

MINUTES

New Mexico Council of Graduate Deans Meeting
UNM Graduate School
April 23, 2004

Member Present: Teresita Aguilar (UNM), Linda Lacey (NMSU), David Johnson (NMT), Faye Vowell (WNMU), Linda LaGrange (NMHU), and Phil Shelley (ENMU)

Guests: Guy Jacobus (CHE) and Chuck Poitras (CHE)

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:35.
2. The minutes of the September 23, 2003 meeting were approved with corrections.
3. Dave Johnson was elected as Chair of the Council and Linda Lacey was elected as Vice-Chair.
4. Guy Jacobus and Chuck Poitras presented reports on the 2004 legislative session to the council. They provided Council members with copies of NMCHE's Report on the 46th Legislature and "walked" the council members through the report highlighting those initiatives that had an impact on Higher Education. Some discussion occurred concerning how the Graduate Deans might have some additional input into the legislative process. Also presented were copies of the NMCHE's Draft Strategic Plan 2004-2010 and the Governor's Task Force on Higher Education. As a result of the discussions of these reports the Deans indicated their desire to become partners in the discussion of the Governor's proposal. In an effort to become involved two strategies were identified; preparing a white paper indicating our concerns and needs for the Executive Director of the CHE, Letita Chambers, and contacting the Chairs of the Task Force (Toney Anaya, Gerald Peters, and Beverlee McClure) and asking that we be included in their discussions – it was decided that this would be a major focus of next meeting. A major issue that we continue to wrestle with is how we can be responsive to our constituencies in terms of meeting their post-Baccalaureate needs given the wording of 5NMAC52. The Deans agreed that one of the topics that we need to make the Executive Director of the CHE aware of is our desire to remove certificates from 5NMAC5.2
5. Members of the Council quarried the CHE representatives on the relationship between the Public Education Department and the Commission. It is still unclear exactly what that relationship will be and how the two entities will work together.
6. The CHE staff asked that the Deans, in response to a request from James Jimenez of the DFA, to identify the new programs they anticipate bring forwarded for approval for the next twelve months. Dr. Vowel indicated that WNMU was planning on proposing three new programs in the next twelve months (a graduate degree and a certificate in Information Security and a graduate degree in Educational Leadership). The other Deans will email Chuck or Guy this information.
7. Additional topics for the next meeting of the Council suggested by Dr. Lacey include: graduate student retention and program accountability, funds for

- graduate assistants, professional development of graduate students, program enhancement support, and graduate program review.
8. The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for the first week in June at New Mexico Highlands University.
 9. There being on further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:30.

Respectfully submitted for additions, clarifications, and corrections.
Phil Shelley