Access, Opportunity and Outreach Committee
Report
October 21, 2026, 4:00 pm on Zoom

Attending: Cynthia Fabrizio Pelak, Rebecca Joyce Garay, IIhuiyolitzin Villicana Pedraza, Husna Memon, Veronica Murga, Jason Bengtson, Susana Johnson, Michael Webb, Kim Lopez Gallagher

I. Call to order – A quorum was present.
   a. There were no guests attending the meeting.

II. Old Business
   a. Faculty Senate "Elevator" Speech document
      i. The committee discussed its comments and suggested revisions to the "Elevator" Speech document. The group voted unanimously to remove a sentence from the "Elevator" speech document regarding the faculty union (First paragraph, last sentence). Senator Pedraza suggested adding a sentence to clarify that currently, part-time faculty are not represented by a union. Committee members' further comments on the speech were posted on the document in One Drive.

III. New Business
   a. Compact for Higher Education 2.0
      i. The committee discussed a potential response to the Compact for Higher Education 2.0. It was unanimously decided to recommend that NMSU not engage with or respond to the National Call document from the Department of Education. The committee expressed concerns about potential repercussions of non-compliance and agreed that any response could make NMSU vulnerable to future federal policy changes.

IV. Next meeting date: November 18, 2026

V. Adjourn – Meeting adjourned at 4:58 pm.