



### **Faculty Assembly Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, February 19, 2025 (12:00 – 1:15 PM)

Zoom Meeting URL: <https://unm.zoom.us/j/96222174891> (Passcode:6859)

In-person Meeting in H101

#### **Attendance**

Ian Burch  
Andisheh Dadashi  
Piotr Filipczak  
Precious Andrew  
Karen Walters  
Mindy Schwarz  
Cheryl Bryan  
Justin Bendell  
Ana June  
Patricia Gillikin

Michael Gonzales  
Anicca Cox  
Cindy Goodman  
Kat Gullahorn  
Steven Romero  
Barbara Lovato  
Natalie Sheppard  
Sarah heyward  
Deidre Williams  
Leslie Jernegan

Scott Kamen  
Jason Kimble  
Andy Taylor  
Julia So  
Jonathan Sims  
Stephen Takach  
Frances Duran  
Joshua Frank Cardenas  
Jerry Godbout

#### **1. Call to Order**

12:02 Meeting Started

#### **2. Acceptance of Agenda**

12:03 Cheryl Bryan motions, Justin Bendell seconds

#### **3. Approval of Minutes**

12:03 Cheryl motions, Ian Burch seconds

#### **4. Chancellor's Report:**

12:03 Andisheh Dadashi: The Chancellor is not here yet, so Dr Musselwhite, would you like to start?

#### **5. Dean of Instruction's Report**

12:03 Laura Musselwhite: My newsletter update was mostly moral support. We've been seeing more notifications from main campus. I sent out stuff last week to assist students. I'll be sending stuff out later this week to front desk people in case people show up - what they can and can't say, who they should contact. Other than what you've been seeing from the research office, nothing particularly new. There's an official statement in favor of diversity that came out of NM official programs.

A letter about diversity activities went out last week, used some pretty bizarre language and we don't know exactly what it means yet or how it will be interpreted.

We are as you know in scheduling mode. If you haven't got with your chair, please do so if you haven't already. Honors night is Wednesday April 30th. Frances is fitting in, there's a lot of



information that she's putting all together. She's doing a great job and I'm very happy to have her in the office

12:07 Sam Dosumu: Sorry for being late. On a light side before I get to the hard stuff, the legislative session is going on. We're monitoring some bills relating to higher ed, hoping they go through and not vetoed. Some career.tech approaches, earn credentials in high school. One big one, Western university's president was paid astronomical amounts of money to walk away, the legislature is not pleased and is trying to regulate that. Some pushback though, as many boards don't want as much governmental control as is proposed. Won't affect us through.

The big place we are at is enrollment. Enrollment keeps me up at night. Let me say this upfront - our numbers are high - 2680 for spring, that is good. What is not so good is the UNM Valencia piece of that number. We've been staying at about 500ish, but that number has dropped. Why did it drop, what dropped it. Is it something we're doing or not doing, lots of questions. We're around 400, Laura?

Laura: 450 to 500

Sam: Yes, about 10% less

Justin: All in one year?

Sam: Yes. 2018 was our highest enrollment, it's been dropping since then. 2020 put us in a hole, and we've crawled out of that, but the individual number has dropped. First time students last year were about 525. Dual credit is the same. About 1100 ABQ students

Justin: Of course the best way to process this info is to know why, survey some folks to see some patterns. How does the lottery scholarship play into this? If the money is irrelevant to them, why detour to us, just go to main and skip us. If they come back and take our classes, that's not bad.

Laura: That's definitely some of the things. Some of the students listed as ABQ students were ours and then transferred. But after COVID we've never recovered our degree seekers. We're trying to question that

Sam: Yes. Going back to Rick's comments yesterday, we get funding from credit hours. To address it, we have to look at controllables and uncontrollables. Let's flip that on its head, how can we attract more ABQ students here. That's some work to be done. We take a few hundred from ABQ, who cares.

Cheryl: I asked Laura this earlier, but what's your interpretation of the dual credit situation, since in the fall it will no longer be required

Sam: HS students have to complete a two course sequence that leads into post-secondary.

Language and career techs are important parts of those, have more intentionality. HB177 (?)

