



**The
Faculty Assembly Meeting**

MINUTES **September 17th, 2021 12:30 PM ZOOM/Remote**

MEETING CALLED BY:	Dr. Matt Mingus, Faculty Assembly President
MINUTES ASSEMBLED BY:	Keri Stevenson, Faculty Assembly Secretary
FACULTY ATTENDEES:	Antoinette Abeyta, John Burke, Chris Chavez, Neysa Cox, Alok Dhital, Christopher Dyer, Robert Encinio, Jim Fisk, Corine Gonzales, Bruce Gjeltama, Yi-Wen Huang, Ann Jarvis, Hasani Jayasinghe, Tom Kaus, Elroy Kinsel, Carolyn Kuchera, Carmela Lanza, L.D. Lovett, Jonathan Lumibao, Elvira Martin, Aretha Matt, Andrew McFeaters, Roseanna McGinn, Matt Mingus, Cecille Perales, Jon Saatvedt, Kelley Schukar, Kristian Simcox, Chad Smith, Cecilia Stafford, Keri Stevenson, Lora Stone, Kristi Wilson, Gayle Woodcock, and John Zimmerman.
GUESTS:	

ACTION **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** **DR. MATT MINGUS**

DISCUSSION	
I move to approve the agenda.	
Motion: Carolyn Kuchera	
Seconded: Yes	
Discussion: None	
Vote: Unanimous	
Motion Carried: Yes	

ACTION **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** **DR. MATT MINGUS**

DISCUSSION	
I move to approve the minutes from the August 20^h, 2021 UNMG Faculty Assembly meeting.	
Motion: Jonathan Lumibao	
Seconded: Yes	
Discussion: None	
Vote: Unanimous	
Motion Carried: Yes	

<p>Faculty Assembly President Dr. Matt Mingus reported on the following:</p> <p>Dr. Mingus announced that Ms. Cecilia Stafford is retiring; he asked for a round of applause for her great work, and thanked her. Ms. Stafford replied with gratitude and expressed her enjoyment of having been Library Director for UNM-Gallup.</p> <p>Dr. Mingus then discussed the letter to he had sent to the Provost’s office about the lack of a vaccination mandate for high school students. The Provost had received it and responded. HED, PED, the Provost, and Chancellor Malm plan to lobby Dr. Scrase to write a letter to the governor that would encourage her to mandate vaccines for everyone eligible, including students 12 and up. On a positive note, however, Dr. Mingus noted that complete vaccination rates for our county’s residents are extremely high, and 53% of our students have verified. More of our high school enrollees have verified that they are vaccinated or partially vaccinated, which means that our high school students are actually leading our vaccination stats. 1.3% of UNM-Gallup students have asked for an exemption from the vaccine; this is the lowest of any campus in the UNM system. Dr. Mingus therefore believes that we have a reporting problem, not a vaccination problem.</p> <p>On a final note, Dr. Mingus said that he would be meeting with Valencia’s Faculty Assembly President and other branch campus Presidents monthly so that all of the branches can share support and advice. As there were no questions, Dr. Mingus turned the floor over to Dean Daniel Primozic.</p>	

DISCUSSION	
<p>Dr. Primozic began his report with a note that the New Mexico Cabinet Secretary is being pressured to approach the governor about issuing a vaccination mandate. This may mean that we will have one sooner than otherwise.</p> <p>The Dean then spoke about the Diversity Summit being led by Professor L. D. Lovett and the Diversity Committee. He encouraged faculty to sign up, especially since it is free and all-virtual.</p> <p>The RPT site is also ready for uploads from faculty who are going up for promotion or tenure, Dr. Primozic said. However, once faculty upload material to the site, we can’t change it. Dr. Primozic therefore encouraged faculty to work closely with their division chairs to upload the material.</p> <p>He then reported progress on the new innovations. Dr. Sabrina Ezzell is putting suggestions for eight new programs forward, and Professor Ann Jarvis has five new programs being put together. It will take a long process to get those changes approved, however. UNM-Albuquerque is expected to be the main obstacle to approval of new programs.</p> <p>The Dean’s next topic was Online MAX courses, which Dr. Mingus had discussed with him. The Dean would be meeting with Albuquerque campus officers on Tuesday to ask more about what online MAX is, and how we get there. Since it is the gold standard for online teaching, we naturally want our online</p>	

faculty to meet it. The Dean plans to push to see how we do this. He has so far not received a response from the people he questioned, but he hopes for a better one from Dr. Pamela Cheek.

