Faculty Senate Transmittal and Administrative Action Routing Form

To: Office of the President

From: Faculty Senate Chair, Kristian Finlator

Kristian Markwart Finlator Digitally signed by Kristian Markwart Finlator Date: 2026.10.06 14:34:17 -06'00'

RE: Proposition 05-26/27 ☐**Bill** ☒**Resolution** ☐**Memorial** ☐**Joint Proposition** ☐

Other Date: October 2, 2026

Please find enclosed Faculty Senate Legislation No. 05-26/27 entitled,

"Resolution Establishing a Faculty Task Force on Promotion, Tenure, and Faculty Evaluation Related to Innovation and Entrepreneurship"

approved by the Faculty Senate on October 1, 2026.

Please Route for Approval:

Faculty Senate Request	□ Your review and approval. □ Please indicate your availability to meet with Faculty Senate leadership to discuss. □ For your review and acknowledgement only (approval/veto not required for memorials and some resolutions).
Administration Action	□ I acknowledge receipt of the above. □ I will respond further at a later date. □ I approve this legislation and will process according to NMSU Rules & Policies. □ 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. □ I veto this legislation. □ Other: I acknowledge receipt of the document and I am excited to think about this as a way to stimulate innovation and impactful research that can benefit our scholars into the future. Joseph Bull Joseph Bull (Nov 15, 2026 14:16:22 MST) **Joseph Bull, Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs** **Date:** _____ Valerio Ferme (Nov 16, 2026 06:01:28 MST) **Valerio Ferme, President** **Date:** _____

Please return form to:

Mari Cisneros
Faculty Senate Recording Secretary
Email: maricis@nmsu.edu / Phone: (575) 646-3417

Faculty Senate Transmittal and Administrative Action Routing Form
Additional Comments

Please use the following to provide additional comments if needed:

Proposition: 05-26/27

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

Title: Resolution Establishing a Faculty Task Force on Promotion, Tenure, and Faculty Evaluation Related to Innovation and Entrepreneurship

Date Submitted: 08/25/2026

Sponsor(s): F. Omar Holguin (ACES), Matthew Sievert (COAS), Koffi Djaman (ACES), Chuck Creusere (COE)

Proposed Committee: University Planning

Prior Approval: [Enter prior approval, if applicable]

Proposal:
Whereas, New Mexico State University is a land-grant institution committed to advancing research, innovation, extension, education, and economic development for the benefit of the state of New Mexico; and

Whereas, faculty throughout NMSU engage in innovation and entrepreneurship activities, including technology commercialization, industry partnerships, applied research, workforce development, community engagement, extension, and contributions to regional economic development; and

Whereas, these activities align with institutional priorities related to research growth, external funding, student success, workforce development, and engagement with state and regional economic development initiatives; and

Whereas, promotion, tenure, and faculty evaluation processes play a central role in determining how faculty contributions are recognized and evaluated across teaching, research and scholarship, service, extension, and applied engagement; and

Whereas, universities across the United States are examining how innovation and entrepreneurship activities are recognized within promotion, tenure, and faculty evaluation frameworks (Bouwma-Gearhart et al., 2021; Carter et al., 2021); and

Whereas, the Promotion and Tenure Innovation and Entrepreneurship (PTIE) Coalition has developed national resources and a survey instrument for assessing how institutional policies and practices recognize innovation and entrepreneurship; and

Whereas, an institutional survey and gap analysis can provide NMSU with an evidence-based assessment of faculty perspectives, current practices, and potential gaps in the recognition of innovation, entrepreneurship, applied scholarship, and engagement; and

Whereas, any recommendations concerning promotion and tenure should recognize differences in the missions, disciplines, faculty roles, and expectations of NMSU's tenure-granting units and proceed through appropriate faculty governance processes;

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Faculty Senate of New Mexico State University requests that the administration, working with Faculty Senate leadership, Research, Creativity and Economic Development

