



**NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
December 9, 2021 at 2:00pm**

Regents of New Mexico State University

Chair Ammu Devasthali, Vice Chair Dina Chacón-Reitzel, Secretary/Treasurer Arsenio Romero, Christopher T. Saucedo, Neal Bitsie

Non-Voting Advisory Members - ASNMSU President Mathew Madrid, Faculty Senate Chair Julia Parra, Employee Council Chair Joseph Almaguer

University Officials - Chancellor Dan E. Arvizu, Ph.D., President John D. Floros, Ph.D., Acting Provost Renay Scott, Ph.D., Vice Chancellor Ruth A. Johnston, Ph.D., Senior Vice President Andrew Burke, Ed.D., General Counsel Roy Collins III, J.D.

MINUTES

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

A. Call to Order, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

The Board of Regents met in the Board Room of the Educational Services Center at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, New Mexico on May 14 2021. Chairwoman Devasthali called the meeting to order at 2:00pm.

Pledge of Allegiance, Cadet Kabel Brooks

Cadet Kabel Brooks lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Cadet Brooks is studying criminal justice and is in the Army ROTC.

1. Confirmation of Quorum, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

The Chief of Staff confirmed the quorum and took the roll call.

Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali, Regent Dina Chacón-Reitzel, Regent Arsenio Romero, Regent Neal Bitsie, Regent Christopher Saucedo, Chancellor Dan Arvizu, President John Floros and Vice President Andy Burke were present in the Board room.

Virtually present were:

Vice Chancellor Ruth Johnston

General Counsel Roy Collins

ASNMSU President Matthew Madrid

Faculty Senate Chair Julia Parra

Employee Council Chair Joseph Almaguer

2. Approval of the Agenda, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

Regent Romero motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Regent Chacón-Reitzel seconded the motion. All were in favor and none opposed. Motion passed.

3. Public Comment, Associate Vice President Justin Bannister

Associate Vice President Bannister reported that there were several people signed up for public comment. Associate Vice President Bannister reminded everyone that public comment is meant as an opportunity for the community to provide input to the Board of Regents, comments should be kept to a 3-minute maximum to provide time for everyone, and that he will let them know when they have 30 seconds remaining.

Associate Vice President Bannister introduced the first person, Brad Hansen.

Brad Hansen stated, "Good afternoon fellow Aggies. My name is Brad and I'm a graduate worker employed and under contract with NMSU. I serve as the instructor of record for regional geography. I come before you today as a valuable member of our community, who has been disrespected and neglected by current administrative leaders like President Flores, Provost Parker and Dean Cifuentes. As a member, Graduate Workers United, my concerns go beyond the current turmoil surrounding the vote of no confidence for President Flores and Provost Parker. NMSU has a repetitive history of firing and hiring people who demonstrate substandard leadership. The appointment of Renay Scott as Interim Provost suggests this history is repeating itself, yet again. I ask you, as fellow aggies committed to our shared mission, to come together and stop the cycle of poor leadership. Everyone on this board has an impressive resume of service and initiative. The decisions that NMSU administrators are making in your name do not reflect what I have read about each of you. Currently, NMSU is putting valuable resources towards fighting our right to bargain with them for fair and just compensation. They have claimed that we are not workers. This means that they inaccurately think we do not serve a crucial function. In three semesters, I have been responsible for instructing over 180 undergraduate students and mentoring 2 teaching assistants. Soon, I will begin research that NMSU will benefit from. I am an active community member who participates in trash pickups and betters our community. Multiply that by 960 and you start to get an idea of what graduate workers bring to NMSU, Las Cruces and the state of New Mexico. After the state Labor Board ruled that graduate workers in the state of New Mexico could unionize and bargain for better working conditions, NMSU, under your board's name, hired a lawyer to argue that the State's Board's ruling only applied to UNM graduate workers and NMSU graduate workers were "not equivalent." Words can't express the anger and hurt that these actions have caused. Someone who works in Hadley Hall gave me these. They are three tokens worth one free drink. She gave them to me after hearing Chancellor Arvizu ask why NMSU is spending valuable resources fighting our right to bargain with them. We are fighting so hard to sit down and negotiate better working conditions, because all his graduate workers are living below the federal poverty line and barely hanging on. One colleague of mine, who was forced to pay for substandard health insurance through NMSU, was denied access to the care he needed down the road. He ended up having to receive treatment in Mexico. Another colleague of mine cannot get access to the healthcare services she needs because, like most of us, she cannot afford the marketplace insurance programs we qualify for since we have to pay tuition. I almost went bankrupt when I got bitten by a rattlesnake last year because I was uninsured. We don't need drinks. We need you to fire your lawyer and abide by the State Labor Board's ruling, so we can work together to improve, not just our conditions, but the conditions of our university. Thank you."

Associate Vice President Bannister introduced the next person to give public comment, Brayson Stemock.

Brayson Stemock stated, "Hi members of the Board. My name is Brayson Stemock. I'm a third-year astronomy Ph.D. student. I served as a teaching assistant for 2 years and I'm now a research student on external fellowship from the National Science Foundation. I'm here today because I, like a lot of other people, would like to urge you to cease interference in the legal case for recognition of the Graduate Student Union because at the protest Chancellor Arvizu came out and spoke with us. He mentioned that it's important that we offer competitive salaries and I completely agree that we want NMSU to be an R1 institution. All of us

here love working at NMSU. We want NMSU to be better, not just to find a different institution. But, can we really say that we need to offer competitive salaries when our graduate students live below the federal poverty line? We had a town hall, where we discussed graduate issues with a number of grads across the entire university and we asked, "please raise your hand if you've ever actively discouraged a prospective student from attending NMSU for financial reasons." Every hand in the room went up. This isn't because we don't want people to come to NMSU. We love working here. We love the research we do. We love being able to serve the community and to serve the undergraduates that we teach and that we mentor. But the fact of the matter is, domestic students are unable to afford any sort of proper health insurance. We have to pay tuition. We had around 80% of graduate students unemployed at some point during the 2020 summer and international students can't get another job because of the way their visa's work it's not financially feasible for graduate students to choose to come to NMSU if they're given another option. So, if we want to push to be an R1 institution, we need to offer salary. We need to offer proper working conditions, so that students aren't skipping meals, just to make ends meet. Students are leaving the country to find any sort of proper health care. So, I urge you, please, fire your union busting lawyer, that is acting in your name as the NMSU Board of Regents, that is on this legal case. And instead, let us go through this legal process. It was ruled in August that we are public employees under the public bargaining act by the State Labor Board. It was not specified that UNM graduate workers fall under this, but all graduate students in New Mexico. So please, allow us to run our course, recognize our union, and commit to bargain with us for better working conditions."

