

Assembly Meeting – Faculty Consortium

Minutes – March 13, 2015

The meeting began at 11:19 AM.

I. Present were:

- ★ Rob Klinger (A), Bill Lockhart (A), Gloria Villaverde (A), Wanda Wakkinen, Erin O’Neill Armendarez (A), Colleen Bond, Jim Gallagher, John Haley, Kathy Roark-Diehl (A), Tanya Allred, Pete Eidenbach (A), Wayne McGowan, Beth Grundhoffer, Noel Romero (A), Tammy Dodson (A), Cynthia Osborne, Greg Hillis, and Becky Ross. [A = Assembly Member]
- ★ Minutes from the February 20, 2015, meeting were accepted.

II. Faculty Senate Report

- ★ Kathy presented her report at the Faculty Meeting. She added that the Senate had approved the reorganization of two academic sections at the Doña Ana campus. All academic reorganization must be approved by the Faculty Senate and must be faculty sponsored. If/when the campuses recalibrate to a new size, it must also be approved by the Senate.
- ★ Although not part of the Senate Report, we discussed the draft of the General Statement about the actions of the VPSS in connection with the Quick Connect system. It was noted that the discussion of Quick Connect in the faculty meeting only touched a small portion of the problem and our complaints. Quick connect is currently being used as a part of intrusive advising – as is the possibility of mid-term grade reporting. The General Statement will be sent to all faculty for comments. Please send comments to Kathy or Rob.
- ★ Another part of the overall problem is that adjunct faculty are being blamed for too many failing grades in a class. This should *not* be the purview of the administration. Faculty seem to be repeatedly blamed for the actions of the students.

III. Academic Council and APAC Updates

- ★ Rob sent his report via e-mail. However, a discussion revealed some information on the student printing issue. The system is on a six-month trial basis, and the firm is not altogether pleased with low profits. If we suggest that our students turn in their papers via Canvas – instead of printing them – the system may go belly up on its own.

IV. Updates from Subcommittees

- ★ The Adjunct Faculty Compensation Committee is sponsoring an adjunct appreciation lunch with the date to be announced. The Assembly was *very* supportive. We also discussed revisiting the assignment of rank to adjuncts. Some new information may make the plan workable.
- ★ The ADH/DH Evaluation Committee may be revived. When Stuart Munson-McGee addressed the Faculty Meeting, he noted that NMSU policy required the evaluation of all administrative positions – at all levels.

V. Formerly Tabled Items

- ★ Late Registrations – subcommittee formed.
- ★ Reading Preparedness – subcommittee formed.
- ★ Recruitment and Retention – motion to strike (unanimous)
- ★ Attendance Statement/Administrative Withdrawal – As noted in the last meeting, we are unanimously against a university policy on attendance. We discussed whether administrative withdrawal and attendance should be addressed in the faculty and/or student handbook. Currently, the VPAA in conjunction with the VPSS may withdraw students administratively.
- ★ Overloads – We discussed three issues: 1) the way overloads are assigned – varies from division to division; 2) lack of compensation (or unreasonable compensation); and 3) requirements to teach overloads. We motioned to table this until next year because of the scope of the problem and short time left in this semester. Passed with one abstention.

★ Caps for Online Classes – tabled unanimously

★ Faculty Forms – tabled unanimously

VI. Other Business

★ It was suggested that the Chair make a list of the accomplishments of the Faculty Assembly for the last year and send it to *all* faculty.

The next meeting will follow the faculty meeting on April 20, 2015.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:38.

Minutes approved:

Rob Klinger, Chair

Bill Lockhart, Secretary