



## FOR FACULTY

Dr. Malm introduced Dr. Pamela Cheek. Dr. Cheek said that the visit she and her colleagues were making to the Gallup campus was meant as a way to strengthen the connections between Albuquerque and the branch campuses. It was also a way to present research opportunities for faculty and students. Dr. Cheek praised the expertise of UNM-Gallup faculty and said that, as she is the Associate VP of Student Success, she was invested in promoting that, along with her work in promoting Covid vaccination.

Dr. Anita Grierson introduced herself. She said that she leads the UNM Grand Challenges program. She had information about the expansion of the program and wanted to engage branch campus faculty in either existing Grand Challenges or in contributing to new ideas.

Dr. Sarita Cargas introduced herself. She is faculty in the Honors College, and also heading up a possible future Grand Challenge, food and housing insecurity at UNM, currently surveying students in a longitudinal study on these topics. Her team wanted to get the data to the legislators who had the ability to ameliorate the challenges students were facing, especially since they had shown that 50% of Native American students at UNM are food insecure.

Dr Tim Schroeder introduced himself as the Director of Undergraduate Research at UNM.

Dr. Sarah Dominguez said that she was with the student advising office and the Transfer Pathways project for students transferring from the branches to the Albuquerque campus.

The final presenter was Dr. Eric Lau, the Dean of Honors College and University College. He had also been a professor of music at UNM since 2003.

Dr. Cheek resumed speaking and said she would talk about ways to bring together the various initiatives represented. She stated that she thought students cannot be helped without faculty expertise. To this end, she wanted to improve the transparency and accessibility of the platforms being used to communicate with students. The University would be adopting Canvas for use in online courses, and Dr. Cheek said it was much more user-friendly than Blackboard. In addition to Canvas, they are also bringing on a new Curriculum Workflow project, which will help transfer students and sync the various curriculums across branches.

Dr. Cheek then detailed the new dynamic and interactive catalogue that the curriculum will feed into. UNM-Gallup will be able to subdivide the catalogue for their students, but it will also interface with the general UNM catalogue. Someone interested in law school, for example, would be able to easily move through the UNM-Gallup catalogue and then enter UNM's law program.

Target X, a program which helps incoming students, will provide a guided pathway for support and resources for students. Pre-Albuquerque students can now be advised by people at UNM-ABQ, and how much advisement they have received can be tracked. Degrees.unm.edu will show students how their transfer pathways will look from the branches they attend to the Albuquerque campus. Finally, Dr. Cheek stated, there will be upcoming CCTE changes that may allow Deans to interact with CCTE faculty at their own and perhaps other UNM branches.

Dr. Cheek's next topic was faculty development opportunities related to gen ed courses. She planned to speak about three in total. The first was the Student Experience Project, which is a national project run by six different universities and teams of researchers. Dr. Cheek described it as teaching relatively easy techniques for instructors to enhance equity and belonging for students in the classroom. Multiple

interventions can improve and increase the number of A's and B's in a class, and reduce the number of D's, F's, and withdrawals. The call for faculty to join this project would go out on the ALLFAC relatively soon. The Student Experience Project offers a \$1000 stipend for those who join it.

There is a \$4000 stipend for ECURE, the next development opportunity Dr. Cheek wanted to talk about. ECURE fellows go through a summer workshop series, design their own projects, and build into their own classes the opportunity for students to do either low-level, mid-level, or high-level-engagement research. Fellows can also collaborate with other faculty. It is a well-funded program and has an expansive STEM basis.

Dr. Cheek said that UNM is also seeking people who can talk about coordinating faculty development opportunities for instructors at branches. These would be designated faculty who are invested in promoting professional development opportunities.

Dr. Cheek then mentioned an upcoming spring pedagogy conference put on by the Center for Teaching and Learning. The second day will be virtual, easing participation for branch faculty.

Faculty can participate in Grand Challenges as well, Dr. Cheek added. President Stokes launched an initiative to invite faculty across the UNM system to address the big questions of our time through research. Three initial challenges have received seed money, but now they are expanding to create collaboratives of faculty to come up with more questions. Dr. Cheek welcomed engagement from branch faculty on issues like successful aging and successful STEM education, water resources, or culturally responsive teaching. Grand Challenges will address local issues, but leverage those to address global issues in their wake.

