

## MINUTES

A Special Meeting of the New Mexico Tech Board of Regents convened at 1:00 pm on Thursday, April 11, 2019 with Chair Deborah Peacock presiding. Other Board members present were Jerry Armijo, David Gonzales and Veronica Espinoza. Other university administrators, staff and guests included the following:

Stephen Wells
Vanessa Grain
Juliann Ulibarri
Cleve McDaniel
Doug Wells
Melissa Jaramillo-Fleming
Van Romero
Bob Balch
Nelia Dunbar
Tom Engler

Colleen Foster
Charles Hendrickson
Peter Phaiah
Valentina Avramidi
Carlos Romero
JoAnn Salome
Randy Saavedra
Dave Manzano
Valerie Del Curto

Emma Aafloy
Elaine DeBrine-Howell
Mark Adams
Vicky Gonzales
Julian Bojorquez
Kyle Stark
Jose Martinez
Thomas Guengerich
Valerie Kimble

- 1. Call to Order. Chair Peacock called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm, citing need for a special meeting due to the overlap of the Student Research Symposium and Inventors and Entrepreneur's Workshop. A formal swearing-in for Regents King and Regent Espinoza will take place at the Board's regular meeting May 10, 2019.
  - **a. Proof of Meeting Notice.** Ms. Grain confirmed that proper legal notice had been given as required.
- 2. Approval of Agenda. At the Chair's request to table item 5a, Regent Armijo moved to approve the agenda as modified. Regent Gonzales seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- 3. Approval of March 01, 2019 Minutes. The Minutes were unanimously approved on a motion by Regent Gonzales and a second from Regent Armijo.
- 4. Public Comment. None.
- 5. Reports.
  - a) International Student Recruitment. President Wells announced agreements signed with three universities during a visit to Ghana with Dr. Balch, opening doors to future graduate student applicants and associations.
  - b) Student Government Association. Mr. Bojorquez noted an informative student forum with President Wells, and forwarded requests for an updated website, an official



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"dead week," and no construction during finals week. Ms. Michelle Sherman will

succeed him as SGA President.

c) Graduate Student Association. Mr. Stark cited recent activities, including a successful symposium on Renewed Energy Sustainability; pending are an election for new officers and student survey on health care.

d) President's Report. Status Report 2019 Legislative Session. The President pronounced the session a good one, but not without its challenges. In summarizing NMT legislative priorities and requests, he cited unfunded mandates and their effects, proposing a six percent (6%) tuition increase for FY20 to address these mandates. Mr. Manzano agreed to prepare a list of policy bills with which NM Tech played a role. Funded requests will enable the University to implement a new keycard system and begin roof repairs.

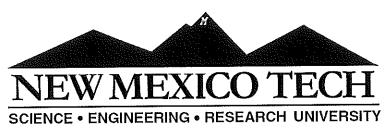
## 6. Information Items.

a) Degree Conferrals for February 2019. Regents were provided with a list of student degree conferrals for the month.

b) Sabbatical Requests. Dr. Doug Wells reported sabbatical leave requests and approvals for Dr. Pabitra Choudhury, Dr. John McCoy, Dr. Steve Simpson, Dr. Hamdy Solimon and Dr. Bixiang Wang.

## 7. Action Items.

- a) FY20 Tuition, Fees and Operating Budget. Dr. McDaniel's updated budget overview included background data in moving HB2 through the legislative process, based on best information available. Despite a boost in state funding, Dr. McDaniel and President Wells cited an LFC revenue ratio discovered by NM Tech and shared with the HED that severely penalizes universities, expressing hope to change this. The proposed six percent (6%) tuition increase will only partially generate sufficient revenue to cover shortfalls, and both Regents and the administration lamented students bearing part of the financial burden. Discussion elicited the need to help policy-makers understand how universities operate and the effect of unfunded mandates on campus budgets. Also cited were rising utility rates and other recurring needs that adversely impact the budget over time. Regent Armijo moved to approve the budget as presented. Regent Espinoza seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
- b) Budget Adjustment Request #1 and #2. Dr. McDaniel requested and received Board approval for two budget adjustments on a motion by Regent Armijo and a second from Regent Gonzales. The motion passed unanimously.
- c) Quarterly Certification for March 31, 2019. The quarterly report as required was unanimously approved on a motion by Regent Gonzales and a second from Regent Espinoza.
- d) Key Management Personnel Resolutions for NMT and PTRC. Dr. Van Romero deferred to Carlos Romero to explain to the Board that the resolution was to update current NMT personnel and Regents from a previous resolution. The resolutions were unanimously approved on a motion by Regent Espinoza and a second from Regent Gonzales.
- **8. Individual Board Member Comments.** Regent Gonzales stressed the importance of preserving the NMT brand of a value-based quality education to offer opportunities



students can afford. Chair Peacock spoke of the energy and enthusiasm at the Student Research Symposium. Dr. McDaniel announced the pending departure of Mr. Hendrickson and a national search for his successor.

## 9. New Business.

- a) Regular Board Meeting of Regents May 10, 2019. The President announced Dr. Harrison Schmitt as commencement speaker, noting the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first moon landing.
- **6. Executive Session.** NMSA 1978, Sec. 10-15-1(H)(2), (If required to Consider Legal and/or Personnel Matters). On a motion by Regent Armijo and a second from Regent Gonzales, the Board unanimously adjourned its regular session at 2:15 pm to meet in executive session under a roll-call vote conducted by Ms. Grain.
- 10. 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 3:10 pm with the Chair announcing that no action was taken, and only items so specified were discussed. Regent Armijo moved to adopt a recommendation to promote Dr. Bruce Harrison to professor. Regent Gonzales seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

11. Adjournment. The meeting was unanimously adjourned at 3:11 pm on a protion by Regent Armijo and a second from Regent Gonzales.

President

Attest:

Secretary-Treasurer