NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS
REGULAR MEETING
March 8, 2019 at 9:00am

Regents Room of the Educational Services Building
NMSU Las Cruces Campus, 1780 East University Avenue
Las Cruces, New Mexico

Regents of New Mexico State University
Chair Debra Hicks, Secretary/Treasurer Jerean Hutchinson, Dina Chacón-Reitzel, Ammu Devasthali, Luke Sanchez

Non-Voting Advisory Members - Faculty Senate Chair Becky Corran, Employee Council Chair Sonia White, ASNMSU President Emerson Morrow

University Officials - Chancellor Dan E. Arvizu, Ph.D., President John Floros, Ph.D., Interim Provost April Mason, Ph.D., Senior Vice President Andrew Burke, Ed.D., General Counsel Lizbeth Ellis, J.D.

MINUTES

The Board of Regents meeting is available by webcast through the link at http://panopto.nmsu.edu/bor/

A. Call to Order, Chair Debra Hicks

Chair Hicks called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

1. Introductions

   Introduction of the Media, Associate Vice President Justin Bannister

   Vice President Bannister announced that Algernon D’Ammassa of the Las Cruces Sun-News, Derek Gonzales and Ch’ree Essary of The Round Up were present.

   Introduction of Officials

   - Recently confirmed Regent Dina Chacón-Reitzel, Chair Debra Hicks

   Chair Hicks introduced Regent Chacón-Reitzel, highlighting her experience as a home economist for NMSU’s cooperative extension service for Eddy County and as Executive Director of the New Mexico Beef Council.

   Chair Hicks continued by noting Regent Chacón-Reitzel’s work advocating for the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, the Agricultural Experiment Station, the Cooperative Extension Service and 4-H youth development as well as land-grant universities across the country.

   - Recently confirmed Regent Ammu Devasthali, Chair Debra Hicks

   Chair Hicks introduced Regent Devasthali, highlighting her philanthropic work with Community Foundation, and efforts to raise funds for the ASNMSU Center for the Performing Arts, and the NMU Visual Arts facility, Devasthali Hall.

   Chair Hicks continued by citing remarks made at the Senate Rules Committee confirmation hearing, noting the Regent Devasthali was “a hero, standing in strong support of marginalized folks in the community”.

Regent Devasthali expressed her pleasure in serving as a regent, noting her past engagement with NMSU and hopes to continue working collaboratively to do the hard work that is needed to move the university forward.

-Recently confirmed Regent Luke Sanchez, Chair Debra Hicks

Chair Hicks introduced Regent Sanchez as a New Mexico native from Puerto de Luna in Guadalupe County, noting that both his grandfather and father are NMSU alumni. Chair Hicks noted his work as a student researcher in the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Sigma Chi fraternity member, and director at Camp Kesem.

Regent Sanchez expressed his excitement to serve with other exceptional regents and is looking forward to serving students to help make them more successful.

General Counsel Liz Ellis introduced Andrea Walker as newest Assistant General Counsel. Ms. Walker is NMSU Alumna and has previous experience as a city attorney in Texas.

-Employee Council Chair Sonia White, Chancellor Dan E. Arvizu

Chancellor Arvizu introduced Ms. White as the new chair of Employee Council, noting her service at DACC since 2000 and her NMSU Bachelor’s degree in Computer Science and Master’s Degree in Education with an emphasis on Learning Technologies.

2. Confirmation of Quorum, Chair Debra Hicks

All board members were present in the board room and a quorum was confirmed.

3. Approval of the Agenda, Chair Debra Hicks

Regent Hutchinson moved approval of the agenda, with a second by Regent Devasthali. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Public Comment, Associate Vice President Justin Bannister

Vice President Bannister noted that no one had signed up for public comment.

B. Approval of the Minutes, Chair Debra Hicks

1. Special Meeting of January 28, 2019

Regent Hutchinson moved to approve the minutes as presented with a second from Chair Hicks. Motion passed with no objections. Regents Hicks, Hutchinson, and Sanchez were heard voting in favor of the motion with none voting in opposition.

2. Confirmation of Prior Executive Session of January 28, 2019

Chair Hicks and Regent Hutchinson confirmed by roll call vote that only personnel matters exempted from open meetings act requirements were discussed in the closed session on January 28, 2019. Regent Hutchinson noted that she participated by telephone.
C. Committee Reports

1. Audit and Risk Committee Report, Chair Debra Hicks

Chair Hicks noted that the report is similar to the report in the January 28, 2019 Board of Regents meeting, indicating that the Audit and Risk committee will hear a presentation from the United States Department of Education on April 11th regarding data governance and cybersecurity. It was also noted that the Chief Audit executive is reaching out to college deans, vice presidents, and directors to extend assistance to the colleges and departments regarding their audit related activities and needs.