The Dean added that faculty may be able to negotiate a stipend or course releases for those who become online MAX teachers, and UNM-Gallup will pay any necessary tuition for the training, which would have been very handy last summer. The Dean plans to look elsewhere for high-quality online teacher training if UNM does not provide.

INFORMATION PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT MR. LEE LAMB

DISCUSSION	
<p>Mr. Lee Lamb said that the recent media reports around the vaccine mandate letter was an example of crisis communication. He stated that he always plans to be supportive of individuals or groups at the UNM-Gallup campus that have an issue or want to make a media statement, and he does not plan to censor people. However, the UNM media policy says that when planning to engage with the media, faculty need to run their proposed actions by Mr. Lamb first. Working with him is an advantage, Mr. Lamb said, and it will help if he knows media plans in advance and can support us publicly with this advance knowledge. Dr. Mingus added that if Assembly members are contacted by the media, we should contact Mr. Lamb.</p>	

ACTION ITEM CHANGING THE OCTOBER MEETING DATE DR. MATT MINGUS

DISCUSSION	
<p>Dr. Mingus explained that the Assembly needed to vote on a change for the October meeting date, which currently fell on the Friday of Fall Break. Dr. Mingus set up a Zoom poll asking which date faculty wanted, October 8th or October 22nd. Three-quarters of the faculty were in favor of the October 22nd date, to which this Assembly meeting will be moved.</p> <p>At this point, having finished their reports, the executive team left.</p>	

DISCUSSION ITEM ONLINE TRAINING DR. MATT MINGUS

DISCUSSION	
<p>Dr. Mingus began the discussion of online training. UNM-Gallup's admin team as well as the Albuquerque admin team want it to be mandatory. The current RASI training is not enough. Dr. Mingus noted that our last shift to completely remote teaching was a disaster, but that we may have to do this again in the future, for this or other pandemics.</p> <p>There is also the issue of online MAX courses. This designation means that faculty have worked in tandem with an instructional designer, and so the class meets HLC standards in a way that online courses do not without it. UNM-Albuquerque only advertises online MAX courses in their online schedule; branch campus faculty are not allowed to teach them and thus do not have their online classes listed in the Albuquerque schedule. Dean Primozic is in favor of online MAX classes at UNM-Gallup and faculty receiving the course designation by undergoing the required training, which is Evidence-Based Practices for Teaching Online, or EBPTO. Dr. Mingus then asked the Assembly if training for teaching online beyond RASI should be required, and if so, what kinds of incentives could be offered to our faculty.</p>	

One Assembly member had thought that all online faculty have to take EBPTO, but Dr. Mingus said that requirement was for RASI. EBPTO is currently mandatory for online MAX faculty only. EBPTO is also not just about constructing a course shell, but is an in-depth six-to eight week course.

Other faculty who had taken the course voiced their approval of it. It has assignments and activities every week, and it would be possible to do it during the academic year. Canvas training would start with EBPTO in the spring. One faculty member asked if the Dean had been referring to this course, and Dr. Mingus agreed that he had been, but added that the Albuquerque campus wasn't allowing even Gallup faculty who had undergone the EBPTO training to teach online MAX courses. One Assembly member speculated that Gallup is competing with Albuquerque for online students.

The next question was whether branch campus faculty would have access to an approved instructional designer in the future. Dr. Mingus replied that the matter is complicated. Albuquerque had spent their CARES Act money on hiring instructional designers, and thought the branches should do the same. UNM-Gallup chose not to do this. Dr. Mingus thought that an even better solution would have been for the branch campuses to collectively hire instructional designers who would work for all four, but obviously, this did not happen.

