



**Faculty Senate Transmittal and Administrative Action Routing Form**

To: Office of the President  
From: Faculty Senate Chair, Julia Parra JP  
RE: **Proposition: 06-20/21**  
Date: February 2, 2021

Please find enclosed Faculty Senate Legislation [No. 06-20/21](#) entitled "[A Memorial requesting New Mexico State University self-declare as a Sanctuary Campus](#)" and approved by the Faculty Senate on [January 14, 2021](#).

**Please Route for Approval:**

<b>Faculty Senate Request</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Your review and approval. Based on Policy 1.70 B. 2. b., your action is due within 40 working days from receipt of this transmittal, or <a href="#">March 30, 2021</a> . <input type="checkbox"/> A previous veto of legislation affecting academic policy has been overridden by 2/3 vote of the Faculty Senate; pursuant to the timeline provided in Policy 1.70 B. 2. c., your action to rescind that veto is requested within five business days of receipt. <input type="checkbox"/> Please indicate your availability to meet with Faculty Senate leadership to discuss. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For your review and acknowledgement, approval/veto not required (memorial).
<b>Chancellor Action</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> I acknowledge receipt of the above. <input type="checkbox"/> I will respond further at a later date. <input type="checkbox"/> I approve this legislation, and will process according to NMSU Rules & Policies. <input type="checkbox"/> I approve this legislation on a provisional basis. It will become effective immediately, and I will place it on the Agenda for a future meeting of the Board of Regents. <input type="checkbox"/> I veto this legislation. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <a href="#">Please see attached Memorandum from Chancellor Arvizu.</a>  <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div>_____</div> <div>Date: _____</div> </div> <p><b>Dan E. Arvizu, Chancellor</b></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div>_____</div> <div>Date: _____</div> </div> <p><b>John D. Floros, NMSU President</b></p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div>_____</div> <div>Date: _____</div> </div> <p><b>Carol Parker, NMSU Provost</b></p>

**Please return form to:**  
Gloria Podruchny  
Faculty Senate Recording Secretary  
Email: [glopodru@nmsu.edu](mailto:glopodru@nmsu.edu) / Phone: (575)646-2593

**Proposition:** 6-20/21

**Title:** A Memorial requesting New Mexico State University self-declare as a Sanctuary Campus

**Date Submitted:** Tuesday, September 29, 2020

**Sponsor(s):** Nichole Hamilton (THTR), Manal Hamzeh (GSS), Christopher Brown (GEOG), Cynthia Bejarano (GSS), Judith Flores Carmona (HNRS), David Ortiz (SOC), Susan Beck (LIB), Carol Flinchbaugh (MGT), James McAteer (ASTR), Stephen Hanson (EPPWS)

**Proposed Committee:** University Affairs

**Assigned Committee:** Long Range Planning

**Prior Approvals:**

**Proposal Type** (please check one):

- Memorial
- Proposition to change policy (please include ARP/RPM reference(s) from <https://arp.nmsu.edu/>)
- Proposition for curriculum addition/change (please include all curriculum change forms and signature pages as outlined here: <https://provost.nmsu.edu/forms/>)
- Other (please describe below)

**Proposal:**

*While there is no set definition to the term Sanctuary Campus, it is known to refer to an institution that puts policies in place to protect undocumented students and other persons who lack the protection of US citizenship. Although no higher education institution can fully guarantee complete protection, being a land grant university within the US-Mexico border region as well as catering to the education of international students, it is imperative that New Mexico State University do all within our means to assure a safe place for learning for all in a time of growing intolerance.*

Whereas, New Mexico State University is committed to student success and social mobility, and

Whereas four percent of the New Mexico State University system is categorized as Non-Resident Alien<sup>1</sup> by the Office of Institutional Analysis (see Resource, NMSU Office of Institutional Analysis), and

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<sup>1</sup> This term is used by the NMSU Office of Institutional Analysis as well as the United States government. There is no alternative language to define a person who is not a U.S. citizen.