2. Real Estate Committee Report, Chair Debra Hicks

In the February 8th meeting the Distributed Antenna System (DAS) and Pan Am Center was discussed with an expectation that the matter would be presented to the Board of Regents in April for action. The DAS provides mobile connectivity in the Pan Am Center. Chair Hicks noted that, as is typical for Regents committees, the items are heard first in the Regent’s committees before being put forward to the full Board of Regents for a vote. Also discussed was the DACC Master Plan and Creative Media Institute at Arrowhead Park. The Grants Early College High School site use agreement was approved. Additional discussions occurred regarding the Tax Increment Development District (TIDD) with the committee making a decision to move forward with the feasibility study and the matter is expected to come before the board at a future date. The committee heard a presentation by Associate Vice President of Facilities and Services, Glen Haubold regarding the Building Renewal and Replacement (BR & R) fund. Also, discussions continued regarding the College Ranch tower formerly owned by Raytheon. It is anticipated that a Real Estate Committee meeting will be called in March to consider several items, including the possible annexation of land to the City of Las Cruces for a creative media lab, proposed easement for NMSU Carlsbad to install an electrical sign, and discussion of Early College High School at Carlsbad regarding a long term ground lease for a modular building.

3. Financial Strategies, Performance and Budget Committee Report, Ms. Kari Mitchell

Chair Hicks read a report from former regent Kari Mitchell. The report is submitted below for the record:

The RFSPBC met for 2.5 hours on 2/22/19 in Hadley Hall. This was the first committee with the new administration. As such it did not include external community members since the administrations recommendation of these members is not complete.

This was part 1 of a 2-part discussion to regarding tuition policy, auxiliary rates, and strategic investments.

A legislative update was provided with optimism related to the availability of funds. However, also discussed were concerns related to unfunded mandates like a 4% salary increases and increased minimum wage implications (which will largely affect students and the amount of available of on campus employment). The Chancellor and President have established solid credibility with legislators and have done a great job in educating them of the unintended consequences of certain fiscal impacts. A more robust “ask” strategy will be developed going forward, now that this first session is nearly under their belts. There was consensus between budget proposals for general appropriations, but capital request remain not fully funded.

The administration did an excellent job in evaluating tuition comparisons, providing the most comprehensive demographical analysis of our students relative to varied peer options that was ever presented to date! Various tuition strategies were explored with a note of encouragement to seek opportunities to include strategies, like differential tuition and out of state options. Additionally, marketing opportunities were discussed relative to how the data analysis could become a marketing tool to attract students. More exploration is required.

Also, of significance is that there continued to be inconsistencies in the use of comparable historical tuition
comps relative to the number of credit hours used. It was agreed that the committee would come up with a standard for the denominator on comps and consistently use this for comps going forward.

The bottom line, however, is that based on various scenarios, there still remains a considerable budget shortfall ranging from $7.5 M to breakeven pending tuition rates. The largest contributor to the shortfall remains the reoccurring over “sold” of scholarships of $6.5 M done under the previous administration to increase freshmen enrollment. Dan and John are looking into various solutions and are committed to ensure that investment funds will be created; and that they will address budget shortfalls strategically (as opposed to across the board) to ensure the university’s growth and hope to minimize cuts (which would also occur strategically).

Auxiliary services presented housing, parking, and meal plan proposals in which cost increases were consistent with prior years. However, there was excellent news in terms of students who are continuing to live on campus past the requirement, and student retention outcomes. Additionally, the department has explored several new and innovative ways to continue to improve campus life and student success. It was asked that this data and successes be shared with the regents in an upcoming meeting. There were no issues or concerns identified and the team was encouraged to proceed with their recommendations. An example of one recommendation was to consider a modest remodel of family housing to use as an incentive to provide graduate student housing and visiting faculty.

Additional issue around deferred parking maintenance were discussed. The Chancellor will take these issues to share with staff to find more viable options.

Overall the budget discussions were robust and comprehensive. The administration requested to wait until after the legislative session to determine the final state funding amounts before completing their proposals. This was agreeable to the committee. Critical items on the agenda that were deferred were the identification of the strategic investments to ensure growth, the integrated planning cycle as well as committee compositions. These items were deferred to the next meeting.

Several action items were created and tracked on Adam’s list. The next meeting will be scheduled following the BoR meeting.