Another faculty member asked if there was any kind of fee individual faculty members would have to pay for EBPTO, which would mean the Assembly should not support making it mandatory. Dr. Mingus said there was none, since UNM-Gallup covers it. However, he was most interested in what the Assembly thought would be a good incentive to take the training, such as stipends or course releases.

One faculty member who had constructed a course shell for UNM-Albuquerque in the past said they had received a \$2000 stipend as a developer's fee, but had to surrender a certain amount of control. Dr. Mingus confirmed that currently, UNM-Albuquerque pays faculty \$1500 for a course shell, and faculty have to give up all property rights to their shell. They do not get to retain those rights. Other Assembly members said that that UNM-Valencia and UNM-Taos did pay their faculty in the past to develop course shells, but less than Albuquerque had. They favored the idea of giving money for specific kinds of courses and training instead.

Another Assembly member added that faculty will need to have their training paid for, and there was some confusion as to whether EBPTO would be if UNM-Gallup professors took it. Dr. Mingus assured the Assembly that any mandatory training would be paid for by the UNM-Gallup administration. They are strongly committed to not being cheap.

The discussion then turned to faculty needing to receive stipends, thanks to Dr. Mingus for bringing up the subject, and asking whether mandatory training would be more effective if we waited to require it until Canvas was in place? Dr. Mingus replied that this made sense, but as Canvas will be implemented beginning in Fall 2022, training on it should take place in the spring semester. Several other people agreed with him, and others brought up that we might be limited to giving stipends for one round of training, as otherwise we might be bankrupting our budget.

One person asked in chat how much time the training took a week, and another Assembly member replied that it took 1-2 hours a week. Others brought up that Albuquerque campus faculty get compensated for their training, and therefore we should, as well. Some of the faculty on the Distance Learning Committee had taken a Quality Matters course in the summer, which was paid for by the Dean. As for EBPTO, there was some concern that the guidelines were very general, but others pointed out that the training is good, and allows networking. Since some of the other campuses have a listserv for questions by online faculty, there was also support for establishing this instead of requiring training.

As EBPTO is a class that lasts six to eight weeks, said some faculty members in the next part of the discussion, a stipend for course development is a useful thing. Dr. Mingus said that this is not the same as building course shells with online MAX, and steered the conversation back to incentives to take the training. However, others said that incentives do not matter as much as learning how to get student engagement online. What should we do for students who don't have online access at home? We owe it to them to get better at online teaching. Dr. Burke planned to bring this issue up at the next Branch Campus Council meeting, since professional development tends to be a lower priority at all branches.

Dr. Mingus wrapped up the conversation, and asked Assembly members to contact him or the chair of the DLC with other questions.

INFORMATION	COMMITTEE REPORTS	COMMITTEE CHAIRS
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DISCUSSION		
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Dr. Mingus asked for committee reports:

UNMG Senator to ABQ: Dr. John Burke read a statement from Dr. Tracy Lassiter, who was unable to attend the meeting. The Branch Campus Council has become a permanent committee of the Faculty Senate. The Senate also discussed enrollment numbers for the various branches; Gallup lost the largest number of students. We have about 1800 students currently. The Branch Campus Council has already held one meeting, and discussed the promotions of lecturers and CTE faculty, which are issues across all branch campuses.

Budget Review Committee: Dr. Gjeltema, the chair, had no report.

Committee on Teaching Excellence: Professor Roseanna McGinn, the chair, spoke about the death of Professor Chris Platero this past June. He was a past chair of the TEC who made many contributions to students and the community, and he will be missed.

Constitution and By-Laws Committee: The chair, Dr. Keri Stevenson, thanked the new members for being willing to be part of the committee. She asked other committee chairs and members to look at their by-laws for possible changes, as Dr. Stone had begun to do with the Nominations and Curricula Committees, and submit changes to her for a possible vote in the spring. She will also call on committee chairs to encourage their members to vote for these changes, so that they can pass in the first round of voting.

CARC: Professor Kelley Schukar, the chair, reported that there had been no meeting yet. Assessments are not due until Oct. 22nd, after which the committee will meet.