(RCED), Arrowhead Center, and the University Research Council (URC), establish a Faculty Task Force on Promotion, Tenure, and Faculty Evaluation Related to Innovation and Entrepreneurship; and

Be it further resolved, that the Task Force include faculty representation from each of NMSU's nine tenure-granting units, with additional representation, as appropriate, from the Faculty Senate, University Research Council, RCED, Arrowhead Center, and individuals with expertise in faculty affairs and promotion and tenure. Faculty membership should, to the extent practicable, reflect differences in discipline, rank, appointment type, and experience with innovation, entrepreneurship, extension, applied research, and engaged scholarship; and

Be it further resolved, that the administration make available appropriate institutional expertise, information, and support necessary for the Task Force to complete its work; and

Be it further resolved, that the Task Force be charged with:

1. Coordinating with and building upon relevant institutional survey efforts, where available, and conducting any additional assessment necessary to complete a gap analysis of faculty perspectives and current practices related to the recognition of innovation and entrepreneurship within promotion, tenure, and faculty evaluation processes across the tenure-granting units.
2. Reviewing NMSU's existing promotion and tenure framework, including the promotion and tenure documents of NMSU's nine tenure-granting units and relevant provisions of NMSU Administrative Rules and Procedures (ARP), including Chapters 9 and 11, to document how innovation, entrepreneurship, technology commercialization, applied research, industry engagement, workforce development, extension, and other forms of engaged scholarship are currently recognized.
3. Reviewing relevant national frameworks and practices, including survey, gap analysis, and action-planning resources developed by the Promotion and Tenure Innovation and Entrepreneurship (PTIE) Coalition and practices at selected peer and land-grant institutions, to identify approaches that may be relevant to NMSU.
4. Identifying gaps, barriers, and opportunities within existing NMSU promotion and tenure documents related to the recognition of innovation, entrepreneurship, applied scholarship, and engaged scholarship, while recognizing differences in disciplinary standards, faculty roles, appointment types, and the missions of NMSU's tenure-granting units.
5. Developing recommendations for potential changes to NMSU promotion and tenure documents in areas related to innovation and entrepreneurship, where warranted, including optional model or template language that tenure-granting units or departments may adapt for use in their promotion, tenure, and faculty evaluation documents, and identifying the appropriate university or tenure-granting-unit faculty governance process for consideration of each recommendation.

Be it further resolved, that the Task Force's findings and recommendations are advisory and shall not independently modify existing promotion and tenure standards, criteria, or university policy. Any proposed changes resulting from the Task Force's work shall be considered through the established faculty governance and approval processes applicable to the affected tenure-granting unit or university policy; and

Be it further resolved, that the Task Force provide a written report to the Faculty Senate and Provost summarizing the survey results, document review, national benchmarking, gap analysis, and recommendations by the end of the Spring 2027 semester, or another mutually agreed-upon date.

Rationale:
NMSU faculty increasingly contribute to the University's mission through activities that extend beyond traditional measures of scholarship, including technology commercialization, entrepreneurship, industry partnerships, applied research, workforce development, extension, and regional economic engagement. At the same time, promotion and tenure practices appropriately vary across disciplines and NMSU's tenure-granting units.

Establishing a Faculty Task Force provides a shared-governance mechanism for determining whether existing promotion and tenure documents appropriately recognize these evolving forms of faculty contribution. The proposed survey, document review, national benchmarking, and gap analysis will provide an evidence-based foundation for identifying potential improvements while preserving disciplinary standards and the authority of the appropriate faculty governance processes.

References:

Bouwma-Gearhart, J., et al. (2021). “Inclusively Recognizing Faculty Innovation and Entrepreneurship Impact within Promotion and Tenure Considerations.” Journal of Open Innovation: Technology, Market, and Complexity, 7(3), 182.

Carter, R. G., et al. (2021). “Innovation, Entrepreneurship, Promotion, and Tenure.” Science, 373(6561), 1312–1314.

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Final Audit Report 2026-11-16

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