

## Minutes Student Success, September 21, 2023

**Members Present:** Tawny Aguirre, Tanya Allred, Brian Hampton, Thaddieus Conner, Kristian Finlator, Stephanie Lynch, John Mullen, James Rice, Mayra Valdez

**Members Absent:** Mona Elshinawy

**Guest:** Rebecca Cambell, Student Success Fellow

- 1.) Introductions
- 2.) April 2023 minutes approved, Motion by Senator Allred, Second Senator Rice
- 3.) Continuing members discussed past projects that this committee had undertaken. One thing that was mentioned was that there is an Aggie1stop for students, but it would be helpful if there was a similar guide for faculty so that they would know where to send students. Also, an ongoing project is to update ARP 4.46 Authorized Absences from Class. Senator Allred volunteered to get this document to committee members.

Each member was asked for ideas related to goals for the committee for the upcoming year. Ideas included:

- Coming up with ideas to improve students writing.
- Concerns with the new management of the NMSU Bookstore to include that required materials were not available the first day of class.
- Having a conversation related to, “What is Student Success?” Is it preparing students to be prepared for the work-force, or well rounded in a variety of topics?
- Senator Rice volunteered to look into whether or not NMSU still offered the Writing Across the Curriculum workshop. It was mentioned in a positive light from a past attendee.
- Looking at how to address suspected plagiarism from Chat GPT.
- Problems with Books 4 Less at the Community Colleges.
- It was felt that there was a knowledge gap beyond writing, and that there might be some quick fixes.
- Bridge the gap between the Community Colleges and NMSU. It was mentioned that previously there was a program where students completed the first two years at a community college and transferred to NMSU. In addition to State alignment in regards to transferring classes. Currently, NMSU students are not allowed to take classes at DACC. It was questioned, why this was the case if we are supposed to be one university?

There was a question asked in relation to this committee’s support for the graduate students union. It was explained that the former Chair of this committee went to many meetings and brought in people in as needed, but didn’t necessarily advocate for the graduate students.

**Guest: Rebecca Campbell, Student Success Fellow** – asked what the charge of the committee was and suggested that we align our goals with our formal charge.

She also stated that she wants two numbers, how much will it cost for full tuition, and health care cost for graduate students, and how much will it cost to let faculty go to a 2:2 load to allow faculty to do their own research? She suggested that one way to do this was to increase class size.

It was mentioned by a couple of Senators that they tried to support the graduate students as they perceived them as having problems with the Administration and no permanent graduate Dean. Our guest and other Senators articulated that there was a capable Interim Graduate Dean.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Senator Allread, and Seconded by Senator Valdez, motion passed unanimously.

Next meeting to take place via Zoom, October 19, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.