Opportunities for students were presented as well. Dean Lau was there to talk about bringing first-time students into an Honors experience. Students could enter Honors as transfer students or earn Honors credit on branch campuses. These would help students transfer into a more intimate, smaller college on the Albuquerque campus. These opportunities are credit-bearing. Dean Lau also heads up a liberal arts program in which students can take multi-disciplinary degrees. The Office of Pre-Health Professions is one example of a place many students can go; University College is partnering with the Health Sciences Center for this.

Dr. Cheek then spoke about trying to build relationships with branch campus and Faculty Assemblies to help students transfer to the Albuquerque campus. Lobo Transfer Pathways is the new way of doing this, to make it smoother, and will replace old articulation agreements. This should begin expanding in Fall 2022. Advisors will be able to see the milestones and credits that students will need to hit more easily with the new program.

UNM has also established a Transition Success team. It meets every third Tuesday of the month, and has a mixture of faculty, administrator, and student members. Dr. Cheek invited Gallup faculty to join it, saying said she would send URL's for this group and other programs to Dr. Mingus after the meeting.

Dr. Cheek then talked about a new research study that has been launched by Dr. Cargas. It addresses students who suffer from food and housing insecurity. This work will quantify this data and gather qualitative accounts from students and is researching best practices to apply them to the New Mexico context. They would welcome increased participation and data collection in the Gallup community. Dr. Cheek praised Dr. Cargas's ability and expertise in addressing these problems and delivering information about what students need. Students who experience this kind of insecurity are 1.6 times more likely to withdraw from the Albuquerque campus than other students who are more secure.

Dr. Cheek then mentioned the Undergraduate Arts and Designs Network, headed by Dr. Schroeder. It engages students in high-impact practices, doing direct and immediate work in research or in applied creative artistic or design work; this helps first-generation and other at-risk students early on in their academic careers engage with that work or those calculations. This is a way of coordinating the classroom with the community.

Finally, there will be an undergraduate research conference on April 7<sup>th</sup>, and Dr. Cheek said that they would welcome Gallup student participation. This can be done virtually with Zoom. And Dr. Cheek thought recognition of undergraduates' research would allow them to persist in it.

Faculty participation in these initiatives would allow student participation, Dr. Cheek said. Any student in the UNM system should be able to have a chance early on to feel that they belong in higher ed, that their experience matters, that their faculty will provide them with advanced skills, and that they have distinctive and powerful opportunities to progress toward their dreams. This is impossible without branch faculty participation. This is a chance for faculty to be creative.

Dr. Cheek said that at 1:45 PM, her colleagues would be giving their full presentations in Dr. Malm's conference room. She invited members of the Assembly to be part of this for further understanding of faculty and student opportunities.

Dr. Mingus said he would send the information Dr. Cheek would send him to the chairs as well and encouraged other faculty to attend this presentation after the Assembly meeting. One Assembly member said that the Branch Community College Council had been talking about these ideas and is another way that faculty can interface with them.

INFORMATION	PRESIDENT'S REPORT	DR. MATT MINGUS
<p><b>Faculty Assembly President Dr. Matt Mingus reported on the following:</b></p> <p>Dr. Mingus's first topic was software and office supplies for people who are working remotely or on campus. He encouraged faculty to talk to their chairs about these supplies if they needed them. If faculty did meet resistance, Dr. Mingus asked for them to talk to him so that they could clarify matters.</p> <p>Dr. Mingus then talked about the elections for the next slate of Assembly officers. Nominations for the election would open on March 14<sup>th</sup>, and the nominations would be due on March 25<sup>th</sup>, the date of the March Assembly meeting. Faculty who were interested or had questions could reach out to him or the Faculty Assembly Operations Committee members. After the March meeting, there would be an online election, between April 7<sup>th</sup>—April 13<sup>th</sup>, and faculty would be needed to vote as well as to run. The results will be announced at the April 15<sup>th</sup> Faculty Assembly meeting.</p>		

INFORMATION	VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT	DR. ARETHA MATT
<p>Dr. Aretha Matt also said that she would encourage any faculty member to reach out for information and consider becoming part of the Operations Committee. She had enjoyed the experience and felt it had connected her more to the campus.</p>		

She then presented on the Open Office Hours meeting with the administration team and the Distance Learning Committee on February 11<sup>th</sup>. This focused on a proposal presented by the DLC about lack of support for online teaching at UNM-Gallup. The proposal would be for someone to be hired to help faculty: an instructional designer or remote learning coordinator. The admin team said that there was a plan for someone to serve in the role temporarily, with the creation of a full-time role coming later.

