

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS  
NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The Board of Regents of New Mexico State University met in the Regents Room, Educational Services Center, Las Cruces, New Mexico on Thursday, April 5, 2012.

Chair Cheney called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Regents Present	Mike Cheney, Chair Isaac J. Pino, Vice Chair Christopher Dulany, Secretary / Treasurer Javier M. Gonzales, Member Laura M. Conniff, Member
Ex-officio Regents Present	Dr. Stu Munson-McGee, Faculty Senate Chair Austin Graham, President ASNMSU
Officers of the University Present	Dr. Barbara Couture, President Dr. Wendy K. Wilkins, Executive Vice President / Provost
Chair NMSU Employee Council	Dr. Fred Lillibridge
Other Presenters	Ms. Angela Throneberry, Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance Ms. Anna Price, Chief Budget Officer Ms. Tammy Anthony, Assistant VP of Auxiliary Services Ms. Julie Weber, Director of Housing and Residential Life Ms. Ophelia Watkins, Director of Parking and Transportation Services

**2. INTRODUCTIONS**

- a. Introduction of Press, Elected Officials, and Others by Maureen Howard, Associate Vice President for University Communications and Marketing Services

**Associate Vice President Maureen Howard announced that Diana Alba, Las Cruces Sun News and Vanessa de la Vina, KVIA were present.**

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Regent Conniff moved and Regent Gonzales seconded to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comments were made.

**5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Regent Pino moved to table the Minutes of March 12, 2012 to the May Meeting and Regent Dulany seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**6. FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS**

Approved Meeting Dates

- Friday, May 11, 2012, Las Cruces, New Mexico
- Thursday, June 21, 2012, Las Cruces, New Mexico
- Monday, August 20, 2012, Las Cruces, New Mexico
- Monday, October 15, 2012, Carlsbad, New Mexico
- Friday, December 14, 2012, Las Cruces, New Mexico

**7. CONFIRMATION OF PRIOR EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board of Regents of New Mexico State University met in executive session at 1:15 p.m. on Monday March 12, 2012 in Room Two of the Educational Services Building in Las Cruces, New Mexico to discuss personnel, legal and real estate matters in accordance with Section 10-15-1H, paragraphs (2), (7), and (8) of the New Mexico Open Meetings Act. Those board members who were present hereby certify by roll call vote that only matters of that nature were discussed in closed meeting.

The motion to adopt this statement, upon being put to a vote, was passed and adopted on the following recorded vote: Chair Cheney, Vice Chair Pino, Secretary/Treasurer Dulany, Regent Gonzales, and Regent Conniff. Five Regents present having voted in favor of said motion, said motion carried, and said statement was adopted.

**8. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**9. ACTION ITEMS**

President Couture reported on the following:

Start of the state budget process:

- Reduction of 4.9% to overall budget in 2011
- Reduction of 3.2% agency-wide in fall 2010

- Since 2009 Reduction of 7.2% to DACC while experiencing enrollment growth
- Since 2009 Reduction of 19% in state appropriations for LC Campus
- Increase of student/faculty ratio from 29.9 to 1 in fall 2008 to 32.1 to 1 in Fall 2011
- Student credit hours increased by 6.2% from fall 2008 to fall 2011 while faculty FTE has declined 2.7%
- Since 2009 19% cut to our Agricultural Experiment Stations
- Since 2009 22% cut to our Cooperative Extension Service
- Since 2009 16% cut to our New Mexico Department of Agriculture
- Since 2009 40% cut to the budget appropriated to expand Nursing
- Since 2009 23% cut to Athletics

Conclusion of the state budget process:

- In 2012 we received a 6.48% increase in state appropriations, 4.45% without the ERB changes
- In 2012 received a \$500,000 for our Cooperative Extension Service (CES)
- In 2012 received a \$300,000 for our Agricultural Experiment Stations (AES)
- In 2012 received \$600,000 for the New Mexico Department of Agriculture, whose director reports to NMSU (NMDA)

Efforts to save money:

