

Minutes
ENMU Faculty Senate
May 4th 2018
3:30 to 5:00pm
Sandia Room
APPROVED

Roll Call: Present (23): Acheson-Brown, Beck, Beinlich, Bellin-Oka, Birky, Smith (voting alternate for Durand), Erf, Finley, Flores, Gandonou, Greene, Hardin, Lee, Lingnau, Cradock (voting alternate for Liu), Owens, Pasko, Roller, Shaughnessy, Sherwood, Starr, Sumption, Swafford

Absent: (2): George, Mitchell

Guests: Laurenz, Shepherdson

Reading and approval of the minutes of 4/19/18:

Motion to approve minutes (Beck/Bellin-Oka)

Passed with 1 abstention

Administrator's Report:

Dr. Laurenz: Thanked the faculty for a good academic year. The state has proposed rules for evaluation of teacher programs that involve a scorecard. There was to be a soft rollout of this scorecard in the fall, but that has been moved up to within the next month. There are serious concerns that the scorecard does not accurately reflect a program's quality.

The proposed rule changes to how programs can make substantive changes will be discussed under New Business, but Dr. Laurenz's concerns, echoed by the faculty, are that the rules attempt to bypass an institution's Board of Regents and centralize approval of programs by the state. Dr. Laurenz has not heard of the intent to vet individual courses.

Dr. Elwell: not present

Faculty Senate Reports:

Treasurer: We have \$428.33 left in the budget.

Curriculum Committee: Still working on new catalog.

Distance Education and Outreach Committee: Working on Back to School events for August.

Elections Committee: The list of new senators to be seated in August will be submitted to the Faculty Senate secretary.

Faculty Grievance Committee: No report.

Faculty Personnel and Handbook Committee: No report.

Faculty Research and Instructional Development Committee: \$54,000 was allocated for internal research grants and will be awarded.

General Education Committee: Discussion of the 9 institutional hours campus-wide.

Program Review Committee: No report.

Undergraduate Admissions and Standards Committee: No report.

Ad Hoc Student Evaluations Committee: Has been meeting and will resume meeting in the fall. Another evaluation vendor made a presentation to the committee. Recommendations will be made regarding online vs. paper evaluations next year.

Ad Hoc Intellectual Property Rights Committee: The committee will meet with Dr. Laurenz on May 5 to reconcile committee and Academic Affairs proposals.

University Standing Committees:

Assessment: no report

Budget and Planning: No report.

University Council: Discussed the changes to travel policy and that the day-to-day lives of faculty regarding travel will not change. They will bring back the per diem for in state travel. The Emergency Operations Plan presented was approved.

Student Senate:

No report.

President's Report:

No report.

Old Business:

The ad hoc committee presented their draft resolution in response to the HED's proposed rule changes about how new programs or substantive changes to existing programs would be approved. Minor scrivener's changes were made in the resolution.

Motion to approve resolution as emended (Flores/Acheson-Brown)
Passed unanimously with no abstentions.

Resolution is attached as an amendment to these minutes.

Motion to appoint Dr. Adrienne Bratcher as the Senate's representative and to send her to Santa Fe for the public hearing on the rule changes, using the remaining funds in our budget, according to policy (Shaughnessy/Sumption)

Passed unanimously with no abstentions.

New Business:

A. Elections: Previous appointment to Undergraduate Admissions and Standards committee was invalid because appointee was already on the committee.

Marshall Swafford was nominated to serve on this committee. Motion to appoint Senator Swafford (Pasko/Roller).

Passed unanimously with no abstentions.

B. Executive Committee nominations and election for 2018-19 Senate session:

President

Chelsea Starr was nominated (unopposed). Motion to appoint Senator Starr as President (Pasko/Beinlich)

Passed unanimously with no abstentions.

Vice President

Frederick Greene was nominated (unopposed). Motion to appoint Senator Greene as Vice President (Pasko/Roller)

Passed unanimously with no abstentions.

Secretary

Steve Bellin-Oka was nominated (unopposed). Motion to appoint Senator Bellin-Oka as Secretary (Pasko/Beinlich).

Passed unanimously with no abstentions.

Parliamentarian

James Finley was nominated (unopposed). Motion to appoint Senator Finley as Parliamentarian (Pasko/Bellin-Oka).

Passed unanimously with no abstentions.

Treasurer

Kristin Waldo was nominated (unopposed). Motion to appoint incoming Senator Waldo as Treasurer.

Passed unanimously with no abstentions.

Announcements:

No announcements.

Motion to adjourn at 4:38 p.m. (Sherwood/Beinlich)

Passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Bellin-Oka
Faculty Senate Secretary

**Resolution of Eastern New Mexico University Faculty Senate
May 4, 2018**

The ENMU Faculty Senate hereby responds to the proposed rule changes to the New Mexico Administrative Code regarding undergraduate and graduate program curricula for new and existing programs. As a collective body, we have significant concerns about these potential rule changes.

The proposed rule changes remove significant responsibility from the Council of Graduate Deans and the Academic Council on Higher Education, placing that oversight responsibility almost exclusively within the Higher Education Department. The Council of Graduate Deans and the Academic Council on Higher Education consist of representatives from the affected institutions. These representatives have an intimate understanding of the needs of the regions and their respective institutions. By reducing the level of input and influence of the councils, these changes would compromise our ability to meet regional needs. Presently, the Academic Council on Higher Education as well as the Council of Graduate Deans have the ability to ensure that any policies meet both the needs of the state and the respective institutions. The general reduction of academic input and representation in the approval process is of paramount concern.

The ability to navigate curriculum changes to suit regional needs has been a strength of Eastern New Mexico University, as evidenced in our continued growth for over 20 years. Our ability to adapt to the needs of our student body as well as those of potential students has made this growth possible.

In addition, ENMU has numerous programs on site which are individually accredited. With the proposed rule revisions, changes to existing programs may bring current accreditation practices into question. External accrediting bodies require faculty to have full authority and autonomy over curricula. This accreditation process demands a quick response time to meet accrediting bodies' required changes and recommendations. Lengthening the existing process may create a delay in responsiveness, thus jeopardizing ongoing accreditation efforts and existing relationships with these bodies.

While oversight from the Higher Education Department is understood and welcome, ENMU Faculty are also concerned with the appeal process that has been proposed. The lack of due process compromises a robust exchange of ideas for improvement and growth.