Whereas the NMSU Faculty Senate understands that the United States of America is a nation founded and maintained by immigrant communities of different cultural backgrounds, and

Whereas the NMSU Police Department states “some of the people at greatest risk of human trafficking, fraud, extortion, domestic violence, and related crimes are international students and people who are undocumented (see Supporting Document, “Letter to the Community” from Stephen Lopez, 2017), and

Whereas on June 15, 2020, the United States Supreme Court rejected a challenge to California’s sanctuary law which would allow law enforcement to aid federal agents in taking immigrants into custody and possibly deported when released from jail, and

Whereas, NMSU is a university built on the land of indigenous peoples and people of Mexican descent who lived in this region before 1800 and who must be served by this institution, and

Whereas on September 3, 2020, the Faculty Senate approved Proposition 02-20/21, a Memorial to support the elimination of systematic discrimination at NMSU,

The faculty senate urges the administration to consider supporting our students, faculty, and staff who lack the protections of US citizenship (including undocumented persons and DACA recipients) by examining the following options:

- self-declare New Mexico State University a Sanctuary Campus
- increase transparency of NMSU’s relationship with the Department of Customs and Border Protection (including the existing Criminal Justice Department contract)
- create an ad-hoc committee that will establish policies for NMSU regarding policy language, training programs, safe spaces, and other resources to support Sanctuary status

**Rationale:** The mission of the New Mexico State University system as reflected on the website (see Resource, About NMSU) is “to serve the diverse needs of the state.” If we are to fulfill this mission through “comprehensive programs of education, research, extension and outreach, and public service,” and uphold our values including Leadership, Access, Diversity & Inclusion, and Student-Centered, we must acknowledge the needs of our at risk population and provide a safe space that allows all the opportunity to “foster learning, inquiry, diversity and inclusion, social mobility, and service to the broader community.” This memorial further supports a robust university and our slogan, “BE BOLD. Shape the future.”

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## Supporting Documents and Resources:

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Letter to NMSU from Chief of Police, Stephen Lopez:

<https://www.nmsupolice.com/files/2017/09/Letter-to-community-on-International-Studentsand-DACA-Students-Sept-8-2017.pdf>

NMSU Office of Institutional Analysis: <https://oia.nmsu.edu/>

About NMSU: [https://nmsu.edu/about\\_nmsu/index.html](https://nmsu.edu/about_nmsu/index.html)

Proposition 02-20/21, a Memorial to support the elimination of systematic discrimination at NMSU: [https://facultysenate.nmsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/10/2020/09/02-2021Memorial-to-support-the-elimination-of-systemic-discrimination-at-NMSU\\_9.4.2020.pdf](https://facultysenate.nmsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/10/2020/09/02-2021Memorial-to-support-the-elimination-of-systemic-discrimination-at-NMSU_9.4.2020.pdf)

Sanctuary campuses in the United States:

<http://crimmigration.com/2017/02/07/sanctuary-campuses-map/>

<https://www.aaup.org/issues/sanctuary-campus-movement>



## Office of the Chancellor

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575-646-2035, fax: 575-646-6334  
[chancellor.arvizu@nmsu.edu](mailto:chancellor.arvizu@nmsu.edu)

DATE: February 25, 2021

TO: NMSU Students and Employees

FROM: Chancellor Dan Arvizu 

SUBJECT: Sanctuary Campus

In the past few days, the Associated Students of New Mexico State University and NMSU's Faculty Senate have each sent notice to our university's administrators, asking for a declaration that would establish NMSU's various locations as sanctuary campuses.

A similar request was made of NMSU's previous administration in 2016. Since the time of that last review, our university's stance has not changed. As was the case five years ago, our university is a proud Hispanic-Serving Institution., with approximately 70 percent of our students having Hispanic heritage. We are a national example in our dedication to student success and social mobility, serving every one of our students equally, regardless of their heritage, their legal status, or any other factors. Our soon-to-be-filled vice president position for equity, inclusion and diversity will further strengthen these efforts.

NMSU deeply values inclusion and access for all people. It's important to note:

- NMSU does not require proof of citizenship as a condition of admission, and does not discriminate in admissions or other services on the basis of immigration status.
- NMSU respects the privacy of all its students, and does not disclose student information, except upon consent of the student or as required by law.
- In accordance with state law, qualifying undocumented students are eligible for in-state tuition and other state-funded financial aid.
- NMSU police and security personnel at our branch campuses do not and will not detain, question or arrest individuals solely because they lack documentation. That's not their role.

Regarding NMSU's relationship with Customs and Border protection, our Criminal Justice program provides degrees as well as highly regarded education for students seeking to learn more about law enforcement, criminal justice and social justice issues. Once those students graduate, many will go on to work in these fields. As a way to help them find employment after graduation, recruiters from various law enforcement agencies across the Southwest will meet with our students, including representatives from Customs and Border Protection.

Like many other issues in our world today, the topic of immigration is fraught with political tensions. I believe the best solution is for this issue to be resolved on a national level by our elected officials. In the meantime, we will continue to focus on ensuring the best possible environment for all our students to be successful.