



**NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS**  
**SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**  
April 15, 2021 at 5:00pm

**Regents of New Mexico State University**

Chair Ammu Devasthali, Vice Chair Dina Chacón-Reitzel, Secretary/Treasurer Arsenio Romero, Christopher 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., Provost Carol Parker, J.D., Vice Chancellor Ruth A. Johnston, Ph.D., Senior Vice President Andrew Burke, Ed.D., General Counsel Roy Collins III, J.D.

**MINUTES**

A. **Call to Order**, *Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali*

1. **Confirmation of Quorum and Roll Call**

Chairwoman Devasthali called the meeting to order at 5:03pm.

The Chief of Staff proceeded with confirming the quorum and taking roll call.

Regent Bitsie – Present

Regent Saucedo – Present

Regent Romero – Present

Regent Chacón-Reitzel – Present

Regent Devasthali – Present

Chancellor Arvizu – Present

President Floros – Present

Provost Parker – Present

Vice Chancellor Johnston – Present

Sr. Vice President Burke – Present

General Counsel Collins – Present

B. **Action Items**

1. **Early Head Start & Head Start 2021 Cost-of-Living Adjustment grant application for funding**,  
*Magdalena Pando, Ph.D., Principal Investigator, Doña Ana County Head Start*

Dr. Pando introduced the program instruction ACFPIHS-2101 on page three from their sponsoring agency office of Head Start administration for children and families. This is an action request to submit for a cost of fund application for cost of living adjustment pay increases to their personnel within Dona Ana County Head Start in Early Head Start Program. As principal investigator of this grant, Dr. Pando requires policy council approval, which they have obtained and now governing board approval, which is the existing Board of Regents. In this Notice, \$25,705 has been allocated to

Head Start and \$5,353 to Early Head Start. The notice specifies a no less than 1.22% cola increase to personnel or to offset higher operating costs. Given the recent passing of house bill 2 that designates a 1.5% employee compensation raise and no further details at this time on how that will be distributed within their university, Dr. Pando has calculated a 1.39% pay increase to all personnel positions, vacant and field for Dona Ana county Head Start and Early Head Start personnel to receive a one 1.39% pay increase. The application is due today. Everything has been uploaded the only matter pending is governing board approval.

Chairwoman Devasthali asked if there is a process now going on to transfer this authority from the Board of Regents to the College of Education. Dr. Pando replied that there is a process in place. Dr. Pando is in contact with their sponsoring agency program specialist to delegate authority to the College of education through our internal existing policy. Dr. Pando will be proposing and communicating with Dean Henrietta Pichon on that process. Dr. Pando will ask their sponsoring agency exactly what formal document they require, so that they can move forward with that process and hopefully prevent another governing approval at this level that can be handled more time efficiently within their College of Education. Chairwoman Devasthali asked what the timeline is on that. Dr. Pando stated that they meet monthly with their Program Specialist in a couple of weeks. They meet monthly. Dr. Pando will reach out to their Program Specialist sooner and draft some documents and memos to route through their official chain of command starting within the College of Education to get this process going as quickly as possible. Dr. Pando met with a person from UCLA that has something similar where authority was delegated from the Board of Regents to the School of Medicine, in this case, which is where their Head Start Program is housed. They provided good information on that process. Now it is just a matter of asking their sponsoring agency what is required in writing to upload to the Head Start Enterprise system and recognize the delegated authority on their end.

Chairwoman entertained a motion on the Early Head Start and Head Start 2021 cost of living adjustment grant application for funding. Regent Romero made a motion to approve. Regent Chacón-Reitzel seconded the motion.

The Chief of Staff took the roll call vote.

Regent Bitsie – Yes

Regent Saucedo – Yes

Regent Romero – Yes

Regent Chacón-Reitzel – Yes

Regent Devasthali – Yes

The Chief of Staff confirmed the motion passed.

**C. Adjournment, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali**

Chairwoman Devasthali entertained a motion to adjourn. Regent Chacón-Reitzel motioned to adjourn. Regent Bitsie seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 5:12pm

**Meeting Minutes Approved on May 14, 2021 by the New Mexico State University Board of Regents.**



Ammu Devasthali  
Board of Regents Chair



Arsenio Romero  
Board of Regents Secretary/Treasurer