



**NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF REGENTS
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
March 28, 2022 at 8:00 AM**

Regents of New Mexico State University

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

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

University Officials - Chancellor Dan E. Arvizu, Ph.D., Interim Provost Dorothy Campbell, Ph.D., Vice Chancellor Ruth A. Johnston, Ph.D., General Counsel Roy Collins III, J.D.

MINUTES

A. Call to Order, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

The Board of Regents met in virtually via Zoom on February 7, 2022. Chairwoman Devasthali called the meeting to order at 10:33am.

1. Confirmation of Quorum and Roll Call

The Chief of Staff confirmed the quorum and took the roll call. Present in the Board room were: Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali, Regent Neal Bitsie, Chancellor Dan Arvizu, Vice Chancellor Ruth Johnston, Interim Provost Dorothy Campbell, Faculty Senate Chair Julia Parra, Employee Council Chair Joseph Almaguer, and ASNMSU President Matthew Madrid

Present virtually: Regent Dina Chacón-Reitzel, Regent Arsenio Romero, Regent Christopher Saucedo, General Counsel Roy Collins.

B. Approval of Agenda, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

Chairwoman Devasthali reported that there is a change to Item E-1 in the consent agenda. "PGA" is being removed and the name will be Wimberly Golf Management Program. Regent Dina Chacón-Reitzel made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Regent Bitsie seconded the motion. All were in favor and none opposed. Motion passed.

C. Introductions

1. Introduction of incoming NMSU Employee Council Chair Susanne Berger, Chair Joseph Almaguer

Chair Joseph Almaguer introduced the new Chair of Employee Council, Susanne Berger. Susanne is the Executive Director for Administration for Facilities and Services and oversees human resources, university material warehouse, and the utility manager. Susanne joined the Facilities and Services team in March 2020. Prior to this role, Susanne was part of the Information and Technologies Business Office for 9 years and taught business and global society at the College of Business.

Susanne is passionate about student success and being a part of the Employee Council.

2. Introduction of Chair-elect of NMSU Faculty Senate Gaylene Fasenko, Chair Julia Parra

Chair Julia Parra introduced the new Chair of Faculty Senate, Gaylene Fasenko. Dr. Fasenko is a professor in Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences. Dr. Fasenko has served as a faculty senate senator and is now the Faculty Senate Chair Elect. Dr. Fasenko's service begins Tuesday, May 10, 2022 and will continue through the 2022-2023 academic year.

D. Awards and Recognitions, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

1. Proclamation in Memory of Former NMSU President William Conroy, Chancellor Dan E. Arvizu

Chancellor Arvizu read the proclamation in memory of former NMSU President William Conroy.

"WHEREAS, William B. Conroy arrived at New Mexico State University in 1985 after being hired as executive vice president; and

WHEREAS, when asked by the NMSU regents to serve in a time of need, Conroy would become president of New Mexico State University on two separate occasions, from July 1994 until July 1995 and again from June 1997 until his retirement in June 2000; and

WHEREAS, over his 15 years at New Mexico State University, Conroy would lead the university through a period of significant enrollment growth, with a focus on recruiting and maintaining an exemplary faculty and staff to provide the highest level of education to its students; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as president, Conroy would hire a team in athletics to begin a new era for NMSU, which continues today, where emphasis is placed on attracting the type of student athletes to make the community proud in terms of character, and who also value their education and success in the classroom, as much as their success on the field; and

WHEREAS, under his leadership, NMSU raised funds through the Cornerstone Campaign for Excellence to restore the Las Cruces campus's oldest standing academic building, the restored former YMCA building, to become the headquarters of NMSU's Honors Program in 2002; and

WHEREAS, with the establishment of New Mexico's first Honors College in 2004, the building was renamed the William B. Conroy Honors College building; and

WHEREAS, Conroy and his late wife, Patty, embraced Las Cruces as their home over the past 35 years attending countless community and university events, and could usually be found together in Crimson at a variety of NMSU sporting events, cheering on the Aggies; and

WHEREAS, Honors College Emeritus Dean William Eamon said of Conroy, "He was a gentleman in every way: kind, considerate, thoughtful and always helpful. He had a joyous and infectious enthusiasm for life, and I'll always remember his wonderful broad smile, his unflagging optimism and humor, and the pleasure he took in learning about the achievements of NMSU's honors students; and

WHEREAS, the Conroy family has established the William B. Conroy and Patricia Conroy Honors College Endowed Scholarship, which will continue to support high-performing undergraduate students with financial need who are pursuing University Honors recognition at NMSU into the future.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED in official session that the Board of Regents recognizes, celebrates, and honors former NMSU President William B. Conroy's legacy and his contributions to

New Mexico State University and its students.

PROCLAIMED, this 28th day of March, 2022, in Las Cruces, New Mexico.”

2. Proclamation Recognizing Joseph Almaguer for his Service as Chair of NMSU Employee Council,
Chancellor Dan E. Arvizu

Chancellor Arvizu read the proclamation recognizing Joseph Almaguer for his service as Chair of NMSU Employee Council.