1. Expectation is to hear back regarding strategic investment priorities (not presented today)
2. Ongoing - Regional disposable/per capita income analysis and comparison are needed when presenting our tuition in context of peers.
3. Schedule meeting between Stochaj and Mason regarding VWV and Freshmen Experience course (started)
4. Re-run analysis for budget scenario 2 and 3 with some variation in enrollment change (such as .5% increase). SVP Burke will bring calculation on a spreadsheet and the group can manipulate it in the next meeting, as well.
5. Expectation is for admin to continue reporting housing in comparison to market (adjustments can still be made upward).
6. Expectation is for admin to continue reporting on First Year Residency requirement metrics as it affects student success measures.
7. Expectation is for admin to continue to report student satisfaction with meal plans
8. Expectation is for admin to report on status of Sodexo contract (currently on 1-year extension)
9. Follow-up on status of marketing efforts for non-residential students, faculty, and staff for meal plans (payroll deduction being considered)
10. Make time on next board agenda to review housing improvements/progress (for benefit of new members). SVP Burke to coordinate with Bettner and VP Scott on including this in the presentation.
11. Parking fee, as greater part of total compensation (something for Chancellor to consider for future
12. Schedule meeting for RFSPBC before March 8 (one longer or two shorter meetings).

4. **Student Success Committee Report, Chair Jerean Hutchinson**

Regent Hutchinson reported that the executive members of the Student Success Committee met on February 13th from 7:30 am – 10:30 am. In attendance were Adam Cavotta, Regent Hutchinson, Regent Mitchell, President Floros, Provost Mason, Vice President Scott, Natalie Kellner, Deputy Provost Fant, and Melody Munson-Mcgee. Regent Student Success committee is a Regent-driven committee. The committee was brought together in the most recent meeting as a Rapid Action Taskforce (for the time being, known as the RAT pack). The purpose of the Rapid Action Taskforce is to look at the 2019/2020 enrollment and retention priorities. The six pillars were discussed, which have historically driven the KPIs for the university starting with Vision 2020 and moving into the NMSU LEADS 2025 plan. Focus on revenue enhancement for enrollment in 2019/2020 academic year and identifying lead indicators used by deans and other staff and regents to evaluate where the university is regarding enrollment and retention goals at any given time. There were some reports of some positive changes that have occurred over the past couple of years, including 120-credit hour degree program requirements for bachelor’s degrees programs passed by the board in the January meeting, which followed best practices and was shepherded along by former Provost Dan Howard. At this point, the university is close to having all degree programs that can meet the 120-credit hour threshold, with only a few exceptions for those programs that have accreditation or other established minimum credit sufficiency requirements. Experiential learning was also discussed, which was a collaborative effort with Faculty Senate, led by then Faculty Senate Chair Dr. Christopher Brown, and the Student Success Committee. Provost Mason will provide an inventory of programs and their adoption of experiential learning to the board for review at a later date. State-wide general education reform was discussed and will be implemented at NMSU by Fall 2020. There was some discussion regarding strategic investments in student success initiatives and tracking the success of these investments as they relate to budget discussions. Vice President Scott presented a comprehensive student enrollment management plan. Discussions included engagement of alumni and the children of alumni in the recruitment pool. The enrollment report for 2019 is looking positive. It was noted that Provost Mason emphasized the importance of recognizing graduate enrollment and graduate students as a focus. Much discussion included learning indicators. “All hands-on deck” was the point of the day, noting that everyone involved inside and outside of the university has a stake in future performance. Centralized Advising and Meta Majors were discussed, and updates were provided by Vice President Scott. These both also represent best practices that NMSU is in the process of implementing. Corequisite remediation as a method to help address progression of students in Math and English were also discussed. First year experience (requirement for first year freshmen students to live in dorms) was discussed, and some early indications are that this was successful. Regent Hutchinson cited examples of Grand Canyon University as a benchmark for elevating freshmen year experience programming.

The following action items resulted in the meeting:

- Defining lead indicators as predictive measures (more work needs to be done to define these lead indicators), as well as lagging indicators often used as Key Performance Indicators. Lead indicators to reported at Regents Student Success committee meetings and Key Performance Indicators to be reported at board meetings.
- The agenda of the committee would be set by Provost Mason and Vice President Scott, in collaboration with the Regent member chair. Next meeting date yet to be determined.
- The next 120-credit hour update would be presented at the December meeting and again in June 2020 which is when all current programs should be reviewed and all exceptions should be granted.
- The Experiential learning inventory would be repolled by Provost Mason. The President and Provost would report back to the Student Success Committee about the implementation timeline and steps needed.
- General Education Reform: Results reported in 2020 to committee when program implemented
campus-wide.

- Meeting with Alumni, NMSU Foundation, and Vice President Scott with goal of discussing ways to help recruit legacy students to NMSU.

Predictive and Prescriptive Analytics – Proposal forthcoming for solutions, which will probably be part of the budget discussions.

