

EASTERN NEW MEXICO UNIVERSITY
Virtual Board of Regents Meeting
Eastern New Mexico University - Portales
February 19, 2021 - 9:30 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Regent President Dan Patterson called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. and declared a quorum. Regents Dan Patterson, Terry Othick, and Edwin Tatum were present virtually. Regents Pyle and Gergel were not present.

Roll call: Regent Patterson – Yes; Regent Pyle – No response; Regent Gergel – No response; Regent Othick– Yes; Regent Tatum –Yes.

APPROVE THE AGENDA

Dr. Patrice Caldwell said it would be necessary to remove items 3 and 10 from the agenda. These items will be brought back to the board at a later date.

Regent Othick moved to amend the agenda by tabling Business Matter items 3 and 10. Regent Tatum seconded. Vote: 3-0-0. Motion approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regent Tatum moved to approve the minutes of December 11, 2020, and January 21, 2021. Regent Othick seconded. Vote: 3-0-0. Motion approved.

REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

Regent Dan Patterson extended his thanks to faculty and staff for their innovative efforts during the pandemic.

REPORT FROM THE ENMU-ROSWELL PRESIDENT

Dr. Shawn Powell said their campus continues in the emergency phase of the return-to-campus plan. If this status changes, the campus plan will be modified. Anyone wishing to be on campus must have prior approval. The current method of instruction will continue with face-to-face instruction for health education, technical services, and special services programs.

Dr. Powell reported that there have been 50 positive COVID-19 cases since April 2020 (25 faculty/staff/administrators and 25 students).

Dr. Powell stated that enrollment is down by 31% from last spring. Contributing factors include an overall drop in enrollment in community colleges statewide and the halt of the Youth Challenge operations. They will offer a 12-week term to assist high school seniors who need additional credits to graduate. Class offerings are made up of 104 face-to-face courses, and 320 courses offered online. Two programs have increased their enrollment: Aviation Maintenance, up 59%, and nursing, up 11%.

Dr. Powell said plans are underway to offer a face-to-face or virtual commencement ceremony in May. They have recently learned the Roswell Civic Center will be temporarily closed, so an alternative venue must be identified if there is to be an in-person event.

Dr. Powell gave updates on the status of construction projects, which include ongoing work on the Maintenance Building and the asbestos removal that is underway in the Automotive/Welding facility. There are a few projects ongoing through the year, including the cooling tower replacements and the PAC renovation project.

Dr. Powell said work continues on the HLC accreditation assurance argument with the goal of its completion in May. The final draft will be completed in May, then a final polish. The site visit is scheduled for October 2021.

Dr. Powell mentioned the write-up in the Sunday edition of the Roswell Daily Record regarding KENW's efforts to bring a bureau to the Roswell campus to allow students the opportunity to produce and edit news and their own stories. He thanked Duane Ryan, Desiree Markham, and all the staff at KENW for their generous efforts.

Dr. Powell stated the Community College Board has asked that hiring practices reflect the diversity of the community. In response, they have developed a hiring practice diversity goal.

Upcoming events include the April 7 CCB meeting (hopefully in-person) and the April 10 Foundation Golf tournament at New Mexico Military Institute Golf Course.

REPORT FROM THE ENMU-RUIDOSO PRESIDENT

Mr. Ryan Trosper reported that the village of Ruidoso received fourteen inches of snow over the past few days. He thanked Paul Wenzel, Physical Plant Director, for his efforts to keep the building accessible. He also thanked Kevin Burk, Clark Elswick and other ITS team members for their assistance with getting the network back up after a power outage.

The Nexus Phase II construction project continues, with an expected completion date of April 1, 2021. Phase III of this project will be brought to the Regents soon.

Mr. Trosper commended the campus partnership with New Mexico Workforce to create an apprenticeship pathway for small businesses on the Eastern side of the State. These pathways allow smaller businesses to have students and potential workers hired through this program. The first partner in this effort is Krumland Auto Group.

Efforts are going well to develop a nursing lab in partnership with ENMU-Roswell. They are expecting a fall cohort of eight students in Ruidoso to add to the Roswell nursing program. A special thanks to Laurie Jensen, Rachel Conover, and John Bidner of ENMU-Roswell for their help in pulling this together. Also, of interest, Ruidoso is working to fill a newly created tribal liaison position that will develop partnerships between the Mescalero Apache tribe and recruit in students as we come out of the pandemic.

Mr. Trosper stated that enrollment is down 12.5%. Spring operations include a 94% online course offering and 6% in-person. Mr. Trosper was excited to report their cybersecurity program is up 39% in enrollment. They have been named the Center of Academic Excellence State Host for Oklahoma and New Mexico. They will host a group of cybersecurity experts from these states.

