MINUTES

The New Mexico Tech Board of Regents convened on Friday March 01, 2019 at 9:15 am with Chair Deborah Peacock presiding. Other Board members present were Jerry Armijo, David Gonzales, Donald Monette and Emily Silva. Other university administrators, staff and guests included the following:

Stephen Wells  Valentina Avramidi  JoAnn Salome
Vanessa Grain  Bob Balch  Dave Manzano
Juliann Ulibarri  Peter Anselmo  Alex Garcia
Cleve McDaniel  Tom Engler  Randy Saavedra
Doug Wells  Colleen Foster  Julian Bojorquez
Melissa Jaramillo-Fleming  Charles Hendrickson  Mark Adams
Van Romero  Peter Phaiah  Valerie Kimble

1. **Call to Order.** Chair Peacock called the meeting to order at 9:15 am.
   a. **Proof of Meeting Notice.** Ms. Grain confirmed that proper legal notice had been given as required.

2. **Approval of Agenda.** The Chair requested that item 5g be moved to the top of item 5, and that item 7e be moved to Executive Session, item 9. Regent Armijo moved to approve the agenda as modified. Regent Silva seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

3. **Approval of February 01, 2019 Minutes.** The Minutes were unanimously approved on a motion by Regent Monette and a second from Regent Gonzales.

4. **Public Comment.** None.

5. **Recurring Reports.**
   a) **Office of Advancement.** Ms. Foster provided Regents with updates for both the NM Tech Foundation and Advancement, including fund raising, donations and future activities. Both the Chair and President recognized Ms. Foster and her staff for the successful turnout at two recent alumni receptions. Discussion included how to proceed with recommendations from a consultant’s report.
   b) **Enrollment.** Ms. Jaramillo-Fleming referred to month-end data showing a narrowing of the enrollment gap for fall, as part of a recurring report reflecting how students’ progress through the system. Discussion items included grad student recruitment, a focus on increasing out-of-state enrollment, and the type of students attracted to Tech.
   c) **Capital Projects.** Dr. McDaniel provided updates for all projects underway, including the start of demolition at 818 Leroy Place, plans for the remodel of Brown Hall, and a possible ceremonial groundbreaking for the President’s Residence and University House.
   d) **Legislative.** The President deferred his report to the end.
   e) **Bureau of Geology.** Ms. Avramidi noted two items of significance, including passage of a federal initiative to secure funding for geological research, and a grant through the U.S.
Geological Survey to identify mineral resources in the U.S., with New Mexico being one of the more successful applicants.

f) **PRRC.** Dr. Balleh provided a status update on the division’s financial health as it moves into the growth cycle, and on new projects and funding goals, acknowledging the work of support staff and researchers, and citing student employment data. Among highlights was a report on a wastewater treatment project for a commercial cheese company in Clovis.

g) **Office of Innovation Commercialization.** Dr. Anselmo reported on plans for the fourth Innovators and Entrepreneurs Workshop and its role as a marketing tool for the University. President Wells, noting the need for greater participation by faculty and students, donated personal funds for student registrations. Other items included a video course developed and donated to Tech, and economic development updates.

h) **Faculty Senate.** Dr. Engler deferred his report.

i) **Student Government Association.** None.

j) **Graduate Student Association.** Mr. Bolzquez announced tentative plans for a Comic-Con event and fund raiser for Spring Fling in mid-April, an event designed to draw statewide attendance. President Wells requested further information.

k) **President’s Report.** The President announced the Governor’s designation of Dr. Yolanda King and Ms. Veronica Espinoza as successors to Regents Donald Monette and Emily Silva, respectively, whose terms have expired. In his update on legislative issues, the President acknowledged legislative liaisons Mr. Manzano, Mr. Romero and Mr. Saavedra, and encouraged a greater Board presence at hearings in Santa Fe that may affect Tech.

l) **Other.** Ms. Jaramillo-Fleming announced that an in-house-produced marketing campaign won four key advertising honors. President Wells reported that invitations developed on behalf of MRO won the highest-level CASE award.

