

Faculty Senate Research and Creative Activity Committee

Report for April 21st, 2026 Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 4:03 pm and achieved quorum with the following members present: Chuck Creusere, Marat Talipov, Paul Tian, Sandra Way, Runwei Li, Thomas Manz, Omar Holguin

1. No Formal Business Conducted

The RCA Committee discussed the recent meeting held with the Interim Vice President for Research (VPR) and the University Research Council (URC) Chair. During that meeting, the Interim VPR expressed interest in continuing monthly meetings involving the VPR Office, URC leadership, and the RCA Chair. The purpose of these meetings is to promote greater transparency and improve communication and information flow between the VPR Office, the URC, and the RCA Committee.

The committee also discussed a drafted memorial focused on the recognition of innovation and entrepreneurship within promotion and tenure review processes at NMSU. The memorial would formally request that the administration conduct a survey and gap analysis regarding how innovation and entrepreneurial activities are currently recognized in promotion and tenure evaluations. Committee members are currently revising the memorial, and it is anticipated that the RCA Committee will advance the memorial when the Faculty Senate reconvenes in Fall 2026.

Additionally, one committee member raised the possibility of requesting that the URC Committee and the VPR Office explore developing a distinguished lecture series for the campus. The discussion centered around creating additional opportunities to highlight research, scholarship, innovation, and creative activity across NMSU.

2. Next Meeting

The next RCA Committee meeting will be scheduled during the Fall 2026 semester following Faculty Senate reconvening.