Mr. Trosper reported there have been eight total cases of COVID-19 since the beginning of the pandemic. Only three of these cases were faculty/staff on campus. Faculty remain active and innovative. On March 9 faculty member, Dr. Cynthia Orozco, will host a Zoom presentation through the Multicultural Affairs Department at ENMU-Portales as part of Women's History Month.

REPORT FROM THE INTERIM CHANCELLOR OF THE ENMU SYSTEM

Dr. Patrice Caldwell introduced student body president Enrique Carrillo, vice president Cameron Colson, and chief of staff Tamia Smith. Each of these student leaders introduced themselves and informed the Regents about the degrees they are pursuing and a bit about their general interests.

Dr. Caldwell reported only two minor incidents on campus during the extreme weather event. Physical Plant was able to take care of a water leak in the Administration Building and also restore heat to an area of the Golden Student Success Center.

Dr. Caldwell stated that there is currently one active case of COVID-19 and a total of 140 cases since August 1.

Enrollment is down 6.8%. At this time, there is no comparative analysis from other schools. Enrollment Services is very attentive to our enrollment and is working with the new Ruffalo Noel Levitz initiative and Slate platform to prepare for a fall campus with in-person classes.

Dr. Caldwell said the Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER) has awarded \$145,581 to ENMU, enhancing technology to support student learning.

Spring planning is underway for a face-to-face or virtual commencement. The Roosevelt Science Center planning committee is meeting weekly to discuss renovation plans, and efforts to prepare for the fall reopening are underway in both Academic Affairs and Student Affairs.

Dr. Caldwell reported on the successful efforts of the Military Outreach program. There has been a distinct increase in military-affiliated credit hours and enrollment between 2017 and 2020. Currently, 638 military-affiliated students are enrolled at ENMU.

Dr. Caldwell recognized the stellar presidency of Regent Terry Othick during 2020 and thanked him for his diligent and competent leadership under difficult circumstances. Members of the board thanked Mr. Othick and wished him the best.

BUSINESS MATTERS

Consent Agenda

1. Program Deactivation: Aviation Maintenance Technology Airframe & Powerplant, Roswell (*Dr. Shawn Powell, Action*)
2. Program Deactivation: Commercial Driver's License 16-week Program, Roswell (*Dr. Shawn Powell, Action*)
3. New Program: Commercial Driver's License 8-Week Program, Roswell (*Dr. Shawn Powell, Action*)
4. Temporary Alternate Location for Automotive Technology Program, Roswell (*Dr. Shawn Powell, Action*)
5. 2021 – 2022 University Calendar, Roswell (*Dr. Shawn Powell, Action*)

Regent Othick moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Regent Tatum seconded. Vote: 3-0-0. Motion approved.

Other Items

1. Audited Financial Statements for Fiscal Year 2020

Mr. Scott Smart said the annual audit has been performed with combined results for all three campuses. He introduced Mr. Scott Eliason and Ms. Audrey Jaramillo of the Jaramillo Accounting Group.

Ms. Jaramillo commented that the audit went well and appreciates the excellent working relationship with ENMU since 2013.

Mr. Eliason commented that he was initially pessimistic at the prospect of performing this audit via Zoom but has been pleased with the efficiency and accuracy of the Business Office and appreciates their cooperation.

Mr. Eliason gave a PowerPoint presentation outlining the goals, purpose, and standards of the audit. He identified the institution's responsibilities, including financial statements, identification of all federal awards, maintaining effective internal controls (including compliance), and several other critical factors in management responsibility.

Mr. Eliason reported that all prior year's findings were resolved. There are three current findings: Safeguarding of assets, monitoring the ENMU-Roswell CDL program, and the Governmental Conduct Act.

Regent Tatum moved to approve the audited financial statements for FY2020 as presented.

Regent Othick seconded. Vote: 3-0-0. Motion approved.

2. Solar Energy Project Update

Mr. Smart stated that approximately three years ago, the Regents became interested in an initiative to build a 5-megawatt solar energy center. It was soon discovered that Xcel Energy required a 3-year study to see what impact this would cause on the grid. Mr. Steve House, solar energy consultant, was introduced to present a proposal for a three-phase project that would eliminate this requirement.

Mr. House stated they have arrived at a three-phase plan that would rule out the need for the three-year review and approval timeline.

- Phase 1 begins with a 1.6 MW AC which is acceptable to Xcel for current University loads. There would be no back feed of energy into the grid, which would promote an accelerated review and approval by Xcel
- Phase 2 = 3.4 MW AC. Xcel supports this phase and would advocate that Southwest Power Pool waive the three-year review process
- Phase 3 = .536 MW AC with storage battery. This phase would provide additional savings and could possibly be purchased with capital funding.