Laura: The whole idea was getting them on a pathway. If we can get them on that sequence and continue, I think it can help us

Cheryl: But the state is getting rid of that requirement

Laura: Individual schools may still be doing that though

Sam: This is a group of students we can mine though. We have about 800 students, but our conversion rate is only about 10%

Andisheh: You mentioned how do we attract UNM main students? Main doesn't offer many sections, so when classes are full, they can turn to our online courses.



Sam: Those students will always be shopping, they have to get their needs met. Los Alamos's enrollment is down 30% because they've been getting rid of online. It's the same total body of students, just how they're shifted around

Justin: Last week in chairs' council we discussed this depth. Our takeaway was to reduce online classes but increase in-person classes. This is a dream, but we will lose enrollment. We'll lose main-campus students. If our new outlook is stealing main campus students, we should revisit that.

Sam: This formed after talking with Los Alamos, where they explained how many students they lost. Our game plan is to look at all facets of our enrollment. We're getting to the point where we may be looking at serious deficit going into next year. Cut expenses until revenue increases. Biggest revenue is students. We don't know what grants are going to look like any more. The only guarantees are students. Marketing team needs to convince people to come to us

Cheryl: We need an identity to market though, and I don't feel we have that. We don't have enough to offer compared to CNM. We need to figure out how to sell ourselves to the community. Block scheduling, specific degrees, whatever we need to do that quickly and stick with whatever we decide

Sam: I just want to make sure we reach all the students we could be reaching. 8-week models allow easy-on. Helps distribute final stress - only worried about 2 finals instead of 4 finals. Constantly thinking about what courses & programs they want to be in and work on. We have data on 8 week vs 16 week completion rates. We need to reexamine what we're doing and expect different results.

Cheryl: Could we get that data?

Sam: I'll ask John to send it to you

Cheryl: We have a lot of experiential learning; we have a big emphasis on that which I haven't seen from other colleges

Sam: One question we've been evaluating is credits, our relationship with main campus. We have a body of students who need core classes, but don't want to bridge to UNM ABQ. We'll never be one-size fits all. I'm open to finding what we need to do differently so our outcomes can be different.

Ana June: We have data on people transitioning to ABQ. What about the other students who leave, do we know why the others leave?

Sam: We don't always see why. Withdrawal is a big secret. Students can withdraw, or faculty can withdraw them

Andisheh: Do we have data from their advisors?

Sam: I don't think so. Laura?

Laura: If they consult an advisor, it'll be in their notes. But if they drop themselves or you drop them, we don't have notes. Working with the office of institutional analytics to see who dropped what. The issue is how do we analyze that data and where do we go from there. Reach out, ask was your situation academic, was it personal, etc.

Sam: We don't know enough information yet

Cheryl: Nationally it's about 50% of freshmen failing out. But are we contacting them next semester



Sam: Or just contact them. 'I saw you dropped, can I meet with you?' Maybe try to convince them to just drop one or two, keep a couple courses.

Justin: We need to wrap up this discussion. These are important, and we need to stop asking why here, and instead commit to a survey set up and distributed within two months

## **6. Treasurer's Report**

12:33 Piotr FA has \$325.17. We have snack money. Last money was used during Be Kind week

Andisheh: Thanks for everyone who attended Be Kind Week. We all need to work on our mental health and well being.

## **7. Committee Accomplishments for AY 24-25**

### **7a. Faculty Professional Development Committee**

12:34: Precious Andrew: Based on people who've put in primary requests, we will not have enough for secondary funding. Send requests in early as we fill them in order. I'm seeing if we have extra from Rick to fill all primary funding

### **7b. Faculty Online Teaching & Review Committee**

Kat Gullahorn: Just sharing that OTEX is on the way. "How do our faculty incorporate technology in their teaching, or creating community, or personal well-being?" Keynote speaker, Jacob Torres from northern NM, used crowdsourcing technologies & national program to raise green chile in space.

