

## NMSU Faculty Senate Leadership Committee (FSLC)

January 25, 2024, 4:00 p.m.

Zoom

### Minutes

1. **Call to Order** – Meeting called to order at 4:03p.m.
2. **Recognition of Guests - None**
3. **Approval of Agenda**  
Moved and seconded to approve agenda.  
Senate Leadership approved agenda.
4. **Approval of Minutes of**
  - a. **December 14, 2023 meeting**  
Moved and seconded to approve minutes.  
Minutes approved and submitted.
5. **Reports on Legislation**

Proposition 05-23/24 Senate Bill to Create the Online Learning Council to advise the Chancellor of NMSU-Global. Erickson (CoB); Beck (Library)  
Faculty Success voted - Do Pass, will go to full Faculty Senate meeting for voting.

Proposition 06-23/24 Resolution to Formalize New Senator Onboarding/Orientation. Kellie Sharp-Hoskins (A&S), Gaylene Fasenko (ACES), Kim Lopez-Gallagher (Alamogordo)  
Diversity, Equity and Inclusion amended for minor changes - voted - Do Pass. Will go to full Faculty Senate meeting for voting.

Proposition 07-23/24 Senate Bill Call for NMSU leadership to establish a fund for open access article publishing/processing charges for tenured, tenure-eligible, and non-tenure-track faculty, research scientists, research scholars, research center directors, and librarians. Taryn Price-Lopez (DACC), Susan Beck (Library), Sangu Angadi (PES-ACES)  
Budget and Resources discussed and made a few minor edits - voted - Do pass, will go to full Faculty Senate meeting for voting.
6. **Proposed Legislation - None**
7. **Other Business**
  - a. Approval of February 1, 2024 Faculty Senate Agenda  
FS Vice Chair, Vimal Chaitanya proposes an amendment to the agenda to add a few items under Other Business.  
Moved and seconded to approve agenda as amended.
  - b. Standing Committee Reports  
**Budget and Resources** – V. Chaitanya, Chair  
Committee met on January 16.

Senator Chaitanya reported that the committee had two agenda items. First item, Kim Rumford was a guest speaker and gave an update regarding NMSU budget situation. Second item, the committee discussed Proposition 07-23/24 and voted Do pass after a few edits.

[BR Report is posted on the FS website.](#)

**Faculty Success** – G. Duff, Chair

Committee met on January 17.

Senator Duff reported that the committee had Chris Erickson as a guest speaker to present information on Proposition 05-23/24 that the committee discussed and made a few minor changes – voted Do pass. [FS Report is posted on the FS website.](#)

**Curriculum and Programming** – G. Piña, Chair

Committee met on January 18.

Senator Piña reported that the committee did not have any pending items or any new business.

[CP Report is posted on the FS website.](#)

**Research and Creative Activity** – Taryn Price, Chair

Senator Price reported that the committee did not meet this month, therefore there was nothing to report.

**Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion**- J. Bronstein, Chair

Committee met on January 17.

The committee had a vote of Do Pass for the legislation on onboarding. EID is in the process of hiring an Associate VP of EID, due to workload being too much for one person; after this an Affirmative Action specialist will be hired. [DEI Report is posted on the FS website.](#)

**Student Success** - T. Aguirre, Chair

Committee met on January 18.

Senator Aguirre reported that Dr. Scott was a guest speaker and discussed Timely Health, a new platform for students to call 24/7 if they are having mental health issues. It's not active yet but she is working with ICT to get it up and running and when it is up and running, she will make an announcement to everyone. Just NMSU Las Cruces Campus and NMSU Global are participating. The Community Colleges were asked if they were interested in this initiative and they decline. Should they change their mind it would be easy for them to register. The committee also discussed ARP 4.46, the authorized absences from class and are working on a research project with Dr. Rebecca Campbell, the Student Success fellow. [SS Report is posted on the FS website.](#)

**c. Updates from officers –**

**FS Chair Gaylene Fasenko** – Joined via Zoom as she was driving to Santa Fe to the NMSU Day at the Legislature to advocate on behalf of the Faculty Senate for increasing salaries. Advocating on the staff salary, a 4% increase across the board is being discussed. As of now the legislators have no appetite for looking at salaries at individual Universities that are funded by the State. It was mentioned that moving forward it would be good to run data comparing NMSU and UNM salaries. It is suspected that NMSU lags behind, but we will attain R1 in 2025. The Carnegie categorizations rules/criteria have changed for R1 and the criteria to attain R1 will be \$50 million research expenditure and 70 Ph.D.

graduate students a year. Having the data makes it much easier for NMSU leadership and the NMSU Board of Regents to be able to advocate. The letter being distributed to the legislators from Faculty Senate describes R1 and R2. In the future, information such as this needs to be put on the radar well ahead of the 2025 legislative session. Chair recommends beginning advocacy the summer BEFORE the legislative session.

There will be an 10% increase in health care premiums effective Jan 2024, and it is anticipated another 10% increase will be implemented early summer 2024.

There are currently two legislative bills that should be on our radar. One is on hazing.

The other one is legislation on women's rights. The other big piece of legislation that could affect us in a positive way is legislation regarding FMLA.

Update on the Presidential search: There were 12 semifinalists interviewed on Zoom, it was narrowed down to seven candidates to send to the Board of Regents for their review. The seven candidates put forth included candidates with gender, ethnic and other diversity. The Board of Regents were supposed to have a meeting to determine the finalists but it was cancelled at the last minute.

**FS Vice-Chair Vimal Chaitanya-** Meets with Senior Associate Provost, McAteer twice a month and in the last meeting the R1 situation and one of the measures that goes into consideration whether you're R1 or R2 is essentially what is the amount of time that there is to allocate to research was discussed. The other update is they are now going to create one more administrative position and that's going to be the Associate Provost for Accreditation and Assessment and the search will be starting sometime. Again, the request is made to the Faculty Senate to identify a representative who will be willing to serve on that committee. There was another committee that was put in hold and that was the committee that Hamid volunteered for. The new incoming Graduate Dean wanted to have some thought about how he's going to handle the program. It was put on hold because the new incoming Dean feels that he needs to know more about the system and the roles before he can have a meaningful conversation.

- d. **Student Safety-** Senator Bronstein would like to bring up the concern she has with the repeat performances of students being put in unsafe positions, whether the predator is a faculty member or a coach or someone on a sports team. This problem has been raised time and again with the administration and yet it still keeps happening. It would be good if the Senate would restate the collective concerns about the fact that nothing is being done to make sure that students are safe. A proposition is suggested to be put together.

#### **Remarks and Announcements**

- FS Chair Gaylene Fasenko – Would like to invite the new General Counsel to the Leadership meeting.
- FS Vice-Chair Vimal Chaitanya - None

#### **8. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.**

**Present:** FS Chair Gaylene Fasenko, FS Vice-Chair Vimal Chaitanya, S. Beck, G. Pina, J. Sandstrom, K. Sharp-Hoskins, T. Aguirre, G. Duff, J. Bronstein, A. Lanasa, C. Bond, E. Lehnhoff, Dr. H. Badawy, P. Skelton, Rec. Sec. M Cisneros