“WHEREAS, Joseph Almaguer, Chair of NMSU Employee Council, has served with distinction as an advisory member of the New Mexico State University Board of Regents from February 2021 through March 2022; and

WHEREAS, he served this great university during a time of uncertainty in the midst of a global pandemic through innovation and Aggie Pride by welcoming back staff with employee picnics and ice cream socials highlighting the joy NMSU has for coming together; and

WHEREAS, he served as a member of the HRS UX (User Experience) Process Improvement Team, so his personal knowledge of these processes would help to streamline the work Human Resources does on our campus; and

WHEREAS, his work towards the improvement of the Performance Evaluation Process greatly supported this project, which goes live in 2023; and

WHEREAS, his work as a member of the Building A Better Awards and Recognition Program for faculty and staff allowed his input to recognize the exceptional faculty and staff members employed by this university; and

WHEREAS, as a member of the COVID-19 Pandemic Action Team, his contributions to the team’s efforts helped in the opening up of campus, where faculty, staff and students eagerly awaited a return to our beautiful campus; and

WHEREAS, he served as the test subject for systems such as Vaxtrax before system-wide launches, so that staff and students may access these systems with ease as they were rolled out to the NMSU community; and

WHEREAS, all his efforts through Employee Council have consistently worked towards the goals of the action plans of NMSU LEADS 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED in official session that the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University thanks and commends Joseph Almaguer for his dedicated service and wishes him great success in his future endeavors as both a student and staff member at this university.

PROCLAIMED this 28th day of March 2022, at Las Cruces, New Mexico.”

E. Consent Items, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

1. Honorary Naming Proposal for the College of Business PGA – Golf Management Program as the Herb Wimberly PGA Golf Management Program, Vice President Derek Dictson

2. Resolution Excluding Certain Officials from Access to Classified Information, PSL Facility Security Officer Chris Scott

3. Disposition/Deletion of Property, Associate Vice President D'Anne Stuart

4. Approval of Doña Ana Community College Honorary Degree, *President Mónica Torres*

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

F. Action Items

1. Tuition and Fee Rates and Budget Guidelines, *Chief Budget Officer Kim Rumford*

Chief Budget Officer Kim Rumford presented the proposed tuition and fee increases for fiscal year 2023. This includes a 4% tuition increase across the board for all campuses and an 8% tuition increase for graduate NMSU Online. The rationale for the increases is due to cost pressures, which include salaries and lower pay scales, as well as other rate increases at other NM universities.

Another fee request is the academic services fee at \$20 per credit hour applied to nearly all courses, including face-to-face, but excluding courses for practicum/clinical, thesis/dissertation, dual credit, and those offered by NMSU Online, which already include a fee to cover technology. The academic service fee will replace the distance education fee of \$25 per credit hour that is currently applied to only online and hybrid courses. The rationale for the fee is that most courses utilize technology, although they may not be hybrid or online. The additional revenue that will generate is as follows: \$3.3 million at the Las Cruces campus, \$32,000 at the Alamogordo campus, and \$1.2 million at DACC. Potential investments with this revenue include the academic information technology, academic assessment and analysis, academic support services, digital library services, information technology and software license, and broadband.

The Student Fee Review Board met and allocated student fees and focused on minimum wage requirements. The cost of that is 7% compensation increase and the fringe benefit increase. There were some re-organization within some of these as well. Overall, the netted increase is a total increase for additional funds of 5.6%. After including the adjustment for declining enrollment, the total request is a total increase of 6.7%.

DACC is requesting a \$24 per credit hour fee that will provide all course materials to students. Students have the option to opt out if they choose. Faculty still choose materials that best fit their curriculum. This results in a decreased amount to students with more predictable costs to them and they can get their materials right away.

State mandated compensation increases are as follows: 3% increase across the board as of April 1, 2022, 4% additional average compensation as of July 1, 2022, minimum wage increase at \$15 per hour as of July 1, 2022, and a 2% Education Retirement Board contribution made by the employer. The funding gap for the NMSU system is \$774,189.

The list of sources for the Las Cruces campus is an increase in I&G appropriations of \$3.7 million. The estimated I&G appropriation for compensation is \$11,482,200. The estimated allocation for Education Retirement Board Contribution increase is \$2,367,800.

A decline in enrollment is not expected. A flat enrollment is expected. Based on the enrollment for this year and the prior year, they are making an adjustment of \$3,281,300 in order to match their projected tuition income for the year. They are expecting a 4% enrollment growth in NMSU Online. There will be a loss from Carlsbad institutional support reduction of \$814,000 and a portion of fiscal

year 2022 Education Retirement Board Appropriation of \$58,400. The total in new sources of funds and revenues is \$21,562,900.