Associate Vice President Bannister introduced the next person to give public comment, Kelsie Field.

Kelsie Field stated, "Thank you. Hello members of the Board. My name is Kelsie and I am a second-year graduate student at NMSU in the fish wildlife and conservation ecology department. In my 2 years at NMSU, I have been told countless times how meaningful the graduate students are to this institution and how much we bring to the table. How useful we are. How good we are at teaching classes. How critical we are to pushing NMSU forward and beyond. While these things are really nice to hear, let me be very blunt, NMSU graduate students are not treated as if these statements are true. Many graduate students do not get fair and just compensation. Graduate students do not get full tuition remission. International students are not guaranteed employment through the summer. Something that has impacted me personally is the fact that NMSU does not offer subsidized health insurance for graduate students. So, this past year, I found out that I had a bone tumor in my foot. I am a field researcher. I research fish, so, I am hiking constantly. This is a big deal for me. Between my surgery, x-rays, MRIs, doctors' visits, my incredibly awful insurance, which was the cheapest insurance I could find because I had to pay tuition and I can't afford better health insurance, my costs have been astronomical. If you want NMSU to be known as an institution that takes advantage of its graduate students, okay fine. If not, it's time for NMSU to take some steps to address these issues immediately. It's time for them to assert the same conduct that graduate students, student workers are afforded. I implore you to recognize our union and meet us at the bargaining table now. Thank you."

Associate Vice President Bannister introduced the next person to give public comment, Matthew Varakian.

Matthew Varakian stated, "Hello members of the Board. My name is Matt Varakian. I'm a fourth-year graduate student in the NMSU astronomy program. Like some of my colleagues, I'd like to use this opportunity to speak about graduate working conditions at NMSU and the administration's response to the graduate worker union. Graduate workers at NMSU provide labor that without which the university would cease to function. We teach. We do research. We write grants. Some graduate workers are the instructor of record for their courses and taking on the same teaching, grading and curriculum development roles as full professors. NMSU works because we do. We are an invaluable resource for the undergraduate community, faculty and the university as a whole, yet we are not compensated as such. NMSU graduate workers make minimal wages, are still required to pay tuition, and don't receive employee healthcare. Before taking tuition out of our salaries we are paid \$10,000 below the living wage in Las Cruces. After paying tuition, we are paid below the federal poverty line. Add other costs like healthcare, rent, food, it becomes clear this level of

compensation is not tenable. Compare this level of compensation to our peer institutions and we're usually at the bottom of the barrel. Compared to R1 institutions, a status that NMSU has prioritized attaining, it is completely and utterly abysmal. If NMSU wants to achieve R1 status as a high output university, then it needs to start compensating its researchers like an R1 university. To address these issues, the graduate students at NMSU have unionized. We submitted our union cards in May and in August the State Labor Board ruled that all graduate workers in the state of New Mexico are considered public and regular employees and therefore have the right to collectively bargain with their employer. Yet many months later, NMSU still refuses to acknowledge the validity of our Union and has neglected to meet us at the bargaining table. I'm here to speak on behalf of the graduate worker union and say that we have waited long enough. I call on the board of regents to commit to negotiating with the graduate worker Union there by recognizing its legitimacy. Commit to improving this university by prioritizing the people that it cannot run without and allow us to exercise our right to have a say in the conditions that dictate our lives, thank you."

Associate Vice President Bannister introduced the next person for public comment, Maura Hehir.

Maura Hehir stated, "I'm Maura Hehir. I'm an MFA fiction student. I'm a first-year graduate assistant and I just want to reiterate what my colleagues have been saying. I feel like my life is marked by the feeling of complete financial instability and not knowing if I'll be able to make ends meet from week to week. This is my first year and I have no idea what I'm going to do in the summer or how I'm going to afford to live or save up in order to contribute to my tuition costs or any kind of emergency fund in case anything happens to me health wise, as has happened to many of my colleagues. I just want to reiterate that it's unacceptable we're put in such a precarious position as workers for the university. I'm here to call on the Board of Regents to recognize our union and meet us at the bargaining table so we can work together to fix these issues."

Associate Vice President Bannister introduced the next person for public comment, Joshua Tise.

Joshua Tise stated, "Thank you. My name is Joshua Tise. I am a first-year poetry MFA student. I just want to echo what so many of my incredibly eloquent peers have been saying. The fact that this university, after tuition, leaves us below the federal poverty line, to me is just simply unacceptable. I am incredibly lucky to still be able to be on my parents' health insurance this year, but that's not going to last me the entire length of my time here either. So, I want to join all of my peers in calling for the Board of Regents to meet us at the bargaining table to stop stall tactics. NMSU only works because we do. I know that when I was making my choice to come here, I was really torn because other universities were able to offer me more. But, I wanted to serve this community. I wanted to be a part of the faculty and the students at this institution. I want to make sure that future students feel like they are able to make that choice with a clear conscience and without having to worry about how they are going to be able to live here as well, thank you very much."

Associate Vice President Bannister introduced the next person for public comment, Liam Goodale.

Liam Goodale stated, "Hello Board. My name is Liam. I am a molecular biology student. It's my third semester here. I started during the onset of the pandemic. I haven't seen what it was like before that, so it's been a weird experience so far. It's been hard to adjust just moving here to NMSU. I haven't prepared my remarks and I don't have the same kind of story that a lot of other people do. I'm fortunate enough to have family in the area, so I don't struggle to pay rent. They cook me meals. But, I work with people who aren't in the same situation as I am. I see the kind of difficult decisions they have to make. Many of them have family on the other side of the globe. It's not easy. They don't have the kind of support that I do and a few others do as well. I want to say that I hope you all do the right thing and recognize what they go through. Before I came here, I went to wealthy schools in Boston. I didn't see any of my TAs or faculty members really struggling like some do down here. We're a lot more fortunate there. It's been a tough reality to see that people I work with every day don't have the same kind of stability to go home to and many of them work twice as hard as I do. I think that they deserve to be recognized and treated as equals. Thank you."