Mr. Smart said the estimated savings for the University could be \$190K per year for the next 30 years. Mr. House also mentioned that legislation could streamline the process for anything less than 5 MW.

Discussion took place among the Regents in support of moving forward with this project. Mr. Smart stated that he should hear back from Xcel within the week and will bring a final proposal to the board at a future meeting.

3. 2022 General Obligations Bond Proposals, Roswell

Dr. Shawn Powell brought two capital projects for review and approval before they are presented to the New Mexico Higher Education Department in early summer.

- Roof replacement at the Instructional Technical Center - \$1,570,000
- Adding a fire sprinkler system to the Occupational Technical Center, Physical Education Center, and Arts and Sciences Center - \$3,300,000
- Total funding request - \$4,870,000

Regent Tatum moved to approve the 2022 GO Bond proposals for ENMU-Roswell as presented. Regent Patterson seconded. Vote: 3-0-0. Motion approved.

4. Course Fee Approvals for FY21-22, Roswell

Dr. Powell asked the board for approval of new course fees as presented with changes to three items (MDST 107/107L, 108, 109/109L Performance Assessment = \$5.00; MDST 113/113L, 105 = \$5.00; and PBE 113/113L = \$5.00)

Regent Othick moved to approve the FY21-22 course fees with minor changes as presented by Dr. Powell for the ENMU-Roswell campus. Regent Tatum seconded. Vote: 3-0-0. Motion approved.

5. Faculty Tenure Notifications, Roswell

Dr. Powell presented the names of five ENMU-Roswell faculty members who have completed their probationary service and application process for tenure.

- Amanda Booth, Medical Assisting and Phlebotomy Instructor
- Karen Cain, Aviation Instructor
- Ronald Flury, Computer Instructor
- Diane Klassen, Business Instructor
- Stephen Miller, Aviation Instructor

Dr. Patterson offered his congratulations to these faculty members.

6. NISOD Award Recipients, Roswell

Dr. Powell presented the names of two candidates who were nominated by their peers for the NISOD Teaching Excellence Award. The Faculty Evaluation Committee determined the two winners who will represent ENMU-Roswell at the annual NISOD conference in May. This year's recipients are:

- James Buchanan, Science Instructor
- Kim LaDuca, Independent Living/Job Skills Instructor

Dr. Patterson offered his congratulations to these faculty members.

7. Accreditation Assurance Argument Update, Roswell

Dr. Powell said that work is underway to compose the 35,000-word assurance argument that will be presented during the October 18-19, 2021 site visit by the Higher Learning Commission. This argument is a persuasive narrative backed up by evidence that assures the institution is in full compliance with its criteria for accreditation.

8. Engineering and Design Technology Program, Roswell

Dr. Powell stated they will begin a teach-out of ENMU-Roswell Engineering and Design Technology Program. This decision was made based on lower enrollment numbers over

the past few semesters. This program will undergo restructuring to bring the curriculum more in-line with industry standards.

REGENT MATTERS
Information Only

Mr. Scott Smart

Update on University House

Mr. Smart reported a local building inspectors said stamped architect drawings were not necessary for this project. However, when plans were submitted to the State for budget review, he was told that architectural drawings would be required.

An architect in Hobbs, NM, has been hired, and the drawings will be complete sometime in mid-March. They will be submitted to Construction Industries Division, but it is unclear how long the approval process will take. Mr. Smart estimates the completion of this renovation project to be sometime around September or October 2021.

Dr. Patrice Caldwell

Update on Lobbying Efforts at the Legislative Session

Dr. Caldwell presented an annotated list of bills that are moving through the Legislature. Bills of particular interest to ENMU were highlighted, and a brief description of their implication was added. Special attention was directed toward SB77, which is the Regional Two Plus Two Pilot Project. This project would create a 6-year program in which post-secondary institutions in Southeast New Mexico join to establish a seamless transition from Community College to University. This initiative was developed by New Mexico Military Institute and New Mexico Junio College has the support of Representative Gay Kernan.

Dr. Caldwell also mentioned SB93 which the Council of University Presidents supports. This bill would appropriate \$950k to establish and operate the Office of Broadband Access and Expansion. This office would establish standards for quality of services to homes, businesses, and public institutions. This is a positive move for New Mexico and all of our students.

Dr. Caldwell commended the Legislators in our area for their excellent representation. She also expressed gratitude for the efforts of our Lobbyist, Peter Mallery, who has a long history in this State and with ENMU.