Faculty and staff compensation pool, plus fringes is \$11,881,500. Two appropriation expense that are included in expenditures are Tribal Education Initiatives at \$200,000 and Teacher Pipeline at \$250,000 Initiatives. Also requested are investments to spend based on other increases received from the state or other revenue sources. Line 22 is the investment to the Foundation of \$400,000. Lines 23-28 are the Academic Services Fee investment of \$3.3 million. Line items 29-31 are investments in the goals toward LEADS 2025, including Student Success, Research, and Build a Robust NMSU System. Line 32 is for the reduction of structural budget deficit of \$300,000. After budget cuts from the last couple of years, NMSU is still left with a deficit for the university of \$1,146,000. This \$300,00 will begin to address reducing this deficit over time.

At the Alamogordo campus, the general fund appropriation is \$125,000 and the general fund appropriation for compensation, including 3% fringes, is \$484,900. Their 4% tuition increase will be \$36,120. Their revenue increase for the academic service fee is near \$32,000. The local mill tax levy fund is \$27,000. Total Sources are \$1,136,340. Their uses/expenditures include the faculty and staff compensation increase, including fringes at \$288,312 and other expenditures such as PT instruction, student salaries, travel, utilities, and an increase in faculty, professional staff, support staff, and fringes. Also, the plan to do a permanent reduction in supplies and expenses so they can reinvest some funds into faculty and staff positions. As part of how they invest with the academic service fee is to increase broadband.

DACC is receiving \$587,600 in general fund appropriation and \$1,731,900 in general appropriation for compensation increase, including fringes. They are adjusting for their enrollment decline for this year in the amount of \$744,000. They anticipate flat enrollment for next year. The academic service fee increases at an estimate of \$1,200,000. They have reduction in other costs, including capital outlay and some contingency funds. Their change in tax mil levy is \$275,000. DACC's uses/expenditures include Faculty and staff compensation increases, including fringes at \$2,184,477. Their minimum wage for their student employee increase (\$12 per hour), including fringes is \$28,800. They will use the academic service fee for academic technologies such as XR/VR, digital library svcs, Xcite iPad initiatives, etc. at \$874,399 and Wraparound Student Services at \$325,601.

The sources/revenues for the Grants campus includes \$42,300 in general fund appropriation and \$201,300 in general fund appropriation for compensation, including 30% fringes. Their 4% tuition increase totals to \$25,434. Their enrollment adjustment of 3% increase, \$20,900. They received a line item appropriation for New Mexico Tribal Initiatives of \$100,000. Grants' uses include the faculty and staff compensation increase of \$201,300 and new faculty/staff positions, including fringes of \$69,665. They are increasing the fringe rate to \$18,975.

Regent Saucedo moved to approve the tuition and fee rates as presented. Regent Bitsie seconded the motion. The Chief of Staff took a roll call vote. All were in favor and none opposed. The motion passed.

2. Parking Permit Rates, Auxiliary Services Director Ophelia Watkins

Director Ophelia Watkins presented the parking rate request of a 5.5% increase, resulting in a nominal annual increase ranging from \$2.50 - \$16.00 per year, depending on the parking permit

type. This will generate an additional \$45,000 in revenue. About \$34,000 of that will go towards the increase in labor costs, minimum wage, and compensation, which parking as an auxiliary service is not funded by the legislative allocations that went to increase those compensation increases. Any remaining amount passed the wage and compensation increase will go towards parking lot maintenance.

Regent Romero made a motion to approve the parking permit rates as presented. Regent Chacón-Reitzel seconded the motion. All were in favor and none were opposed. Motion passed.

G. Informational Items, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

1. Regent Committee Assignments, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

Chairwoman Devasthali named the regents of the board of regents standing committees, committee chairs, and other committee assignments.

The chair of the Regents Financial Strategies, Performance and Budget Committee is Regent Saucedo and Regent Bitsie is the other regent member.

The chair of the Regents Student Success Committee will be Regent Romero and Regent Bitsie will be the other regent member.

The chair of the Regents Audit and Risk Committee will be Chairwoman Devasthali and Regent Romero will be the other regent member.

The chair of the Regents Real Estate Committee will be Regent Chacón-Reitzel and Chairwoman Devasthali will be the other regent member.

In addition to the Board of Regents standing committees, regents have been appointed to the following boards and positions:

Chairwoman Devasthali will be the liaison for the NMSU Foundation liaison.

Regent Romero and Regent Bitsie will serve on the Arrowhead Center Inc Board of Directors.

Chairwoman Devasthali and Regent Chacón-Reitzel will serve on the Aggie Development Board of Directors.

Regent Saucedo and Chairwoman Devasthali will serve on the Honorary Degree Selection Committee.

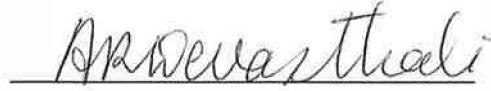
H. Adjournment, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

Regent Bitsie motioned to adjourn the meeting. Regent Saucedo seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 9:27am.

H. **Adjournment, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali**

Regent Bitsie motioned to adjourn the meeting. Regent Saucedo seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 9:27am.

Meeting Minutes Approved on May 6, 2022 by the New Mexico State University Board of Regents.



Ammu Devasthali
Board of Regents Chair



Neal Bitsie
Board of Regents Secretary/Treasurer