Associate Vice President Bannister introduced the next person for public comment, Jamie Bronstein.

Jamie Bronstein stated, "I am Jamie Bronstein from the history department. I am here to support the graduate students in their request that the Board of Regents take seriously the idea of dropping the legal obstacles to the card count for the students and the certification of their union. The Public Employee Bargaining Act does not exclude university graduate workers from the classes of workers have the right to collectively bargain. The State Labor Board decided in favor of graduate students right to bargain when the question of UNM's graduate workers can before them. Let's look at the concrete issues that graduate workers have raised. First of all, tuition remission. Top universities remit or excuse or give back tuition for funded graduate students. NMSU cannot compete in the same marketplace for graduate students because it's one of the only universities that doesn't provide tuition remission. When graduate students have to pay for tuition out of their already insufficient wages, they're left without the ability to feed themselves and their families. As late as 2013, NMSU offered health insurance to graduate workers. I found a document online that indicated that all teaching assistants, research assistants, and graduate assistants employed by student services and other units on campus were covered with 70% of the costs of health insurance being paid by NMSU. So graduate assistants only had to cover the remaining 30% through payroll deductions. That was discontinued with the advent of Obamacare, but now US graduate students have to foot the entire cost of their health insurance and as you've heard, they find the health care that is available to them on the exchanges to be insufficient in as well as being expensive. None of the goals of the graduate workers through their Union are inconsistent with NMSU LEADS 2025 goals of achieving our one status or, indeed, promoting social mobility. So, it's unclear to me, as a faculty member who has been here since 1996, and knows just how crucial graduate students are to the running of this university, why we're attempting to block unionization, sending the message that graduate workers are not worthy of our support. Thank you."

Associate Vice President Bannister introduced the next person for public comment, Cynthia Pelak.

Cynthia Pelak stated, "Good afternoon, to the Regents, Chancellor, President, and to each of you participating in this meeting. It is a joy to be with you. My name is Cynthia Pelak and I'm a proud Aggie faculty member in my 12th year of service. First, I'd like to start by acknowledging that we gather today on the unseeded indigenous lands of the Monzo people and the homelands of many native peoples, including the Apache, Dene, and Pueblo peoples stretching back over 20,000 years. I would also like to thank the Board of Regents for the opportunity to share my comments. My primary purpose is to express my solidarity and support for the demands of the NMSU graduate students united, who are acting boldly to shape their future and the future of this great institution. As a first-generation college student, myself, I can say with confidence that if it were not for the robust material resources at my graduate institution, the Ohio State University, I would not be in a position today to speak as a proud faculty member. Specifically, I would like to comment about the importance of recognizing all workers at NMSU for their contributions to building a robust university. Currently, as an institution we do a great job recognizing the years of service of regularized employees. But, when it comes to acknowledging the contributions of non-regularized employees, whether that our students, staff, or faculty members, we fall short in expressing the full dignity of these workers. As Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. stated in his mountain top speech delivered in support of striking sanitation workers in Memphis Tennessee, "All Labor has dignity." I think we would all agree that all paid workers at NMSU have dignity and that dignity requires a recognition of their contributions to the institution. I would like to call on the Board of Regents to recognize NMSU graduate students as employees and to start acknowledging the years of service and dignity of all NMSU non-regularized employees who are essential for the good functioning of this institution. I thank you for your attention and I wish everyone a happy holiday season."

Associate Vice President Bannister introduced the next person for public comment, Christopher Brown.

Christopher Brown stated, "Madam Chair, members of the Board, Chancellor Arvizu, President Floros, thank you for this time to share a few comments today. These are some tough acts to follow, but I'll do my best. My name is Christopher Brown. I'm a full professor in the geography department and co-director of a small sponsored projects research lab and both the former chair of Faculty Senate and former department head.

Today, I also speak in strong support of the effort by NMSU graduate students to form a union and be recognized by NMSU. I share three simple points to support their effort. Point one, graduate research assistants are literally the lifeblood of NMSU's research efforts and they're core players in our efforts to achieve R1. RAs work in our labs and in the field to do the work that external sponsors fund us to do. They assist us in report generation and in some cases, they write grants that bring external funds to NMSU to support our research efforts. Point two, they're key in the efforts to teach our students in advanced student success. Graduate TAs conduct lab sections, grade students' work, provide support in the labs, and as some of our students have noted, are teachers of record in classes they teach and are the first contact students have when seeking assistance. Quite simply, students identify and connect better to TAs than many faculty members. We simply could not teach our classes and advance student success without them. Point three, they're employees. Period. Both TAs and RAs are given direct guidance on work we asked them to do. They are held accountable for their work and we pay them for their efforts. The hourly wage they make is reasonable, but in many cases, we then take back a good portion of their wages to pay for tuition and health insurance. NMSU policy mandates we include requests for funds to cover tuition and health insurance in our proposals for external funding, but not all project sponsors were allowed these items and TAs are certainly left out in the cold. These students have dropped the cards. They've secured the support they need. The progress on advancing a graduate student union is now in the hands of the state of New Mexico Public Employees Relations Board. I urge you in the strongest terms possible, not to stand in their way. Rather, I ask you to agree to have smart, frank, respectful, and I hope mutually beneficial conversations about meeting their needs that true their unionization effort. Thank you for your time."

Associate Vice President Bannister reported that that concludes public comment.

B. Approval of the Minutes, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

- 1. Regular Meeting May 14, 2021**
- 2. Regular Meeting September 16, 2021**
- 3. Special Meeting October 11, 2021**
- 4. Special Meeting October 25, 2021**
- 5. Regents' Retreat November 4-5, 2021**
- 6. Special Meeting November 5, 2021**

Regent Chacón-Reitzel made a motion to approve all minutes. Regent Saucedo seconded the motion. All were in favor and none were opposed. Motion passed.

7. Confirmation of Prior Closed Executive Session November 5, 2021

The Board of Regents met in closed executive session at 1:15pm on November 5, 2021 at New Mexico Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum in Las Cruces New Mexico. The closed executive session meeting was held to discuss the purchase and disposal of real property pending litigation and personnel matters in accordance with NMSA section 10-15-1 subsections (H8), (H7), and (H2). Those members of the board, who were present, were asked to certify by roll call that only matters of that nature were discussed.

Members certified by roll call that only matters of that nature were discussed, including: Regent Devasthali, Regent Chacón-Reitzel, Regent Romero, Regent Saucedo, and Regent Bitsie.

