

Hello all:

This month my major charge as vice-chair has been working with an Ad-Hoc committee of faculty senators and others to revise ARP 10.50, the faculty disciplinary policy. We have worked up a rough draft, and my plan is to submit it to the beginning of the new policy process outlined at [policy.nmsu.edu](http://policy.nmsu.edu) on Friday, November 4.

Also, as always, I went to some meetings. These minutes are not in chronological order.

### **Executive Committee Meeting, October 31, 2022**

1. The Big Ask: they are currently in the process of trying to narrow down the big ask and combine that with other universities. The process that the legislature is requiring is more bureaucratic than NMSU would like. Has to be narrowed to actionable items.
2. Provost search: the search closed the 31st and evaluation of applications is underway
3. Grad dean search: This search will begin right after the provost search. The provost says faculty members will be on the committee
4. The OIE director search has been extended for 2 more weeks because there were only five applicants. On the good side, 2 of the three investigators for the department have now been hired and they have begun to work on the backlog.
5. Grad school updates; they are working on TA allocations, and all of the executive team deny that there is actually money in the budget rn to do grad student tuition remission, despite the IPRA'd email chain having showed that in April Dave Maddox said the money was there. So it's one of those "who are you going to believe, me or your own lying eyes" kind of deals.
6. The firm (DLR) that has been hired to do a space analysis on campus for things like offices and classrooms will be on campus in the spring to actually walk around.
7. HR Issues: Mercer is the overall contractor for all benefits. They coordinate open enrollment within the secure system. The dispute resolution part is governed by the state of Maryland and employees have to submit to arbitration rather than having a right to a trial but legal says that is not a problem. Employees don't have to schedule an appt online. Gena Jones said 90+ percent of employees successfully completed open enrollment by the deadline (today).
8. Academic deans are working on their part of the academic priorities plan. They have to update if they want to create new degrees, are they revamping their programs, what are their own succession planning. Deans have to turn in the first report on December 18.
9. The shared governance survey sent out by the Chancellor's office will be sent to me and I will post it to the web. I think the summary is "people on faculty senate leadership think shared governance in practice here is better but not great."
10. Dan Arvizu liked the idea of asking for money to create an endowmen for faculty retention offers but notes that the legislature will probably only fund one thing and claims that they are going to be asking for a 10 percent raise. But then there was the caveat of whether this was going to be across the board or a merit raise.

11. The executive team reported on ongoing issues with the NMSU foundation, to which the university itself appears to be in inappropriate thrall. [This would probably be a goldmine for an investigative journalist– Ed.]

## **ADAC Meetings: 10/10/22 and 10/24/22**

### **10/10**

Because the chair of ADAC was out of town, I ran the meeting on October 10, which meant that I could not also take notes of the meeting. However, very little of substance was discussed or decided, so it is not a big deal.

### **10/24**

We discussed at some length the fact that some remote-working offices are hard to get in touch with. People don't return phone calls in a timely way, etc. This is important for student-facing offices. If anyone runs into any trouble getting in touch with a human, Seth Miner is in charge of Aggie One-Stop and welcomes your feedback.

Calling All Aggies begins December 1. This is a calling campaign for students who have not enrolled for the subsequent semester, except for those who are about to graduate. Tony Marin offers training and a platform that is used for generating the phone calls.

Joe Lakey reviewed all of the programs that have either been passed or not passed by the University Program Approval Committee over the last three months.

Associate Dean Garcia is retiring in December.

Seth Miner reports that 125 families participated in "Family Weekend" which co-occurs with homecoming.

## **Space Committee Meeting 10/24/2022**

Met for a work session to confirm the standard operating procedure of the space committee. We had discussions of things like setting standards for the sizes of faculty offices, who actually needs an office, how large various instructional spaces should be, etc. Oddly, DLR group have never set foot on campus. I asked why, and they said their job began during COVID, but that they are hoping to visit in the Spring. In the meantime, they want faculty to send pictures of the spaces of their offices and their workspaces. I said I wasn't sure that was appropriate since we are not the ones being paid to do the space optimization study. Honestly, given that DLR are located in both Denver and Chicago, both of which are a nonstop flight from El Paso, I find it completely ridiculous that they have not walked the campus. Of course, as a dean pointed out, it all depends on what was in the contract that central administration signed with NMSU.