6. Information Items.
   a) **Degree Conferrals for December 2018 and January 2019.** Information in Regents’ packets.
   b) **Restricted Fund Purchase Notification.** Information in Regents’ packets.

7. Action Items.
   a) **Representative Kiki Saavedra Memorial Resolution.** President Wells read a memorial resolution honoring former State Sen. Henry “Kiki” Saavedra offering condolences to his family. Mr. Saavedra was recognized as a humble man who shunned the personal spotlight, and a loyal supporter of New Mexico Tech, an institution outside his district. Regents unanimously approved the resolution on a motion by Regent Monette and a second from Regent Armijo.

   b) **Financial Analysis for January 31, 2019.** Dr. McDaniel’s report reflected financial activity for I&G revenue, general transfers and expenditures; RPSPs, Cost Centers and other entities. Discussion included filling open faculty vacancies and fixed fees charged on research contracts. Regent Armijo moved to approve the report. Regent Silva seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

   c) **Property Resolutions #190301-01 & 190301-02.** The property resolutions were unanimously approved on a motion by Regent Monette and a second from Regent Gonzales.

   d) **Graduate Program Non-Significant Change Request.** Dr. Doug Wells requested approval to modify the Master of Science in Environmental Engineering degree to Master of Science in Civil and Environmental Engineering, reflecting the growing intertwining of both disciplines. The change requires no additional resources or support, and has Council of Chairs and Faculty Senate approval. Regent Armijo moved to approve the
program change, followed by a second from Regent Monette. The motion passed unanimously.

e) Faculty Appointment, Promotion and Tenure Policy – Revision. The proposed policy revision presented by VP Wells generated discussion on the need for clarification, including that for an appeal policy. Regents unanimously agreed to table the request for approval pending a vetting by legal counsel on a motion by Regent Monette and a second from Regent Armijo.

f) Research Faculty Policy – New. VP Wells requested approval for a new policy for research faculty, which was determined to require clarification and legal review. Regent Monette moved to table the issue until the next Board meeting. Regent Armijo seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

g) Key Management Personnel Resolution. Dr. Romero briefly introduced and then requested approval of a resolution regarding processing PRTC through the steps to become a classified facility. Regent Armijo moved for approval. Regent Monette seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Individual Board Member Comments. The Board recognized Regents Emily Silva and Donald Monette for their service as their respective terms end. Chair Peacock read a resolution recognizing Regent Monette for his contributions to NM Tech and the City of Socorro and his role in reinvigorating the NM Tech University Research Park Corp.


9. Executive Session. NBMSA 1978, Sec. 10-15-1(H)(2), (If required to Consider Legal and/or Personnel Matters). The Board unanimously recessed its regular meeting at 11:40 am to meet in Executive Session on a motion by Regent Monette and a second from Regent Gonzales. Ms. Grain conducted a roll call vote.

10. Reconvene in open session and take final action, if any, on such limited legal and/or personnel matters which shall be acted upon in open session following conclusion of the closed session. The meeting reconvened at 12:33 pm with Chair Peacock announcing that no action had been taken, and only items so specified were discussed. Regent Silva moved, and Regent Gonzales seconded, to approve academic tenure for Dr. Christian Carrico, Associate Professor of Civil & Environmental Engineering; and academic tenure and promotion to Associate Professor for Dr. Taylor Dotson, CLASS; Dr. Ronni Grapenthin, Earth & Environmental Sciences; Dr. Menake Piyasena, Chemistry; and Dr. Tie Wei, Mechanical Engineering. The motion passed unanimously. They will be invited to the next regular Board meeting.

11. Adjournment. The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 12:35 pm on a motion by Regent Armijo and a second from Regent Monette.

Attest:

Secretary-Treasurer