C. Awards and Recognitions, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

1. Proclamation recognizing exceptional service provided by our front-line NMSU employees during the Coronavirus pandemic, Chancellor Dan E. Arvizu

Chancellor Arvizu read the proclamation recognizing the exceptional service provided by NMSU front-line employees during the Coronavirus pandemic.

“WHEREAS, for much of 2020 and continuing on into 2021, New Mexico State University faced challenges and unknown risks due to COVID-19 and the resulting pandemic; and

WHEREAS, many New Mexico State University employees were identified as frontline and onsite workers, required to work on campus buildings and various locations throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, these frontline and onsite workers were asked to continue working on site and in the field in order to provide ongoing service to our students, faculty, staff and our community; and

WHEREAS, these employees accepted the increased risks from their jobs and showed up daily to provide critical services; and

WHEREAS, these employees demonstrated their commitment to serving New Mexico State University; and

WHEREAS, the Administration of New Mexico State University recognizes the significant work and sacrifices of our frontline and onsite employees and are especially grateful for their service.

NOW, Therefore, Be It Proclaimed in official session that the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University thanks and commends our frontline and onsite NMSU employees for their dedicated service.

Proclaimed this 9th day of December 2021, at Las Cruces, New Mexico.”

2. Proclamation recognizing Andrew Burke for his service as Senior Vice President of Administration and Finance, President John D. Floros

President Floros read the proclamation recognizing Dr. Burke’s service as Senior Vice President of Administration and Finance.

WHEREAS, Andrew J. Burke, will retire on December 31, 2021 as senior vice president for Administration and Finance having served with distinction since June 17, 2017; and

WHEREAS, he has been a good steward of the financial and physical resources during his time here at NMSU. Examples include the successful close of the 2019 A and B Series Bonds resulting in significant cost savings, and the disbursement of Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund; and

WHEREAS, Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham appointed Dr. Burke to the New Mexico Finance Authority in 2019, which was created by the New Mexico Legislature in 1992 to finance infrastructure projects for the state’s counties, cities, and certain departments of state government as well as served as chair of the NMFA Audit Committee; and

WHEREAS, he served as a board member on Arrowhead Center, Inc., where he contributed greatly to the success of Arrowhead, serving as Treasurer for several years and ensuring sound financial management and strategies; and

WHEREAS, he served as co-chair on the Phase 1 budget realignment initiative leading efforts for a system-wide cost savings; and

WHEREAS, he served as a champion and co-chair of LEADS 2025 goal four team: Build a Robust University System; and its efforts are resulting in a better university for us all; and

WHEREAS, he served in various positions at DACC for 30 years before retiring in 2014, including being the

longest servicing vice president for business and finance where he was responsible for business and finance but also facilities, information technology and human resources; and

WHEREAS, he also served twice as that campus interim president and chief executive officer, which included overseeing the completion of a self-study report for the Higher Learning Commission comprehensive site visit and subsequent institutional accreditation; and

WHEREAS, NMSU President John Floros has said: “Every member of the NMSU Community has benefitted from the depth and breadth of Dr. Burke’s knowledge and experience. His fiscally sound guidance during our recent lean times leaves us on a solid footing for the future, and we are deeply grateful for his contributions to NMSU.”; and

WHEREAS, he was raised in Las Cruces, New Mexico and graduated from Las Cruces High School; and

WHEREAS, he earned a bachelor’s in business administration with honors, a master’s in accounting, and a doctorate in educational administration from NMSU; and

NOW, Therefore, Be It Proclaimed in official session that the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University thanks and commends Andrew J. Burke for his dedicated service and wishes great success in his future endeavors.

Proclaimed this 9th day of December 2021, at Las Cruces, New Mexico.”

3. Proclamation in memory of Bob Porter, Regent Dina Chacón-Reitzel

Chairwoman Devasthali recognized Brenda Porter, John Hudson, and Chad Smith who were present as guests for the proclamation from the board in memory of Bob Porter.

Regent Chacón-Reitzel read the proclamation.

“WHEREAS, Bob “B.J.” Porter came from humble beginnings to become a legend in New Mexico’s agriculture industry; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Porter was the first in his Hatch Valley farming family to attend college, enrolling at what was then called New Mexico A&M to study soil science and play basketball; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Porter began his Aggie Basketball career as a walk-on and finished it as a four-year letterman and team captain; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Porter was named Distinguished ROTC Military Student and was a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Porter earned his bachelor’s degree in soil science in 1951 and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force upon his graduation, serving during the Korean Conflict and later being promoted to captain as a reservist; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Porter joined the Doña Ana County Farm Bureau in 1955, an organization he served for 15 years, where he administered the state’s largest bracero program; and

WHEREAS, he went on to lead the New Mexico Farm and Livestock Bureau, where he made innumerable contributions to agriculture in the state through his advocacy and tireless work to protect the livelihoods of his fellow New Mexico farmers and ranchers; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Porter was a proud Aggie and a lifelong supporter of New Mexico State University, serving as president of the NMSU Alumni Association and a member of the NMSU Foundation Board and Aggie Athletic Association; and

WHEREAS, he was also honored as an NMSU College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences

Distinguished Alumni, an NMSU Centennial 100 Outstanding Ag Graduate, and a James F. Cole Award recipient; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Porter was generous in supporting students financially, creating the Bob Porter Endowed Scholarship for plant and environmental sciences students and the Bob Porter and Brenda Porter Point Guard Endowment for student-athletes with his daughter.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED in official session that the Board of Regents recognizes, celebrates, and honors Bob “B.J.” Porter’s work to advance agriculture in New Mexico and support the students of this university.

PROCLAIMED, this 9th day of December, 2021, in Las Cruces, New Mexico.”

Brenda Porter commented that her Dad was truly the land grant recipient. He came from poor economic conditions in rural New Mexico. He was able to get a little sears and roebuck scholarships to go to NMSU, where he got two degrees. He played ball and participated in ROTC. Ultimately, he gave back to the university in his service in agriculture in New Mexico. Brenda Porter continued by saying, “I appreciate you all recognizing and what can I say, Go Aggies!”

Chad Smith commented that it was an honor to be present. Mr. Porter left a legacy within Farm Bureau that will go on for years. Chad Smith continued by saying, “I have to fill those shoes and I hope I can leave a legacy like Mr. Porter did. He was a mentor of mine, so I’m deeply going to miss him. Well deserved and thank you for the opportunity.”

