

## **NMSU Faculty Senate Vice-Chair Report–March 2021 Activity Submitted by Susan E. Beck**

### **Associate Deans Academic Council**

Date: March 8, 2021 (Chair Parra attended March 22 ADAC meeting).

**Academic Misconduct:** Dean of Students, Ann Coombs Goodman, presented on academic misconduct. Her office has revised the process. She outlined roles and responsibilities of all involved. The Academic conduct officer (ACO) guides the procedural process. Faculty gather evidence which includes any emails, records of meetings with students, etc. Dean Goodman's office has completed online conduct report forms. One is for faculty, another for students/community members. Faculty should work with ACO and look at evidence, The entire process needs to be learning-centered. Decisions are made on the preponderance of evidence. 51% or higher. Sanctions. Levels I and II. Grad ss always have level II sanctions. All of this is define at [https://deanofstudents.nmsu.edu/academic\\_integrity/academic\\_misconduct.html](https://deanofstudents.nmsu.edu/academic_integrity/academic_misconduct.html) where forms and ARP rules are displayed.

**Vax Committee:** Anne Hubbell, Associate Dean, Honors College, discussed work the vaccination committee has completed to date. They have identified gaps in communication, and have addressed issues with athletics, and have fielded questions about anti-vax concerns. The Committee is working on ways to document whether employees/students have been vaccinated. The University can't ask people if people have been vaccinated.

**Student Complaints:** Shelly Stovall, Director of Accreditation, brought up situations where students have complaints about a course or professor or about something witnessed in class. Students do not have access to the academic complaint side of the system. When students have an issue with an instructor, they need to start with the instructor. If not satisfied, students take the complaint up the chain. There are situations that don't fit that scenario because of power differentials between students and faculty, and faculty and administrators. The policy needs some work. Shelly asked whether it is still good practice to track these things through the portal and suggested the university consider a student ombudsman.

### **General Education Course Certification Committee**

Date: March 5, 2021

**Courses approved:** HNRS 1135G/L and ENGL 2210M

**Assessment and recertification processes for GE courses:** Working on the following areas

1. A draft statement of GE's educational roles to be displayed on web page
2. Essential-skills assessment process where GECCC will identify exemplary sample assignments/assessments from certification applications. The Committee on Assessment of Student Learning-General Education will then work on defining and building an assignment library and establishing ongoing main campus processes for essential skills assessment
3. Create a recertification structure and schedule that functions on a six-year rolling cycle, and includes both a schedule and rationale.
4. Enrollment and scheduling metrics to include DE Course Enrollment and Enrollment Ratios 5-year All Campuses Draft Document available in Teams.
5. Clarify how content-area standards are addressed

**Recertification process for VWW has been deferred until Fall, 2021**

## **University Program Approval Committee**

Date: March 18, 2021

The committee approved the following:

1. Applied Statistics – Doctor of Philosophy—Unanimous approval. This program will be offered in-person and online through synchronous classes. UNM’s program is currently too theoretical for what some aspects of the job market are looking for, including the UNM College of Medicine medical researchers. Sandia National Laboratory has also faced difficulties of hiring PhD level statisticians to fill positions in their Statistical Sciences Group. Was looking at a cohort based enrollment, but the committee advised at reviewing if this is the best option. There was concern over the new courses needed were not populated in the CIM system (including some changes to a couple of course names and needed to add ASTAT 700- Dissertation). Kori suggested we pass the New Program through and she will hold it in her office until the new courses are added. This new program, if approved by HED and HLC, will be effective catalog year 2022-23
2. Health Equity Sciences – Doctor of Philosophy—7 approved with 1 abstention. Program working with UNM but there will be no joint approval in degree awarding. An official agreement with UNM is still in the works. The CIP code identifies this program as a social science program (Good for NSF). Members of the committee wondered if there would be greater potential for the degree if it was offered fully online. There are concerns over the budget. In the narrative it states the college will be hiring a new faculty member (7 in total) ever year after the third year. However, the actual budget does not account for the continuation of this new faculty member. This is seen as a potential problem. Because the program has multiple concentrations, Kori will create the concentrations in the catalog to correctly advertise to students what is available.
3. English (Technical and Professional Communication – Online) – Master of Arts—Unanimous approval. Sherry Kollman will be providing funding for program from NMSU-O. Provost has opened a new faculty line. Large demand in job market for this type of skill. Target audience is adult learners in NM; potentially being paid for by employer.
4. Advanced Manufacturing – Graduate Minor—Unanimous approval. It is only available for Master of Engineering students. This is an applied minor with large industry as target. NMSU currently has the resources

**Also attended with Chair Julia Parra:** Assignments Advisory Group, March 9, 2021; President & Provost Monthly Meeting, March 23, 2021

### **Town Halls**

Co-hosted Town Hall on the newly formed University Program Approval Committee with Joe Lakey, March 4, 2021

**Represented Faculty Senate** at President Floros’s New College Information Sessions, March 22 and 25, 2021