- Facilities has reduced expenses in grounds by 27% and custodial operating expenses were reduced 8% since Fiscal year 2007
- Continue to reduce expense reductions in travel, supplies and services
- Vehicle reduction program
- Ration of square foot of space to student FTE on our Las Cruces campus is 218 while the average of four-year institutions in our state is 314
- The establishment of the Efficiency and Effectiveness Committee is presenting 3-5 recommendations annually to help save money and generate new revenue where possible

Future priorities:

- Top priority continues to be to increase compensation for our faculty and staff
  - Invest in a 2% compensation pool for faculty and staff who are eligible for raises
  - Employees have not received an annual salary increase since July 1, 2008
  - 110 positions were eliminated on the Las Cruces campus during the strategic budget exercise implemented in fiscal year 2011
- Retain top quality faculty and staff

- Since 2008, 224 faculty have left. 23% left primarily because of compensation. On the Las Cruces campus alone 24% have left primarily due to compensation issues.
- Positions lost due to prior budget cuts
- Invest in our academic programs on the Las Cruces campus
  - Funding for new faculty positions
  - Funding for new graduate assistantships
  - Funding for enhanced academic support services.
- Invest in our enrollment management division
  - More scholarships for students
  - More funding for part-time instruction for general education courses
  - More funding for student academic support services and for recruiting
- Proposing to set up a President's Performance Fund for departments to submit proposals for new initiatives that directly support the university's strategic plan, Building the Vision, and drive our academic and support units to the goal of excellence that has always been part of NMSU's mission.

Student priorities:

- Affordable tuition
  - Excellent academic programming
- a. Approval of Tuition and Fee Changes and Budget Guidelines for 2012-2013 – (Ms. Angela Throneberry, Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance)

Senior Vice President Throneberry requested the approval of the Tuition and Fee Changes and Budget Guidelines for the 2012-2013 academic year as follows. Reporting is Senior Vice President Throneberry and Anna Price, Chief Budget Officer.

**Sources and Uses of New I & G Funds – Las Cruces Campus  
Fiscal Year 2012-2013**

Sources:

State General Fund Appropriations – I & G Funding Formula	
Student Credit Hour Funding for Completed Courses	1,449,161
Outcomes: Total Awards	1,569,932
Outcomes: Awards in STEM and Health Fields	1,088,988
Outcomes: Awards to Financially At-Risk	461,454
ERB 1.75% swap from Employee to Employer	2,093,200
Institutional Share (Land and Permanent Fund Adj)	<u>12,865</u>
Net State General Fund Appropriation	<u>6,675,600</u>

Tuition and Fees Increase	
Enrollment Base Adjustment for Required Fees	335,810
Tuition and Fees Increase (3.7% Blended)	<u>3,522,400</u>
Total New Tuition and Fees	<u>3,858,210</u>
Increased Internal Charges to Non-I&G Units	200,000
Utilization of Previously Approved Pool for Compensation	<u>1,000,000</u>
Total Sources	<u>\$11,733,810</u>

## Uses:

ERB 1.75% swap from Employee to Employer	2,093,200
Student Fee Supported Units	335,810
2% Compensation Increase	4,104,800
Pool for New Faculty Positions	1,000,000
Pool for New Staff Positions	500,000
Equity Pool for Faculty and Staff	500,000
Enrollment Management Plan Fund	1,200,000
President's Performance Fund	750,000
Graduate Assistantships	250,000
Time and Effort Standardization (I&G/RPSP)	400,000
Operating Budget Adjustments	<u>600,000</u>
Total Uses	<u>\$11,733,810</u>

**Las Cruces Campus Proposed Increases**Undergraduate Rates

## Resident Students

Hourly Rate	3.7% increase
Full Time Rate	3.7% increase
135 Mile Texas Rate	3.7% increase

## Non-Resident Students

Hourly Rate	4.4% increase
Full Time Rate	4.4% increase

Graduate Rates

## Resident Students:

Hourly Rate	3.7% increase
Full Time Rate	3.7% increase
135 Mile Texas Rate	3.8% increase

