

Faculty Senate Chair Report for 6 April 2017 Senate Meeting
Submitted 4 April 2017 by Senate Chair Christopher Brown

- **AAG Meeting** – At the 3.8.17 AAG meeting, we reviewed a rule on Experiential Learning (Academic), a rule on Credit Hour Calculations (Admin, due to being a clean-up of previous rule with no impact), and 3 rules on University Travel (Admin). Next AAG is 4.6.17.
- **UAC meeting** – Action items/old business at the 2.14.17 UAC meeting included rule on faculty credentials (passed), rule on faculty compensation (passed), and rule on faculty promotions (passed). New business items included the rules heard at the AAG and noted above – a rule on Experiential Learning, a rule on Credit Hour Calculations, and 3 rules on University Travel. Action will happen in April UAC meeting. Information items included “It’s On Us – Sexual Awareness Month” in April, Affirmative Action Plan requirements in faculty recruitment, Loss Prevention / Loss Control Annual Loss Trends Report, and University Boards Update.
- **ADC meeting** – Owing to a scheduling conflict with one of my classes, I am not able to attend these meetings this term, and Ken Hammond has graciously agreed to attend them as my proxy. Old business was the CoEd merger proposal, and ADC also heard input from the Deans on the rules for Experiential Learning, Credit hour calculations, Distance Ed, and Travel Policies.
- **Regents meeting** – The most recent Regent meetings was 4.3.17, and major items discussed included requests for a new fee schedule for both housing and dining plans (both passed), no change in parking fees, and some very compelling comments on a potential tuition increase. This potential tuition increase was scheduled for a vote, but Chancellor Carruthers requested a delay due to uncertainty of the State budget. People that commented included Michelle Shuster, Miriam Chaiken, Jack Wright, Jim Peach, Adam Cavotta, and Matthew Bose. All spoke eloquently in favor of the 6% tuition increase that Central is proposing, and I thank them for doing so. I will also add my voice to theirs at the meeting at which this will be formally handled. On a positive note, Dr. Patricia Sullivan received the Above and Beyond Award for her outreach in the Engineering College.
- **Other issues in the works** – We can expect continued discussion and action on the following issues, all of which will require active faculty input.
 - **Centralized Academic Advising** – The Provost is moving ahead with his plan to move to a 100% centralized u/g advising model, a Task Force (TF) that has been formed is now meeting regularly, and construction on space being designed in Garcia Annex is underway. Jennifer Hodges has been named the Interim Director of University Advising and Student Outcomes, she is lead on the transition effort that will be moving ahead in the summer, and she is looking at a fall 2017 start-up date.
 - **General Education Revisions (GE)** - As noted in last month’s report, the Statewide Task Force has provided revised guidance on this effort, and the NMSU TF is continuing to work on how best to deal with this revised guidance.
 - **Team Six, Transforming NMSU into a 21st Century University** – Now that the “Transforming Effort” has completed its work on the admin side of the house, Team Six was formed to do similar work on the academic side of NMSU. Janet Green has stepped down as Regents Chief of Staff and is leading this effort, and discussions will be moving forward over the next several months as Central explores ways to reduce

expenditures related to academic issues and activities. Team Six members and the agenda for the first 2 meetings are posted to the Senate Website; most of the members are either faculty or DHs. At a previous SLC meeting, Senator Rayson suggested that we form a Senate TF to ensure that Faculty concerns are being adequately addressed, and I re-issue an invitation that interested Senators contact me to join this effort.

- **Senate Chair Office Hours** - I will continue to hold Senate Chair office hours in my office (Breland 149) this term, on Mondays from 4-5 pm and Wednesdays from 2-3pm. As was the case last term I am also willing to meet at other times, or in your offices/labs, if you are not able to make these hours in my office.
- **Outreach to Community Colleges** - At the invitation of Senators Josselett and Zhao at NMSU-Carlsbad, I traveled to the NMSU Carlsbad Campus in March to present my “shared governance road show” with leadership, faculty, and staff. Senator Josselett provided an especially warm welcome, and the NMSU Carlsbad faculty appreciated the visit. I hope to make it to Grants this term; if I am not able to do so, I will visit early in fall term.

Thanks for your interest in this report. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at brownchr@nmsu.edu.