

NEW MEXICO INSTITUTE OF MINING AND TECHNOLOGY

FACULTY SENATE MEETING

Tuesday, October 6, 2020

4:00 p.m.

Minutes

1. Call to order and approval of minutes

Chair Tom Engler called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm with a call for approval of the September 1, 2020 minutes. Dr. Brian Borchers moved to approve, seconded by Dr. Anwar Hossain. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Reports of Senate Standing Committees

action

a. Nominating Committee – *Raul Morales Juberias*

Dr. Raul Morales Juberias stated that the committees for the Faculty Senate Standing Committees have all been set. Representatives for graduate and undergraduate students need to be identified as well as who the chairs of the committees are. It was noted that the ombudsman staff will remain even when he is retired.

A link was put in the chat to a google poll to vote for the Senate membership. The results showed:

Michael Hargather, Chair
Brian Borchers, Vice-Chair
Bill Stone, Parliamentarian

b. Council of Chairs Report – *Doug Wells*

Dr. Doug Wells stated that there were no curricular approvals.

c. Graduate Council Report – *Aly El-Osery*

1. CEE Catalog Changes

Dr. Richardson proposed to add CEE 5XX as a specialization. Dr. Richardson moved to approve. Motion passed unanimously.

James Scott stated that he would like to see CEE 581 be consistent in our numbers. Friendly amendment was made to list it as a 5XX for the purpose of today.

d. Unfinished Business

action

3. New Business – *Doug Wells*

a. Copyright in the Classroom

Dr. Doug Wells stated that a number of people have raised the issue that due to COVID-19, faculty are teaching either DE or hybrid, and they would like to know

that their copyright is properly protected. He stated that our current policy is weak and it could be strengthened. Dr. Engler stated that he received several responses mostly on IP lectures now that faculty are recording their lectures. Dr. Engler along with Dr. Peter Mozley, Dr. Peter Anselmo and Sara Grijalva met and reviewed our IP policy as well as other universities. There were several items that they felt kept our faculty protected. The first was a definition that is referred to as “Scholarly, Artistic, and Musical Works” in any medium are collectively referred to as Scholarly/Artistic Works. The key word is any medium. With that definition, under IP Policies, it lists what is scholarly and/or artistic works. It lists that the copyrights are owned by the creators with three exceptions: contractual obligations, capitalization on an affiliation with the University, or works created under a sponsored agreement. The group felt that they were comfortable with this but needed some more definition on lecture capture rooms and distance.

Several additional concerns were discussed that will need to be further reviewed to strengthen the policy.

Motion to move to discussions in the Distance Ed advisory board was made. This advisory board reports to Dr. Aly El-Osery. He will try to schedule a meeting before the next Faculty Senate.

b. COVID-19 Protocols

Dr. Doug Wells announced that we had our third COVID-19 student case yesterday. Some problems were identified in our procedure such as locating a number of faculty phone numbers as some were incorrect and it was hard to track faculty down. Dr. Peter Mozley will resend the link and asked that faculty list their cell phone numbers. Similarly, there will be a meeting later today to be sure that the information given out to those involved in a case is the same across the board.

President Wells stated that HED Secretary Rodriguez encouraged us to have everyone that is tested go into isolation until the test results come back. Most test results are taking two to three days. Secretary Rodriguez is also trying to work with us to get faster test results. Also, there has been a change from not needing to be quarantined if you have been exposed to someone with COVID from fifteen minutes or less to three minutes or less. If you think you have been exposed, wait at least 72 hours before getting tested is what was recommended to us.

Dr. Wells briefly discussed the procedure once a confirmed positive case for a student has been identified. Administration will contact the instructors and students that may have been exposed. Classrooms are then closed, equipment is turned off, and a deep clean is done including high traffic and high touch areas in the building. Research then does the contact tracing.

Brief discussion regarding our procedure for after the break was held. Students who are not leaving the state during Thanksgiving break can remain on campus.

c. Enrollment

Dr. Doug Wells gave a brief update on our enrollment. Compared to last year, we are down 1% in terms of credit hours. Community Ed, returning students, and graduation rates are still driving down the number of returning students. We are up on graduate and undergraduate students. Overall, we are in good shape.

When asked about a hiring freeze and the budget, Dr. Wells stated that we are in a “hiring slush” and there has to be enhanced scrutiny of every hire. We are down substantially more from the state allocation and another cut is most likely coming next year. We have a deficit that we can’t right now commit to new hires.

d. Spring Break

Dr. Mozley stated that there will be a poll sent out to faculty and students to discuss the options for the upcoming spring break. The options include: leave it as is, start the semester a week late, end the semester one week early, have a dead week before finals and do finals online after the break, or split the five days up over the semester.

4. Announcements

a. Election Day

Discussion was briefly held to moving the next Faculty Senate meeting as it is election. Decision was made to keep it as is as early voting starts tomorrow.

5. Adjournment

By unanimous decision, the faculty senate adjourned at 5:10 pm.