## Non-Resident Students

Hourly Rate	4.4% increase
Full Time Rate	4.4% increase

**Funding Requests for Fee Support Activities**

The Student Fee Board's recommendations regarding the FY2013 required student fees presented to President Couture have been incorporated into this

proposal. As listed under the column entitled SFRB Approvals, fee increases are proposed for:

- Campus Tutoring Services in the amount of \$24,000
- Fixed Fee Units in the amount of \$155,200
- Sexual and Gender Diversity Center in the amount of \$12,000
- Sponsored Programs in the total amount of \$39,510

The Compensation Adjustments shown in the next column represent the fee amount necessary to support the proposed 2% compensation pool. The full increase amount of \$335,810 is covered through a base adjustment for enrollment growth, therefore no increase in the required fee rate is requested.

### **Community College Proposed Increases**

#### Alamogordo Community College

Resident In-District	3.9% increase
Resident Out-District	4.4% increase
Non-resident	4.4% increase

#### Carlsbad Community College

Resident In-District	0.0% increase
Resident Out-District	4.4% increase
Non-resident	4.3% increase

#### Dona Ana Community College

Resident In-District	3.2% increase
Resident Out-District	4.1% increase
Non-resident	4.6% increase

#### Grants Community College

Resident In-District	4.6% increase
Resident Out-District	4.5% increase
Non-resident	4.8% increase

### **NMSU and Peer Institution Rate Comparison**

The final slide provides a comparison of NMSU's tuition and fees for academic year 2011-2012 to our peer institutions and New Mexico Institute of Mining & Technology. NMSU remains competitively priced on a regional and national basis. Even at tuition and fee rates proposed for FY2013, NMSU remains in the lower half of the FY2012 schedule and moves from 12<sup>th</sup> to the 11<sup>th</sup> spot out of the 17 institutions presented.

President Couture asked for clarification with regard to the comparison chart of NMSU's peer groups that if these are the new rates for this coming year or the rates from the current year.

SVP Throneberry stated that the rates shown on the schedule reflect the FY2012 rates.

Regent Gonzales wanted to know why we are using current rates.

SVP Throneberry replied that most of the peer institutions have not formally approved their rates for the upcoming year so to reflect consistent data, FY2012 rates were used for this comparison.

Regent Conniff mentioned that NMSU has done a great job of living within our means.

Regent Conniff moved, seconded by Regent Pino, to approve the Proposed Tuition and Fee Changes and Budget Guidelines. The motion carried unanimously.

- b. Approval of proposed Housing and Meal Plan Rates for 2012-2013 Academic Year – (Ms. Angela Throneberry, Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance)

Senior Vice President Throneberry requested the approval of the Housing and Meal Plan Rates for the 2012-2013 academic year, as follows. Reporting is Tammy Anthony, Assistant VP of Auxiliary Services and Julie Weber, Director of Housing and Residential Life.

Tammy Anthony stated an increase in housing rates of 3% for all single student housing facilities was being proposed for academic year 2012-2013. The student family housing will remain at the same rate as this year with no increase. NMSU's proposed housing rate structure remains competitive with both regional universities and the local market. Funds generated through the housing rate increase would be used to offset operating increases associated with the Academic Success and Student Retention Program Expansion for housing residents in support of the President's goals for success. In addition, increases would support personnel and staffing adjustments associated with new programmatic changes, new apartment facility and also to allow for better support to our student family housing and our Greek/Affiliated complex. Some exciting things that are going on in housing for Fall 2012 in addition to those just mentioned are both Garcia Hall and Cervantes Village will be receiving an updated look this summer with changes to furniture, carpet, lights, locks and much more. Replacement of furniture in Greek/Affiliated units are planned as well and opening of all buildings of Chamisa II with the new volleyball pit next to the community building will occur this Fall. The rates are compared to similar properties in the local market. Although the occupancy overall has been trending down slightly over the last couple of semesters, there are several facilities that are "above market" and are the locations that are the first to fill each year in our

housing population. This indicates that this is an area we have to watch very carefully but it also represents to us that there is a value of living on campus that is perceived by our students. NMSU competes favorably with our university peers when students are comparing housing prices.

