NEW MEXICO INSTITUTE OF MINING AND TECHNOLOGY

FACULTY SENATE MEETING
Tuesday, September 4, 2018
Workman 101 4:00 p.m.

Minutes

1. **Call to order and approval of minutes**
   Chair Tom Kieft called the meeting to order at 4:01 with a call for approval of the May, 10, 2018 minutes. Dr. Anwar Hossain moved to accept these, seconded by Dr. Mike Hargather.

2. **Announcements**
   a. **Faculty/Staff Introductions – *Doug Wells***
      Dr. Corey Leclerc introduced Dr. Youngmin Lee as an assistant professor in the Chemical Engineering Department.

      Dr. Steve Simpson announced Katie Davidson as a part time instructor, Rachel Cruz, and Gaby Benalil as an instructor in the CLASS department.

      Dr. Kevin Wedeward announced Dr. Benjamin Varela as an instructor in Engineering Science.

      Dr. Anwar Hossain introduced Dr. Todd Wolford as an instructor in the Math department.

      Dr. Andrei Zagrai announced Dr. Mostafa Hassanalian as assistant professor in Mechanical Engineering.

      Dr. Tan Nguyen introduced Dr. Jihoon Wang and Dr. Miao Zhang as assistant professors in Petroleum Engineering department.

      Dr. Doug Wells introduced Samantha Nelson as the new Registrar.

      President Wells introduced Vanessa Grain as his executive assistant.

   b. **Tenure & Promotion Awards – *Doug Wells***
      Dr. Wells stated that we do not have faculty convocation and one consequence to this is that we don't publically acknowledge faculty success as much as we should.

      Dr. Wells announced academic tenure and promotions to associate professor:
      Dr. Rosario Durao, CLASS
      Dr. Beth Kramer-Simpson, CLASS
      Dr. Sally Pias, Chemistry
      Dr. Rodolfo Tello-Aburto, Chemistry

Dr. Linda DeVeaux, Biology, was also awarded tenure.

Dr. Wells announced academic promotions to full professor:
Dr. Aly El-Osery, Electrical Engineering
Dr. Sharon Sessions, Physics

Dr. Wells announced awards this past year:
Scott Lee-Chadde, recipient of the Distinguished Teaching Award
Dr. Ivan Avramidi, recipient of the Distinguished Research Award
Dr. Wells noted that the distinguished service award does not exist, but it should.
The SGA recognized Dr. Curtis O'Malley
The GSA recognized Dr. Jolante Van

It was also noted that Kent Condie (Emeritus Faculty) was awarded the highest honor from the Geological Society of America this year, the Penrose Medal.

c. Career Fair – *Michael Voegerl*

Michael announced that the Career Fair is on Tuesday, September 18. There are currently 64 companies and graduate schools coming to NMT. He hopes to see this number grow to at least 80. Michael also announced that Student Affairs will be hosting several workshops this semester and asked faculty to encourage students to attend. There will be free donuts and coffee to kick off the start of the semester on Thursday morning.

d. High Speed Ambassador – *Mike Hargather*

Dr. Hargather announced that he has hired an undergraduate student to be his high speed ambassador. Dr. Hargather would like to have her go out to other faculty labs across campus with a high speed camera and take videos of research or anything that faculty have going on. The student will then be turning this into public YouTube videos. If faculty are interested, coordinate with Dr. Mike Hargather.

e. Grant Opportunities with teacher training programs – *Megha Khandelwal/ Mark Samuels*

Megha Khandelwal stated that several individual funding agencies, for example NSF, have an educational outreach component. By training teachers, we can educate next several generations of K-12 students. We have two teacher training programs, but in the past we have collaborated with different PI's from NMT. Megha discussed some outreach grant examples from last year. Dr. Shin/Liebrock NSF grant provided teacher scholarships for Computer Sciences classes. Dr. Fuchs grant provided support for the Science of the Weather class. Megha and Dr. Samuels would like to collaborate with faculty.

Megha gave a brief summary of teacher training programs. The MST program is designed for in-service K-12 school teachers. Science, Math, and Engineering content are taught. Most classes are online during the academic year with few summer courses offered on-campus. The ALP is to prepare K-12 teachers. It is more focused on pedagogy.

f. Recycling – *Steven Hicks*

Steven Hicks stated that we are still on track for a full implementation as of September 30. There will be one collection station per floor per building. Notifications will be sent out regarding the location. Steven also reassured that this is a community effort.

g. WRGP - *Lorie Liebrock*

Dr. Liebrock stated that we received approval to put all graduate programs in WRGP which allows resident tuition for 13 states. This should help with our recruiting in the western region.

