

April 13, 2009

New Mexico Council of Graduate Deans
Minutes of the April 13, 2009 Meeting
Held at New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology
Socorro, New Mexico – Library 212
(Minutes prepared by Debbie Wallace, Administrative Secretary, NMIMT Graduate
Studies)
12:30 P.M.

Present: David B. Johnson, NMT; Linda La Grange, NMHU; Linda Weems, ENMU; Marcia Bourdette, WNMU; Charles Fleddermann, UNM; Linda Lacey, NMSU; Bill Flores, NM HED (by speaker phone); Andres Salazar, NNMU

Presenter: Tom Burton, NMSU Aerospace Engineering, Master's and PhD degrees in Aerospace Engineering

Presenter: Tom White, UNM Physicians Assistant Program, Master's of Science in Physician Assistant Studies

Approval of Minutes: The Council reviewed the minutes of the last meeting. La Grange moved that the minutes be approved, Bourdette seconded the motion, all approved and the motion passed.

Approval of Agenda: The Council reviewed the agenda for the April 13, 2009 meeting. Johnson made a motion to approve the agenda, La Grange seconded the motion, all approved and the motion passed.

1.0 *New Business:*

- a. Discussion and consideration of the proposed Master's and PhD degrees in Aerospace Engineering submitted by NMSU – Tom Burton

The introduction of Dr. Tom Burton was made by Linda Lacey, NMSU. Handouts were circulated amongst the council and a brief summary of the proposal of the proposed Master's and PhD degrees in Aerospace Engineering was given. After the presentation, questions were asked by some council members regarding economy, funding, current funds available, faculty, and jobs for graduates from the Aerospace program in New Mexico. Dr. Burton responded to the questions and concerns and explained that this would be a long term goal and that most of the funding was available at this point, but

that approximately 25% more funding would be needed. He stated that most of the students who would apply for this program would be their own undergraduate students as well as part time students from local military bases and labs around the state of New Mexico (distance education), and foreign students as well as student recruitment from other universities. After more discussion Dr. Burton asked the council about the timeline for approval of the proposal. Dr. Johnson stated that he would guess it would be at least the Fall Semester of 2010.

b. Discussion and consideration of the Master's of Science in Physician Assistant Studies submitted by UNM – Tom White

The introduction of Dr. Tom White was made by Charles Fleddermann, UNM.

Dr. White proposed a program which would replace the Undergraduate Program now in place at UNM with an MS Program in Physician Assistant Studies. He stated that no additional funding would be needed for the program and that they have adequate faculty and adequate space. They have admitted 16 students into the existing program at this time and would eventually like to raise that to 20. Dr. White stated that New Mexico is in need of more providers and practitioners. He was asked how many students stayed in New Mexico after graduating from this program and he responded with 81%. He said that three quarters of the graduates are working in primary care. Asked about the coursework for the program, Dr. White stated that the coursework now made available would be upgraded with higher expectations. In order for the student to qualify for admission, the student must have a BS degree and have worked or have had 6 months of experience in the healthcare field. He stated that they have had 200 in-state applicants and 100 out of state applicants and have admitted 16. In state applicants are served first.

2. Presentation/discussion by Deputy Secretary William Flores – Academic Program Review Process: Graduate Programs

Dr. Flores was not in attendance at the council meeting but called in to the meeting in a conference call. Handouts from Dr. Flores were made available by Charles Fleddermann. The handouts explained the Academic Program Review Process for Graduate Programs. Flores went over the process with the Council thoroughly. He stated that there would be one more step to be added to the process before it goes to the Board of Finance. Flores stated that the review process has gotten tougher and that programs that are to be added must be in high demand. Several Council members asked questions, stated their concerns and asked for clarifications. Flores was asked when this new process would take place. He stated that he hopes to know something by the end of April and hopes to have the first meeting in the middle of May or beginning of June. He stated that all schools must have their 5 Year Plans in place and if any new programs were introduced they would need to be on the

5 Year Plan and approved by the Faculty Senate and Regents. When asked about stimulus money, Flores stated that at least 85% of the stimulus money will go to K-12.

3. Professional Master of Science degrees – discussion – Linda Lacey, NMSU –

Linda Lacey passed out handouts on Professional Master of Science degrees. This was just a discussion at this time. She explained how important this degree would be to NMSU and wanted feed back from other Council members. Lacey also provided handouts on Policies and Proposals for Dual and Joint Degree Programs for future purposes.

- a. The Council of Graduate Deans went into discussion on approval of the Master's and PhD degrees in Aerospace. After several minutes of discussion Johnson moved to approve the Aerospace program, Lacey seconded the motion, all approved and the motion passed.
- b. The Council also went into discussion on approval of the Master's of Science in Physician Assistant Studies. There was little discussion; everyone seemed to agree this program was needed. Johnson moved to approve the Master's of Science in Physician Assistant Studies. Lacey seconded the motion, all approved and the motion passed.

4. *Old Business:*

- a. No Old Business

5. *Adjournment:*

At 2:40 P.M. Johnson made the motion to adjourn. La Grange seconded the motion, all approved and the motion to adjourn passed.