

## MINUTES

The New Mexico Tech Board of Regents convened December 7, 2018 at 1:00 pm with Chair Deborah Peacock presiding. Other Board members present were Jerry Armijo, David Gonzales, Donald Monette and Emily Silva. Other university administrators, staff and guests included the following:

Stephen Wells
Vanessa Grain
Julianna Ulibarri
Cleve McDaniel
Doug Wells
Melissa Jaramillo-Fleming
Van Romero
Tom Engler

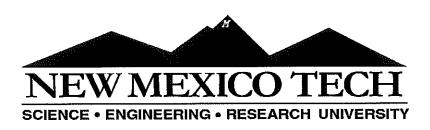
Lorie Liebrock
Bob Balch
Mike Timmons
Peter Mozley
Charles Hendrickson
Tony Ortiz
Alex Garcia

Joseph Romero

Kyle Stark Julian Bojorquez Valentina Avramidi Emma Aafloy Hillary Pineda Mark Adams Valerie Kimble

1. Call to Order. Chair Peacock called the meeting to order at 1pm with comments by President Wells on the passing of Mr. Holm O. Bursum III, an acknowledged remarkable citizen of Socorro and decades-long supporter of NMT who served with distinction as a member of the NMT Foundation since its inception in 1991. The President called Mr. Bursum a caring individual who will be sorely missed. Services were announced as well as a city proclamation NMT will join to recognize Mr. Bursum and his civic and philanthropic contributions.

- 2. **Approval of Agenda**. The Chair requested that Action Items, listed as 7 on the Agenda, be moved to follow 3; and to table until the next meeting a presentation by Ms. Foster on the Comprehensive Capital Campaign under Information Items 6 c). Regent Armijo moved to approve the Agenda as modified. Regent Silva seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Meeting Minutes will follow the modified arrangement.
- 3. Approval of October 27, 2018 Minutes. The Minutes were unanimously approved on a motion by Regent Armijo and a second from Regent Monette.
- 7. Action Items.
  - a) The 2019 Board Meeting Dates. Set and approved unanimously.
    - i. Friday, February 1, 2019 (Santa Fe)
    - ii. Friday, March 1, 2019 (Santa Fe)
    - iii. Thursday, April 11, 2019
    - iv. Friday, May 10, 2019
  - b) Graduate Program Non-Significant Change Request. Dr. Liebrock addressed the request to convert the Master of Science (Independent Study Option) program in Materials Engineering to a Master of Engineering in Materials Engineering, which is course-based and requires no additional resources. Regent Monette moved to approve the request. Regent Gonzales seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

