



NEW MEXICO TECH
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Board of Regents Meeting
8:30 am, Saturday, October 27, 2018
PTRC Classroom Complex
Playas Training and Research Center, Playas, New Mexico

MINUTES

The New Mexico Tech Board of Regents convened at 8:30 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	Melissa Jaramillo-Fleming	Richard Miller
Lala Garcia	Van Romero	Josh Carrillo
Vanessa Grain	Nelia Dunbar	Mark Adams
Cleve McDaniel	Randall Seright	Charles Hendrickson
Doug Wells	Tom Engler	Valerie Kimble

1. **Proof of Meeting.** Chair Peacock called the meeting to order at 8:30 am, and Ms. Grain reported that proper legal notice had been given.
2. **Approval of Agenda.** Regents unanimously approved the agenda on a motion by Regent Armijo and a second from Regent Silva.
3. **Minutes for August 2018.** Regent Monette moved to approve the minutes as presented. Regent Gonzales seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
4. **Announcements.**
 - a. *Enrollment Update.* Ms. Jaramillo-Fleming provided Regents with an enrollment snapshot taken October 24, 2018, showing increases for Spring and Fall 2019. President Wells, while commending the Admission team for their recruitment work, reiterated a concern that the University is actually losing students and revenue due to three years of the largest number of graduating students in school history. In addition, an overall drop in incoming students, as well as holding majors to a 120-hour credit limit poses a challenge for NMT's engineering programs. The Chair agreed to revisit the issue at the December meeting. On a positive note, Dr. Wells reported that NMT saw an increase of 25.8% for enrollment of freshmen in the fall of 2018 from 2017; increasing from 240 in 2017 to 302 this year. This is the largest percentage increase of all NM public four-year institutions and is over 10 points higher than the next public institution. Of 2018's 302 freshmen, 263 (87.1%) are from New Mexico, vs 39 (12.9%) out of state.



Of freshmen who reported, 40% ranked in the top 10% of their high school graduating class and 68.7% ranked in the top 25%. NMT also enrolled 73 new graduate students in 2018. Students from New Mexico account for 67.7% of the total graduate student body of 239.

- b. *Capital Projects Update.* Dr. McDaniel highlighted elements of his written report, including the Jones Hall renovation. The project architect has recommended proceeding with a contractor-at-risk delivery method as the best way to move forward. President Wells added that, if needed, the project could be completed in phases. NMT is trying to close out the sale of its building in Albuquerque; a meeting with the buyer and title company is set for October 31, 2018. Demolition and fencing is recommended for the structure at 818 Leroy once asbestos has been removed.
- c. *NMT Insurance Update.* Dr. McDaniel reported the move to the N.M. Public Schools Insurance Authority has gone well with more than 500 employees and retirees attending HR workshops. Enrollees include 426 active employees and 125 retirees. The first payment to NMPSIA will be made using 10-13% of the trust fund balance, which has well over \$4 million in investments and cash.
- d. *Advancement Report.* President Wells announced an ambitious, 10-year plan for NMT's capital campaign, with details to be presented at the December meeting. Tech Treks brought in \$28,000, and the President's Golf Tournament cleared an amount similar to last year. With heritage events, panning for gold, and mucking and drilling events, last weekend's 49ers was one of the most successful in terms of student and alumni turnout. Meanwhile a new eSports club is in the works, expected to be the largest on campus, sponsored by Razer, a world leader in high-performance gaming hardware and software systems.
- e. *Faculty Senate.* Dr. Engler, in succeeding Dr. Tom Kieft as Faculty Senate Chair, quipped that one Tom is being replaced by another, and he will have a report for the next Regents meeting.
- f. *Latin American Initiatives.* Dr. Romero reported that the Governor has spearheaded relations with New Mexico Universities and Mexican States, with Mining and the MST program high on their radar; i.e., by educating K-12 teachers, they can encourage students to pursue programs in mining, hydrology, petroleum engineering, etc. To date, NMT has signed an MOU with the National Institute of Astrophysics, Optics and Electronics in Mexico, with a student/faculty exchange this summer.



Other upcoming events include a trip by President Wells to Peru to sign an MOU with the Universidad Nacional de San Agustin de Arequipa and visits with NMT alumni. A conference/seminar is scheduled for Nov. 14-15 in Albuquerque on STEM education involving PTRC and EMRTC's First Responders programs. A new initiative includes discussions with the University of Hawaii to deliver courses on natural disasters in Mexico. The Vice President for Research also announced an exciting project led by LANL and Sandia Labs to modernize and adjust the old grid system.

