

NEW MEXICO COUNCIL OF GRADUATE DEANS
Minutes of the October 21, 2009 Meeting
Boardroom, Espanola Campus
Northern New Mexico College
Espanola, New Mexico

1.0 Roll Call

Present: Dr. Linda Lacey, NMSU; Dr. Marcia Harris-Bourdette, WNMU; Dr. Linda Weems, ENMU; Dr. Amy Wohlert, UNM; Dr. David Johnson, NMT; Dr. Linda LaGrange, NMHU; Dr. Andres Salazar, NNMC; Mr. Don Schleisman, NMHED. Also present was Josephine Aguilar, Recording Secretary/Assistant to the President-NNMC. The meeting was called to order by Dr. Harris-Bourdette, Chair, at 1:14 p.m.

2.0 Approval of Agenda

Suggested changes to the agenda included: Presentation from Mr. Don Schleisman, update from NMHU, and roundtable update from each institution. Dr. Johnson moved to approve the amended agenda, seconded by Dr. LaGrange. Motion carried.

3.0 Approval of Minutes

Dr. Johnson moved to approve the minutes for the meeting held April 13, 2009, seconded by Dr. LaGrange. Motion carried.

4.0 New Business

4.1 Update from HED: Mr. Schleisman, Operations Research Analyst with HED, reported that when Dr. Viola Flores assumed her duties as Secretary of HED, one of the first priorities HED wanted to focus on was resuscitation of the graduate degree process. Mr. Schleisman passed out a handout he developed outlining the status of the review process for the four graduate degree programs presented at the April 13 meeting. HED wants to monitor the status of all new programs and hopes to have this process on the website by January, 2010. Mr. Schleisman does not have a document trail and is concerned that there may be a program that has not received all approvals. Dr. Johnson informed Mr. Schleisman that the Council of Graduate Deans has a web site and meeting minutes for the past six to seven years are posted. The Letter of Intent is a new development and there may not be letters for some graduate programs submitted to the Council. Once there is Faculty Senate approval and letters of intent are submitted, then HED has advanced notice of what the institutional graduate plans are. The purpose of institutions submitting a priority list (five year strategic plan) was discussed and clarification was requested. The CIP code approval process was also discussed. In the letter of intent, institutions can propose a possible CIP code. The HED presentation to the State Board of Finance will be at the December meeting or possibly after the legislative session.

4.2 Discussion and consideration of the proposed Master of Arts in Teaching and Learning submitted by NNMC. Dr. Catherine Berryhill, Dean of the College of Education, stated that this Masters program will increase the number and diversity of Master's level educators in Teaching and Learning at the K-8 level. The principal purpose of the Master of Arts in Teaching and Learning (MATL) is to build in classroom teachers a theoretical and practical knowledge of the relationships among curriculum, instruction, assessment and learning technologies with the most current brain research. The MATL would be available to classroom teachers and others

who are interested in gaining pedagogical and content knowledge needed to inspire students' success. Graduates of MATL could serve as lead teachers in school unit professional development communities interested in increasing student achievement and learning.

After the presentation, Dr. Berryhill answered questions raised by the council members regarding the number of full-time faculty and their role in the program and percentage of full time students in the program.

4.3 Discussion and consideration of the proposed Master of Arts in Teaching Mathematics and Science submitted by NNMC. Dr. Berryhill stated that the principal purpose of the Master of Arts in Teaching Mathematics and Science (MATMS) is to develop in classroom teachers a deep understanding of pedagogical-content knowledge in mathematics, science, learning technologies and brain research as they relate to their application and integration in today's K-12 classroom. The goal of the program is to improve student achievement and learning by improving the quality and delivery of the teaching of mathematics and science. This program is also a direct response for New Mexico's growing shortage of mathematic and science teachers, and to NM PED's requirement of a Master's degree to attain a Level III certification.

