

NMSU Faculty Senate Chair Report

Report for October 2020, by Julia Parra

Academic Deans' Council (ADC) meetings

- From Dacia week of October 26 - I just wanted to send out a reminder that we are working to get all sections into C-19 rooms (like we did for Fall) for face-to-face sections, so departments may see changes to rooms as we will remove any non-C19 room from their section. We also have to coordinate the capacity of the section with the room capacity for Covid measures so we ask the departments to be patient with us as this is a tedious process.

Associate Deans' Academic Council

ADAC requested that the Faculty Senate provide questions for the end of semester course evaluation survey. An Ad Hoc committee with membership from all FS voting groups developed three questions:

1. Describe any challenges you may have faced this semester: for example, did you experience technology/connectivity issues, home/personal issues, limited motivation, time management challenges, or distractions that negatively impacted your online learning?
2. What did your professor/instructor do well to support your online learning: for example, did online office hours, lecture videos, zoom sessions, presentations, class assignments, or projects positively impact your learning?
3. Where could your professor/instructor improve to support your online learning: for example, could online office hours, lecture videos, zoom sessions, presentations, class assignments, or projects be improved to better support your learning?

University Administrative Council (UAC) meetings

- Attended October 13, 2020; see the [University Administrative Council](#) site for minutes and UAC information
- ARPs related to Prop 03-20/21 (UPAC) approved and meeting occurred November 2 to discuss. Brainstorming 3-step overarching process – 1) Broad/strategic portfolio created based on needs/data, reviewed and approved by BOR, 2) Review process to include Detailed Program/Workflow, Criteria/Attributes/Rubric, 3) Build the program.
- Presented Faculty Senate Report: Focus on October meeting and propositions under review

Other items and activities

- **Weekly Rapid Response Team:** attended bi-weekly meetings, see <https://ready.nmsu.edu/>, as you all should know, spikes are around us, Dona Ana in the red, see [NMSU Covid-19 Dashboard](#) for NMSU cases, El Paso events impacting NMSU; custodians are getting another tool - handheld disinfecting units, noted that units need plans for when staffing might reach zero, though many are positive and making the best of situation, students are struggling, S/U grading is being discussed again, CSP=Covid-19 Safe Practices; spring discussions - if you have anything you want addressed for spring, email me and/or Michael Mapp.
- **Spring Break** - SLC and Chair/Vice Chair provided feedback on the schedule sent out.
- **Executive Order** - Director Castille noted they are aligning with what other universities are doing, in the gathering of materials and self-audit stage, faculty academic programs/classes not a part of this collection - Please confirm for faculty that this EO does not apply to classroom materials. It is related to "trainings and workshops" and directed at employee training. Faculty should not be concerned, at this time, about classroom materials. Please assure faculty that compliance with the EO is not agreement. Rather, we need to gather what we can gather and review the materials. No one is being asked to change their classroom curriculum.

Thank you for your continued investment in the work of the [NMSU Faculty Senate](#). If you have any questions, suggestions or concerns, please email Julia Parra at juparra@nmsu.edu or call 575.646-1767; or email Susan Beck at susabeck@nmsu.edu or call at 575-640-0072.

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- **Met with the Administration (President Floros & Provost Parker):** President & Provost: Discussed 1) Spring Break, 2) Land Grant Acknowledgement Statement process (President is checking on progress), 3) AggieFit (financial issues, could further discussion with Dr. Scott if faculty want that), 4) Current issue is that students are reporting to DHs, Deans, being told they must attend F2F, concerning especially if a student feels has been exposed, El Paso, etc., 5) Support for online/hybrid scenario- yes!; Provost: Spring Break, New College Merger
- **Support for online/hybrid courses:** Defining and supporting [Online Synchronous, Online Asynchronous, Hybrid](#); Monday Mentor; Town Hall November 19; Ideas: mandatory day/time scheduling for Online Synch; addressing class sizes; 10 hours of PD for faculty with Zoom focus (stipend); Faculty Fellows program; PD for introductory, intermediate, advanced; note the 7 days report back before spring instruction starts; online course quality checking (Faculty or GA model)
- **Faculty Town Halls:** Faculty Senate is co-hosting a series with the Provost. October was Curricular Analytics, November 5 is/was the New College Proposal and an extra one November 19 for supporting faculty with online course design and teaching, December 3 is an update to the faculty about the faculty compensation studies that are underway.
- **Budget:**
 - **ACBR met with the BRI Co-Chairs:** 1-2 year horizon for this group to support budget alignment with strategic plan, viewing the data Deloitte, ABC, Grays Associates, Delaware, data often addresses peers and how doing with national averages.
 - **FY21 LEADS Budget Realignment Initiative Committee:** Communication sent on 10/30/2020
- **Goal Team 3:** NMSU Virtual Outreach Conference, November 16, 2020.
- **Parra Senate Chair Office Hours aka Lunch w/ Julz:** Wednesdays 12-1:30, [Zoom link](#), email me if you need the link or phone information.
- **Faculty Senate Blog:** is setup, I'll post something this Friday.
- **Faculty Senate Representation on NMSU Committees:** Hopefully we've got it all covered. See [Faculty Senate: Beyond the Bylaws](#).

Next Meetings

The remaining full senate meetings for Fall 2020 are:

Thursday, December 3, 4:00-5:30

Committees and November Meetings:

Faculty Affairs:	Tuesday, November 10
Long Range Planning:	Thursday, November 12
University Affairs:	Thursday, November 12
Scholastic Affairs:	Tuesday, November 17

Of note, there is a calendar on the [NMSU Faculty Senate](#) site but you need to be logged in to your VPN. Any committee chair needing help with Zoom, please contact me. I am happy to host for you.

All meetings start at 4pm and will be held virtually in Zoom for Fall 2020. Senators, when you enter meetings, please rename and include Senator to the beginning of your name. You can do this with the rename feature next to your name in the Participants box.

Anyone coming in with a phone number, please identify yourself and get help editing your name.

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