



Faculty Senate

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Faculty Senate Chair October Report for September 2023 Activities

Dr. Gaylene Fasenko

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

Appointment requests: 575-646-3402 or gfasenko@nmsu.edu

Chair Fasenko would like to express gratitude to the following people:

- Gloria Podruchny (*Faculty Senate (FS) Recording Secretary*) – this will be her last Faculty Senate meeting and I wish her all the best as she retires from NMSU

Updates on Ongoing Searches:

- 1) [NMSU Dean, Graduate School/Associate Provost for International Affairs](#)
 - Position closes October 20, 2023
 - Dean Lakshmi Reddi is the Search Committee Chair
- 2) [NMSU President](#)
 - Search is currently in the recruitment phase with review of candidates expected sometime in December 2023
 - Information on the search including the leadership profile, the names of the search committee members, and information how to nominate someone for the position can be found on the [Selecting the next President of the NMSU System](#) website
 - Search firm WittKieffer has been contracted to run the search
<https://www.wittkieffer.com/>
 - Next meeting of the search committee is being scheduled for end of November 2023 so the search firm can provide an update on progress and plan for the next steps in the search
 - Search Committee will serve in an advisory role to Board of Regents who will select the next President of NMSU
 - Faculty members on the Presidential Search Committee are:
 - Dr. Georgina Badoni – Department of Borderlands and Ethnic Studies
 - Dr. Christopher Brown – Department of Geography & Environmental Studies
 - Dr. Maria de Boyrie – Department of Finance
 - Dr. Gaylene Fasenko – Chair, Faculty Senate
 - Dr. Steve Stochaj – Klipsch School of Electrical & Computer Engineering
 - Dr. John Wenzel – Extension Veterinarian, Department of Extension Animal Science and Natural Resources

- Dr. Leslie Edgar, Associate Dean Associate Dean/Director, Agricultural Experiment Station
 - Dr. Enrico Pontelli, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
 - Dr. Mónica Torres, Chancellor, NMSU System Community Colleges
- 3) [University General Counsel](#)
- candidates are being selected and interviewed (FS representative on the committee: Dr. Karen Kopera-Frye)
- 4) [University Controller](#)
- search is ongoing -no updates to provide (Faculty Representative: Dr. Cagla Yildirim, Department of Finance, College of Business)
- 5) [Director, Procurement Services](#)
- search is ongoing- no updates (Faculty Rep:Dr. Victor Pimentel, Department of Management, College of Business)

Meeting Updates:

- 1) [NMSU Administrative Leadership & Faculty Senate Leadership Committee \(FSLC\)](#)
- President Gogue update:
 - State of NM expecting a 3.4 billion dollar revenue increase over last year due to oil and gas revenues
 - State planning on putting much of the funding into reserves so that the state will have funds available after oil and gas prices drop (anticipated drop ~2030)
 - NM legislature is strongly supporting projects that need one time funding
 - State of NM Senators are concerned about evaluation from “National Council for Teacher Quality” which gave NMSU a grade of “D” for the teacher education program
 - NM legislature funding formula is being adjusted to give more emphasis to student retention and graduation numbers
 - Projected funds needed for deferred maintenance at NMSU is 585 million
 - NMSU freshmen enrollment system wide is up over last year (Las Cruces Campus up by 2412 students, NMSU-Global enrollment up by 33%, NMSU-Alamagordo up by 5.5%, NMSU-Grants up by 4.5%, and DACC up by 2.9%)
- 2) [Provost Committee on Addressing Enrollment Cliff](#)
- Increase recruitment along the I10 corridor from Los Angeles to Houston and also parts of southern Texas
 - NM has a negative migration of about 6,491 people (more people leaving NM than are coming to NM)
 - NMSU tuition compared to surrounding universities is very competitive
 - Current retention rate of students at NMSU is about 72% - goal to get to 80%

3) [Direct](#)

- search is ongoing

4) [NMSU Retiree Luncheon](#) (September 28, 2023)

- Provost is hoping to re-engage retirees
- strategic planning meeting scheduled for October 31, 2023 from 1:30-2:30pm in Gerald Thomas Hall room 297

Updates on Other Issues of Interest to Faculty

1) [Faculty Compensation Studies](#)

- Most recent study “Report of AY22-23 Market Analysis of Las Cruces Campus Faculty Base Salary Compensation” can be found [here](#)
- 89 faculty will receive an average of a \$2,676 pay increase in order to bring all faculty up to the 30th percentile of R2

2) [Cultural Norms and Expectations](#)

- Provost and Deans have developed a short document that they will commit to in an effort to improve the culture at NMSU