



**NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS
SPECIAL JOINT MEETING WITH DACC ADVISORY BOARD
October 3, 2018 at 10:30am**

Senate Gallery, Corbett Center Student Union, NMSU
Las Cruces Campus, 1600 International Mall, Las Cruces,
New Mexico

Regents of New Mexico State University

Chair Debra Hicks, Vice Chair Kari Mitchell, Secretary/Treasurer Jerean Hutchinson, Chris Saucedo, Margie Vela

DACC Advisory Board

President Maria Flores, Secretary Daniel Estupiñan, Daniel Castillo, Elva Garay, Lupe Castillo, Ray Jaramillo

MINUTES

In attendance: Debra Hicks, Christopher Saucedo, Kari Mitchell, Margi Vela, Jerean Hutchinson, Algernon D'Amassa (Las Cruces Sun News), Phyllis Dillard (DACC retiree and former NMSU employee), Filipe Loza (NMSU Student), Elva Garay, Maria Flores, Ray Jaramillo, Daniel Estupiñan, Monic Torres (Interim DACC President), Lenny Martinez (Chancellor Arvizu's Chief of Staff), NMSU Chancellor Dan Arvizu, Stephen Lopez (NMSU Chief of Police), NMSU President John Floros, Adam Cavotta (Interim Chief of Staff, NMSU Board of Regents).

A. Call to Order, Chair Debra Hicks

Meeting called to order at 10:40 AM by Chair Hicks.

1. Introductions

Chair Hicks welcomed all that were in attendance. All of those in attendance introduced themselves.

2. Confirmation of Quorum, Chair Debra Hicks

Quorum of the NMSU Board of Regents confirmed as all members were seated in the room.

3. Approval of the Agenda, Chair Debra Hicks

Motion to have additional informational item from Chancellor Arvizu to discuss his vision of DACC and thoughts on presidency entered by Regent Mitchell with a second by Regent Saucedo. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Opening Comments and Discussion

1. NMSU Board or Regents Opening Comments, Chair Debra Hicks

New MOU with DACC is consistent with MOU with other community colleges. According to the MOU meetings are held at request of the NMSU Board of Regents which is why we are here today. The DACC Advisory

Committee acts as an advisory council to the NMSU Board of Regents. Chair Hicks Appreciates the attendance and participation of the DACC Advisory board and this is intended to be a two-way discussion.

2. DACC Advisory Board Opening Comments, *President Maria Flores*

President Flores thanked everyone for attending the meeting and is looking forward to hearing from Chancellor Arvizu about vision for DACC and presidential position. President Flores spoke to the commitment to serve students in the region in how DACC and NMSU can serve them. Dual credit is important toward that end.

Ms. Elva Garay spoke concerning her educational experiences in the region and noted how she can relate to the students that DACC and NMSU serves. Further, Ms. Garay spoke of the importance of collaboration with the teachers and schools. 1,400 students in the district in Hatch that she serves.

Mr. Ray Jaramillo spoke concerning his professional experience as an early childhood educator and how he is "living the transition from high school to college" with his children and the challenges involved in keeping students in the region to attend college.

Secretary Daniel Estupiñan spoke concerning his passion about serving lower income Hispanic students. NMSU does a good job of recruiting students, but not as good of a job at retaining the students.

Regent Hutchinson asked a question regarding how to inspire/empower students to achieve academically and compel prospective students to recognize the value of NMSU?

During the conversation, it was noted that:

- Some prospective students simply want to move away from home and explore.
- NMSU has not directly outreached to the prospective students whose parents were in attendance and live in local communities.
- Mr. Filipe Loza noted that while being a fan of UTEP he was sold by faculty on the value of program by well-known anchor (Robert Holguin), who is an NMSU alumnus, was key influencer. Public schools working with notable alumni to speak to the value of higher education is important. Mr. Loza spoke in support of Downtown Aggies as a good engagement event.
- In the past, this group has identified partnerships, but we need to meet more frequently. Should be able to see progress on one or two items that both bodies have identified is a good way to partner.
- Aggie Pathway is something that has been of shared interest in the past and the kind of project that we need to reach out to students. Free tickets to basketball games for students was a good experience for the students. Different types of interactions that K -12 students have on campus for field trips and other events were generally deemed to be an important experience for demonstrating value and attainability of higher education.
- Discussed the trend to incorporate high school students into university lab environment and how to prepare high school students to work in a lab in safe way with skills required for scientific inquiry. It was noted that perhaps the Excel program would be a good place to start.
- It was noted that there is a concentration on Las Cruces and not as much on the regions surrounding Las Cruces. It was also noted that NMSU see a lot of students coming from Santa Teresa, despite the distance from Las Cruces and proximity to UTEP. It was noted that there is perception of an expectation that the Gadsden School District is to graduate students and push them to NMSU. There

are students that have started at NMSU, but they seem to leave and go elsewhere. It was noted that a phone call survey conducted, but more can be done to understand why students are leaving NMSU. Predictive analytics was noted as an important tool in recognizing students at risk of leaving. A proposed action was to collaborate with the advisory board to study retention further.