Dr. Johnson moved to approve the Master of Arts Degrees, seconded by Dr. Andres Salazar. Under discussion concerns were raised as to whether or not there were adequate faculty to offer the masters programs, percentage of courses that are at the 400 and 500 level, and why this program is needed if there are many ways in the state, particularly on-line, for teachers to obtain master's degrees. Dr. Andres Salazar responded to the questions and concerns of the council members. He stressed that the need is there, the northern part of the state is underserved, and there is a commitment from faculty in the math and science department to teach courses. **For clarification purposes, Dr. Johnson moved to amend his motion to approve the Master of Arts Degree in Teaching and Learning. Three voted in favor, three voted opposed.** A question as to whether the Chair votes to break a tie or whether the Chair votes as a representative of his/her institution was raised. **The final decision was to submit this proposal to the Academic Council.**

Dr. Johnson moved to approve the Master of Arts in Teaching Mathematics and Science, seconded by Dr. LaGrange. Under discussion the same issue regarding whether there are enough faculty was raised. **Motion passed with five in favor and one opposed.**

4.4 Discussion and consideration of the Master of Engineering – Mechanical Engineering, Solar Energy emphasis submitted by NNMC. Dr. Ivan Lopez, Assistant Professor and Chair in the Computer and Engineering Technology Program, presented the new degree proposal. This is a practice-oriented graduate program for engineers who desire advanced academic study in solar energy generation and storage. The interest in renewable energy academic programs is prevalent and growth in the next few decades is predicated in number of jobs and economic development for any region where sunshine is plentiful. There are no competitive programs at the Master's level in the state. This program is part of the mission of the Solar Energy Research Park and Academy (SERPA) which was recognized and initially funded by the Legislature of NM in January 2008.

4.5 Discussion and consideration of the Master of Engineering – Information Engineering Technology submitted by NNMC. Dr. Ivan Lopez stated the interest in an information technology program has experienced explosive growth in the last few decades since expansive computerization of mission-critical activities of companies and organizations has been the norm. There are no competitive programs at the Master's level in the state although NMSU has an

engineering technology program but does not specialize in IT. Part of the College's mission is to offer academic programs that will help reserve the economy, culture and sustainability of northern New Mexico. Fulfilling its energy and information technology needs in the future fits into this mission appropriately. Dr. Lopez pointed out that HED has three cluster assignments in determining the funding formula. Engineering is in Tier 3, which generates more Instruction and General (I&G) revenue.

Dr. Lopez answered questions from the Council members related to enrollment numbers, number of faculty with doctorate degrees, prerequisite/remedial issues, and the lack of evidence of need in the proposal along with letters of support from industry.

Dr. Johnson moved to approve the Master of Engineering in Mechanical Engineering (Solar Energy Emphasis), seconded by Dr. LaGrange. Under discussion some of the same questions and concerns were expressed along with the fact that faculty are stretched too thin, which may present a hardship in achieving ABET accreditation. **Motion passed with five in favor and one opposed.**

Dr. Johnson moved to approve the Master of Engineering in Information Engineering Technology, seconded by Dr. Wohlert. Under discussion some of the same concerns were pointed out. When reporting to the State Board of Finance, Dr. Johnson stated it is important to document the student pool the College is likely to attract to this program and the job market for graduates. Dr. Lacey's concerns and questions were answered by Dr. Salazar with regard to courses that are cross disciplinary, work force development, assessment, evidence of need from potential employers, and ABET accreditation. **Motion passed unanimously.**

4.6 Updates from each campus:

NMHU: Proposal for creation of a Master of Science Degree in Athletic Training will be presented for consideration next week.

NM Tech: The Mechanical Engineering Program will be bringing forward a proposal for a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering.

WNMU: The earliest proposals from Western will be some applied masters degrees: Applied Biology, Applied Spanish, etc.; however, the institution is being very cautious due to budget constraints.

ENMU: Eastern is working on a number of proposals; however, the institution is pushing certificate programs at the present time due to budget cuts. A proposal from an undergraduate program in exercise and dance performance has come forward. The Engineering Department is in the process of developing an MS degree in engineering technology and survey. Also, there is completed proposal going through the approval process on water resource management.

NNMC: The College's next proposal will be an MBA to be presented in another year or two.

5. Old Business

The Council will meet one week from today in Socorro.

6. Adjournment

Dr. Johnson moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Dr. Harris-Bourdette. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 3:48 p.m.