3. Senate Committee Reports

a. Nominating Committee - *Raul Morales Juberias*

Dr. Morales Juberias stated that the Nominating Committee met before the semester started and updated the list of names for the faculty senate committees. The election will be held at the next faculty senate meeting.

Dr. Morales Juberias moved to approve the slate of candidates, seconded by Dr. Brian Borchers. Motion passed.

4.* Council of Chairs Report – *Doug Wells

a. Psychology & Education – *Taffeta Elliott*

Dr. Elliott discussed the Psychology and Education catalog changes. They are proposing to add back into the catalog the possibility of minoring in education.

Discussion was held regarding that this change raises the amount of credits hours for the minor. Dr. Elliott stated that those who are taking the ALP program (once accredited) will be fulfilling this minor at the same time.

Motion was moved and approved with one nay.

b. Gen Ed's - *Doug Wells*

Dr. Wells stated that HED has promulgated some rules this summer that in effect says that we need to have to a fine arts component to the Gen Ed's. This means that we will have to overhaul our Gen Ed's to some degree.

Dr. Stone announced that he will be proposing not to change anything that are students are required to do except add in the fine arts requirement in place of one of the social science of humanities. This means that the number of hours will stay the same. We will have to split our Gen Ed requirements into two categories, Gen Ed requirements and Institutional requirements.

Discussion was held regarding the required renumbering of all the lower division courses. There may be some situations where courses or perquisites may change. Dr. Wells stated that we will have to address this starting in Council of Chairs. If we just carry things over, we may run into some issues.

c. AA 2018 – 2019 Agenda – *Doug Wells*

Dr. Wells stated that every Chair received a list of most important subjects that Academic Affairs plans to pursue this year. Dr. Wells would like faculty to pro-

vide feedback to the Chair and ideally share the three priorities for your department. At the next chairs Dr. Wells would like to come forth with a game plan and prioritize the main subjects for Academic Affairs. Dr. Wells would like to start with faculty salaries, professional development, and policies and procedures.

5. **Old Business**

6. **New Business**
   a. **Enrollment - *Doug Wells***
      Dr. Wells stated that we have not had census yet. However, we now know that first year students are substantially larger than last year by approximately 15 students. Retention is up. We have approximately 20 more students than we would have if retention had stayed the same. Graduation is also up by approximately 90 students. This leaves us short by 20 degree seeking, full time students. Dr. Wells explained that we had a top heavy senior class of 6, 7, and 8th seniors and many of them left. Dr. Wells stated that faculty and staff did everything right and were successful in recruiting, retaining, and graduating students. In terms of financial consequences, we will be looking at alternatives to keep the raises going.

   b. **Policies & Procedures regarding grievances against faculty – *Doug Wells***
      Dr. Wells stated that four years ago, we expressly put in the employee handbook that faculty are exempt from these processes for either disciplinary action or grievances against faculty. Also, our Academic Freedom & Tenure policy points that it exempts us. We have a problem where faculty and administration don't know the rules. Dr. Wells has drafted a process for dealing with grievances with one faculty against another for example. Since Dr. Wells has been here, there have been roughly six situations that he has dealt with. Dr. Wells proposed that we put something in place that will satisfy the Office of Civil Rights for the Department of Education, our legal requirements, and this body. If we get through this in the next few weeks, hopefully within the next year, this body will put together a final policy in conjunction with the administration, that is clear, fair, and fully respects Academic Freedom and Tenure.

7. **Discussion**
   Dr. Mike Heagy stated that Academic Freedom & Tenure Committee have received some frustration regarding delays on tenure reports. They would like to call attention to it and have Academic Affairs make it a priority.

   Dr. Taffeta Elliott asked if the Fine Arts classes that will be fulfilling Gen Ed requirements are all music classes. Dr. Stone stated that we don't know yet. We do have a class being taught between a history teacher and a medieval and armor making fine arts classes. They are also looking at some other possibilities along those lines. Dr. Simpson stated that when they developed the Gen Ed rubric, they initially had the content rubric and skills rubric. However, at a later meeting, they voted out the content rubrics. There is not much guidance from the State in terms of what counts. Dr. Simpson and Dr. Stone are working together on this.

8. **Adjournment**
   By unanimous decision the faculty senate adjourned at 4:53pm.