Dr. Mingus added that the DLC had been asked to provide a list of responsibilities that the position would need to fulfill, and that they could take this to the Dean and agitate for a faculty member to receive course releases and occupy this position.

#### **ACTION ITEM**

#### **CURRICULA COMMITTEE**

#### **DR. LORA STONE**

Dr. Lora Stone said the Curricula Committee had approved several Form C's and Form B's that would also need Assembly approval, and put some information about the forms in the chat so that other faculty could see the details of the vote. There would be four motions, for eight forms.

The first four forms were revisions of existing AA degree plans; Dr. Stone said that these revisions would ensure the degree plans' alignment with HED plans and keep the number of credit hours at 60-61, thus ensuring students were not spending most of their financial aid on non-required classes. This had taken some extra time to get through the review and revision process of because of COVID. Dr. Stone added that these revised plans also ensure that requirements are met for our accreditation bodies. The Form C's were for the A.A. in Business Administration, the A.A.S. in Auto Technology, the A.A.S. in General Studies, and the A.A.S. in Welding Technology.

**I make a motion to approve these four form C's as a block.**

**Motion:** Lora Stone

**Seconded:** Yes

**Vote:** Approved unanimously

**Motion Carried:** Yes

**I move to approve the block.**

**Notion:** Christopher Dyer

**Seconded:** Yes

**Vote:** Approved unanimously

**Motion Carried:** Yes

The next vote was on a Form B for a new course to replace the current IT 101 class, which is not transferrable to any other institutions. The new course is an HED-approved one and transferrable, and will be added to the UNM catalogue. Dr. Stone said that we have faculty who can easily teach the new Introduction to Computers course.

**I move that we approve Form B for BCIS 11115.**

**Motion:** Lora Stone

**Seconded:** Yes

**Vote:** Unanimously approved

**Motion Carried:** Yes

Next up were the revisions of existing certificate plan degrees. Like the ones for the AA degrees, they would bring the certificates into HED alignment and reduce the credit hours required, in this case to 30-31 hours from what were sometimes 45 hours or more, as well as ensuring that the certificates meet requirements for accrediting bodies and state licensure. These were Form C's for the Certificate in Auto Technology and the Certificate in Welding Technology.

**I move to approve these two as a block.**

**Motion:** Lora Stone

**Seconded:** Yes

**Vote:** Unanimously approved

**Motion Carried:** Yes

**I move to approve the block.**

**Motion:** Jim Fisk

**Seconded:** Yes

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** Unanimously approved

**Motion Carried:** Yes

The last approval needed, Dr. Stone said, was for a new certificate out of the BA&T division. This was for a Barbering Technology certificate as distinct from the existing Cosmetology certificate. This will accommodate students who only want barbering, and do not want or need to take Manicuring and other classes more geared toward general Cosmetology.

**I move to approve the Form C for the Certificate in Barbering Technology.**

**Motion:** Lora Stone

**Seconded:** Yes

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** Unanimously approved

**Motion Carried:** Yes

## INFORMATION

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

### DISCUSSION

**Dr. Mingus asked for committee reports:**

**UNMG Senator to ABQ:** Dr. Tracy Lassiter reported that the Branch Campus Council has begun meeting twice a month, not just once. They are working on the wording of workload policies to align them with the faculty handbook. They were also trying to determine if there was a campus liaison for students transferring from branch campuses to Albuquerque, and hoped to be working with them soon. Professor Chris Chavez will be talking with members of the Council on getting CTE faculty promoted.

At the Faculty Senate meeting in January, Dr. Lassiter said, the focus was on the UNM 2040 initiative. There was also a report on enrollment numbers being down throughout the system, with the biggest drop, 22%, at Gallup. Dr. Finnie Coleman will be stepping down as Faculty Senate President. This

coincides, Dr. Lassiter added, with elections and chances for committee work and for branch faculty to possibly join a committee on the Albuquerque campus.

**Budget Review Committee:** Dr. Bruce Gjeltema, the chair, said that the committee had met twice since the last Assembly meeting: once by themselves, once with the Dean and CFO. They had talked about the canvassing of faculty and staff the committee performed last semester, and gotten some feedback from the admin team. Dr. Gjeltema had also sat in on the local advisory board meeting, to get a good sense of the budget from the CFO when Mr. Griego presented it to the board. The budget is about \$15.6 million; because of tax revenue shortfalls and the closing of the refinery and other last stages of mining leases being pulled down, we are down about \$400,000 in local tax revenues and \$400,000 in tuition. Inflation and supply chain issues are also affecting the budget, Dr. Gjeltema said.