Secretary Witte stated that he met Mr. Porter in July of 1986. Dean John Owens asked him to interview and meet Mr. Porter for a job opening as Director of Governmental Affairs at the Farm Bureau. He worked for Mr. Porter for many years and learned a lot from him. Mr. Porter told him, “Our job is to make people better. Our job is to come up with good ideas.” Mr. Porter always wanted the best for everything and was a strong advocate for NMSU. Secretary Witte stated that in 1994 he had the opportunity to either take Mr. Porter’s position upon his retirement or take his current position. Mr. Porter encouraged him to take the Secretary position and said that he would do more for agriculture as a future Secretary. Mr. Porter prolonged his retirement by a year so that Secretary Witte could change course in his career. Secretary Witte stated, “We need to think about his vision and create the best for the best because he was the best.”

Regent Chacón-Reitzel stated that in the story that Secretary Witte was describing, Mr. Porter had called her in 1994 and asked her to run the association. However, she decided to stay at the Beef Council because she had two young babies. Regent Chacón-Reitzel was very honored to have been asked that by Mr. Porter. He was somebody that everyone aspired to be. They loved and respected him. Regent Chacón-Reitzel continued by saying, “I’ve always remembered that call that one late afternoon when he asked me. I didn’t go on to do that, but I always thought, ‘If Bob Porter thought enough of me to ask me to run the association, then that meant something to me and it always will. When he passed, I was sad. He was a wonderful agriculturalist. He will be greatly missed by this state, this city, and New Mexico agriculture. Thank you for coming today and being a wonderful daughter to Bob Porter.”

D. Regent Committee Reports

1. Real Estate Committee Report, Regent Dina Chacón-Reitzel

Regent Chacón-Reitzel reported that The Regents Real Estate Committee met once since the last regular meeting of the Board of Regents on November 10, 2021. The current lease agreement with the USDA Forest Service in Clayton, NM is near the end of its term, which is on December 31, 2021. NMSU has been operating a 320-acre parcel through a special use permit. The committee recommended that consideration of a renewal of this agreement be brought before the full board, which is on the agenda as G8.

Other items were presented by Facilities and Services and are being brought forward today as items G4 through G7. These improvement projects are documented in your binder and include information about project budgets and timelines.

2. Audit and Risk Committee Report, Regent Ammu Devasthali

Regent Devasthali reported that the Regents Audit and Risk Committee met on October 27, 2021 since the last report to the Board. During the meeting, Moss Adams gave a presented the exit conference for the annual financial statement audit and are waiting for permission from the office of the state auditor to bring the final report to the board sometime in early 2022. Vice President Burke presented the composite financial index and acknowledged the work that the team had done in collaboration with Moss Adams on the financial statements. The proposed date for the next Regents Audit and Risk Committee is February 23.

3. Financial Strategies, Performance and Budget Committee Report, Regent Christopher Saucedo

Regent Saucedo reported that the Regents Finance Strategies Performance and Budget committee met once since that last meeting on November 8, 2021. The mid-year budget adjustment revision (or BAR) for the fiscal year was presented by Senior Vice President Burke. The budget adjustment revision is to adjust fiscal year 2022 beginning balances to actual ending balances for each of the NMSU campuses. The committee recommended that the budget adjustment revision be brought before the board for consideration. You'll see this as Action item H-2 on the agenda and hear more about this later in the meeting.

The committee also received an update on the distribution of HEERF funds, an update on Las Cruces campus I & G actuals and there was some discussion of the revenue losses that were related to the pandemic. There was also some general discussion about tuition, fee, and scholarship estimates and some potential areas for investment in the future such as information technology and library resources.

4. Student Success Committee Report, Regent Arsenio Romero

Regent Romero reported that the Regents Student Success Committee met once since the last regular meeting of the Board of Regents on September 30, 2021. Most of the meeting was spent reviewing proposed new graduate and undergraduate academic programs that the full board had approved on October 11. Also, during the meeting, an overview of the approval process of new degree programs was presented. Once new degree proposals are approved by their academic dean, the University Program Academic Committee (UPAC) reviews them. There have been some recent changes to the program approval process, and it was reported that UPAC provides strategic oversight of new program creation and streamlines the program approval process. This is all being done to better position NMSU to bring these programs forward for state approval.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 10. We are still working out the agenda, but we have many different student success initiatives to discuss, including a presentation by Vice President for Equity, Inclusion, Diversity Linda Scholz, the Aggie Next Step program, Undergraduate Research, and I would also like to discuss some innovative approaches to increasing the pool of teachers in the State of New Mexico.

E. Advisory Member Reports

1. NMSU Faculty Senate Report, Chair Julia Parra

Faculty Senate Chair Parra thanked Faculty Senate for their hard work, the Faculty Senate Vice Chair and leadership committee for their support and advice, and the senate standing committee chairs. The committee chairs have been doing the work of operationalizing vision of the restructured standing committees of Faculty Senate. Faculty Senate Chair Parra went on to thank the Board of Regents for chartering an independent audit regarding Proposition 4-21-22.

2. Associated Students of NMSU Report, *President Mathew Madrid*

ASNMSU President Madrid reported that since August they have hosted over two dozen events virtually and in person. Over 3,500 students have attended the events. They are planning on another 18 events in the spring; however, that number is subject to change. ASNMSU has appropriated over \$90,000 to support the NMSU Wind Symphony and their invitation to play at Prog next year. ASNMSU is dedicated to enhance the student experience by both representing NMSU and learning about cultures overseas. President Madrid reported that they appropriated over \$20,000 to support the NMSU esports team and their team endeavors. They presented to ASNMSU with a long list of plans and goals that they have for the future and ASNMSU looks forward to supporting them. ASNMSU's current focus is on their legislative priorities and intend to be in full force with a team of students at the legislative session in January.

Regent Chacón-Reitzel asked President Madrid to elaborate on esports. President Madrid reported that esports is comprised of a number of passionate individuals. Esports is primarily the competitive sport of playing a number of video games such as, A League of Legends. They are well versed in 18 games. They have a location in Corbett Center Student Union where the esports team practices. Any and all students visit and use their resources. They connect with students and the community through their Discord channel. The \$20,000 from ASNMSU will specifically go to upgrading their video streaming devices. They get a significant number of viewers to their live stream. Improving their video quality will increase the quality of what they do. President Madrid also commented that they just competed against a high school esports team in Albuquerque and although they lost, the high school students were very interested in NMSU.