Regent Gonzales wanted to know what the regional market includes.

Tammy Anthony responded that the regional market includes the university peers that are defined through Living the Vision as well as ten larger universities that are included in that mix that compare to us as far as housing models. They are actually comparing NMSU to 25 different universities, 10 of which are larger universities.

Regent Gonzales wanted to know if there is an industry standard that measures cost by square foot that tells us where we are maximizing our efficiency.

Julie Weber responded that our master planning firm has provided data as to how we compare nationally on a cost per square foot in terms of our operating cost and we are consistently and significantly lower than all the schools that are in the national database.

Regent Gonzales wanted to know since we are priced better than other universities and operating more efficiently than the national standard says we should, then why have our occupancies decreased.

Julie Weber responded that one reason is the changing of the off campus market in those that we compete with. As the economy has changed local land lords have had struggles as well and rents have changed so that available properties are competing with NMSU. The other reason is that they have watched their retention very carefully and tracked why students leave our housing and in many cases it is forces beyond our control. The number of students that leave housing at the end of the Fall has gone up but those are students that have left the university entirely at the end of the Fall. Housing retention is a tiny bit higher than university retention but overall retention concerns across campus affects housing as well. She pointed out that in the new and renovated facilities, occupancy has remained consistently high. The challenge has been in the older unrenovated facilities to maintain occupancy.

Regent Gonzales wanted to know if this is treated as a standalone enterprise separate from the rest of the university system.

SVP Throneberry mentioned that the Housing and Residential life operation is in fact treated as an auxiliary service therefore it must be self supporting in that the revenues generated through the operation must in fact sustain the operation itself. As we worked through this recommendation we have also analyzed the long term budget plan running out 10 years as we have to make sure that we



analyze such things as a rate increase and balance that with a fluctuation of occupancy as well.

Regent Gonzales mentioned that no support comes from operations of the university.

SVP Throneberry responded that the operation itself continues to be sustained or operate with net revenue. One of the components that they work with carefully is to make sure that they have appropriate transfers to the renewals and replacements in order to make sure that they're maintaining the facilities and they consider that an operating expense as well. They have juggled that just a bit this year. They will also make sure that they achieve the appropriate long term targets for our R & R balances. They also have some efforts underway regarding the academic success of the students that are the residents in these facilities and how those retention rates were improved. They also work with the provost and VP Montoya to ensure that they are doing what they can in terms of enrollment, recruiting our students, and then retaining university wide so they will continue to focus on that area.

Tammy Anthony talked about a 5 year summary of our housing rate increases.

A new meal plan structure is being proposed this year in an effort to better meet the needs of our students based on usage patterns and direct student feedback. What we have heard from our students over the past few years: more flex dollars, add late night options, the ability to bring guests, and to offer a family resident meal plan. The following are proposed:

Aggie Unlimited Plan increase of 15.99% = \$.69 per meal

Aggie Choice 230 Plan increase of 12.9% = reduction of \$.10 per meal

Late night options offered through the retail area in Corbett Center:

Hours: M – TH 6:00 pm to Midnight  
Sunday 7:00 pm to 11:00 pm

10 guest passes per plan annually for Aggie Unlimited, Aggie Choice 230 and Aggie 64.

Freshman living on campus will have the option of two plans: Aggie Unlimited and the Aggie Choice 230 plan.

The current to go program will remain with one added restriction that it will be limited to one to go option a day.

The students will have the ability to add Aggie Dining Dollars through the semester and also have the ability to rollover those Aggie Dining Dollars from Fall to Spring.

Taos Restaurant will be adding new features as part of the renovation plans. The wild mushroom is a new feature that provides made to order salad, vegetarian, vegan, signature specialties and using seasonal and local products. The Magellan 360 Grill will feature an interactive station with the students where they choose their ingredients with the Chef. The Chef prepares it right there for them at the 360 Grill.

