

NMC Faculty Association Meeting  
March 3, 2023, 1:00- 3:00  
Minutes

In attendance: Joaquin Gallegos, Scott Braley, Melanie Colgan, Teresa Beaty, Ashis Nandy, Ken Armstrong, David Torres, J.B. Moore, Tim Crone, Sandra Rodriguez, David Lindblom, Sushmita Nandy, Ivan Lopez, Dr. Ana X, Margaret Zak, Lori Franklin, Rhiannon West, Sneha Chakradar, Hector Balderas

Meeting called to order at 1:02pm.

Motion to approve meeting agenda – Ken Armstrong

2<sup>nd</sup> motion to approve meeting agenda – Lori Franklin

All approve – Motion passes

Motion to approve meeting minutes from February 2023 – Ashis Nandy

2<sup>nd</sup> motion to approve meeting minutes – Margaret Zak

All approve – Motion passes

#### President Report

- President Balderas spoke about the importance of shared governance. He intends to keep the faculty and staff closely informed with the happening of the college. He also welcomes ideas from faculty and staff. He is currently on a one hundred day listening

tour. President Balderas intends to use what he learns on the listening tour to aid in forming a strategic plan. He will report back to the faculty with the strategic plan and the results of the listening tour.

- Melanie Colgan asked President Balderas about rumors of an assault that recently took place on campus. President Balderas confirmed that there is an active criminal investigation around the incident. He mentioned some system failures surrounding the incident. He is concerned with prevention of and response to crimes on our campus. President Balderas stated that he would be looking deeper into this incident and reporting back to the faculty in one week.
- Simon Vaz commented on a lack of security personnel around his building especially in the evenings.

#### Provost Report

- Dr. Lopez will soon be meeting with the Educational Policy Committee to continue work on a program elimination policy. President Balderas has reviewed the documents pertaining to the proposed policy. He has directed Dr. Lopez to work with the VP for Finance / Administration on the policy.
- NNMC has been awarded a new Title V grant for \$2.6 million over 5 years. The funds will be used to develop a center for teaching and learning for instructors and to develop a dual credit center. The dual credit center will house advisors and recruiters for high school students. The goal is to double or triple the number of dual credit students.
- NNMC's graduation rate is up to 40%. Retention rates are higher, but there is still room for improvement.

- There will be a workshop on Curriculum Analytics on April 14<sup>th</sup>, 9am – 10:30am on Zoom. All are invited to attend.
- Dr. Lopez reminded the faculty of the implementation plan for the rotation of department chairs.
- Dr. Lopez has approved two candidates for tenure, Dr. Cox and Dr. Bashara. Their tenure packages have been sent to President Balderas for approval. If the president approves, the packages will be sent to the Board of Regents for final approval.
- Dr. X. asked about when the college will be creating the academic dean positions. Dr. Lopez stated that there isn't enough funding to do this right now.

#### Tim Crone – Union Rep. Report

- Tim Crone gave updates on HB 533, HB 151, HB 103, and HB 2.
- Regent Mike Martin has been reappointed by the governor.
- Ricky Serna has been appointed to be the new Secretary of Transportation for NM.

#### Asi Es! Committee charter

- Presented by David Lindblom and Dr. X.
- Margaret Zak motioned to approved the charter. Sandra Rodriguez seconded the motion.
- All approved with the exception of Ashis Nandy who abstained from the vote. Motion passed.

#### Committee Reports

- Academic Standards – Sushmita Nandy

- Revised grade appeal policy was presented.
  - Lori Franklin expressed concern about the language around a chair's ability to change a grade.
  - Rhiannon West asked if adjunct faculty are gone after the semester has ended or cannot be reached, what are chairs to do? She also asked if the policy can include language about what a student should do with other complaints.
  - Joaquin Gallegos asked if violation of a syllabus is included in grading issues.
  - David Lindblom asked, who do the students turn to if they claim discrimination or unfair treatment?
  - Rhiannon West stated that the faculty body should be involved if a grade is changed due to discrimination.
  - Margaret Zak asked to revise the dates in the policy to calendar days and not business days.
  - Sushmita Nandy stated that she will take all of these comments and the policy back to the Academic Standards committee for revision.

- Asi Es! – David Lindblom

- Porter Swentell's presentation on petroglyphs is currently on hold
  
- Writing Intensive Class (WIC) Ad Hoc Committee – Teresa Beaty
  
- Educational Policies – Rhiannon West
  
- Nothing to report at this time
  
- General Education – Lori Franklin
  - The committee is continuing to finalize the document regarding substitutions of the Flex 9 courses.
  
- Honors – Margaret Zak
  - Waiting to hear about Mr. Martinez's approval for an honorary degree.
  
- Personnel – Sushmita Nandy
  - Nothing to report at this time.
  
- Tenure – David Torres
  - The committee is developing standards for electronic dossiers.

#### Announcements

- David Torres stated that \$3,000 was raised for Ajit Hira, a retired professor whose home recently burned down. Many thanks to all who contributed!
  
- Dr. X.'s sabbatical presentation will be on March 20<sup>th</sup>, 12:30pm – 1:30pm in the nursing building.

Sushmita Nandy motioned to adjourn. J.B. Moore seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 2:59pm.