

NEW MEXICO INSTITUTE OF MINING AND TECHNOLOGY

FACULTY SENATE MEETING

Tuesday, March 7, 2023
3:30 p.m. Workman 101

Minutes

1. Call to order

Dr. Brian Borchers called the meeting to order at 3:31 pm with a call for approval of the February 7, 2023 minutes.

2. Approval of minutes

Dr. Todd Wolford moved to approve seconded by Dr. Michelle Creech-Eakman.

Motion was moved and approved unanimously.

3. Report of Standing Committees

A. Retention Committee- *Michelle Creech-Eakman*

- a. Recommend that numbers are returning to pre-pandemic retention-Goal is to return to existing numbers before COVID. Freshman fall to fall retention: 80%; 5th semester persistence 67%; 6 YR Graduation rates: 50%. Transfer fall-to fall- retention: 78%; 5th semester persistence: 70%; 6 YR Graduation rates: 67%.

Motion was moved and approved unanimously

- b. Recommend NMT invest funding resources in continued and enhanced tutoring and support services for the current and incoming undergraduate student populations. Discussion included the importance of ensuring existing resources were being used effectively, to consider going beyond tutoring (as the need for more tutoring was not clear in all cases), and reflecting on what can be done by all members of the campus community using existing resources (e.g., focusing on how we engage and interact with students and their learning inside and outside the classroom).

Motion was moved and approved unanimously

- c. Recommend enhanced tracking of the interventions and outcomes for struggling students that will be needed starting in the fall of 2023 with the implementation of Dropout Detective in Canvas.

Motion was moved and approved unanimously

- d. Recommend NMT invest in and conduct surveys to determine how student engagement, satisfaction, academic performance and other attitudes and impacting factors are evolving and shaping their experiences at NMT.

Motion was moved and approved unanimously

- e. Recommend NMT develop an institute-wide policy to store survey and related data that can be used to allow institute-wide access to be used to investigate needed areas of change and the results to those changes over time.

Motion was moved and approved unanimously

Discussions were held for each of the recommendations.

B. Curriculum Committee –*Linda DeVeaux*

Transitioning to CourseDog in about 6-8 months. Updating Google Doc. form. Use google form until we have CourseDog Form. Submit your proposals asap. The sooner the better for AY 2024-2025. Discussion was held.

C. Regents Faculty Conference Committee- *Sharon Sessions*

Launching survey March 7th thru March 24th. Report will be shared April Faculty Senate. Survey will not collect your personal information. –Discussion was held.

D. Honorary Degrees and Award Committee. Oleg Makhnin

Committee met and voted unanimously on the recommendation to award posthumous degrees for Jeffrey Begaye (undergraduate, Computer Science) and Laura Leyba-Newton for Master of Engineering Management. –Discussion was held.

Motion was moved and approved unanimously

Also reminder that the nominations for the Langmuir’s Award, Founders and Brown Award are due one week before the Senate’s May Meeting. Emails nomination to Sadie Stidstone.

E. Faculty Development Committee- Julie Dyke Ford

Committee runs the Mentoring Program. Main goal it to pair newer faculty with Tenure Tract at the instructor level. 30 Pairs in the program. . Plan and host events. Hosted 9 events represented 10 different departments. Teaching tea time open to grad.students. Discussion was held.

F. Conduct Committee- Clinton Richardson

Presented an update for Student and Faculty Conduct for AY 2021-2022 & AY 2022-2023 – 9 trainings done. Zero reported this year. Doing well on all categories.

4. Council of Chairs Report- Michael Jackson

Some highlights from past meetings include: a thank you to all faculty, staff, and students who assisted with Thanks all who helped for Research @ Tech Day; Reminder that sabbatical applications for Spring 2024 are due to department chairpersons by March 15; we are still waiting for block schedule for a couple of departments – this information, along with continued assistance at events such as Research @ Tech Day are critical to our recruitment efforts; and we hope to have some training sessions on Dropout Detective later this semester. Discussion was held on the following policies:

- a. **Academic Appeal Policy-**: Originally an Interim Policy and Procedure. The policy component has been revised and is being considered. Once the procedure is finalized, it will be brought forward to the Senate for notification. The procedure can be linked in the catalog.

Motion was moved and approved unanimously.

- b. **Credit Hour Policy**: Credit hour definition was expanded. Intended to provide departments with guidance on in-class contact hours and out-of-class expectations. Generally would serve as a lower limit with higher expectations possible (while recognizing that higher expectations are to be within reason). A procedure will be developed by which courses are reviewed and will be presented to the Council of Chairs for approval (followed by notification to the Faculty Senate). It was not designed to assign faculty load.

Motion was moved and approved unanimously

- c. **Degrees, Majors and Minors**: Two questions were raised: (1) Can a student who receives a BA degree at NMT in a specific major/discipline pursue a second degree in the same major/discipline (i.e., BA in chemistry and then a BS in chemistry)? And (2) can a similar situation occur if a student receives the BA degree at another institution, but wants to pursue the second degree in the same discipline at NMT? In reading the policy, it did not appear this would be permissible. It was also unclear if there would be financial aid implications. As a result, the policy was going to be recommended back to the Council of Chairs. **Motion was moved by Sally, 2nd by Michelle. The motion passed by majority.**

5. Graduate Council Report- Aly El-Osery

Tuition Remission-Applications 10 % higher over last year same time. There are about 150 outstanding applications awaiting faculty and department chair decisions. Department Chairs please review start acting on so we don't lose candidates. Tuition Remission- slides were presented. Discussion was held.

6. Old Business-

There was no old business.

7. New Business- None

There was no new business.

8. Announcements

The announcement list was presented. Another announcement made was the availability of space for students who need to work on sensitive information that is part of their job/research (e.g., classified work with Sandia National Lab). For more information about the use of this space, students and/or their advisors should contact Dr. Lorie Liebrock.

9. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Lorie and seconded by Sharon.

The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 4:58 p.m.