

## **Faculty Senate University Planning Committee**

### **Meeting Minutes for April 10, 2026**

The meeting was called to order at 1:00pm, adjourned at 1:53pm

**Guests included:** Kristian Finlator, Jamie Bronstein, Christopher Brown, Chris Erickson

**Committee Members Present:** Stephanie Walker, K.T. Manis, Annja Cox, Brian Hampton, Rajan Ghimire, Tanya Allred, Raja Jayaraman, Donovan Fuqua

**Committee Members Absent:** Joe Tomaka, Murali Darapuneni, Susann Mikkelson

A quorum was in place.

#### **Old Business:**

The UP committee deliberated Bills 08-25/26, ‘Amendment to Article VI of the Faculty Senate Constitution to change the requirements for Chair and Vice Chair’ and 09-25/26, ‘Updating the Names and Functions of the Faculty Senate Standing Committees’ that were discussed at the March meeting but tabled for one month by unanimous vote of the committee. The committee had requested that they receive the most current, ‘clean,’ version of the proposed bill and asked that the sponsors attend the April meeting to provide additional information regarding the bill.

08-25/26 proposed to amend Article VI, Section 2, and Article VI, Section E of the NMSU Faculty Senate Constitution to add the following sentence: “The current Faculty Senate Chair may not serve as a member of the NMSU-NEA leadership, nor participate in negotiations between the NMSU-NEA and the NMSU Administration.”

An amendment to 08-25/26 removing the verbiage “nor participate in negotiations between the NMSU-NEA and the NMSU Administration” was presented to the committee for deliberation. It was moved that this amendment be discussed by the committee, but no second motion was offered, so the amendment was not deliberated. The committee discussed the original bill. Following deliberation by the committee, it was voted down by a majority of the committee. Chris Erickson, a co-sponsor of the bill, was not able to join the meeting before deliberation and vote had been completed.

Kristian Finlator and Christopher Brown, co-sponsors of Proposition 09-25/26, provided background information. Currently, Faculty Senate committee names are codified in the constitution so can only be changed with a full campus, faculty vote. Proposition 09-25/26 seeks to remove reference to standing committee names in the Faculty Senate Constitution to facilitate

future committee name changes without requiring a full university faculty vote. Amendments were submitted to proposition 09-25/26 including:

1. Amend Article VII, Section 1 of the NMSU Faculty Senate Constitution to remove explicit mention of standing committee names while retaining their number at six.
2. Amend Article VII, Section 2.1 of the NMSU Faculty Senate Constitution to remove explicit mention of topical standing committee names and refer to the Faculty Senate Bylaws for their names and purviews.
3. Modify Section B.5.f of the Bylaws of the NMSU Faculty Senate Constitution to reflect the changes.

Amendments and Proposition 09-25/26 were deliberated and approved by a majority vote. Bill 09-25/26 will be presented to the full Faculty Senate's May meeting. If approved, it must be immediately provided for university-wide faculty for a vote to approve the constitutional change before the end of the Spring 2026 semester.

**New Business:**

N/A

**Next Meeting:**

Scheduled for May 8, 2026, at 1:00pm

Minutes submitted by S. Walker, University Planning Committee Chair