

Proposition: 07-24/25

Proposal Type: **Bill** Resolution Memorial Joint Proposition Other

(If Joint proposition, also select type)

Title: Resolution to allow NMSU main campus students to enroll in and receive credit for NMSU system branch courses

Date Submitted:

Main Sponsor(s): R., Gioannini (NTT), T, Aguirre (DACC)

Sponsors: K. Lopez Gallagher (Alamogordo), K. Finlator (A & S)

Proposed Committee: Diversity and Equity

Prior Approvals:

Proposal: This resolution would ask the administration to **revisit the policy** that does **not** allow **undergraduate students enrolled at Main Campus to be able to simultaneous enroll in NMSU system branch campus courses and have the courses count towards their degree.**

Rationale: Currently, there is **no wording** in the **Administrative Rules and Procedures nor the Regents Policy Manual** specifically **forbidding concurrent enrollment in class on Main and branch campuses.** Concurrent enrollment had been allowed prior to 2020. The rule to disallow concurrent enrollment in branch and Main campus courses is addressed in a memo from former Provost Parker dated July 30, 2020. The main reasons cited for restricting concurrent enrollment were that Main Campus should “meet the demand for courses required in degree plans” and to encourage students to complete their degrees “in a reasonable timeframe.”

It is recognized that many students are not "traditional" students and barring them from taking branch campus courses can cause hardship, such as missed work, child care issues, etc. Because of this barrier, some students have chosen to take some 1000 and 2000 level courses at other community colleges, both online and in person in an attempt to meet degree requirements. These credits transfer in without difficulty. **The NMSU system loses a revenue stream by not allowing its students to enroll in branch courses and places an impediment to degree completion for some students.**

Administration should consider the implications of taking courses on different campuses in relationship to scholarships.

- The Student Success sub-committee of NMSU Faculty Senate learned from President Torres on November 14, 2024 at the **NMSU Faculty Leadership Committee meeting, that there was a proposition for the Legislative Finance Committee** stating that this policy should be revised as it is **not friendly** to students.

- **Incoming Freshmen could benefit from small class sizes.** Moreover, it might be a disservice to a new Freshman student straight out of high school to be put in a class size of over 100.
- **It is suggested** that students would be restricted to taking 9-12 credit hours outside of their “home campus”.
- Often, students at NMSU struggle to find the classes that they need because there are not enough sections at NMSU main campus. According to our research, this applies particularly with **Math** and **Chemistry**.
- Moreover, some students would rather take a face-to-face class rather than an online class to **meet their learning styles and needs. Or, vice versa to meet the busy demand of their schedules.**
- The committee has been made aware of instances where students have been **told to take classes at EPCC, CNM, or some other community college because they are not allowed to take classes at DACC, Alamogordo, or Grants** campuses.
- Many main campus and community college faculty would like to see **collaboration** and **not competition**.
- President Torres stated at the Faculty Senate Leadership meeting with the Administration on November 14, 2024 that **there is national data that shows that students who transfer to four-year colleges from community colleges actually perform better.** She also mentioned that we should gather this type of **data at an institutional level.**