- Four barriers were identified, including: transportation, needs to support family at home, sense of belonging, and connection.
- Improving access, such as online learning, was identified as a possible solution to some of these barriers.
- The importance of being service oriented and changing the culture of institution to move away from a focus on compliance and a focus on service was discussed.
- Transforming the educational system is part of the responsibility of what NMSU needs to address to improve outcomes.
- DACC initiative of pre-health program was cited as a good example to meet student needs so that they don't disenroll entirely from the university if they don't get into a highly competitive nursing program. This was a ground up effort.
- Regarding capacity building in programs for pre-health, moving to a trimester schedule and there are assessments for additional opportunities underway
- Students that return to college have different learning needs and making connections with faculty is an important way to understand what opportunities are available for non-traditional students that meet their needs
- President Floros noted that there are plans to make follow-up calls for students that have dropped out and students that have been successful. In both cases, feedback is used to determine what we have done well and what we can change.
- Seeing yourself in the advertisement and outreach from individuals in the school is important for non-traditional students.

C. Informational Items, *Chair Debra Hicks*

1. Discussion of Vision for DACC and DACC Presidency in NMSU System, *Chancellor Dan Arvizu*

President Floros spoke about his experience at other institutions and commitment to making NMSU a success.

Chancellor Arvizu talked about mission of NMSU as being land grant university where there is an obligation to serve the communities in which we reside. Vision 2020 was discussed in respect to the plans for strategic development and changes to the metrics that will be presented in a board meeting later in the day. The goals and implementing the strategies are key to meeting mission objectives. A new vision statement (statement of purpose) is being introduced that focuses on 1) alignment with careers of the future, 2) vibrant learning environment supported by research (not just classroom instruction, but focus on problem solving, critical thinking, collaboration to meet life-long learning needs, and 3) culture of service to enrich the lives of our diverse communities. Chancellor Arvizu discussed the global grand challenges of fortifying the P – 16 educational system, modernizing critical infrastructure, and developing healthy borders.

The three primary objectives were discussed, which include improving student success, elevate research and creativity, and amplify outreach and economic development.

President Floros stated that we already started changing organizational structure, noting that we need a good team to move forward and student success is the most important component, but we are a comprehensive public research university is also important to maintain these efforts. The research university focus makes us different than many other educational institutions, providing hands-on experience in research, and share research and provide service that both benefits our communities and benefits student success. All these efforts help to drive economic development at local, state, and national levels. A priority is to elevate compensation to retain the faculty and staff that serve in service and teaching roles.

Chancellor Arvizu noted the university must operate as a system to be successful to meet these challenges.

It was noted that working on border issues and critical thinking are key concerns for the boards, but how does the NMSU system align with the public education system when it relates to incorporating critical thinking into the outcomes.

It was noted that over the years there is a perception that there are less students on campus and a desire exists to see NMSU be a vibrant learning environment again.

2. Discussion/Review of the Future Working Relationship of NMSU and DACC,
President Maria Flores

Much of the discussion regarding the future of the working relationship was discussed during introductions in agenda item B-2 and due to an upcoming board meeting, the chair moved forward with the next agenda item to discuss the DACC Presidential search.

3. Discussion of DACC Presidential Search, *Chair Debra Hicks, President Maria Flores*

There is precedent to include community members in the search committee for a search of this nature. A preliminary meeting with NMSU Human Resources has been held and Dr. Gena Jones will be the person in charge of the search process in HR.

Opinions regarding future leaders were discussed, including the desire to have someone that is from the region and knowledgeable about DACC and how DACC fits into the university system. It was noted that the DACC president must not be afraid to speak up to elevate DACC as an important part of the NMSU system. A commitment to dual credit is important and the new leader should help to build trust with the communities it serves.

The desired composition of the search committee was discussed, and industry was mentioned as a stakeholder group, including businesses in medical fields. Also, student involvement was important to consider.

A preliminary timeline was discussed with a target of having a new DACC president by June 2019. The job descriptions are being developed with an anticipated date for screening candidates in November 2018. During public sessions to collect input, there was recommendation to include some sessions in Spanish.

Chair Hicks will discuss with Dr. Jones and follow-up with President Flores regarding the composition of the selection committee. It was requested that the DACC Advisory board consider recommendations for the selection committee in advance.

D. Comments and Announcements, *Chair Debra Hicks*

No additional comments or announcements were provided.

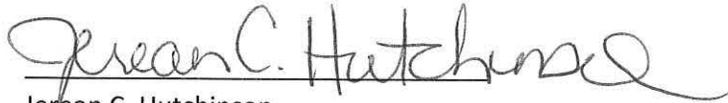
E. **Adjournment**, *Chair Debra Hicks*

Meeting adjourned at 12:48 PM.

Meeting Minutes Approved on November 29, 2018 by the New Mexico State University Board of Regents.



Debra P. Hicks
Board of Regents Chair



Jerean C. Hutchinson
Board of Regents Secretary/Treasurer

10.11.2020