Regent Romero commented that esports programs have been expanding across the state of New Mexico. It is a New Mexico Activities Association (NMAA) sanctioned event and there's going to be a state championship in the spring. In future years there may be an excellent opportunity to host a state championship and it would be wonderful for those esports high school students to become Aggies.

3. NMSU Employee Council Report, *Chair Joseph Almaguer*

Employee Council Chair Almaguer reported that Employee Council did a review of what benefits NMSU offers and does not offer. Chair Almaguer reported that in comparison to peer institutions, NMSU is the only institution that does not offer retirement insurance to NMSU employees that have started after July 1, 2016.

F. Affiliated Entity Reports (*Deferred – written reports provided in advance*)

- 1. Aggie Development Inc. Report, *President & CEO Scott Eschenbrenner***
- 2. NMSU Foundation Report, *Vice President Derek Dictson***
- 3. Arrowhead Center Inc. Report, *Director & CEO Kathryn Hansen***

Reports from affiliated entities: Aggie Development Inc., NMSU Foundation, and Arrowhead Center Inc. were deferred to written reports due to a full agenda.

G. Consent Items, *Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali*

- 1. Operating Agreement with DACC, *Community College President Monica Torres***
- 2. Arrowhead Bylaws Modification (Position Director), *Director Kathryn Hansen***
- 3. Arrowhead Bylaws Modification (Non-Position (Outside) Director), *Director Kathryn Hansen***
- 4. NMSU Las Cruces: Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design, *University Architect Heather Watenpaugh***
- 5. NMSU Las Cruces: Campus-wide Tunnel System Repairs Phase VII, *University Architect Heather Watenpaugh***

6. **NMSU DACC: Creative Media Building at Arrowhead Park**, *University Architect Heather Watenpaugh*
7. **Grants: Walter Martinez Hall Roof Replacement**, *University Architect Heather Watenpaugh*
8. **Renewal of Special Use Permit from USDA Forrest Service in Clayton New Mexico**, *Special Assistant to the President Scott Eschenbrenner*
9. **Temporary Investments Report for the Quarter ended 09/30/2021**, *Senior Vice President Andrew J. Burke*
10. **Disposition/Deletion of Property**, *Senior Vice President Andrew J. Burke*
11. **Memorandum of Agreement between NMSU, New Mexico Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department, New Mexico Highlands University, and the University of New Mexico Regarding Forest Conversation Collaboration**, *Chancellor Dan E. Arvizu*

Regent Romero made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Regent Bitsie seconded the motion. All were in favor and none opposed. Motion passed.

The meeting recessed at 3:09pm.

BREAK (10 MINUTES)

The meeting reconvened at 3:20pm.

H. Action Items, *Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali*

1. Conferral of Degrees, *President John Floros*

President Floros announced that NMSU Commencement will be honoring 2020 and 2021 graduates. These classes are special in that they are the pandemic classes. There will be 1,186 students from the main campus and 683 students from the branch campuses that will be graduating. President Floros stated, "We want to celebrate them and wish them well. Tomorrow as well as Saturday we will be celebrating the 2020 class, then on Saturday the 2021 class. I want to congratulate all of our graduates before we have the commencement and with your approval we will confer those degrees tomorrow and Saturday."

Regent Chacón-Reitzel asked if we make it easy for groups to have events here because this is how we get our future Aggies. President Floros answered that if the event pertains NMSU recruiting or bringing people in to familiarize themselves with the university to possibly attend NMSU, then yes, we have special programs for that at reasonable prices.

Regent Chacón-Reitzel asked a follow up question regarding how food costs have risen and the possibility of making food costs and room costs more affordable, perhaps through Sodexo. President Floros stated that although he cannot speak for Sodexo, NMSU has the ability to hosts groups in many ways and accommodate some groups that NMSU works with.

Regent Romero congratulated all graduates and made a motion to approve the conferral of degrees and certifications. Regent Chacón-Reitzel seconded the motion and congratulated all graduates. All were in favor and none opposed. Motion passed.

2. Mid-year Budget Revision Adjustment for Fiscal Year, *Senior Vice President Andrew J. Burke*

Senior Vice President Burke presented the mid-year budget revision adjustment (BARs) for FY22. The BARs are required by state statute and regulations for submittal to the New Mexico Higher Education Department,

both at this time of the year and in May. The BARs are for each NMSU campus unrestricted fund and they are for the purpose of adjusting the beginning fund balances, which were estimated for the 2021-2022 operating budget that was submitted in May. In May, they're requesting spending authority, which in some cases, in some functional categories, might artificially reduce fund balances in most cases. What they are doing now with respect to fund balances is increasing them to what their actual result was in the closing of the books on June 30 FY21.

There are a couple of adjustments that are being made this year. At the Las Cruces campus, they are reflecting a state appropriation that is outside of the normal appropriation process for the Educational Retirement Board employer contribution increase of 1%. This represents \$2.3 million. This adjustment does not impact individual college or unit budgets. The second item is an increase in local tax levy revenue. Their excess tax levy revenue of \$6 million is shown as a revenue increase on the Carlsbad BAR. Additional expenditures are reflected with respect to their anticipated costs in their effort and plan to move to an independent college. Vice President Burke requested approval of the BARs for FY22.

Regent Saucedo moved to approve the mid-year budget revisions. Regent Chacón-Reitzel seconded the motion. All were in favor and none opposed. Motion passed.

I. **Informational Items, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali**

1. **Summary of Revisions to the Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU (ARP) for the period May 15, 2021 – September 10, 2021, General Counsel Roy Collins, III**

General Counsel Collins stated that Associate General Counsel Lisa Warren would be delivering the report and answering any questions or concerns from the Board.

Associate General Counsel Warren reported that the informational report that is included describes the operational policies that were adopted or amended by the Chancellor during the period September 11, 2021 through November 24, 2021. There were three substantive revisions that were adopted. The first was a revision to ARP 4.81 Degrees, Majors, Minors, and Other Academic Programs of Study. It updated the approvals needed for curricular credentials and added delegation of authority to the provost in consultation with the university program academic committee and faculty senate chair or designee for future amendments of those appendices. It was adopted on September 14, 2021.