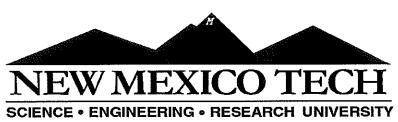


- c) NMT Board of Regents By-Laws. The meeting marked the second reading for the by-laws, as noted by President Wells, expressing his appreciation for endeavors to establish the by-laws. Under the proposed by-laws, Regents are required to take an oath, which had been done at one time. Regent Armijo commented that it was good to revive the practice, and moved to approve the by-laws as presented. Regent Monette seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- d) Public Comment Resolution Draft. The President in conjunction with Mr. Adams brought forward for Board approval a resolution to address a situation where large numbers of people want to speak at meetings, leaving discretion to the Chair. The resolution, also in its second reading, unanimously was approved on a motion by Regent Monette and a second from Regent Gonzales.
- e) Revision to Policy-on-Policy. Dr. Mozley brought forward for approval a policy on how to establish policies at NMT, clarifying the role of the NMT Board of Regents in new policy development. The previous policy-on-policy offered no guidance in delineating what required approval by the President or by the Board. Noting how the revised policy-on-policy is much easier to understand, Regent Monette moved for approval. Regent Armijo seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- f) Financial Analysis for October 2018. Dr. McDaniel provided highlights of his written analysis ending October 31, 2018, with figures from his report of October 31, 2017 for comparison. He addressed financial year-to-date data in the Institute budget, which reflected moving two RPSP line items to I&G, and moving the Advancement Office from under the umbrella of SUR to the Office of the President. Regent Monette moved to approve the financial analysis. Regent Gonzales seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- g) Unrestricted BAR. Dr. McDaniel brought forward for Board approval the first BAR of the fiscal year, following a standard rubric addressing actual revenues to projections. The BAR would adjust the beginning fund balance to reflect audited reports. The Board unanimously approved the BAR on a motion by Regent Armijo and a second from Regent Gonzales.
- h) Board Member, John Sarrao to the NM Consortium. NMT is part of the NM Consortium with other state research universities and LANL, now under a new contractor, Triad, explained Dr. Romero, adding that he and Mr. Carlos Romero, AVP for Research, are members. Most of the work is in the biosciences. Dr. Romero requested the Board approve Dr. Sarrao as the LANL representative. Regent Monette moved for approval. Regent Armijo seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- i) Other. Regent Monette as a director of the NMT Research Park and on behalf of President Wells brought forward a recommendation to approve the appointment of Mr. Jeb Fleming, a NM Tech alumnus, to the NMT Research Park Board of Directors. It was noted that Mr. Fleming has a wealth of experience in entrepreneurial business development, and that six members of his family attended NMT. Regent Armijo moved for approval, followed by a second from Regent Gonzales. The motion passed unanimously.



## 4. Recurring Reports.

- a) Enrollment Update. Ms. Jaramillo-Fleming directed Regents to a handout reflecting Office of Admission data, and turned the report over to Mr. Tony Ortiz, Director of Admissions, who cited numerical highlights and events planned for early 2019 aimed at bringing more female students to NMT. With UNM reporting a two-digit drop in enrollment, Chair Peacock noted that NMT is doing something right, with its 26% increase in freshmen enrollment. The President reported that one goal from the recent Blueprint 2027 retreat was to grow the out-of-state incoming student population by 30 percent.
- **b)** Advancement Report. In the absence of Director Foster, President Wells drew Regents' attention to an upward trend in revenue and gifts, and concerted efforts by Advancement staff to continue working with key donors.
- c) Utilities Update. A handout from Dr. McDaniel projected electricity cost increases reflecting a rate increase by the Socorro Electric Cooperative (SEC) effective January 1, 2019. It included average monthly kilowatt-per-hour demands and costs, and budget recommendations. During discussion, it was noted that utility costs have doubled over the past decade, and that universities have the right to purchase their own power. Adding to the challenge is the city considering buying the utility, the full impact of which is unknown. Dr. McDaniel recommended a traditional energy-savings plan and phasing in a solar array system. Any decisions will be based on what is best for the campus, President Wells said.
- d) Capital Project Update. Dr. McDaniel briefed Regents on the decision to consider a contractor-atrisk process as the best option to move forward the renovation of Jones Hall, in cutting construction costs down to within 10 percent of the original \$9 million budget. The planned energy audit is one component, and the value engineering process will take place in December 2018 or January 2019. Construction is projected to begin no later than May 2019. NMT is moving forward on plans to build a new President's Residence, following a meeting last month with the HED. The process is moving forward to a meeting on December 18, 2018 with the State Board of Finance. This is the first time the state has dealt with plans to build both a home for a university President and a separate structure tied to fundraising and other events, noted Regent Armijo; adding that in this regard NMT is blazing a new trail. With the sale of the building at 2808 Central in Albuquerque, NMT is considering a structure at 10th and Tijeras in Albuquerque as a secure and safe place for office relocation. In other updates, NMT is moving toward negotiating a contract to demolish the house at 818 Leroy in Socorro; and with passage of the GO bond last month, preliminary plans can begin to re-model Brown Hall.
- e) Faculty Senate Update. Dr. Engler reported that as a member of a state Faculty Senate chair group, he met with a transition team on behalf of the governor-elect. The group cited as three primary concerns, adequate funding for salaries, autonomous universities and qualifications for Board of Regent selections. President Wells, in a separate meeting with the transition team, cited the qualities of NMT's current board members as the model for Boards of Regents statewide.



