

# NEW MEXICO INSTITUTE OF MINING AND TECHNOLOGY

## FACULTY SENATE MEETING

Tuesday, November 2, 2021

4:00 p.m. Workman 101

## Minutes

### 1. Call to order

Chair Mike Hargather called the meeting to order at 4:01 pm with a call for approval of the October 5, 2021 minutes.

### 2. Approval of minutes

Dr. Anwar Hossain moved to approve, seconded by Dr. Taylor Dotson. Motion passed unanimously.

### 3. President Wells Update

#### a. Introduction of Myrriah Tomar, OIC Executive Director

President Wells introduced Myrriah Tomar as the Executive Director for the Office of Innovation and Commercialization.

President Wells also stated that the Biden administration has mandated federal employees that are contracted to be vaccinated. Within the next two weeks, we may have to require the entire campus to be vaccinated. We are currently at 85% staff and 87% students that are currently vaccinated.

President Wells stated that it is good to look back and see where you have been and provided an update with reflections on what we have done despite the pandemic. The transformation to a STE2M University started with an external review and the Tech Transfer paid for them to come in. There was a reorganization of the NMTRF into NMT Foundation. There have been five years of NMT's Inventors and Entrepreneurs' Workshop.

We have put effort into building a Culture of Philanthropy and building a culture of state giving. In order to do so, we had to look for new revenues. This led to President Wells taking on the Office of Advancement. We transformed the Research Foundation into a philanthropic organization to advance NMT's fundraising endeavors. The first year of the campaign attained \$64M. President Wells moved the Office of Communication to directly report to him. President wells noted that there will be an NMT ad at the end of the World Series.

President Wells stated that we also partially addressed declining enrollment challenges at NMT through a reorganization of university operations and implementation of a new approach to recruitment.

Other Accomplishments include, meeting with alumni from various industries and around the globe to gain insights for enhancing NMT's programs. Significant effort was placed on international student recruitment in Mexico, Vietnam, China, and Ghana. We built trust with our Legislators and the Executive staff. Created the NMT Covid-19 Task Force. West Hall renovation is nearly completed and the Brown Hall renovation will start in Winter 2022. President Wells also noted that the Town and Tech column with the local newspaper is something that has been discussed to have NMT featured more often.

#### **4. Reports of Senate Standing Committees**

##### **a. ASAC – Chelsey Hargather**

##### **action**

Dr. Hargather stated that the committee slightly revised the proposal in name only from special student to non-degree-seeking. They are also proposing to separate the graduate and undergraduate components in the proposal.

*Motion was moved and approved unanimously.*

It was noted that the Registrar should go through the catalog to be consistent with changing out special students where they were previously. Additionally, procedures and policies should be reviewed and updated.

##### **b. Sabbatical Committee – Dan Cadol**

##### **action**

Dr. Cadol stated that they are bringing the proposed revised sabbatical policy. They found what they believed was a flaw that states that a faculty member may apply after six years of service and receiving tenure. They believe that this needs to be one semester prior. Otherwise, faculty would have to wait six in a half years rather than the intended six years to request a sabbatical. Additionally, they rearranged several sections on who gets to review. The request will continue to go up the line whether or not it is approved, for example by the department chair. The policy also now addresses positions such as the Deans if they decide to apply for sabbatical and how that would work. Lastly, the policy states that after a person goes on sabbatical, they have to return to NMT for the length of their sabbatical. If the faculty member does not return (barring extraordinary circumstances) the faculty member will be required to repay to NMT the full sabbatical salary that they were paid by NMT.

*Motion to approve the updated policy was moved and approved unanimously with one abstention.*

Friendly amendment was made to add “and administration” under #1. Friendly amendment was made to change full to academic regarding that the Academic Affairs salary is what is intended for the amount to be repaid.

Comments were made to provide a timeline for administration, the policy states that it should be processed with minimal delay. It was also noted that the



**a. Department Assessment Reports - *Mike Jackson***

Dr. Jackson stated that he has received about half of what he needs back. Of those, four are under review and the other have already received feedback from him.

**b. HLC QI<sup>2</sup> - *Mike Jackson***

Dr. Jackson stated that once the quality initiative draft is written, we will reach out to different constituents. Retention of students in their first year is the focus of this initiative. Faculty sub committees will be apart of the review process as well.

**c. Accreditation Taskforce - *Mike Jackson***

Dr. Jackson stated that later this month a meeting will be held and an additional few meetings will be held in the spring to get the sub criteria committees thinking about what they will need to do.

**d. NM HEAR - *Mike Jackson***

Dr. Jackson stated that there is a program offered every year on faculty development in Albuquerque. It will be held this upcoming February. If you are interested, reach out to Dr. Jackson and he can help with arrangements for carpooling.

**e. FERPA- *Mike Jackson***

Dr. Jackson stated that there was a concern from a student about graded materials being handed back in mass to all students. This can be a FERPA violation. Dr. Jackson asked faculty to be mindful of maintaining the student's confidentiality.

**f. Internships – *Michael Voegerl***

The Student Affairs Office is working on a new internship handbook. This will be a one stop shop for our students with internships. They are asking faculty to send feedback on what they believe is important and should be included.

**g. SRS April 20 – 22, 2022 – *Mike Hargather/David Cox***

The next Student Research Symposium will be held on April 20 – 22, 2022. This is about ten days before the end of the semester. Email Dr. Hargather and David Cox with any questions. The current plan is that this will be held fully in person.

**h. OSL Math and Physics Extravaganza Planning – *Sooraj Bhatia***

The OSL is hosting a math and physics + Extravaganza on November 30<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 – 8:00 pm at the Library. The purpose is for faculty to provide any final reviews that you would normally give to your students and review with the students.

**i. Faculty Senate Meeting – *Mike Hargather***

Dr. Hargather announced that our last meeting this semester will be held on Tuesday, December 7.

**9. Adjournment**

By unanimous decision, the Faculty Senate adjourned at 5:32 pm