

Proposition: 16-25/26

Proposal Type: Bill Resolution Memorial Joint Proposition Other
(If Joint proposition, also select type)

Title: Memorial Thanking President Valerio Ferme for his First Year

Date Submitted: March 26, 2026

Sponsors: K. Finlator (Astronomy/A&S), M. Burkardt (Physics/A&S), T. Aguirre (DACC), D. Magoč (Public Health Sciences/HEST), C. Brown (Senate VC and A&S)

Proposed Committee: none, we ask that this be moved as emergence Legislation at the 4.2.26 Senate meeting

Prior Approvals: N/A

Proposal:

WHEREAS, President Valerio Ferme assumed leadership of New Mexico State University after years of administrative instability at NMSU and at a time when nationwide support for basic research, scholarship, and higher education appear publicly to be in decline;

WHEREAS, President Ferme has striven to model administrative accessibility through such diverse methods as a fireside chat; regular emails to the entire campus that are thoughtful, honest, and inspiring; weekly meetings with the NMSU Faculty Senate leadership; and by maintaining an informal presence at the Corbett Center Student Union;

WHEREAS, President Ferme further demonstrated his commitment to accessibility to the entire NMSU system by beginning his Presidency with a 3,685-mile series of visits to each of NMSU's research centers and Extension Offices, leading to anecdotes and perspectives that illuminate his emails even as they tighten the connections between NMSU's many offices;

WHEREAS, President Ferme takes the time to teach academic leadership seminars to faculty in which he stresses the importance of teamwork, empathy, and good listening skills;

WHEREAS, President Ferme's first full year as President has brought much-needed stability to the entire NMSU system just as it embarks upon its new status as an R-1 institution;

THEREFORE the NMSU Faculty Senate formally conveys its heartfelt thanks to Dr. Valerio Ferme for his first year of service as President of the NMSU system.