- g. President's Report.* The President updated the Board on the LFC's recommendation to change the funding formula, including removing STEM-H, its research component, and a letter the CUP sent to the LFC's David Abbey noting its concerns and an offer to work with them on stabilizing a formula that has undergone four changes in seven years. He cited recent national rankings showing the state is on the right track in human capital investment through STEM-H, and that if the state of New Mexico wants to move toward economic innovation, it has to continue STEM-H in higher education. Funding formula proposed changes include addressing outcomes, job placement, efficiencies and at-risk students. President Wells also cited proposed HED recommendations to restructure college governing boards for New Mexico colleges, including one allowing NMT's to retain its independence.
- h. Other.* Alumnus Jeb Flemming of 3D Glass Solutions, who helped with NMT's engineering design teams, accepted an invitation to serve on the NMT Research Park Board of Directors.

5. **Public Comment.** None.

6. **Financial Analysis for September 30, 2018.** Dr. McDaniel reported on the status of current revenues and expenditures for period ending September 30, 2018. He noted that while utilities have dropped somewhat, NMT has been notified of an increase in electricity and city utility rates starting January 2019. In other highlights from his written report, Dr. McDaniel noted that the PTRC debt continues to decrease, while EMRTC is working on new grant opportunities. Regent Armijo moved to accept the financial analysis. Regent Gonzales seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

7. **Higher Education Quarterly Certification.** Dr. McDaniel brought forward for approval the quarterly certification report required by the Institutional Finance Division of the HED. Regent Monette moved for approval, followed by a second from Regent Gonzales. The motion passed unanimously.



8. **End of FY 2018 Budget-to-Actuals.** Dr. McDaniel presented his report early with the desire of preparing an internal management report to monitor ongoing spending matters. An overview was included in his summary.
9. **Unrestricted Fund Purchase.** Regents were asked to approve an HVAC maintenance and management services contract for \$253,149.08 with Trane US Inc. under a state pricing agreement. Regent Armijo moved for approval. Regent Monette seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
10. **Property Resolutions.** Regents unanimously approved four resolutions pertaining to the disposal of equipment required to be removed from inventory on a motion by Regent Monette and a second from Regent Silva.
11. **Degree Conferrals for August and September 2018.** Information item.
12. **Status of Playas Training and Research Center.** Dr. Romero delivered a detailed report on the status of ongoing business at PTRC and projects in the offing. PTRC hosts a week long First Responders class twice a month, with each class bringing in \$50,000 totaling \$1.2 million yearly. Base operations include prevention and response training and suicide and bombing incidents. The future looks bright, he said, crediting former EMRTC Director Dr. John Meason for laying the foundations. A project finally coming to fruition is cyber kinetic activity and is expected to bring in over \$20 million total, with \$1 million for infrastructure. Other projects involve finding modern solutions to military issues. Dr. Romero cited as great news an increased Pentagon budget over the next several fiscal years, which includes funding to PTRC. Another potential project is a partnership with LANL and the USAF, which would enable faculty and students working at the lab to be treated as employees, not visitors. Mr. Carrillo noted that PTRC will enhance its infrastructure to provide additional communications support in studying potential battlefield issues. ICASA is the lead entity on cyberwarfare activities, providing analysis rather than tactical support. Also under study is a program to certify people in the use of equipment and techniques, to give them the credentials to work on military systems. Dr. Romero expressed confidence NMT could meet HED requirements for the certification program.
13. **Individual Board Member Comments.** Chair Peacock said the visit to PTRC and the previous evening's interactive activity was an incredible experience; in her eight years on the Board, this was her first visit to Playas.



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14. New Business. For the December 7, 2018 meeting, the President will work with Dr. Romero and Dr. Doug Wells to plan morning activities from a research/educational standpoint, and provide an update on the 2019 Legislative Session. Board by-laws will be brought forward for approval, along with a draft of the Public Comment Resolution. Discussion on the latter issue included setting time limits for speakers and how to handle inappropriate comments.

15. Executive Session.

- i. Pursuant to 10-15-1(H)(2) & 10-15-1(I)(2),*
- ii. NMSA 1978 (To Consider Legal and/or Personnel Matters).*

Regent Armijo moved to adjourn the regular meeting and meet in executive session. Regent Gonzales seconded the motion and after a unanimous roll-call vote, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 am.

16. Action, if any, Following Executive Session. The Chair announced that no items were discussed other than in accordance with statute, and that no action was taken.

17. Adjournment. Regents unanimously adjourned the meeting at 11:30am on a motion by Regent Armijo and a second from Regent Monette.



President

Attest:



Secretary-Treasurer