NMSU Online – Dr. Fant provided a overview of the progress on the program.

Summer 2019 – Review of past practices by Provost Mason

Waiting on the budget from the legislature before more decisions are made with respect to investments in student success.

Vice President Scott added that enrollment is looking positive, although graduate enrollment continues to be a challenge. Ongoing meetings to discuss strategies are underway. The committee would like to express appreciation to the Office of Institutional Analysis and ICT for making available data sets that have informed decision making. Regent Hutchinson specifically noted that, Natalie Kellner deserves much thanks and President Floros also touted the efforts of ICT. Vice President Scott described how study of the corequisite remediation program led to the start of the Jumpstart program, which will begin this summer.

Chair Hicks discussed some enrollment data that was the subject of questions at the Senate Rules Committee confirmation hearing last week, and noted that enrollment high and low were 14,289 for last fall and about 18,000 from 2010.
D. Recurring Reports

1. NMSU Faculty Senate Report, Chair Becky Corran

Faculty Senate Chair Corran noted that a summary of legislation was made available to board members in their packets. There were a few updates since the report was drafted. Updates include approval of two degrees, including the Masters of Information Technology and Associate of Applied Science of Computer Science at NMSU Alamogordo. Other items approved include, revisions to Faculty Grievance Review Board, changes to +/- grades for students, which will be coming up soon. Changes also to student evaluations of teaching in order to help reduce bias and working with NMSU Employee Council regarding Educational Retirement Board issues that have come up recently.

Borderlands and Ethnic Studies graduate certificate is also being considered, along with revision to Faculty Senate Bylaws.

Chair Corran congratulated the new regents and welcomed them to NMSU.

2. Associated Students of NMSU Report, President Emerson Morrow

President Morrow congratulated regents and felt grateful that a student regent is part of the voting membership of the board.

President Morrow highlighted the contributions of ASNMSU student representatives in Santa Fe for their work on strong lottery scholarship and other policies that benefit students, including gathering support for capital outlay projects to improve infrastructure and lighting. Student Review process is underway and President Morrow applauded the system we have here at NMSU. Recommendations will be heard by the board next month.

President Morrow noted that 592 students used the airport shuttle service sponsored by ASNMSU. Scooter rides totaled 7,000 and review of the program is still underway, with safety being the primary concern. Feedback about the program can be sent to spin@nmsu.edu.

ASNMSU elections are underway and voting starts on Monday with a slate of 5 presidential candidates, 4 vice presidential candidates, and a diverse array of senate candidates from every college.

President Morrow spoke fondly of the students at NMSU, praising their efforts and looked forward to continuing to serve the students.

3. NMSU Employee Council Report, Chair Sonia White

Chair White congratulated the new regents and noted that she looks forward to working with everyone. Chair White noted that Employee Council welcomed 14 new members to Employee Council to serve 3-year terms. Officers were also selected in the February meeting, with Chair Sonia White, Chair Elect Mylan Bartnick, Secretary/Treasurer Letti Gallegos, and Recording Secretary is Anne Hubbell. Monica Dunivan is past chair and the Website Coordinator is Marissa Fowler, and Chancellor’s representative is Lydia Duran.

Chair White announced that ‘A’ Mountain Award nominations are currently open and the award will be presented on Founders Day on April 26 from 11 AM – 1 PM in Traders Plaza on the NMSU Campus. Employee Council will also host a forum about the NMSU LEADS 2025 strategic plan on Monday March 18th at 3:30 PM in the Yates Auditorium in Domenici Hall.

4. Aggie Development Inc. Report, President & CEO Scott Eschenbrenner

President Eschenbrenner provided a little context for some past activities to benefit new members of the board. On February 8th the Aggie Development Board met where infrastructure plans updates were provided related to a 36-acre area near the golf course and east. Infrastructure plans for this land are well underway with bids between five local firms being accepted and the lowest bid going to Reengage Construction at
$1,838,000, which was 12% less than initial estimates. Contract negotiations will begin next month with an anticipated work start date soon after.

Discussed development partners with a few developers for a retirement home community. February meetings with developers were productive. It was noted that one of the lead developers was highly ranked on the website Glassdoor as a good place to work. ADI is currently also engaged with another developer from the Midwest that specializes in senior care, with an anticipated meeting in March.

ADI is also working on some marketing plans with the Marketing and Communications Department.

5. NMSU Foundation Report, Interim Vice President Tina Byford

Interim Vice President Byford described the Foundation for the benefit of new regents as a separate 501(c)(3) and acts as fundraising arm for NMSU and the organization sits in University Advancement and the Vice President for University Advancement is also the President of the Foundation.