The second substantive revision was adopted on October 12, 2021 to revise ARP 4.61 Transfer Credit. This updated and clarified the various provisions from the ARP and from the academic catalog as well as added two substantive amendments which formally include credit for prior learning in Part 2-D and add a requirement that all of course equivalencies be reviewed by departmental faculty at least every three years.

The third substantive revision was adopted October 27, 2021 and was effective on December 1, 2021. This was a revision of the policy on policies, ARP 1.10. It was retitled to NMSU Policy Framework. The process by which the various responsible administrators will propose new and amended operational policy under the purview of the Chancellor was re-engineered. Highlights of the specific changes are identified in the information report submitted.

There was one new policy that was adopted provisionally on August 31, 2021. It is entitled 'COVID-19 Safety Protocols.' It was amended provisionally on September 24, 2021. The purpose was to ratify and supplement the university's pandemic action plan and incorporate by reference the conditions of employment that are required and posted online relating to keeping campuses as safe as possible from COVID-19 and its variants. The policy also provides a process by which emerged violations of the rule are addressed. More detail is provided in the informational report.

2. **Overview of Aggies Go Global, Professor Manoj K. Shukla, Abby Nayra and Cheyenne Stice**

Director of Aggies Go Global (AGG) Manoj Shukla introduced two students, President of Global Student Alliance Cheyenne Stice and Vice President of Global Student Alliance Ana Garcia Vasquez, and the Senior Program Specialist for AGG, Abby Nayra, who joined him for the presentation. The mission of AGG is to provide all NMSU full time students with at least one international travel opportunity to stimulate their professional, and interpersonal developments. AGG sometimes helps students with their flight costs or fees. They also suggest places where they can look for additional funding. They prepare students for cultural immersion. Although the program is housed at the College of ACES, every undergraduate or graduate who is a full-time student is eligible. The only difference between AGG and the study abroad program is that AGG looks for students for a non-credit travel which includes internships, volunteer work, conferences, research, and exchange visits. In 2015-2016 they sent 80 students. In 2016-2017 they sent 126 students. In 2017-2018 they sent 151. In 2018-2019 they sent 82 students. In 2019-2020 they only sent 22 students due to the pandemic. Throughout this program they have sent students to over 70 countries and territories. They support three group programs on a regular basis. One of them is the Women's Economic Forum. In 2018 and 2019 it was held in New Delhi, India and in 2020 it was held in Cairo, Egypt. This program provides students with a lot of opportunity to interact with women who have achieved entrepreneurship to the Nobel laureates. They share their professional and personal experiences on a wide range of topics, present their research and experience cultural immersion.

Director Shukla introduced Abby Nayra, the Senior Program Specialist for AGG, who gave a presentation on the Global Citizen's Project and the Indigenous Program. The Global Citizen's Project provides cultural immersion, language immersion and conservation to students. Students in this trip go to Costa Rica for 8 days. The first half of their days is spent in an immersive intensive Spanish Language Learning Course and their afternoons are spent at a local agricultural and conservation organization, Monteverde, where they learn sustainable agriculture and farming, ecology, and environmental awareness. They participate in activities such as whitewater rafting, hiking, and meditating so they can further experience the culture authentically. They live with Homestay families, which are primarily Spanish speaking so that students get a full experience of what it's like to live in Costa Rica and the people.

Senior Program Specialist Nayra reported that in 2019 AGG formed a partnership with the Indigenous Resources and Development Center at the College of ACES to create the Indigenous Leadership Exchange. In this program, ten students of indigenous groups were selected for an 8-day trip to Guatemala. They developed leadership skills, environmental understanding, and participated in cultural exchange. They got to learn from local Mayan community members about efforts to protect the tropical rainforests and the Chixoy River, alongside other environmental treasures and resources while participating in this cultural immersion.

Director Shukla introduced Cheyenne Stice, a graduate student and the President of the Global Student Alliance. Cheyenne reported that the Global Student Alliance is an organization for all NMSU students who wish to travel or have travelled with AGG. Students discuss cultural professional development and relationship building. They address environmental and international issues as well as have an open and inclusive space to connect with other students about international travel. They also do community service.

Director Shukla reported that they have several trips for 2022 planned and are hopeful that the COVID pandemic will not prevent them from happening.

Regent Chacón-Reitzel asked if students pick up part of the expense for the trips. Director Shukla reported that their target is to be able to send every student who wants to go abroad. They have been able to send the maximum number of students that they have been able to send, 155 students. They would like to increase that to 200-250. It costs about \$1,000 per student, so they would need \$250,000 in this program.

J. Report from the New Mexico Department of Agriculture to the Regents of New Mexico State University (Board of Agriculture), Cabinet Secretary & Director Jeff Witte

Secretary and Director Witte gave the NMDA report. Secretary Witte reported that the Department of Agriculture has been awarded a \$500,000 grant from USDA. It was through the Southwest Border Food Protection Emergency Preparedness Center. This grant is for farm and ranch stress assistance. Only state departments of agriculture can get these grants. Because they are at NMSU, they have a partnership with Extension, who has a good program in the area. Secretary Witte spoke about the Homegrown event. New Mexico Farm and Ranch products and processed foods are popular and are being advertised on social media with a video clip. They will break it down to 15 second commercials on tv. The Homegrown event attracted 41 exhibitors this year. There is a state law that mandates putting 5% biodiesel in diesel products. There is currently a supply issue across the state. NMDA extended the waiver and changed the terms. Instead of a 6 month waiver, they are moving to a 4 month waiver, April 15th. This is because biodiesel is a product that is more available in the summer months than in the winter months. This will shift the program to allow for possible use during the warmer season. The Chili Labor Incentive Program is put on hold and suspended temporarily based on the Supreme Court ruling on the governor's use of funds. In consultation with the governor's office and talking to legislatures, there was a call from LFC staff to return the money. They haven't returned it yet due to strong negotiations between the executive, governor's office, and legislature regarding those funds. They have submitted their state hemp plan to USDA for approval. They have been working with USDA for the last 6 months to get it in order. There was an opportunity to meet with the producers of hemp to determine if they in fact wanted them to turn the whole program over to USDA. There would be advantages to the producers, mostly that there wouldn't be fees. They unanimously agreed to let NMDA keep it although there is a licensing fee. Secretary Witte recognized three of their employees who will be graduating. Marshall Wilson is getting a master's degree in Agriculture and Business Specialization. Dana Maestas who is a vet lab specialist at the Vet Diagnostic Lab in Albuquerque. Because of the reciprocity agreement that they have with other universities, she's getting her Associate's degree from CNM. Jeremy Townson is an IT student at DACC and is getting his associate's degree in Applied Science. He plans on continuing his education at NMSU. Secretary Witte stated that the tuition waiver benefit for employees has helped these students and others obtain their degrees.