Dr. Jamie Laurenz

Update on Teacher Education

Dr. Laurenz reported that ENMU's Teacher's Education program provides degree programs that lead to licensure in Early Childhood Education, Elementary/Special Education, Music Education (K-12), Physical Education (K-12), and Secondary Education (Agriculture, English, Math, Science, Spanish, and Social Studies). Also offered are Alternative Licensure, Career Technical Education, and Master's programs in education.

Dr. Laurenz stated that in the past, these programs have experienced a declining enrollment; however, due to stronger outreach, tighter program coordination, and leveraging of scholarship opportunities, there has been a 12% increase in enrollment over the past year. He further stated although one year does not predict a trend, they are definitely headed in the right direction.

Dr. Laurenz introduced the new dean of the College of Education and Technology, Dr. Lee Hurren.

Dr. Hurren commented that he has been with ENMU since July 2020, and it is great to see growth in education. The residency program, lead by Kari Lemke has two student teachers together in a classroom and on salary. Initially, there were two schools involved in this project, and now there are six school districts. Also, ENMU has developed a strong relationship with Three Rivers Foundation, and have 16 students working on Master's degrees. It is notable that 40-60% of our programs are alternative licensure, and we are working to strengthen these programs.

Dr. Hurren reported that they will be working to renew accreditation with the State in 2022-2023 and will be exploring national accreditation opportunities.

Dr. Hurren stated that Kathleen Waggoner is doing a great job recruiting for the Education Rising program. Also, ENMU is in the early stages of working with HED for a TESOL endorsement.

Update on Electrical Energy Technology – Renewable Energy Emphasis

Dr. Laurenz said that in March 2019, at the Regents' request, he submitted a proposal by the Department of Mathematics for the addition of a renewable emphasis for the bachelor of science and BAAS programs in electronic engineering technology. This required the development of four courses with corresponding laboratories that focus on providing students with advanced knowledge and hands-on experience in renewable and alternative energy technologies.

In addition to curriculum development, implementation of the program requires the addition of approximately \$95K in recurring expenses primarily to fund a new faculty line and just below \$250K of one-time funds for equipment purchases.

As discussed in a previous update, this program has undergone all of the necessary vetting and is now listed in the new undergraduate catalog. The faculty position has been filled, and Dr. Md Sayeed joined ENMU in January 2020. Together with program director, Dr. Hamid Allamehzadeh, they have worked to finalize content for the renewable energy courses. The initial goal was to offer these courses in Fall 2020, however, the pandemic caused several complications since these are face-to-face, hands-on courses. This program is now on track to be offered in fall 2021.

Dr. Laurenz reported the laboratory space is ready to house the required equipment. Initially they had planned to order this equipment at the end of last summer but delayed this order due to the fact that the warranty would start as soon as the equipment was delivered. The current delivery date is slated for February 26, 2021, which will allow for sufficient setup time.

In collaboration with Communication Services and Enrollment Services, active recruiting and advertising is underway using various media. Overall the EET program continues to grow, with the number of students served by the program increasing by close to 52% over the past five years and by approximately 25% in the past year.

Dr. Laurenz said he is pleased to report that this growth includes students pursuing the renewable energy emphasis. As of this spring, we have 18 students pursuing the emphasis. This number represents 15% of students in the EET program.

Regent Dan Patterson

HERC Report

Dr. Patterson gave a brief overview of the purpose of the Higher Education Regent Coalition and said they have most recently become involved in an initiative to bring broadband access to students statewide. Regent Terry Othick has been heavily involved in this project.

Mr. Othick said the pandemic has exposed the lack of broadband throughout the State. State and Federal funded efforts have not been completely successful in getting these services to rural areas, and even some populated areas struggle. Great effort is going into getting internet providers to bring infrastructure into such areas. Funding is now coming in, and HERC and other state agencies are working diligently to ensure these services become available to students across the State.

Other

Dr. Patterson said we should expect new Regent appointments within the next few weeks. He proposed a Regent Retreat on March 17 or 23, 2021, at Cooperative Educational Services in Albuquerque.

Regent Patterson proposed a motion to enter into Executive Session. He stated that no actions would be taken, and the meeting would adjourn at the conclusion of the session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

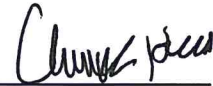
Regent Tatum moved to enter executive session at 12:26 p.m. to discuss one limited personnel matter pursuant to Section 10-15-1(H)(2), NMSA (1978). Regent Othick seconded the motion. Vote: 3-0-0. Motion approved.

Roll call: Regent Patterson – Yes; Regent Pyle – No response; Regent Gergel – No response; Regent Othick– Yes; Regent Tatum –Yes.

Regent Tatum moved to adjourn the meeting at the conclusion of the Executive Session. Regent Othick seconded the motion. Vote: 3-0-0. Motion approved.



President of the Board



Secretary of the Board