Interim Vice President Byford provided an update on the campaign aiming to raise 125 million dollars scheduled to end December 2019. So far 106 million dollars raised with about 18.3 million remaining. Foundation is expecting an estate gift and more details will be shared later, including a possible visit by the son of the family to meet members of the board and administration.

Fundraising trip in Texas discussed on April 23rd in Midland, 24th in Austin, and 26th is Houston. Regent Hutchinson asked about children of alumni at these events and if we can outreach to them, Interim Vice President Byford indicated that they can do that.

The last “grand in the stand” scholarship contest will be held at the basketball game on Saturday, but they are expanding similar opportunities at other events such as a College of Engineering event as well.

6. Arrowhead Center Inc. Report, Director & CEO Kathryn Hansen

Director Hansen provided a background of Arrowhead Center noting that it operates through two different organizations, one organization through NMSU in the Office of Strategic Initiatives and the other is Arrowhead Center Inc. which is a 501(c)(3). The 501(c)(3) deals mostly with the private sector in dealing with Arrowhead park and commercializing intellectual property. Arrowhead has been around for 10 years and Director Hansen has been there for 5 years.

NMSU joined UNM, New Mexico Tech, Northern New Mexico College, and ABQ ID as part of the New Mexico branch of the United States Airforce Research Laboratories (AFRL) technology transfer program. This is an effort to increase technology transfer efforts for AFRL. Cooperative activities among stakeholders (including students) will occur and an unique approach of strategic matchmaking and networks will be used by Arrowhead to support and enhance technology commercialization. Tech commercialization accelerators and entrepreneurship training programs combined with AFRL STEM training.

Women’s Entrepreneur Conference, “We Mean Business”, is on April 4 – 5 at the Las Cruces Convention Center with the theme being “Claim your seat at the table” featuring discussions and breakout sessions and featuring keynote speaker Hadiyah Mujhid, who is the Founder and CEO of HBCUvc, a nonprofit organization that educates and trains black and Latinx populations in technology entrepreneurship and venture capital. The keynote talk will be on “Breaking Barriers in Entrepreneurship and Unraveling Diversity”. An April 4th afternoon breakout session will be a “Dell PolicyHack” hosted by Chris Turner, VP for Office for America’s Government Affairs at Dell.

The AgSprint, which is the Agriculture Technology Accelerator, focused on startups in food and agriculture will be a 5 month accelerator with a conference September 26 at the Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum, sponsored by the New Mexico Gas company.

7. New Mexico Department of Agriculture, Cabinet Secretary & Director Jeff Witte
Julie Maitland, Division Director for Agriculture Programs and Resources, presented for Secretary Witte because he had obligations in Santa Fe during the legislative session.

NMDA legislative matters were discussed including HB 581 which is related to Hemp. Fifty-five producers have been licensed, with a majority running indoor operations. The LivWell company will be bringing an extraction facility to Las Cruces. Capital outlay for a new NMDA building is being discussed in Santa Fe because the current structure has life/safety issues that need to be addressed. Fourteen million of the sixteen-million-dollar capital outlay request has been approved.

Secretary Witte attended and led the 2019 National Association of State Departments of Agriculture (NASDA) Winter Policy Conference. Secretary Witte is President of the organization and they discussed issues such as animal biotechnology, farm bill program implementation, biosecurity, and other topics. NASDA also put forward a policy encouraging uniformity in Hemp regulation. In addition, Secretary Witte attended the National Association of Pesticide Control Officials spring meeting in Virginia. NMDA does regulate pesticides as part of its scope of duties for the State of New Mexico.

Marketing updates included National Western Livestock show where staff served as ambassadors in the livestock room and facilitated meetings between international cattlemen and New Mexico genetic producers.

Cannon Air Force based contamination update regarding PFAS contamination was provided. New Mexico Attorney General and New Mexico Environment Department filed suite against the Air Force. To prevent consumers and the general public, NMDA should stop sale on milk as soon as positive test results for PFAS. Additional sampling of water wells, cow tissue, and blood samples is to occur regarding levels in meat. At least dairy has been disposing of milk as a result of the contamination.

National Agriculture Week is March 19th and Secretary Witte will be presenting a proclamation to the New Mexico legislature. The Roundhouse Feed occurs March 14th where agricultural producers feed the legislature at the end of the session.

Chair Hicks asked if PFAS testing results are in and Director Maitland later confirmed that testing has not yet started.

Regent Chacón-Reitzel noted that a NASDA conference in Albuquerque in September that Secretary Witte will preside over is a “feather in his cap” and it’s great to have Secretaries of Agriculture from all over the United States attend.

E. Consent Items, Chair Debra Hicks

Chair Hicks noted the oath of office, governmental conduct act, and other regulations and the responsibilities that regents must uphold. Chair Hicks talked about cautions of rolling quorums and the need for open deliberations.

