MINUTES

1. Introductions and opening statements

Chairwoman Chacón-Reitzel could not attend the meeting in person due to inclement weather. Chairwoman Chacón-Reitzel called into the meeting but the audio quality was poor. Vice Chairwoman Devasthali presided over the meeting. Vice Chairwoman Devasthali called the meeting to order at 5:46 PM.

Each participant briefly introduced themselves by name and organization.

2. Strategic Plan Review

Chancellor Arvizu provided a presentation and overview of the NMSU LEADS 2025 Strategic Plan highlighting the four goals of the plan, including 1) Enhance Student Success and Social Mobility 2) Elevate Research and Creativity 3) Amplify Extension and Outreach, and 4) Build a Robust University System

   a. Enrollment
Chancellor Arvizu presented a chart that showed a decrease in NMSU System Fall Census Unduplicated Student Headcount from Fall 2010 to Fall 2018 and noted a slight increase in enrollment from Fall 2018 to Fall 2019 which he described as enrollment stabilization. Chancellor Arvizu reflected on the enrollment in context of a challenging enrollment environment in New Mexico, with most other schools seeing decreases in enrollment in the state. Additional challenges noted a decrease in the number of high school graduates across the state, despite year over year improvements in graduation rates.

Chancellor Arvizu presented additional data about Community College headcount enrollment across the system's four community college campuses. Chancellor Arvizu highlighted the steady enrollment figures for NMSU Carlsbad from Fall 2010 to Fall 2019 and a 7.3% increase in NMS Carlsbad enrollment from Fall 2018 to Fall 2019. Chancellor Arvizu compared this headcount enrollment data to Full Time Equivalency (FTE) enrollment data which showed NMSU Carlsbad enrollment essentially unchanged from Fall 2018 to Fall 2019.

Chancellor Arvizu presented additional enrollment data for NMSU Carlsbad which highlighted the distribution of FTEs among students physically attending the campus, Dual Credit Students, and student taking a class at NMSU Carlsbad but may reside or primarily attend another NMSU campus. It was noted that these are typically online students. The relative increase in Dual Credit students was noted over the period of time from Fall 2012 to Fall 2019 ranging from 232 to 415 FTE respectively. Likewise, it was noted that Headcount enrollment had increased from about 25% dual credit in Fall 2011 to 50% in Fall 2019.

Going forward, Chancellor Arvizu noted the need for continually evaluating if the academic programs are meeting local workforce needs and continued outreach to the community in order to collaborate to meet local needs. In conclusion, Chancellor Arvizu highlighted opportunities and next steps for NMSU Carlsbad, including a search process for the next NMSU Carlsbad President. Executing on the Strategic Plan, achieving the plan's objectives, and setting and achieving multi-year performance target will be a focus on ongoing efforts.

President Gratton provided a copy of the NMSU Carlsbad Strategic Plan to everyone in attendance. President Gratton added that while there have been ups and downs in the enrollment over the years, there is continuous need to respond to changing circumstances to recapture enrollment declines. In relation to programs of study, NMSU Carlsbad Administration including Vice President Andrew Nwanne and Vice President Karla Volpi have worked with the Permian Strategic Partnership, including a natural gas compression program that started this year, and a petroleum technology program that is being developed.

b. Early College High School

It was noted by President Gratton that the Early College High School in Carlsbad has become an example of best practice and received many accolades for their performance to this point. In respect to new programs, Director of Secondary Education Eric Spencer noted that some aspects of industry are cyclical and being able to repurpose facilities is important. Other long-term needs like health and education are less cyclical and require pathways that can be used to grow your own professionals in these areas. Regent Hicks asked about some ideas that are being discussed to address this pathway.

Superintendent Gerry Washburn described some ideas about a pathway that would start students out
in internships for teaching with the intent of having students becoming classroom-ready in three years. There were reports of a high level of interest in this pathway among current high school students.

A career pathway study will be conducted for the Carlsbad Municipal Schools by the Southern Region Education Board in March.

It was noted that there is strong commitment from the NMSU Carlsbad faculty for making sure grading is done in a timely manner and cooperating with the school district in significant ways.

c. Facilities

Additional discussion occurred regarding petroleum strategic partnership regarding next steps, including a potential energy building on campus. Dialog will continue and NMSU Carlsbad will follow-up.

Chancellor Arvizu noted an array of Capital Outlay requests that are going forward in the upcoming legislative session. It was noted that every educational institution in the state has capital needs and it’s important to develop these strategic relationships going forward with private partners.

It was noted that there are shared facilities with NMSU Carlsbad and Carlsbad Municipals Schools, such as in automotive technology. There was a statement of interest in working with the university on an accreditation with ASC for the Automotive Technology Certification.

President Gratton noted the strong desire for student housing on campus, energy building, and parking improvements. Regents Hicks noted the importance of the landscaping and terracing so that the parking is not just blacktop in front of the building.

There was some discussion of secondary access to the campus and some plans were discussed with the city about potential options. Funding through grants through the DOT and school district was discussed as a possibility.

There was some discussion of new facilities for a STEM lab and some follow-up is needed to move forward with the project.

President Gratton noted that the 70th Anniversary of NMSU Carlsbad will be sometime this April. It was noted that NMSU Carlsbad is the oldest continuously operating Community College in New Mexico.

Those in attendance noted their strong support for the leadership of President Gratton and noted hopes that a strong relationship can continue between NMSU Carlsbad and the school system.
3. Adjournment
Meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM

Meeting Minutes Approved on January 24, 2020 by the New Mexico State University Board of Regents

Dina Chacón-Reitzel
Board of Regents Chair

Luke Sanchez
Board of Regents Secretary/Treasurer

Minutes for January 16, 2020