

NMSU FACULTY SENATE CHAIR REPORT—JANUARY 2019 ACTIVITY

Submitted February 5th, 2019 by Becky Corran

Assignment Advisory Group (AAG) meeting

- AAG met electronically in January (on the 17th). (When AAG is cancelled or conducted electronically, the Vice-Chair and I will use this time as an informal meeting with the President and/or Provost.)
- The AAG approved the following items for consideration in January/February by the recommended groups:
 - On the Administrative Track: Facility Space Utilization 12.70, Ineligibility for Rehire Status 7.75
 - On the Academic Track: Revisions to ARP 10.60 (Faculty Grievance process revisions), and Academic Degree Approval ARP 4.81 Appendix.

Associate Deans Council (ADC) meeting, Tuesday, January 22nd, 2019

- ADC heard a proposal on the Master of Information Technology from Dr. Rolfe Sassenfeld. He responded to questions regarding the costs and the availability of certain electives online.
- VP Cifuentes encouraged Deans to identify faculty and courses that could be put online this summer that would help graduate students complete their degrees, and suggested there is some money available to support this.
- There was a big discussion of a potential summer course incentive structure (which is in draft format.) Please see the attached document for a summary.
- Also, faculty are invited to 3.0 night at the Men's Basketball Game, February 19th.

University Administrative Council (UAC), Tuesday January 8th, 2019

- UAC met and considered a number of administrative policy changes regarding safety, emergency preparedness and administration of youth programs.
- UAC heard a presentation from Emerson Morrow, ASNMSU President, on Indigenous People's day, including support with our [Senate Memorial \(08-18/19.\)](#)
- In updates, we learned that:
 - Student address and phone number information will no longer be (by default) listed in the online directory. This is to protect student privacy, but may make it harder to contact students who are struggling in your classes (if this is something you do.) One workaround may be to ask them to share best phone numbers on your class roster when you have them sign in the first day.
 - SPIN scooters are on campus. Be aware, and if you'd like to try them, [download the app](#). [Just be careful!](#)

Board of Regents (BoR) meeting, January 28th, 2019 (in Santa Fe)

- You can see the BoR packet for the meeting here: <https://regents.nmsu.edu/files/2019/01/Binder-Jan-28-2019-small.pdf>
- The BoR considered a number of items for information and approval:
 - They heard reports on the audit/financial services.
 - They heard an informational update on the NMSU LEADS Strategic Framework. (See pages 181-213.) Please note: this does not include any specific metrics, but rather a timeline for identifying metrics and gaining input from campus stakeholders.
 - The BoR did approve a RPM change regarding 120 credit hours. This is incredibly problematic from a shared governance perspective, as the RPM is not something faculty have any say in...putting catalog language into the RPM is a new and very troubling development. I expressed my concern/disapproval at the meeting, but it fell on deaf ears. I am concerned that other issues that the Faculty Senate has considered (or, potentially, not considered) may be "up for grabs" for the RPM.
 - Outgoing Regents Mitchell and Vela were honored.

Other items and activities

- Updates on our support of Regent reform legislation: UNM met and considered the NM Senate Joint Resolutions, and while they expressed ongoing solidarity with NMSU in this fight, they didn't completely agree with our support of the bills. Please see the attached document that includes their feedback. However, they did say that they'd be happy to work on a collaborative, state-wide team to research this thoroughly, work with legislators from across the state and propose new legislation to the state legislature in the future.
- Provost Mason met with some Community College senators for breakfast and discussed the issues most relevant on CC campuses.
- I am working/serving on a number of committees/work groups in collaboration with HR: a Community College Faculty Compensation analysis (with a consulting firm), as well as a small work group looking at annual leave for 12-month employees.

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.