

NMSU FACULTY SENATE CHAIR REPORT—NOVEMBER 2018 ACTIVITY

Submitted December 4th, 2018 by Becky Corran

Assignment Advisory Group (AAG) meeting, November 5th, 2018

- AAG considered ten policy changes and recommended they all proceed through the Administrative Track. This included a number of items on staff availability/work and pay during university closures and emergencies; safety at public events, and FIMSA compliance. This also included an update to the Prohibition of Non-Discriminatory Bullying, Hazing and Hostile Misconduct (ARP 3.80), to clarify types of prohibited misconduct, reporting processes and NMSU response.

Associate Deans Council (ADC) meeting, November 27th 2018

- ADC revisited the placement/career metrics: the Provost reminded each college that they'll need to take it seriously. Most colleges have already shared representatives with the newly formed task-force.
- Graduate student stipends update: please see the attached page, which outlines the process for increasing grad student stipends by \$500 (for half time grad students.) This was supposed to have happened with the raise that everyone else got earlier this year, but didn't happen for grad students, and is now. Parallel to the raise allocation, institutional funds are only slotted for grad students paid through I&G (most likely TAs mostly) while those funded by other funding are, generally, expected to also abide by the increase (to be figured out on a departmental/project level.)
- NMSU Online: we saw a proposed tuition structure for NMSU Online.

University Administrative Council (UAC) meeting November 13th, 2018

- First read for policies: please see those mentioned above under AAG.
- Policies approved after second/expedited reads (Academic):
 - Affiliated individuals
 - Transcript notations

Board of Regents (BoR) meeting, November 29th 2018

- This was a specialized BoR meeting to pass/support the approval of the New Mexico Department of Agriculture's new rules on commercial hemp cultivation in New Mexico.
- One other item that was ratified were the performance metrics/potential bonuses for the Chancellor and President.
- You can find the electronic documents here: <https://regents.nmsu.edu/files/2018/11/FINAL-BOR-Special-Meeting-Binder-Nov-29-2018-for-web-and-email.pdf>

Other items and activities

- On Friday, November 2nd I met with Interim Provost April Mason, and we discussed a number of academic topics, including initiatives piloted by the previous administration. This included a discussion on centralized advising, fractional grading and promotion and tenure (including post-tenure review.)

Thank you for your continued investment in the work of the NMSU Faculty Senate. If you have any questions, suggestions or concerns, please email me at bcorran@nmsu.edu or call 575.528.7033.



Office of the President

MSC 3445
New Mexico State University
P. O. Box 30001
Las Cruces, NM 88003-8001
575-646-2127

president.floros@nmsu.edu

Tara Young, Graduate Student Council President
Emerson Morrow, ASNMSU President
Linda Cisneros, ASNMSU Vice President
Ehtesham Shareef, ASNMSU Graduate Senator
Gaspard Mucundanyi, Graduate Senator
Ali Seyedkavoosi, ASNMSU President Pro-Tempore

November 30, 2018

We have looked into your concerns and can update you regarding the \$500 increase approved by the Board of Regents last spring and the Student Fee Review Board's change in the "Graduate Health and Wellness" fee for distance students.

Regarding the increase approved by the Board of Regents: All graduate assistants **who are paid through Instruction and General (I&G) funds** will receive a one-time payment of \$250, less any taxes due, in their December paycheck. This will cover the amount of the increase for the Fall 2018 semester. For the spring semester, graduate assistants who are paid through I&G funding will receive an increase in their pay for the semester equal to \$250, less applicable taxes. Starting in fiscal year 2019–2020, the Graduate Assistant Salary Table, which indicates minimum salaries, will be increased by \$500 for the Academic Year (0.50 FTE), with other hiring alternatives prorated accordingly.

As you are aware, not all graduate assistants are paid through I&G funding. The President's Office will inform supervisors that:

1. All I&G-funded graduate assistants received an annual increase of \$500 for this fiscal year and how this increase was implemented and will be distributed.
2. The graduate student payment schedule will be adjusted to reflect this increase, and anybody employing graduate assistants who are not paid through I&G funds will need to fund an increase for their graduate students to ensure they are paid at the minimum pay for that category.

Regarding the graduate student health fee: This fee will be reversed for fall 2018 and spring 2019 students who are entirely online. Starting in Fall 2019, this fee will no longer be assessed for online students.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of John D. Floros in black ink.

John Floros, Ph.D.
President

Handwritten signature of April Mason in black ink.

April Mason, Ph.D.
Provost

Cc: Luis Cifuentes, Graduate School
Andy Burke, Administration and Finance
Kim Rumford, Budget Office