Chair Hicks noted that Consent items are passed at once without discussion. Therefore, if items require discussion they should be moved to action items.

Regent Hutchinson moved to approve the consent items with a second from Regent Chacón-Reitzel. Motion passed unanimously.

1. Temporary Investments Report for the Quarter ended September 30, 2018 and December 30, 2018, Senior Vice President Andrew Burke

2. Disposition/Deletion of Property, Senior Vice President Andrew Burke

3. NMSU Las Cruces: FY19 Parking Lots, Associate VP Glen Haubold, University Architect Heather Watenpaugh

4. Second Amendment to Lease Agreement for Central New Mexico Community College (CNM) and NMSU/Albuquerque Center, President & CEO Scott Eschenbrenner

5. Rename the Agricultural Science Center at Tucumcari as the "Rex E. Kirksey Agricultural Science Center at
6. Honorary Degree Recipient Nominees, Interim Vice President Tina Byford
7. 2019 Annual Open Meetings Notice Resolution, General Counsel Lizbeth Ellis
9. Proposed Regents Policy 5.21, Student Complaints and Grievances, General Counsel Lizbeth Ellis
10. Reappointment of Non-Position Directors of Arrowhead Center, Inc. Board of Directors, Arrowhead Chief Executive Officer, Kathryn Hansen

F. Action Items, Chair Debra Hicks

1. Election of Officers, Chair Debra Hicks
Chair Hicks noted the Robert's Rules generally recommends that the Bylaws include processes for elections. The Bylaws of the Board of Regents don't specify a process. In the past, the tradition has been to have a transition period.

Regent Hutchinson asked for the floor and made a statement advocating for a slate of officers in order to follow best practices in leadership changes with a succession plan.

Regent Hutchinson moved to nominate the following slate of officers:
Regent Debra Hicks as Chair
Regent Dina-Chacón-Reitzel as Vice Chair
Regent Ammu Devasthali as Secretary/Treasurer

Regent Hutchinson went on to note that this would provide a succession plan for a more productive, collaborative, and smooth transition and allow new regents the time to learn more about the complexities of New Mexico State University.

Regent Devasthali mentioned that she preferred to nominate officers individually.

Regent Sanchez moved to nominate officers individually. Regent Chacon-Reitzel seconded the motion.

Chair Hicks noted the dates of term expiration for all regents.

Some discussion occurred regarding point of order because a motion was on the table and not seconded. Chair Hicks closed the first motion by Regent Hutchinson which failed due to a lack of a second and then Chair Hicks called the question on Regent Sanchez's motion to nominate officers individually. Motion passed.

Chair Hicks opened the floor for nominations of chair. Regent Devasthali nominated Regent Chacón-Reitzel for chair and Chair Hicks nominated herself for chair.

A roll call vote was taken for the nomination of Regent Chacón-Reitzel for chair of the board. Regent Sanchez voted yes, Regent Hutchinson voted no, Regent Chacón-Reitzel voted yes, Regent Hicks voted yes, Regent Devasthali voted yes. With 4 yes votes and one vote against Regent Chacón-Reitzel was elected chair of the Board of Regents.

Regent Chacón-Reitzel nominated Regent Devasthali for vice chair.
A roll call vote was taken for the nomination of Regent Devasthali for vice chair of the board. Regent Sanchez voted yes, Regent Hutchinson voted yes, Regent Chacón-Reitzel voted yes, Regent Hicks voted yes, Regent Devasthali voted yes. With 5 yes votes Regent Devasthali was elected vice chair of the Board of Regents.

Regent Devasthali nominated Regent Sanchez for Secretary-Treasurer.

A roll call vote was taken for the nomination of Regent Sanchez for secretary-treasurer of the board. Regent Sanchez voted yes, Regent Hutchinson voted yes, Regent Chacón-Reitzel voted yes, Regent Hicks voted yes, Regent Devasthali voted yes. With 5 yes votes Regent Sanchez was elected secretary-treasurer of the Board of Regents.

G. Informational Items, Chair Chacón-Reitzel

1. Chancellor’s Report, Chancellor Dan Arvizu

Chancellor Arvizu congratulated the regents on their officer positions and confirmations and thanked everyone that showed support for him and his family after the passing of his mother.

Chancellor Arvizu iterated the vision of the university to strive to be best in our class in upward mobility of our student population and aspire to be recognized as an R1 university.

Chancellor reported on the legislative session, noting that both President Floros and Chancellor Arvizu have spent much time in Santa Fe and noticed many NMSU advocates during their time there. While it is a 60-day session, there is much to do. This session is different in respect to the budget surplus and transition of power regarding a change of party in the executive. The Rocket Docket was not typical and put many legislative items in the hands of the governor for her signature very quickly. There was competition for resources and broader issues drove action, including public educational reform and long-term revenue models. Chancellor Arvizu spoke to the potential for convergence and cooperation between public education and higher education.

Noting that budgets in higher education have been reduced in years of fiscal deficits, it was the goal of administration to recoup some of those losses.

Chancellor Arvizu reported that a 2% increase in I & G budget is modest considering other fiscal challenges, such as a 4% compensation increase, which was only funded for those employee’s in the state’s portfolio. Ultimately, funds need to be found for those NMSU faculty and staff and in order to do so a 4% increase in funding is sought to balance increases in salaries.

Minimum wage increases being considered also have implications for NMSU. The increase would mostly effect student employees.

Other notes from the legislative session include a 1.5 million dollars increase was allocated for dual-credit programs, .5% increase in ERB contributions, 25 million for College Affordability Fund, which benefits students that don’t qualify for other forms of aid.

Capital outlay was about 26 million across the system.

Chancellor Arvizu discussed the Legislative Strike Force, led by Ricardo Rel, which meets every day during the session to discuss legislative priorities and help advise the institutional leaders so they can have better informed discussions with legislators.

Chancellor Arvizu recognized Chief Stephen Lopez for his work with legislation related to policing jurisdictions.

The San Luis Potosi initiative was discussed in respect to getting support from Santa Fe, highlighting that it is not a funding request but an attempt to create more opportunity for NMSU in partnership with private investors. The initiative represents a potential future revenue source for NMSU.

Chancellor Arvizu discussed the Higher Education Centers of Excellence, describing NMSU as having a Center
of Excellence in Agriculture, UNM having in Biosciences, New Mexico Tech in Cybersecurity, and San Juan College in sustainability. Chancellor Arvizu testified at the legislative session that all of the research universities have capabilities in all of these areas so it should be a collaborative effort.

Chancellor Arvizu praised the involvement of NMSU students during the legislative session, including representation from ASNMSU.

Chancellor Arvizu added that he is hopeful for a 4% increase, which would mitigate budget concerns.

Chancellor Arvizu discussed his trip to Washington DC at meeting with Rep. Debra Holland, Rep. Xochitl Torres Small, Sen. Tom Udall, Sen. Martin Heinrich’s staff, and Rep. Ben Luján’s staff. Chancellor Arvizu advocated for strategic partnerships, including with Federal Agencies. Chancellor Arvizu pointed to upcoming MOUs with Sandia and Los Alamos National Labs. Opportunities for closer association between NMSU and national defense agencies was discussed. Arrowhead Center ventures with Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine, Space Port, and El Paso Electric were discussed. The Farm Bill and industrial hemp and energy-related funding opportunities were also discussed.

Chancellor Arvizu discussed the beginning of his appointment to the National Academy of Sciences Engineering and Medicines Division on Energy and Physical Sciences. The board reviews the portfolio that the National Academies are working on for the government, which is central to what NMSU is doing in research. The future of electric grids, quantum computing, ethics and emerging technologies, and astrobiology.

In closing, Chancellor Arvizu recognized that Nick Gonzales who was named National Colligate Baseball Writers Association Player of the Month, which has never happened before at NMSU. Chancellor Arvizu also congratulated the Women’s and Men’s Basketball teams for their WAC Tournament victories.

2. President’s Report, President John Floros

President Floros congratulated the board members on the election of officers and thanked Regents Hicks and Hutchinson for their service leading the board.

President Floros talked about the safety of SPIN scooters on campus, noting that safety is important and students have supported the scooters, noting that many students have reported that they have had fun riding scooters on campus and would like to see it continue.

President Floros talked about a recent student orientation event and the positive experience he had where the new students showed a lot of Aggie Pride.

President Floros also attended a lunch where faculty and students had an opportunity to meet and talk. The President described some feedback he received from freshmen regarding reasons for attending NMSU.

President Floros described some NMSU LEADS 2025 Strategic Planning presentations that have been conducted for different audiences and in different locations around the state. President Floros noted the expanding scope of the NMSU mission, as a land grant mission, a space grant mission, a Hispanic serving institution, and an institution that supports social mobility. President Floros talked about student success and praised the leadership team, including the Vice President for Student Success, Provost, Vice President of Research and Dean of the Graduate School, and Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance, noting that “we have a really good team”. Recruitment is seeing some shifting strategies to engage a broader audience of prospective students, alumni, and donors. Housing and Student Success offices are working closely together and there is more outreach with parents. First year experience initiatives are focusing on activities to keep students engaged and coming back to NMSU the next semester, including Aggie JumpStart, which is a partnership between Student Success and the College of Arts and Sciences. The program will start this summer and modifications will be made based on what is learned.

A program to address sexual assault on campus (It’s On Us) will launch in April.
Graduate students have been a focus and the efforts are concentrated on the students that are already enrolled, noting that their experience enhances the visibility of NMSU as good choice for graduate studies. Electronic thesis and dissertations are available this semester after many years of effort to make this happen.

A taskforce has been organized to ensure the quality and accessibility of online learning programs. A summer course taskforce has begun to create sustainable revenue model for summer course enrollment. A student placement taskforce is charged with improving job placement and better employment opportunities.

Regarding Research, President Floros noted the success of the Young Women in Computing program, noting that the Chronicle of Higher Education ranked NMSU computer Science program as 22nd for participation of women in computer science. He thanked Dean Pontelli and those at the institution that have supported these efforts over the years. President Floros described the Principle Investigator Academy, which trains faculty on grant writing and other grant related activities to help faculty become more competitive and enhance their network of research partners to pursue collaborative research projects. PSL updates include new contract with Northrop Grumman and enhancements to security to allow for more participation by students in these areas of classified research, which will enhance their employability with companies that do classified research. President Floros talked about the Global Grand Challenges that NMSU is engaged in addressing, and pointed specifically to helping to develop healthy borders.

President Floros spoke regarding Interim Provost April Mason and her positive perception of the prospective candidates that we have for Provost.

In closing, President Floros told the board that more updates will be forthcoming regarding other student success initiatives.

3. Summary of Revisions to the Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU (ARP) for the period 11/14/2018 through 2/18/2019, General Counsel Lizbeth Ellis, J.D.

General Counsel Ellis referenced the informational report on updated rules and policies and described the two primary policy documents, the Regents Policy Manual and the Administrative Rules and Procedures and the rational for and process by which the policy manual was divided. General Counsel Ellis noted the internal review process that occurs for policy changes. General Counsel Ellis acknowledge Associate General Counsel Lisa Warren and noted her role in moving policies through the policy review process. General Counsel extended an invitation to all board members to reach out directly to her with any policy related questions.

4. Appointments to Committees and Bodies, Chair Chacón-Reitzel

Chair Chacón-Reitzel selected Regent Hicks to chair the Financial Strategies, Performance and Budget Committee and Chair Chacón-Reitzel will also serve as a regent member of the committee.

Chair Chacón-Reitzel selected Regent Hutchinson to chair the Audit and Risk Committee and also selected Regent Hicks to serve as a regent member of the committee.

Chair Chacón-Reitzel will serve as chair of the Real Estate Committee and she selected Regent Devasthali to serve as a regent member on the committee.

Chair Chacón-Reitzel selected Regent Sanchez to chair the Student Success Committee and she selected Regent Hutchinson to Co-Chair the committee.

Chair Chacón-Reitzel selected Regent Devasthali to be the Board of Regents liaison to the NMSU Foundation.

Chair Chacón-Reitzel noted that she will defer appointments for other committees and external committee members until another time.
1. **“Gun’s Up” – Good News for NMSU!**

   Faculty Senate Chair Corran wanted to acknowledge International Women’s Day and the women at NMSU on the staff, in particular Veronica Jara and Gloria Podruchny who work closely with her and all the faculty for their hard work, leadership and mentoring of students. This includes, she noted, the women in the room, including the women on the board of regents.

   Regent Hicks read a testimonial from Andy Strebe of Chalmers Ford that thanked the regents for their service and reported that his daughter recently graduated from NMSU, noting that he wanted to thank the educators that have taught her and invested in her as a person, noting “she truly received a world-class education”.

   Regent Hutchinson noted that NMSU was recognized in the FanBuzz Web site, where Las Cruces New Mexico was named as the Best College Town in New Mexico.

   ASNMSU President Morrow, in the spirit of International Women’s Day, wanted to thank the women on campus for their work in making campus great. He also extended his congratulations to Chair Corran for her reelection as Chair of Faculty Senate.

2. **Upcoming Board of Regents Meetings**

   - April meeting for approval of budget proposal (Date TBD)
   - Board of Regents Onboarding Work Session (Date TBD)
   - May 10th, 2019 (Time TBD)

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**Adjournment, Chair Chacón-Reitzel**

Motion to adjourn entered by Regent Devasthali with a second from Regent Hutchinson. Meeting adjourned at 12:10 PM.

Meeting Minutes Approved on April 5, 2019 by the New Mexico State University Board of Regents.

Dina Chacón-Reitzel  
Board of Regents Chair

Luke Sanchez  
Board of Regents Secretary/Treasurer