### **7c. Curriculum Committee**

Laura: Jon and I cochair this. We finished & submitted all of our tweaks and changes. We've identified 3 programs. Integrative studies, health integration tech, medical assistant. Chairs are putting together reports and we'll review them before the end of the semester

## **8. Faculty Senate Report**

12:38 Justin: Lots of talk about how changing of the guard will affect our campus. Lots of discussion about how we'll need to be on the ball, paying attention, and really mindful about how this will affect our students. Discussed how we can push UNM admin to really do good work. Admin tends to stall, so how can we get them to make decisions. Chris put out a survey to collect info, push admin to get off their asses

Equitable access discussion, doesn't affect us as much, but how big textbooks hurt students while we've used more OERs. Don't have much more, but change is in the air.

Sam: By admins changes, do you mean how they're responding to executive orders?

Justin: Yes, we feel they're taking to long to deal with it

Scott Kamen: Was their discussion about compliance? It seems like admin has moved to comply with orders that are legally dubious

Justin: We've talked in the social justice subcommittee, but not in the main faculty senate meeting. Next meeting that will be addressed

## **9. Our Handbook vs Faculty Handbook**



12:44 Ana: We've been having conversations about how our own website's handbook is outdated. Should we move to adopt main campus's handbook? Gallup does it, but does it fit our needs? Or from a meeting yesterday, should we propose a chapter of our own to incorporate to mains?

Cheryl: in the main handbook there are sections that are sort of subtitled branch campuses, showing how it's different. If we're not happy with those statements or they're not clear, could we amend their handbook's branch sections?

Andisheh: Having our own section would be useful

Cheryl: It's a bigger conversation than 10 minutes. We may want to set up a subcommittee, do some research, etc

Ana: We've had conversations. Jerry shared some good info about promotion and tenure

Laura: The ramifications are very important for our own identity, even if it's not updated or not. it's a very long process to amend the handbook itself

Joshua Frank Cardenas: From what i understand all of the branches have stopped updated except us

Cheryl: There's also the idea that after we unionized we are one body. If we all fit in to one body, are we still separate? I would make a move to make a sub-committee, what are positives, negatives, should we consider it or not? Gather and give us all the information

Joshua: That was taos's reason as well

Mindy Schwarz: You said some faculty have been in this conversation?

Ana: Lecturers have not

Mindy: We'd love to be brought into that

Justin: I'm all for a sub-committee, just raise your hand

Ana: We can make this a part of handbook cmt

Laura: Also send out a message to all faculty seeing who wants to join

Justin motions to create an ad hoc sub-committee, Patricia Gillikin seconds

Laura: Dean of taos said they just made a revamp to their handbook, are waiting for it to go through faculty council

## **10. NCFDD Accounts**

12:55 Julia So: Thank you for giving me time. NCFDD stands for national center for faculty development and diversity. As of Jan 10, there are 550 employees in UNM who have activated their account. Valencia only has 13 accounts - I did that back in 2018 when it was available to us. The organization is a national org, and UNM allows all employees to activate their own accounts. Link to activate is [www.ncfdd.org](http://www.ncfdd.org). They have monthly webinar - core curriculum, and mini webinars. Lots of great topics, daily notes, writing encouragement.

## **11. UNM-Abq's Global Diversity Course Requirement**

1:03 Julia: The DEIP CRS requirement is a 3 credit course for all undergrad who need this. It's an overlook of history and critical diversity issues that we should offer at UNM. Our data is 4 years old, but when we compare students who take these courses vs the general population, the diversity & inclusion ratings are much higher. This is just one additional benefit of this program, and it helps students understand the world around them. At Valencia, any faculty can offer to apply for their course to be part of the DEIP set, as long as it covers specific topics and fits



specific learning requirements. I'll send links after I finish talking and hopefully you can save the chat and go visit.

## **12. EIRG & Program Development Vote**

1:07 Andisheh: We are going to vote on the combination of the EIRG & Professional Development Committee. Steven, would you like to give a quick overview?

Steven Romero: At the heart of this is to combine the professional development committee & the EIRG to become a standing committee and better execute our charge. This will let us have more targeted programs. Both the FHC and FEC have approved our proposal

### **Motion Passes with**

**22 YEA      0 NAY      3 ABS**

## **13. New Business / Announcements**

Precious: Pi day is on 3/12, combined with wellness day

Scott: Next monday we're having a UAUNM meeting. Free food, RSVP if you can come, hope to see you there

## **14. Adjournment**

1:3 Cindy motions, Scott seconds