The CFO had explained that COVID monies were mostly used as backfills in expenditures. Mr. Griego had also said that we will continue to do these kinds of adjustments, and did not present other solutions to the local board or the committee. They will use savings from vacancies and retirements to try and backfill. Dr. Gjeltema added that they are working to fill the Library Director and Library Aid Specialist positions, vacancies in the CAL area, and a vacancy in the art area. However, UNM-Gallup's IT department and custodians are currently in shortfall. An MLT search has been conducted, but not enough candidates have been applying. Dr. Gjeltema was aware of a Human Services position that had not been posted, and said that there are no current plans to fill the extra advisor positions, or the vacant faculty jobs in Psychology, Welding, or EMS. The CFO tends to focus on balancing the budget, not on investments in future programs or hiring of faculty or upkeep of infrastructure, which Dr. Gjeltema believed needed to be surveyed.

**Committee on Teaching Excellence:** The chair was not present, so no report was given.

**Constitution and By-Laws Committee:** Dr. Keri Stevenson, the chair, said she had received only one proposal to change the constitution and by-laws, with unfortunately not enough time for the committee to discuss the proposal in-depth. She will work with the faculty member to bring the proposal forward next year. She also reminded Assembly members to send along ideas and language for the changes to constitution and by-laws as early as possible, preferably in the Fall 2022 semester, for a vote in Spring 2023.

**CARC:** Professor Kelley Schukar, the chair, reminded the Assembly that student artifacts for assessment were due by May 15<sup>th</sup>. She also said that she had turned in an assessment report herself and had received some good ones; she would be sending feedback to the faculty who had submitted reports after reviewing them.

**Curricula Committee:** Dr. Stone had no extra announcements to make after the approval of the Curricula Committee action items, but she thanked people for turning in paperwork to begin to catch up on the processes that COVID had delayed.

**Library Committee:** Dr. Andrew McFeaters, the chair, said that the committee had met that morning and had received some good ideas. Professor Jim Fisk had asked for acquisitions advice. They might be able to develop an academic journal to publish student research; Dr. McFeaters said this might be established before the faculty research journal is. The committee is considering hosting a fall semester event in the library to celebrate the community and engage students and faculty, as well as mourn the experience of the pandemic. There are also ways the library could showcase their Native American collection of books and to try and reinvigorate our ties to the Native community. Professor Fisk and Professor Joe Kee, Jr. are currently working on this idea.

**Strategic Planning Committee:** No report was given as the chair was not present.

**Distance Learning Committee:** No report was given as the chair was not present.

**Adjunct Faculty Affairs Committee:** Professor Kristi Wilson, the chair, said that the committee had held a Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> meeting and discussed creating a mentorship system for adjuncts. They are planning to send out a questionnaire so that adjuncts can ask for mentorship and committee members can mentor adjuncts who want it.

**UA-UNM, Faculty Union:** Dr. Stevenson, the UA-UNM Gallup VP, said that the union will hold a compensation bargaining meeting on the afternoon of Thursday the 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 to which all bargaining unit members are invited, whether or not they are dues-paying. This will be a chance for members to ask questions and make their voices heard about what their priorities are when it comes to compensation bargaining.

**INFORMATION**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**VARIOUS**

Dr. McFeaters announced that he and Professor Dana Aldis had been putting together a Gallery Event this Thursday to celebrate portraits for Black History Month. Included would be writing prompts about them and typewriters for people to use in their writing.

Professor Jon Saatvedt asked faculty to make students aware that there is a tour scheduled for a water facility in Fort Defiance, as well as one with Rhino Health. These tours would be for science students and others who are interested even outside of that field. Professor Saatvedt can share safety guidelines and details with students by email.

There will be a presentation by a representative this week for Black History Month to talk about Education, Professor. L. D. Lovett said. There may also be a speaker series for Women's History Month.

**ACTION ITEM**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**I move to adjourn.**

**Motion:** Christopher Dyer

**Seconded:** Yes

**Vote:** Unanimous

**Motion Carried:** Yes

**Meeting adjourned at 1:42 PM, by Faculty Assembly President Dr. Matt Mingus.**

**Recorded by:** Keri Stevenson, Faculty Assembly Secretary, on February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022