

**UNM Gallup Faculty Senate Operations Committee**  
**Tuesday, September 15, 2015 - 6:30p.m. GSSTC120**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Committee Members Present:** Lora Stone, president; Shirley Heying, secretary; Matt Mingus; Carolyn Kuchera; Smita Rashid; Rachel Hewett-Beah, and Lewis Gambill.

**Committee Members Absent:**

Meeting commenced at 6:31 p.m.

**1. Discussion with Dean Roberts:** Dr. Stone met with Dean Roberts prior to the Operations Committee meeting regarding two pressing issues: the Dean's desire to appoint the current interim chair as chair for the next three years without a search and how to handle the future appointment for the Arts & Sciences chair position. Dean Roberts is currently considering the appointment of the current interim chair of Arts & Sciences, Bruce Gjeltema, as full chair for another 3 years without an open search. Operations Committee is not a decision-making entity and should not be the only ones privy to the full evaluation report.

The second issue addressed was how to handle the appointments for chair positions in accordance with shared governance. Initially, it was an ad-hoc committee of faculty at UNMG that selected the interim chair for one year. Dean Roberts argued that it is the Dean's discretion to appoint chairs regardless of faculty hires, policies or shared governance and he referenced the University Administrative Policies and Procedures Manual 3210 regarding Dean's discretion.

Dean Roberts initially suggested two options regarding the A&S chair position: 1) hold an up or down vote for Dr. Gjeltema in A&S and if over 50% of faculty vote positively, that would lead to 3-year appointment with no competitive search; or 2) we have a competitive search for the 3-year A&S chair position. There is a perception among faculty regarding a hiring ladder in which some may get higher positions than others based on favoritism and connections. Dr. Stone suggested that the Dean address this issue. The Operations Committee further discussed the issue of hires for chair positions and importance of transparency with these issues.

Another question that surfaced was regarding degree requirements for chair position. Dean Roberts argues that it must be a terminal degree.

In her discussion with Dean Roberts, it was suggested that a committee be formed to hire a chair. As faculty members, we need to research policy or create policy so that this is a fair and open process.

Members of the Operations Committee requested that Dean Roberts present the policies that he is using to substantiate his position on Dean's discretion on this issue. Committee members would like additional information on all policies that he is using in his decision-making process regarding the 3-year chair appointment. We also would like more documentation on policies regarding Masters degrees and not just terminal degrees for candidates for chair positions

Regarding other issues, Dean Roberts sent an inquiry to the Provost's office on main campus regarding when the evaluation of the Dean should take place (fall versus spring). We are waiting to hear more on this item.

Dr. Stone attended the UNMG Advisory Board meeting and that it is important to continue attending. She noted that Dr. Dyer and Dean Roberts represented faculty well at the meeting. Strategic planning and new buildings information will be discussed at future meetings and will be shared with the rest of the committee the information as it is presented.

The following items were proposed for the Faculty Senate meeting to be held Friday, September 18 Agenda:

1. Food share – faculty will be asked to bring food to share at the start of the meeting.
2. Previous meeting minutes review
3. Faculty Senate President’s report
4. Exec Director report
5. Dean’s report
6. Student Services report
7. CFO presentation

Other Discussion Items:

1. Information presented: Sara Piano of Big Brothers/Big Sisters will present on her organization and the need for adult volunteers. Her pitch will take place before the reports and will be considered an information item (she will have 5 minutes of presentation time).
2. Collen Arviso has assessment information for faculty to look review. There is a new process that all faculty need to be aware of and she will use the large screen to show it. Dr. Arviso noted that we, as faculty, need to consider whether to vote on the new outcomes assessment process in October or whether it needs to be revised.

There will be no action items for this month’s Faculty Senate meeting.

Committee reports will take place at the end of the meeting. The Equity and Rank & Tenure committees should be added to the list of committees to report.

One final issue discussed was that of online compensation for courses. There is pressure from the Executive Director regarding Zuni campus. The Online course policy from 2009 attempted to merge us with Extended University, which would allow us to access \$2,000 to prepare new online courses (money typically goes through departments). Cynthia Arazco, at Extended University, stated that they want to bring us under their auspices, which means they would decide who qualifies to teach online. There is a perception of Extended University and main campus that branch campuses are poaching students because we don’t charge the extra fee for online courses. The Dean mentioned that there are \$10,000 available to get faculty ready to teach Zoom or online. The old 2009 policy was not implemented because faculty worried about internet fees and losing students, and didn’t want Extended University controlling our 100- and 200-level courses. Dean Roberts is more interested in Zoom technology than online courses and wanted a committee to be formed to address Zoom and online courses taught by UNMG faculty. Faculty are far too busy for yet another committee and simply do not have time to commit to extra committee work at this time. Dean Roberts agreed to take up this issue himself .

**Meeting adjourned at 7:54p.m.**