostile Misconduct and 16.06-Firearms and Other Weapons and are currently posted for feedback on the [NMSU Policy Hub](#)
- Since these are the first two policies going through the new process of review we are beta testing the process to determine if adjustments have to be made
- Vice-Chair Chaitanya and I are members of the PSC

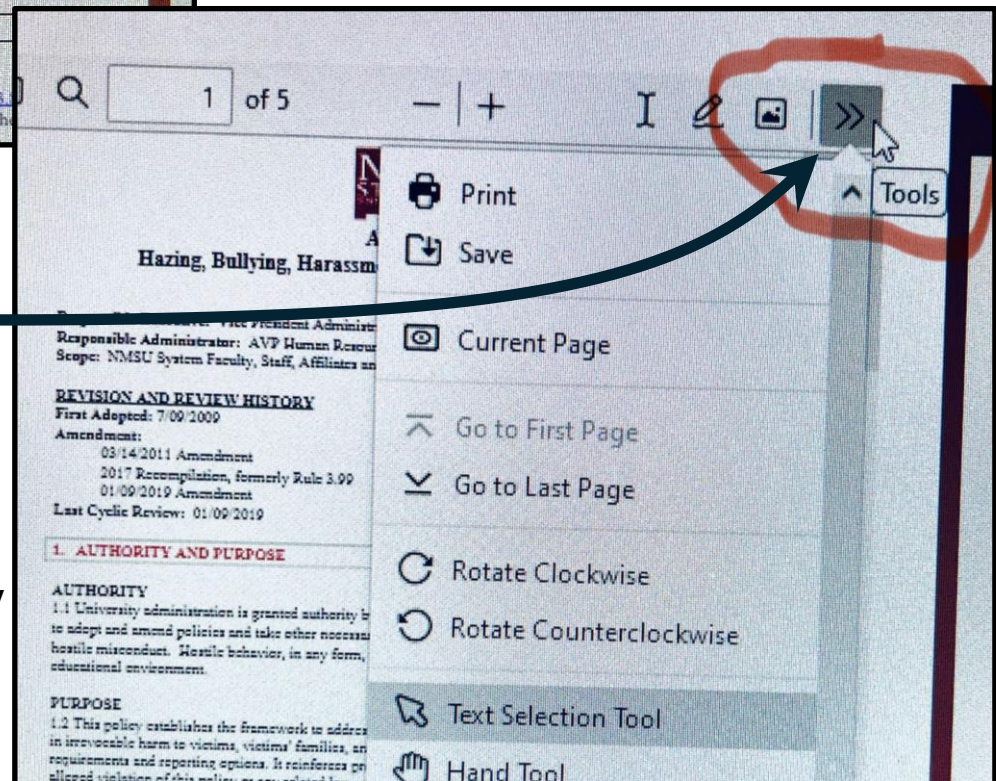
**Below are directions for providing a review using the policy hub:**

- 1) To read and review the open policies in the Policy Hub click on “[View current list](#)” (under the “Policies Open for Comment” title.) (Note: If you wish to download and save or print the policies please see the attached document entitled “How to Navigate Downloading Policy from Policy Hub” in [the appendix of this report](#))
- 2) To provide feedback on the content of the policy, click on “[Launch the Policy Feedback Survey Full Screen](#)” button on the right hand side of the page.

## Appendix



- 1) Search “NMSU Policy Hub” (<https://policy.nmsu.edu/>)
- 2) On right hand side under “Policies Open for Comment” click on “**view current list**”
- 3) Click on the title of the ARP policy you want to review



- 4) Depending on the browser you use you will see an ellipsis (...) or (>>)
- 5) Click on the ... or the >> and a pop down screen will give you the option of saving the file so you can open it in another program and see a full screen pdf of the policy
- 6) On the right-hand side of the screen click on: Launch the Policy Feedback Survey Full Screen



# *New Mexico State University System 2024 Preliminary Post-Session Report February 19, 2024*

At noon, Thursday, February 15, 2024, the 2024 State of New Mexico Legislative Session concluded, sending 87 bills to Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham for signature, veto, partial veto, or pocket veto (the latter in which the Governor rejects a bill by not taking any action). As the primary focus of a shorter, 30-day session (held in even years) is to craft a spending plan for the upcoming fiscal year, much of that which was accomplished pertains to the state budget (House Bills 2 and 3), a tax package (House Bill 252), and capital outlay packages (House Bill 308 and Senate Bills 246 and 275). New Mexico State University, along with the state's other higher education institutions, stands to receive increased operational funding, compensation for employees, and infrastructure and deferred maintenance money, among many other items, once the bills become law.

Given that the Governor has until March 6, 2024 to take action on items that passed both Chambers, the following breakdown of key impacts to higher education should be considered tentative. Following the March 6 date, our office will update this report to reflect any changes resulting from the Governor's actions. During this period, our office will be working with the Governor's office to preserve all appropriations received through the various funding streams.

For now, here are the key highlights beginning with those items impacting all higher education and then those items specific to New Mexico State University.

### **Statewide higher education support:**

- Passage of Senate Bill 159, creating the Higher Education Trust Fund. The Trust Fund will receive a \$959 million transfer pending action by the Governor. \$10.6 million is earmarked for shortfalls in Opportunity Scholarship funding.
- \$23.8 million in instruction and general funding to all higher education institutions, an increase of 3% from the previous fiscal year. This increase includes earmarks for targeted faculty compensation, student support services, and support for graduate assistants.

*state wide*

*~ 7million*

*~ 2million  
state wide*

- \$33 million in funding to provide a 3% across-the-board compensation increase to all non-probationary employees. Additional funding of \$9.4 million will be distributed to institutions as a partial offset to insurance premium increases.
- \$32.5 million for Building Renewal and Replacement and Demolition
- \$5 million for Equipment Renewal and Replacement
- \$5.5 million to K-12 and higher education institutions for cybersecurity
- \$1 million for Dual Credit programs at higher education institutions
- \$10 million for graduate scholarships to New Mexico graduates in STEM programs
- \$10 million for social work endowed faculty positions, financial aid and paid practicums
- \$10 million in new funding and a \$15 million authorization from the Technology Enhancement Fund to support research institutions in match requirements
- \$60 million in workforce training tuition coverage to be spent over three fiscal years
- \$6 million in funding for Integrated Basic Education and Skills Training programs to be spend over three fiscal years

**New Mexico State University System-specific support:**

- \$10.8 million in increased instruction and general funding and support for Research and public service projects
- \$22 million in one-time funding including support for Global Campus, the Creative Media Institute, Athletics, the College of Engineering's Manufacturing Sector Development Program, and the Department of Agriculture. (NMDA)
- \$6.8 million in earmarked funding through the Government Responsibility and Opportunity Fund, to be spent over two fiscal years.
- \$90 million in funding for capital outlay projects

The tables that follow provide detail of all New Mexico State University System funding in detail.

earmarked  
\$5 million  
for  
Alamogordo  
↓  
Gov.  
likely to  
veto

to design  
building

special  
appropriations  
\$1 million

6.5 million

4 million