- **f) SGA Updates.** President Julian Bojorquez, who also met with the transition team in Albuquerque, reported that funding and faculty retention were key issues. SGA continues to work with students to understand their needs and improve student life.
- g) GSA Updates. President Kyle Stark reported that the biggest GSA issue is securing grant funds for graduate student travel, and announced the theme of an GSA symposium in the spring as "Sustainability and Renewal" with a focus on faculty funding. Faculty departures, he said, affect students who were their advisees.
- h) Bureau of Geology Update. Dr. Timmons's reported that the Bureau is in the process of hiring six new staff to fill vacancies; a 10 percent attendance increase at last month's NM Mineral Symposium over 2017; a field trip for Jemez school eighth graders to the Valles Caldera as part of a geoscience ambassadors program; funding for a joint proposal to NASA to identify bio-signatures in mineral deposits; and selection of Joseph Bellacera for an Arts in Public Places project for the atrium in the Bureau building.
- i) President's Report. The President highlighted recent accomplishments and activities, saying so many good things happened, it was difficult to keep track. He included: 1) recent success in student enrollment, 2) a landmark agreement with LANL and 3) faculty and student awards. He touched on the second Blueprint 2027 retreat in a shared journey to build a common vision; and CUP priorities for the upcoming legislative session, including restoring the budget for higher education to previous levels, increasing funding based on performance, and faculty/staff compensation. NMT's new mascot is a Miner, and the President has asked that a female Miner be considered in the proposed images. He also noted that the NMT eSports Club with 154 members is the largest student club on campus, with consideration given to dedicating a space in the Gold building as a gaming center. Finally, school spirit is alive and well as evidenced by a green smiley face appearing on M Mountain. The President forwarded Mr. Stanley's comment that it was the finest engineering he had ever seen. The President announced receipt of a collection of western artwork from his former place of employment, DRI, that will be gifted locally to NMT Foundation.
- j) Other. Dr. Balch reported that the PRRC has hired three new staff in non-permanent positions, and thanked the Board and President Wells for the opportunity to tour the building and learn about PRRC research.
- **5. Public Comment**. The Chair designated Ms. Grain the responsibility of maintaining a sign-in sheet for those wishing to speak, pursuant to the new Public Comment Resolution.
- 6. Information Items.
  - a) Degree Conferrals for October 2018. Included in Regents' binders.
  - b) Enrollment, Retention and Graduation. VP Wells summarized information from a handout showing data for the three categories. Among findings are surging graduation rates the past two years, major gains in undergraduate recruiting and gains in retention and persistence rates. He noted that being calculus-ready is a major component. Among issues are identifying bottlenecks and how higher enrollments affect infrastructure needs. It was noted that NMT stands out among the state's public universities.



- **8. Individual Board Member Comments.** The Chair wished happy holidays to the Board and said she was proud to be associated with NMT. Regent Monette echoed those sentiments. Regent Gonzales was appreciative of metrics that reflect the internal workings of NMT.
- **9. New Business**. The board briefly touched base on the funding formula and incorporating STE<sup>2</sup>M into recruitment and other materials. Also the start of the 60-day legislative session on January 15, 2019 and putting in a good word to retain Regent Monette, whose term ends December 31, 2018.
- **10. Executive Session.** NBMSA 1978, Sec. 10-15-1(H)(2), (If required to Consider Legal and/or Personnel Matters). On a motion by Regent Monette and a second from Regent Gonzales, the Board unanimously adjourned its regular session at 3 pm to meet in executive session under a roll-call vote conducted by Ms. Grain.
- **11.** Reconvene in open session and take final action, if any, on such limited personnel matters which shall be acted upon in open session following conclusion of the closed session. The meeting reconvened at 3:30 pm with Chair Peacock announcing that no action was taken and only items so listed were discussed.
- **12. Adjournment**. The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 3:31 pm on a motion by Regent Monette and a second from Regent Gonzales.

President

Attest: