NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
May 10, 2019 at 9:30am

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 Dina Chacón-Reitzel, Vice Chair Ammu Devasthali, Secretary/Treasurer Luke Sanchez, Debra Hicks

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

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

MINUTES

A. Call to Order, Chair Dina Chacón-Reitzel

The meeting was called to order by Chair Chacón-Reitzel at 9:39 AM.

1. Pledge of Allegiance, Salute to the New Mexico Flag, and 4-H Pledge, Chair Dina Chacón-Reitzel

Led by Extension 4-H Youth Development

State 4-H President Anne Hodnett and State 4-H Ambassador Colton McVaugh led the Pledge of Allegiance, Salute to the New Mexico Flag, and 4-H pledge. Following the pledge Ms. Hodnett and Mr. McVaugh introduced themselves to the board members and members of the administration and gave a testimonial about their work with 4-H, highlight the service provided by 4-H and noting that their service relates to more than just work in agriculture, noting the broad and varied involvement with and for the benefit of communities that they serve.

2. Introductions

Introduction of the Media, Media Relations Officer Minerva Baumann

Media Relations Officer Minerva Baumann reported that no members of the media or elected officials were present at the meeting.

Introductions of Evan Conner, incoming ASNMSU President and Melina Burnside, incoming ASNMSU Vice President, Vice President Renay Scott

Vice President Scott introduced ASNMSU President Evan Conner, noting his status as a senior majoring in Accounting with a minor in Economics and would be graduating tomorrow. He will return to NMSU for a masters of accountancy. In the past, President Connor has served as ASNMSU Comptroller, President of Kappa Sigma Fraternity, Public Relations Director for Beta Alpha Psi, Business Council Treasurer, and student leader with CRU.

Vice President Scott introduced ASNMSU Vice President Melina Burnside, noting she is a sophomore studying Social Work and International Studies. Ms. Burnside graduate from Los Alamos High School where she engaged in community service. Ms. Burnside is currently a Resident Assistant at Garcia Hall and served as Senator for the College of Health and Social Services, took part in the National Residency Hall honoraria, is member of the Resident Hall Association, and participates in Aggies without Limits.
3. **Confirmation of Quorum, Chair Dina Chacón-Reitzel**

Regents Hicks, Devasthali, Chacón-Reitzel and Sanchez were in attendance in the board room. As a result of the resignation of Jerean Hutchinson, there is a vacancy on the board pending appointment from the Governor.

4. **Approval of the Agenda, Chair Dina Chacón-Reitzel**

Motion to approve the agenda entered by Regent Devasthali with a second by Regent Sanchez. Motion passed.

5. **Public Comment, Media Relations Officer Minerva Baumann**

Margie Vela spoke during public comment noting her support for the ASNMSU Leadership Scholarship and provisions being voted on in the session today that would permit the student regent to receive the scholarship. Ms. Vela shared her personal accounts of serving as a regent and studying for her doctoral degree at NMSU and the challenges associated with financial barriers to academic success, noting that studies support such findings. Ms. Vela also noted research supports that engagement on campus helps students to succeed.

Emerson Morrow spoke during public comment noting his support for the ASNMSU Leadership Scholarship and provisions being voted on in the session today that would permit the student regent to receive the scholarship. Mr. Morrow stated his opinion that it is important to involve those affected by decisions in the decision making process, that students make up the largest group of stakeholders, and noted the state constitution provides that a student regent has the same powers as other members of the board. President Morrow noted that many students would embrace the opportunity to serve as student regent, but for many it is not practical due to financial constraints. Mr. Morrow asked the board to approve the amendments to the ASNMSU student leadership scholarship because it would permit students to serve despite their financial constraints.

**B. Approval of the Minutes, Chair Dina Chacón-Reitzel**

1. **Special Meeting of April 5, 2019**

Regent Sanchez moved to approve the minutes as presented with a second by Regent Devasthali. Motion passed.

2. **Confirmation of Prior Closed Executive Session of April 5, 2019**

Regent Hicks, Chacón-Reitzel, Devasthali, and Sanchez confirmed the prior closed session on April 5th and that no other matters were discussed except those matters relating to threatened litigation with an affiliated entity.

**C. Awards and Recognitions, Chair Dina Chacón-Reitzel**

1. **Athletics Awards, Athletics Director Mario Moccia**

NMSU Athletic Director Mario Moccia recognized student athletes for their accomplishments over the past year.

Men’s basketball was presented with a recognition of their achievement of a 30-5 season, which was a record for basketball in a regular season. Also noted was five consecutive wins against UNM, which hasn’t been done since 1956. Head Coach Chris Jans was WAC Coach of the Year and District Six coach of the year. The team had an 2017 – 2018 APR single year score of 1,000 and highest grade point average in 30 years of recording the grade point averages.
Women's Basketball was presented with a recognition of their achievement of a 26-7 record with 26 wins tying the all-time high for wins in the program. The team were WAC regular season and tournament champions and Gia Pack was the WAC Tournament MVP and Brooke Salas who was the WAC Player of the Year and the WAC Defensive Player of the Year, recently signing a contract with the Seattle Storm, the WMBA champs.

Director Moccia mentioned that while they couldn’t attend the meeting today, the Women’s Golf team were WAC Champions. Director Moccia went on to recognize the Women’s Tennis team for their WAC Championship and Lindsay Harlas for WAC All-Tournament Team, Doubles achievement. After graduating with an Animal Science degree with minor in chemistry and biochemistry Ms. Harlas plans on going to veterinarian school.

Director Moccia noted that in the past 13 ½ years and 27 consecutive semesters of all of NMSU’s 400 student athletes averaging over a 3.0 GPA.

Women’s Volleyball was also recognized for their WAC regular season and WAC tournament championship and Savannah Davison was recognized as Freshmen of the Year and Megan Hart and Tatyana Battle made first team All-American.

In addition to their contributions in the classroom and in athletics, student athletes have recorded 6,100 hours of community service.

2. **Proclamation recognizing Emerson Morrow for service as ANSMU President, Vice President Renay Scott**

A proclamation was read to recognize former ASNMSU President Emerson Morrow for his service to ASNMSU.

3. **Above and Beyond Award, Chancellor Dan E. Arvizu**

Chancellor Arvizu recognized J. Valerie Torres as the recipient of the Above and Beyond Award which is awarded to an employee who goes above and beyond the call of duty. Ms. Torres has worked at NMSU for 27 years serving in various roles, with many of the recent years serving as Executive Administrative Assistant in the Honors College. She is well know for providing exceptional service to students, faculty, and staff and for helping to create a work culture that is proactive and supportive. Ms. Torres received the award along with four generations of her family who had attending the meeting to take part in the recognition of her service.

D. **Committee Reports**

1. **Updated Committee Assignments, Regent Dina Chacón-Reitzel**

Chair Chacón-Reitzel noted that as a result of the resignation of Jerean Hutchinson, the following members have been assigned to committees. For Regents Audit and Risk Committee, Regent Devasthali will serve as chair of the committee. Regent Hicks will continue to serve and all other members will remain the same.

The Regents Student Success Committee, Regent Hicks will take the place of Jerean Hutchinson as the regent member. At this time, with Provost Mason leaving soon, the members will remain the same as we go through the transition to a new Provost.
The Regents Real Estate Committee welcomed new community members Mikey Clute and Joe Lujan and Dean Rolando Flores will not serve as the Dean’s representative, replacing Dean James Hoffman. All other members remain the same by virtue of their position. Newly elected ASNMSU President Evan Conner and Interim Associate Vice President Alton Looney were welcomed to the committee as well. Bill Sheriff was thanked for his past service to the Regents Real Estate Committee.

The Regents Financial Strategies, Performance, and Budget Committee welcomes Tamara Hurt and Clyde Sanchez as voting community members on the committee. The Chair thanked Bob Danley for his past service and noted that Dean James Hoffman will replace Dean Rolando Flores as the Dean’s representative on the committee. All other voting and non-voting members are the same.

Chair Chacón-Reitzel thanked Jerean Hutchinson for her service on these committees and welcomed the new and returning members to the committee.

2. Audit and Risk Committee Report, Regent Ammu Devasthali

Regent Hicks delivered the report for the most recent Audit and Risk Committee. April 11th meeting of the RARC featured guest speakers for the US Department of Education who presented a training on Data Privacy and Security. Regent Hicks noted that earlier that day a training was held for the campus and there were many staff and faculty in attendance. Officials from U.S. Department of Education praised the policy management system, delegation of roles and responsibilities, records management, and risk mitigation practices. Officials cited some concerns about the need for more formal data governance policies, further development of system security plans related to Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (GLBA) and the need for additional metrics that demonstrate follow through on policy monitoring and enforcement. A draft report is expected soon.

On the regular RARC agenda, Vice President Burke presented on the Composite Financial Index, Executive Director of Environmental Health and Safety, Katrina Doolittle, provided a report on Loss Prevention and Control. There was special note that NMSU’s efforts to reduce risk include an Integrated Risk Management Working Group.

It was noted that KPMG will be conducting the upcoming annual financial audit.

A cybersecurity presentation was delivered by Chief Information Officer Norma Grijalva, Chief Information Security Officer John Roberts, and IT Compliance Officer Carlos Lobato. Highlighted were the various regulations for data at NMSU, risk-based compliance strategy, and some security and IT statistics from 2018.

The next Audit Committee meeting is scheduled for May 29th. This will be the annual Entrance Conference for the Financial Statement Audits conducted by KPMG.

3. Financial Strategies, Performance and Budget Committee Report, Regent Debra Hicks

Regent Hicks delivered the report of the most recent RFSPBC meeting which occurred on May 6th. Many items discussed in the meeting are being brought to the board today on the agenda and will be discussed in greater detail as the items come to a vote.


Regent Sanchez noted that the Regents Student Success Committee membership is being determined and noted the upcoming appointment of a Provost and how their input will be important for consideration of new members as well as giving some additional time to reach out to potential committee members.

E. Recurring Reports

1. NMSU Faculty Senate Report, Chair Becky Corran

Chair Corran thanked the chair for inviting 4-H, noting her own experiences participating in 4-H were helpful in
preparing her for her career. The most recent meeting of the Faculty Senate was May 2nd. A report was provided to the board in advance. The report includes items that have been updated on the Web site. There were 25 items considered this year, some of them will be on the agenda for approval today.

2. **Associated Students of NMSU Report, President Linda Cisneros**

President Cisneros reported that ASNMSU is in a period of transition and she is excited about the upcoming administration. President Cisneros noted that ASNMSU helped with the It’s On Us Campaign week featuring a self-defense class by the NMSU Police Department, vigil, and walk in support of survivors. ASNMSU Senate raised funding to 70% from 45% for travel related to conference and research travel noting that 80% funding will be given to FEMA disaster-related travel. ASNMSU passed Resolution 54, in recognition of Mental Health Month. President Cisneros spoke in support of the proposed Student Leadership Award for the student regent, noting that it has been backed by the ASNMSU Senate. President Cisneros emphasized that it was important to keep leadership positions accessible. President Cisneros thanked ASNMSU for the opportunity to serve and looked forward to the good work that would be done by ASNMSU moving forward.

3. **NMSU Employee Council Report, Chair Sonia White**

Chair White thanked everyone who attended Founders Day, noting that 1,800 attended the event and she congratulated Barbara Hubbard and Mark Medoff for being named Aggie Legends and Michael Ray who was the ‘A’ Mountain Award recipient. Chair White thanked the annual leave committee, insurance premium committee, President Floros and Chancellor Arvizu for their work on proposed improvements to leave and insurance benefits.

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

No report was given as there was not meeting since the last board of regents meeting.

5. **Arrowhead Center Inc. Report, Director & CEO Kathryn Hansen**

Director Hansen reported some highlights including from the Women’s Entrepreneurship Conference held in April which included a policy session hosted by Dell Technologies. A coop was established with Dell and Doña Ana county which Director Hanse hopes will be a model for other counties in the state. Funding was received for entrepreneurship programs that will fund two communities for a pilot that involves advising and training the communities in entrepreneurship. State funded Agribusiness Accelerators pilots will start this summer that involve a partnership between the NMSU College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences, County Extension Service, Arrowhead Center Inc.

With a focus on place-based entrepreneurship and economic development, an accelerator on customer discovery and value proposition for the Las Cruces area will be conducted by Arrowhead. Director Hansen announced a collaboration with Honeywell involving research and student design projects. Honeywell first became interested in the collaboration as a result of a technology developed by Dr. Misra at NMSU.

Director Hansen recognized Preston Mitchell, an alumnus and proprietor of the Hatch Chile store, who has been recognized in a 2018 economic impact report because of success in online advertising. Studio G helped with USDA value-added produce grants totaling half a million dollars.

Arrowhead staff receiving degrees this semester include Lydia Hammond, Project Coordinator for the Innoventure Program, will receive a Masters degree. Nick Eidsmoe with a B.S. in Geographic Information Systems, Aaron Heath with an A.A. in Creative Media, Min Tan with a B.S. in Computer Science, Tamanda Chabvuta with an M.A. in Communications, Alexis Comides with a Bachelors of Individualized Studies with an emphasis in Marketing, Trashard Mays with a Masters of Industrial Engineering, and Noberto Di Stefano with a Bachelors in Mechanical Engineering.

6. **New Mexico Department of Agriculture, Cabinet Secretary & Director Jeff Witte**
Secretary Witte reported welcomed the recently confirmed regents and noted that he looked forward to working with them on agricultural issues, noting that the regents represent “the board of agriculture” in many respects. Secretary Witte noted a fairly positive legislative session with new programs for healthy soils which will be run through the NMDA in collaboration with soil scientists in the College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences (ACES) to create a comprehensive soil health program that aims to help producers. Some implications of climate change and affects on soil are possible. Another program is the Hemp manufacturing act and rulemaking will be brought forward to the regents soon regarding this program. Beyond cultivation of hemp, new regulations deal with commercialization of hemp. Agricultural workforce development programs are also being started in partnership with the Department of Workforce Solutions as well as other potential community partners that leverage extension and outreach connections. Funding for agricultural education programs at elementary and middle schools was received and NMDA will be collaborating with partners on this program.

The Women’s Ag Leadership Program, with some support from NMDA, will have a conference is May 28 – 30 and they are celebrating 20th anniversary.

PFAS issue is still a concern at Cannon Airforce base. The U.S. Airforce/U.S. Department of Defense have used PFAS in the past to suppress fires and the chemical got into the groundwater around the base and impacted a dairy. This issue has been ongoing since September. Secretary Witte has been in contact with federal officials in various agencies regarding this emerging contaminant regarding food safety. They are examining potential contaminant levels in agricultural products.

The NMDA Annual Conference was held recently and President Floros spoke at the event. The purpose of the conference is for planning for the year ahead. It was noted that Governor Lujan Grisham attended and Secretary Witte expressed his appreciation for her attendance at the conference. Another activity at the conference is the Distinguished Service Awards and Honor Awards. In attendance at the meeting were the winners of these awards, including Kim Berry, a non-exempt employee who serves in Portales at the Market News Service and Peanut grain station who was commended for her tremendous work. Patricia Depner received the Secretary’s Honor Award. Secretary Witte noted that Ms. Depner was among a team that helped during the legislative session to help keep on top of the schedule. Brad Lewis was also a recipient of an award for work on Pecan and Hemp rules and Tiffany Rivera for her work during the legislative session and during the rulemaking process. Both received the Exempt Employee of the Year award. All awardees were nominated from among the staff.

Secretary commented on the history of the Board of Regents governance over NMDA and the educational benefit program that had been established in order for employees to enroll in classes toward a degree from NMSU. Secretary Witte noted that over the years employees in NMDA have received degrees from Associates to Doctoral degrees as a result of this benefit. Secretary Witte noted that their were six graduates from NMDA and he added that he sent a letter to all student employees parents thanking them for sending their children to NMSU and noting his pleasure in working with them at NMDA. Cheyann Atma who is a full-time employee for NMDA for the past 12 years was recognizing as receiving her degree this semester.

Chair Chacón-Reitzel asked how much funding was available for the Ag education program and Secretary Witte responded that it was about $160,000 requested by Rep. Lente designated to certain school districts. Chair Chacón-Reitzel thanked Secretary Witte for his hard work and acknowledged the additional work required related to his leadership role in NASDA (National Association of State Departments of Agriculture).

F. Consent Items, Chair Dina Chacón-Reitzel

Motion to approve to consent agenda as presented by Regent Devasthali with a second by Regent Hicks. Motion passed.
1. **Administrative Rules and Procedures (ARP) 8.41-LOA-Annual**, Senior Vice President Andrew Burke

2. **Insurance Premium Contributions**, Senior Vice President Andrew Burke

3. **Temporary Investments Report for the Quarter ended March 31, 2019**, Senior Vice President Andrew Burke

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

5. **Letter of Intent between Regents of New Mexico State University and CONEWMEX, S.C. San Luis Potosí City, San Luis Potosí, México**, General Counsel Lizbeth G. Ellis

6. **Spring 2019 Degree and Certificate Conferral**, President John Floros

7. **Masters of Information Technology Degree Program**, Provost April Mason and Dr. Rolfe Sassenfeld

G. **Action Items, Chair Dina Chacón-Reitzel**

1. **Transfer of Uncollectible Accounts Receivable to Inactive Accounts for fiscal year 2018 – 2019**, Senior Vice President Andrew Burke

   Vice President Burke noted that this is brought to the board every May for approval. For background, Vice President Burke noted that state law precludes NMSU from writing off uncollectable accounts and accordingly administration requests approval to transfer deemed uncollectable in the amount of $2,919,887 to the reserve for inactive accounts. It was noted that amount transferred is offset by recoveries from prior year transfers of $962,936 resulting in a net impact of $1,956,951 to the Reserve for Inactive Accounts. In addition, we assessed $587,035 in deferred payment charges. The total uncollectible accounts transferred represent approximately 2.16% of the related tuition, housing and other fee income (all student charges). This amount is $1,369,916 when deferred payments are considered. This amount compares to $1,878,000 in the previous fiscal year which is a reduction $508,932. Over the past few years the percentage of transfer to uncollectable accounts compared to total student charges has reduced from 2.62% to 2.17%. NMSU is in the process of implementing a formal student payment plan for student charges in effective Fall 2020. This would require a down payment and more formal payments on a monthly basis with hopes of reducing the amount transferred to uncollectable accounts and help with matriculation and retention.

   Vice President Burke introduced Norma Noel, NMSU Controller, and Nancy Ritter, NMSU Bursar who have worked on reducing the inactive accounts particularly in the amount collected from prior balances as noted in the provide materials.

   Regent Hicks moved to approve the Transfer of Uncollectable Accounts Receivable to Inactive Accounts noting that it was a recommendation to approve by the Regents Financial Strategies, Performance and Budget committee. The motion was seconded by Regent Sanchez. Motion passed.

2. **Budget Adjustment Requests (BARs) for fiscal year 2018 – 2019**, Senior Vice President Andrew Burke

   Vice President Burke that these are the final BARs for the 2018 – 2019 fiscal year. BARs are also submitted in December for adjustments to state appropriations. On an annual basis, the university requests approval from the Board of Regents to adjust our expenditure budget authority to align with our estimated Actuals to adhere to the rules for the New Mexico Higher Education Department (HED) and meet State statutes. It is necessary to insure that our budgetary levels of expenditures equal or exceed the anticipated expenditures for the fiscal year. The attached BARs are for each NMSU campus unrestricted and restricted fund. Within the BARs there is approval for each functional category. The forms include conservative revenue projections for tuition at the Las Cruces campus and revenue increases that include the non-recurring appropriations from the legislature. Even though we are unlikely to spend the money in the current fiscal year, the funds are appropriated at this time so it is included in revenue and offsetting expenditures for those particular items. Some fiscal year adjustments for construction were also discussed as construction spending spans fiscal periods. This is a
governmental accounting process to ensure that there are fund balances to support spending authority that is
being requested.

Regent Hicks noted for the attention of the board that page 2 of item G-2 the “Retirement of Indebtedness”
transfer was related to findings from the annual external audit. Regent Hicks asked about a 5% contingency
that is used to cover spend authority, which Vice President confirmed that is flexibility to adjust for inflation of
expenditures that may occur.

Regent Hicks noted a smaller number of transfers for student financial aid compared to the about 4 million in
December for that same line item.

Regent Hicks moved to approve the Budget Adjustment Requests with a second from Regent Devasthali.
Motion passed.

3. Operating Budgets for Fiscal Year 2019-2020, Senior Vice President Andrew Burke

Vice President Burke noted that as part of the annual budget process, the University prepares original budgets
for the upcoming fiscal year. Operating budgets for fiscal year are prepared for each of the campuses. Vice
President Burke presented data included in the binder, noting the breakdown of expenditures by campus and
unrestricted/restricted funds, and operating and plant funds.

Vice President Burke review a chart that details the sources of funds, including about 20% from tuition and
fees, 36% state appropriations, and 25% are government grants and contracts. For uses of funds, Vice
President Burke highlighted that about 45% is for Instructional and General, Research is 17%, and Student Aid
at 15.1%. Student Aid increased 18.6%, which includes external grants and institutional scholarships. The
athletic budget increased 9.7% based on increase in state appropriations and an increase in game guarantees.
This would reduce the fund balance by $450,000 with hopes of reducing a 3.5-million-dollar budget down to 0
over the next few years.

New uses of funds include 4% compensation increase and fringe rate increase with about 2.4 million in
strategic investments.

Several charts were displayed from the binder that break down the tuition increase by resident/non-resident
and variable credit hour loads.

Regent Hicks asked for clarification about significant differences regarding federal appropriations on page 6 of
the presentation. It was noted by President Floros that it was related to Agricultural Experiment Station and
Extension Service reductions from the Federal government. Regent Hicks asked if the 18% increase in student
aid was related to the scholarships or something else. Vice President Burke responded that it was a
combination of items with the largest percentage accounted for by the scholarships.

Regent Hicks moved to approve the Operating Budgets for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 with a second by Regent
Devasthali. Motion passed.

Vice President Burke thanked the staff in the Budget Office for their work on the budget over the past month.

Regent Hicks thanked Norma Noel, NMSU Controller, and Nancy Ritter, NMSU Bursar for their efforts to
reduce the amount of uncollectable accounts.

4. Annual Capital Outlay Projects FY 2019-2020, Interim Associate Vice President Alton Looney; University
Architect Heather Watenpaugh

Interim Association Vice President Looney introduced University Architect Heather Watenpaugh who will
deliver the presentation along with Assistant Director of Project Development Jon Webster.

Mr. Webster started with an overview of the state of facilities covering Juniper Hall and residence hall
renovations. Devasthali Hall was noted in addition to the tunnel system repairs.
Ag Science center improvements were discussed, including enhancements in Alcalde.

Las Cruces campus demolitions of Dan Williams and Regents Row were presented. Mr. Webster concluded by citing an example of the impact of facilities on recruitment of students by presenting the testimony of NMSU Chemical and Materials Engineering Department Head, Dr. David Rockstraw who noted how the renovated facility at Jett Hall has helped him to recruit students into the program.

Regent Devasthali asked about the demolition of Dan Williams Hall and if it will be a green space or are there plans for parking in that location. Mr. Webster indicated that currently it is being planned as a green space and water retention. Some plans have been discussed about parking but any parking in that area would be a new project and not part of the demolition.

Ms. Watenpaugh presented on the 5-year facilities plans, starting with an overview of the process. Facilities meets with Deans and Vice Presidents to discuss program and facilities needs from which a project list is formed. Studies are conducted based on needs and presented to the President and Senior VP for Administration and Finance, Provost, and Deputy Provost for review. Today, Facilities is requesting the board approve the 5-year facilities plans for the entire system that have gone through this internal process. A timeline of government agency approvals was presented, and it was noted that this is a General Obligation (GO) Bond year so capital project proposals will go to the voters.

Program emphasis to repair, renovate and replace existing space is the focus with protection of assets, reliability of utilities, and ADA being emphasized with the overall goal of not adding any additional square footage.

GO Bond requests were reviewed for each campus. For the Las Cruces campus, the top request is the phase 2 for the 2018 GO bond which are the Agriculture Modernization and Educational facilities which include multidisciplinary labs, science and engineering facilities that will involve several construction projects including the Pavilion and Human/Animal Interaction Facility, Animal Physiology and Metabolism facility, Equine Paddocks and Arenas, Water Conversation and Rangeland Ecology Facility Greenhouse, and Biomedical Research Building (phase 2).

Athletics requests for ADA for Pan American Center and other renovations to athletic facilities.

NMDA phase 2 building renovations to ensure that work done by NMDA can continue to function while construction is underway.

Regent Hicks noted that normally the Capital Outlay Projects would go before the Regents Real Estate Committee before being brought forward to the Board of Regents for approval. For the Carlsbad Campus, Regent Hicks noted that there is only one point of access and it is a critical need to have addressed for safety. There was previously a request for dormitories at the Carlsbad campus, but after discussion this was removed from the request that was brought forward to the board. The Regents Financial Strategies, Performance and Budget Committee recommended approval of the Capital Outlay Projects.

Regent Hicks moved to approve Annual Capital Outlay Projects for Fiscal Year 2019 – 2020 with a second by Regent Sanchez. Motion passed.

A motion to recess at 11:40 AM to reconvene at 1:45 PM was entered by Regent Devasthali with a second by Regent Sanchez. Motion passed.

Meeting reconvened at 1:50 PM when Chair Chacón-Reitzel called the meeting to order.

5. Policy amendment restructuring RPM 2.44, Associated Students of NMSU in anticipation of a new ARP 2.44, and establishing a student leadership award for the individual appointed to serve as the student regent, General Counsel Lizbeth G. Ellis

General Counsel Ellis provided some background on the proposed policy amend before the board for
General Counsel Ellis described the process that has taken place over the past few years to separate a single large policy manual into two policy manuals where one would contain many procedural details (the Administrative Rules and Procedures or ARP) and the other the broad policy directives from the Board of Regents (the Regents Policy Manual or RPM). While it is still a work in progress, most of the conversion is complete. Part of the process was to replicate the book in both manuals and the process of refining both versions is still underway and includes the policy amendment that is being brought forward to the board today.

During the process of revision, other policy amendments came to the General Counsel office which are also being considered for the proposed amendment.

Two motions are being proposed, noting a potential conflict of interest for Regent Sanchez in voting for the student regent portion of the scholarship amendment.

Regent Sanchez spoke regarding the scholarship and noted that he would abstain from the vote. Regent Sanchez reflected on what a scholarship would mean for a student regent. He noted that he is thankful for the state Lottery Scholarship, Pell Grants, and the many employers that have helped him fund his education while he was attending school, further noting that the scholarship might help to remove financial barriers for others so that every Aggie can have the opportunity to serve on the board, despite their personal financial circumstances.

Chair Chacón-Reitzel noted the amount of time required to serve on the board and expressed her support for making this opportunity available to students with limited financial resources.

Regent Devasthali moved to approve an amendment to RPM 2.44 authorizing a student leadership award for the individual appointed to serve as the student regent. Second by Regent Hicks. Motion passed. Regent Sanchez abstained from the vote.

Regent Chacón-Reitzel moved to approve amendments restructuring RPM 2.44 and authorizing a new Rule 2.44 with a second by Regent Devasthali. Motion passed.

6. Approval of Amendment(s) updating Bylaws of the Regents of New Mexico State University, General Counsel Lizbeth G. Ellis

General Counsel Ellis described the matter before the board for approval. General Counsel Ellis noted that during the March 25 Special Meeting she was asked to review the Bylaws of the Regents of New Mexico State University. As a result of that process the proposed amendments are being brought forward today for approval. Some minor corrections and separation of duties between the Chancellor and President of NMSU Las Cruces were noted. Also, as a result of the ASNMSU Student Leadership Scholarship amendments, it was noted that a provision of the bylaws would need to be amended to clearly permit awarding of this scholarship to the student regent. This change is also reflected in the amendments before the board for approval today. As a result of the potential conflict of interest with Regent Sanchez voting on amendments related to the student regent scholarship, two motions are presented that would permit Regent Sanchez to abstain from the vote.

Regent Chacón-Reitzel moved to approve an amendment updating the Bylaws of the Regents of New Mexico State University with respect to compensation section in Article 7 permitting the student regent to be eligible for the student leadership scholarship. Second by Regent Devasthali. Motion passed. Regent Sanchez abstained from the vote.

Regent Devasthali moved to approve amendments updating additional language to the Bylaws of the Regents of New Mexico State University as presented. Second by Regent Sanchez. Motion passed.

7. Update on NMSU LEADS 2025, Chancellor Dan E. Arvizu, President John Floros
Chancellor Arvizu started the presentation of the update to the NMUS LEADS 2025 strategic plan by noting this item has been requested by the board for additional strategy, metrics, and target details. Chancellor Arvizu noted an effort to collect information from the NMSU community about the strategic plan to take a bottom-up approach to help in the formation of the plan details and as a result the presentation seen today has been updated with this feedback incorporated from the NMSU community. While more feedback is still needed, additional feedback will be collected as community colleges and other entities contribute additional goals and metrics.

President Floros continued the presentation by noting that the NMSU community input has been broad and included a committee of NMSU community representatives and public presentations in several locations with several constituencies. The goal is to start the new strategic plan in January 1, 2020. The mission, vision and goals provided to the board in January have not changed. Some objectives and actions have changed in response to feedback. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) have changed somewhat and metrics are similar to what has been presented previously, but this will likely change year over year as more is learned and goals are achieved. Dr. Lauren Goldstein, Vice President Renay Scott, Dean and Vice President Luis Cifuentes, and Interim Provost April Mason also presented on portions of the plan.

Dr. Goldstein noted how the analysis of input was conducted and highlighted major themes, noting specifically that certain input was discovered through the process while other input validated what was already understood. There were other categories of data that sought to note what was missing and input that reflected opportunities.

Regarding what was new, it was noted that there is a pervasive sense of optimism, noting the community colleges saw themselves in the bigger plan. With respect to research, community colleges may have a role in undergraduate research from an experiential learning perspective. The need for articulating student learning outcomes in a system-wide manner was noted. Reference to previously drafted system-wide student learning outcomes, last updated in 2013, was noted as a possible avenue to move forward with this need. Diversity and inclusion were mentioned with a recommendation to have a central point of contact or office. Finally, it was noted that each NMSU affiliate has the ability to "flip the narrative" about NMSU by focusing on the positive work and valuable resources that NMSU has to offer.

With respect to what was validated by the feedback, Dr. Goldstein noted that morale was an issue that was noted. More specifically defining the system identity, Aggie Identity, and Aggie Life were discussed. A desire to have more interdisciplinary degrees, alignment of promotion and tenure criteria to the strategic plan, the need for sustained dialog on the plan, and the needs for system-wide visionary leadership, as opposed to “check-the-box” management was discussed.

What was noting as being missing from the plan were specifics related to the topics of systemization of Alumni, Foundation, and Marketing and Communications functions. Separation of recruitment and retention targets, development of strategies to support international student enrollment, teaching loads and library materials, graduate tuition remission to support achieving R1 status, and evaluation of current advising model were also discussed.

Regarding opportunities, expanding undergraduate research at community colleges, sharing institutional data and developing a narrative around the data that supports the value proposition of the research and achievements of NMSU. Also mentioned where expansion of training for faculty and staff, development of a central events portal, a system wide climate survey, enable better visitor access to campus, and better operationalized and publicized definitions of terms in strategic plan, such as social mobility.

Regent Sanchez asked what the breakdown was for the types of audiences providing feedback and if themes were observed along those lines. Dr. Goldstein noted that for those completing the survey online there is data about what audience they represented, however the feedback from listening sessions were categorized as
belonging to that event from which the feedback provided.

Vice President Scott presented on KPIs for the NMSU LEADS 2025 plan. Focusing on Goal 1 of Enhancing Student Success and Social Mobility, Vice President Scott noted that the KPIs are Enrollment, Completion, Net Price, and Social Mobility (as measured by an index). Enrollment is being defined as enrollment and retention of students minus those that have graduated (completed). A chart showing the Fall 2018 baseline and projections out to Fall of 2025 and showed percentage increase targets and yearly rate and ranking targets as appropriate for that measure and included Headcount Enrollment, Retention Rate, Graduation Rate, and CollegeNET Ranking (a measure of Social Mobility).

President Floros highlighted three numbers in the chart, including the Fall 2025 projected Headcount of 16,500, the Fall 2025 4-year graduation rate of 36.5% and 6-year graduation rate of 56%. This was noted because as graduation rates increase, there is increased need for new student enrollment in order to achieve the 16,500-target overall student enrollment. So, in essence, because of the improvement of graduation rates, we would see headcounts in the range of 18,000 if using today's graduate rates.

Regent Hicks thanked Vice President Scott for her bold projections.

Chair Chacón-Reitzel recognized Regent Hicks for being awarded the Ingenieros Eminentes by the NMSU College of Engineering and noted that she is leaving the meeting to attend the awards reception and ceremony. Regent Hicks left the meeting at 2:44 PM.

Regent Sanchez asked for more detail about the CollegeNet ranking and how it is determined. Vice President Scott said it is made up of the tuition rate, number of students from family with net income less than $48,000, graduation rate, foundation endowment, and income after graduation (to see if it is more than $48,000 annually).

Regent Sanchez asked for clarification on the compensation after graduation to note if there are any time limitations on when that income is earned. Vice President Scott noted that it depends on the economy in the United States so the $48,000 is actually indexed to inflation so the amount may vary as that value is 150% of the poverty rate.

Dean and Vice President Cifuentes described what an R1 university is saying it was a research institution that spends more than 5 million dollars, does research, and produces doctoral students, of which there are about 260 currently. Tier 1 research universities are in the top 50% of this group. Dr. Cifuentes went on to explain that if you are Tier 1 and in the top 10% of the social mobility ranking, you are likely one of two institutions. Dr. Cifuentes noted it is bold to endeavor to be both R1 and high in social mobility ranking.

Dr. Cifuentes went on to explain why an R1 designation is important and described the prestige and ability to attract additional money for grants and philanthropy. If NMSU achieved similar research expenditures as in times past, that would not be enough to achieve R1 status. Rather, NMSU needs to make investments in both STEM and non-STEM research areas.

Chair Chacón-Reitzel asked about the availability of federal funds and how NMSU can work to get a greater share of this funding. Dr. Cifuentes indicated that NMSU is well positioned with the Physical Science Laboratory (PSL) and Agricultural research because federal funding in these areas is expected to be flat or increase over the near term. The key is to become competitive. Spending money on undergraduate student research, funding graduate students, and increase post-doctoral fellowships. Chancellor Arvizu commented that NMSU has a number of compelling assets upon which to build the research enterprise, including agriculture, energy, creative media, Spaceport collaborations, national security, and other partnerships in the state. Dr. Cifuentes continued by discussion extension and outreach, noting that as a land-grant university, NMSU has been involved in extension and outreach for a long time. The focus going forward is to enhance student success, research, and productivity. With the enhanced outreach, comes opportunity for enhanced economic development and intellectual property development activities.
Interim Provost Mason provided an overview about Goal 4 of NMSU LEADS 2025 which is building a robust university system. Dr. Mason emphasized the importance of quality faculty and staff that support the students and noted the role that satisfaction plays in ensuring retention of quality faculty and staff. Diversification of funding options to acquire resources should be an ongoing effort and those new resources and existing resources need to be strategically aligned to enhance productivity. For personnel assets, HR should conduct a climate survey to set a baseline for interventions to be measured against in future years. Productivity is essential and there are plans to develop a productivity index to aid with this process of enhancing productivity. Regarding compensation, work has already been done to align performance evaluations with the strategic plan by having employees identify at least one goal from NMSU LEADS 2025 in their position-specific goals for the coming year. It was noted that average salaries on campus are lower than peers and an ambitious target to increase average salary by 20% by 2025 based on strategic goal progress and achievement has been proposed.