Curricula Committee: Dr. Lora Stone reported that the committee had met that morning, and had reviewed the EMT Basic and Intermedia Programs. There are three other full program reviews coming up in the spring, as confirmed by the division chairs. The Curricula Committee's next meeting will be on Oct. 22nd.

Library Committee: Dr. McFeaters, the chair, reported that the Library Committee had been meeting. They are discussing how to start the academic journal, and have sent out the email about the Experts' Corner. There will be chess offered in the library, along with other possible events to increase student engagement that are being discussed for this semester and next semester.

Strategic Planning Committee: Dr. Burke thanked Professor Ann Jarvis for providing faculty representations to the committee. There will be a meeting soon, because UNM 2040 has not been detailed yet, and this needs to be discussed before planning around it.

Distance Learning Committee: Dr. Lanza reported that the committee is working on a proposal that will talk about the Teaching and Learning Center they hope to establish at UNM-Gallup. Every other branch has something like this; Taos has an Office of Educational Technology, for example. We are the only branch without one. Dr. Lanza said that the Center would need someone who worked specifically for instructors.

Dr. Lanza is also concerned that Adobe Creative Cloud is being offered to faculty, but not the training to use it. The Center could offer this, along with support to faculty for online teaching. She asked Dr. Mingus if the proposal would need to come through the Faculty Assembly; Dr. Mingus agreed that we would want that to happen, and that he would be willing to speak to the Chancellor and the Dean in support of the proposal.

Dr. Christopher Dyer, who is planning to develop a community outreach center, said that it would help with student engagement, and could perhaps be integrated with the Teaching and Learning Center.

Adjunct Faculty Affairs Committee: Professor Kristi Wilson, the committee’s chair, said that they had met, and they had discussed general possibilities for helping adjuncts on our campus. The main idea was for a webpage that would have resources for adjuncts, or possibly creating a recorded Zoom session that would allow part-time faculty to do check-ins. Adjuncts need information regarding cars, whether they can have hygiene materials and computer access, and whether they need to get peer evaluations of their teaching.

UA-UNM, Faculty Union: Dr. Keri Stevenson, UNM-Gallup Vice-President for UA-UNM, detailed the points of the recent COVID bargaining update sent out by the union, which included ongoing negotiation over the high school students’ exemption from the vaccine mandate, voluntary reduction in force for COVID, and progressive versus immediate discipline for faculty found to have violated the mask and vaccine mandate. She drew the Assembly’s attention to a news article quoting Dr. Cristyn Elder, the union’s Secretary, who said that she was surprised UNM had high school students without NET ID’s (one of the Provost’s explanations for why high school students could not be required to obey the vaccine mandate; he had said some did not have NET ID’s and could not be tracked without them). The union continues to discuss these matters with UNM administration.

INFORMATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS

VARIOUS

Professor John Zimmerman announced that several recently-purchased artworks had been installed on the campus. Two are in the Zollinger library, where there is a large, beautiful painting by the artist Nacona Burgess. The other is a large installation piece near Ms. Cecilia Stafford’s office done by Isadora Stowe, an artist from Las Cruces. These were paid for by 1% of the money from the library renovations. The third artist, David Sloan, had new prints in Gurley Hall hung to the left of the mailroom. Professor Zimmerman urged all faculty to stop by and look at the pieces.

Professor Wilson said that there was a new gallery work-study, meaning the gallery could now be open longer hours, and we can encourage students to stop by. The work-study student will be present Monday, Tuesday, and Friday from 12-4 and on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. The gallery is currently hosting a display of quilts from the McKinley County Quilt Guild.

ACTION ITEM**ADJOURNMENT**

I move to adjourn.	
Motion: Matt Mingus	
Seconded: Yes	
Vote: Unanimous	
Motion Carried: Yes	
Meeting adjourned at 1:32 PM, by Faculty Assembly President Dr. Matt Mingus.	
Recorded by: Keri Stevenson, Faculty Assembly Secretary, on September 17 ^h , 2021	