K. Report from the NMSU System Chancellor to the Regents of New Mexico State University, *Chancellor Dan E. Arvizu*

Chancellor Arvizu began his report by a reflection where NMSU has come from, where NMSU is now, and where NMSU is going. The premise of their strategic plan is that growth is imperative. In 2018, when the regents brought President Floros and Chancellor Arvizu on to the campus, they were focused on how to turn the declining trajectory around. The university system has been under resourced for decades. They've been dealing with budget cuts and a variety of underfunded mandates resources have been scarce. Declining enrollments and research expenditures have exacerbated that condition. With that diminishing support from the state and federal government, the only strategy they could embrace to put them back on a path of growth and sustainable future was to have resources to invest. Part of the strategy that was put in place was growth in revenues, enrollments, research and outreach. In the vision and strategies that is made up of goals, objectives and KPIs, it was clear that the strategy was important, but not sufficient because they needed to be able to implement it. In order to understand where they are and how to measure progress, it required them to do benchmarks, have metrics, and understand the leading indicators. They need to be able to invest in the future. The main campus enrollment has declined slightly over the last 5 years. At UNM and NMTech there continues to be a decline in their enrollment. NMSU has been able to invest in wrap around enrollment and the demographic that they serve. That has protected NMSU to some degree from the COVID challenges of declining enrollment. Social mobility has been a tenant of their strategy and this is the demographic that they want to make sure they don't leave behind. The underserved populations are the majority of their population.

The rates for Pell grant eligible and non-Pell grant eligible have increased. Research expenditures and awards are rising. In relation to Goal 3, Ag Days is one of the programs that is popular with the community and engages the

community. NMSU is the land grant university. Land grant universities are focused on supporting the entire state in all of the communities in which they reside. There are 33 cooperative extension offices in every county and 12 ag experiment stations. They engage on an annual basis 30,000 students. They have grown into a much more robust community engagement on economic development.

Goal 4 is about building capacity. Expanding competencies and aligning our budget with their priorities has been a goal from the beginning. Transparency will serve them well in terms of communication of what their priorities are and helping manage the resources flow. Operational efficiency and responsiveness to the external environment including sustainability, health and safety. Being a robust university means that they have to meet the needs of their entire communities. Inclusiveness is a big factor to that regard. In August 2021, Dr. Linda Scholtz became the first Vice President of Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity. NMSU has \$500 million in deferred maintenance. They haven't been able to invest in deferred maintenance for a decade or more. They are now getting some attention with one-time money at the legislature to try to overcome some of that. Ag experiment stations have \$87 million in deferred maintenance. As compared to NM public institutions by sector and as shown on the graphs, NMSU is second to the bottom in institutional support \$ per student FTE at \$2,182 and at the bottom of the chart in institutional support salary \$ per student FTE at \$1,082. Developing partnerships and entrepreneurs is important. Through Arrowhead, the FY21 economic impact is 1500 jobs and \$217 million in value added production. The Northern Rio Grande Corridor Collaborative is made up of 6 members and its purpose is to leverage significant regional capabilities. They've identified climate science energy carbon management, water and underserved communities and education regional impact as areas of great interest and they will assemble themselves to put together the best possible efforts to get one of these regional hubs that are of the hundred-million-dollar area. It's more than one institution can absorb and working together, they think they have great chance.

NMSU gained an invitation to join Conference USA, which will pay huge dividends that allowed them to recruit a stellar football coach, Coach Jerry Kill. Student athletes are in the community and helping with community engagement. NMSU's Volleyball team won the WAC championship.

NMSU Online is important for the future. There are 121,816 New Mexico students that are enrolled in some form of post-secondary education. There are 54,481 New Mexico students who take at least one online course. There are 9,896 New Mexico students who are enrolled in out-of-state courses, mostly in Arizona and Utah. There are 333,939 New Mexico adults who have some college and no degree. There's an opportunity to generate more enrollment. The opportunity to have a margin is that allows to reinvest in our future. NMSU-On Demand is about economic development and how to help the existing businesses in New Mexico have focus on what they need in terms of skills for their nontraditional employees. This allows them to build stackable credentials in short duration, 6-8-week programs, that eventually allow for some to gain an associate's degree or more.

The Council of University Presidents, 4-Year Comprehensive and Research Universities, independent branches, and the associated branches have agreed on several items to push with the legislature this year. These include recurring and non-recurring items. Of the recurring listed, a 10% increase of I&G funds, 7% compensation increase for faculty and staff, and funding to cover the employer mandated ERB contribution included in Ch. 44, Laws 2021 (SB42). Of the non-recurring items, they are asking for \$170 million for support for wraparound services to support student success and enrollment, research closing funding, higher education endowment fund, funding for critical infrastructure, dual credit funding outside the funding formula, support for enhanced funding for the opportunity scholarship for 2 and 4 year students and the lottery scholarship, and support the higher education department recommendation for the Nursing Program Development Enhancement Fund. In addition to that, they've asked for \$56 million of capital outlay, not including NMDA or athletics. With the strategy that is in place, NMSU is in a position to accomplish everything at a quicker level than anticipated.

L. **Announcements and Comments, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali**

1. **“Gun’s Up” – Good News for NMSU!**

Regent Romero gave a Gun’s up to the graduating students and athletics, specifically the basketball teams.

Regent Chacón-Reitzel gave a Gun’s Up to all the graduating students and the Volleyball team for winning the WAC tournament.

Regent Bitsie gave a Gun’s Up to brothers within his fraternity. They were successful in raising \$5,000 through a fundraiser for the Huntsman Cancer Institute.

Regent Devasthali gave a Gun’s Up to everyone in the NMSU System.

M. **Adjournment, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali**

Regent Bitsie motioned to adjourn the meeting. Regent Saucedo seconded the motion. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 4:49pm.

Meeting Minutes Approved on February 7, 2022 by the New Mexico State University Board of Regents.



Ammu Devasthali
Board of Regents Chair



Arsenio Romero
Board of Regents Secretary/Treasurer