Regarding resource development, Dr. Mason noted increased alumni engagement, dollars raised and increase in endowment, successful capital campaign conclusion and the beginning of a new capital campaign.

Regarding budget alignment and productivity, Dr. Mason noted that metrics will be in place to measure productivity based on allocations and targets.

Regent Devasthali asked about morale on campus, noting she has heard the morale on campus was not great. Other than salary, what can NMSU do to help with morale of faculty? President Floros noted that communication and being part of the decision process is important. President Floros also noted that when new faculty come onboard that they need to be given the training and welcome to feel like they are part of the NMSU community and have all the resources they need to succeed. This includes a promotion and tenure process and merit compensation increases that awards high performing faculty. There are other benefits, such as the recently approved increase in annual leave to 21 days that will help the staff.

Chair Chacón-Reitzel commented that there are many opportunities and she sees the gratitude that everyone has for NMSU and there is a strong belief in NMSU. Chair Chacón-Reitzel mentioned professional development opportunities to enhance job satisfaction and performance and welcomed faculty input about how to better address these challenges.

Regent Sanchez noted that many faculty and staff are already doing many activities that align with NMSU LEADS 2025 and recalled the gratitude that students expressed during the Outstanding Graduate Luncheon held today for the work of the faculty in helping students achieve their goals.

Faculty Senate Chair Corran noted that there is optimism and noted that if the faculty voices are included in discussions going forward, as they have been over the past few months, particularly regarding recognition of the diverse types of contributions that faculty make to teaching, research and service, then faculty will come along willingly, recognizing the belief in the shared mission and belief in the students.

Regent Sanchez moved to approve the NMSU LEADS 2025 strategic plan with a second by Regent Devasthali. Regent Hicks was not present to vote. Motion passed.

H. **Informational Items, Chair Dina Chacón-Reitzel**

1. **Chancellor’s Report, Chancellor Dan E. Arvizu**

Chancellor Arvizu announced the Dr. Mónica Torres will the 10th President of Doña Ana Community College.

Chancellor Arvizu also announced that Dr. Ruth A. Johnston has been named as New Mexico State University’s new strategic chief financial officer. She most recently served as Vice Chancellor for the University of Washington Bothell Planning and Administration. She will begin her new job at NMSU Sept. 1.
2. **President’s Report, President John Floros**

President Floros noted that the Provost search is underway and there are three candidates that will be coming to campus for interviews. President Floros noted that 2,000 NMSU Las Cruces students and 800 students from our community colleges will graduate this weekend and he sends the graduates and their families his congratulations.

3. **Informational Report Summarizing Revisions to the Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU (ARP) for the period 02/19/2019 through 04/12/2019, General Counsel Lizbeth G. Ellis, J.D.**

General Counsel Ellis referenced the submitted written report, noting that each regular meeting a report summarizing changes to the Administrative Rules and Procedures is submitted to the board.

General Counsel Ellis announced that this is the last regular meeting of the board of regents that she will be attending as General Counsel as she will be retiring effective July 1st. Chair Chacón-Reitzel thanked General Counsel Ellis for her service.

I. **Announcements and Comments, Chair Dina Chacón-Reitzel**

1. “Gun’s Up” – Good News for NMSU!

Regent Sanchez congratulated all of the NMSU graduates that are graduating this weekend.

Employee Council Chair Sonia White congratulated all the DACC and NMSU graduates.

ASNMSU President Linda Cisneros thanked Regent Sanchez for his work as a regent and making himself available in the office for students to visit with him. President Cisneros also thanked the General Counsel Office for their help with the policy revisions that the office helped to put together that were approved today. President Cisneros congratulated the graduates for their accomplishments.

Chair Corran congratulated President Cisneros and the graduates. Chair Corran also thanked Provost Mason for her service to NMSU.

President Floros thanked Provost Mason for her leadership and service to NMSU. President Floros also thanked Liz Ellis for her service, tenacity, and passion in service to NMSU.

Chair Chacón-Reitzel thanked Provost Mason for her service. She also thanked the County Extension Service for working to make arrangements for the Horse School to have the event at NMSU Las Cruces because the state fairgrounds were not available to host the event this year.

Chancellor Arvizu thanked members of the NMSU community that have volunteered to assist the asylum seekers that are in the region. Chancellor Arvizu also congratulated the students that are graduating this weekend. Chancellor Arvizu thanked General Counsel Ellis for her service, noting her passion, commitment, and integrity in serving NMSU.

Regent Sanchez also wanted to congratulate the Aggies without Limits program, Dean Sonya Cooper, Lucas Rivera who helped build shelters for asylum seekers which was a positive form of outreach but also provided valuable experience to students.

J. **Adjournment, Chair Dina Chacón-Reitzel**

Meeting adjourned at 3:29 PM.
Meeting Minutes Approved on September 4, 2019 by the New Mexico State University Board of Regents.

Dina Chacón-Reitzel
Board of Regents Chair

Luke Sanchez
Board of Regents Secretary/Treasurer