The comparison of our peer institutions indicates we are in the lower bottom in relation to our peers. The graphs represent total board cost and average cost per meal in where we stand with our peers.

Regent Pino moved, seconded by Regent Conniff, to approve the Proposed Housing and Meal Plan Rates. The motion carried unanimously.

- c. Approval of proposed Parking Permit Rates for 2012-2013 Academic Year – (Ms. Angela Throneberry, Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance)

Senior Vice President Throneberry requested the approval of the Proposed Parking Permit Rates for the Las Cruces campus for academic year 2012-2013. Reporting is Tammy Anthony, Assistant VP of Auxiliary Services and Ophelia Watkins, Director of Transportation and Parking Services. The proposed increases are as follows:

- \$.08 per month or \$1 per year for motorcycle permits
- \$.17 per month or \$2 per year for all student permits and includes outer lots for employees as well
- \$.42 per month or \$5 per year for employee permits in all other lots designated for faculty/staff
- \$.67 per month or \$8 per year for special permits (represents less than 50 permit holders)

The proposed increase would generate an estimated \$43,900 in additional revenue for the Department of Transportation and Parking Services. Funds generated through the proposed rate increase would be used to support operating costs. Operational expenditures have remained at the same level for the past 3 years. The additional permit revenue will be used to offset reductions in the revenue they are experiencing in their citation revenue tied to the "reduced to a warning every two years" for anyone that receives a citation. The current parking policy 2.95.15 changed in FY 10 from every 5 years. In FY 11 their revenue was decreased by \$45,700 for the reduced to warning during that year. That change has impacted total revenues and this increase would be used to offset that.

The comparison to peers reflects NMSU at the lowest for students across our peer institutions. The NMSU proposed parking permit rates are very favorable with regional and peer universities.

The average parking permit rate increase for the past 5 years are less than 5% for all categories except for special permits which affects a small group of permit holders.

In closing, permit increases requested today are in compliance with the employee union agreement and in addition they have had several meetings with representatives of key stakeholders, students, faculty and staff. The \$2.00 increase was expected by the students.

Regent Pino asked if there is a parking reserve fund or if the revenues are used up by the end of the year.

Tammy Anthony mentioned that in their budgeting process they set aside as part of the operational costs a reserve fund to handle renewal and replacement associated with parking lot maintenance and repairs. At the end of a year there is money available for the next year to plan for those priority replacement and repairs.

Regent Conniff moved, seconded by Regent Pino, to approve the Proposed Parking Permit Rates. The motion carried unanimously.

**10. APPOINTMENT OF REGENTS TO VARIOUS COMMITTEES AND BOARDS BY THE BOARD CHAIR**

- a. Two Representatives to the Audit Committee

Regent Gonzales and Regent Conniff were appointed.

- b. Two Representatives to the Regents Budget Committee

Regent Pino and Regent Cheney were appointed.

- c. One Representative to the NMSU Foundation, Inc.

Regent Cheney was appointed.

- d. Two Representatives to the Arrowhead Center, Inc. Board of Directors

Regent Gonzales and Regent Dulany were appointed.

- e. Two Representatives to the Real Estate Committee

Regent Pino and Regent Conniff were appointed.

**11. NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

No report given at this meeting.

**12. INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATIONS**

No informational presentations given at this meeting.

**13. RECURRING REPORTS**

No recurring reports given at this meeting

**14. OTHER / COMMENTS**

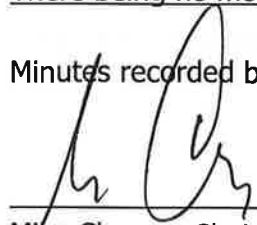
No comments.

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion, Regent Pino moved.

There being no more business the Board of Regents adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

Minutes recorded by Carolyn Aragon.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Mike Cheney, Chair  
Board of regents



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Christopher Dulany, Secretary / Treasurer  
Board of Regents