



**INFORMATION****FACULTY ASSEMBLY  
PRESIDENT'S REPORT****PROFESSOR JOHN ZIMMERMAN**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	
<p><b>Faculty Assembly President Professor John Zimmerman reported on the following:</b></p> <p>Professor Zimmerman, who was stepping down with this meeting, first thanked Professor Chris Chavez for being Vice-President for the past 18 months. He also thanked Dr. Keri Stevenson for being Secretary for several years, and the Ops Committee members for the past year: Professor Sonya Damon, Dr. Aretha Matt, and Dr. Tracy Lassiter. His gratitude also went to Ms. Cecilia Stafford for being the parliamentarian.</p> <p>The Nominations Committee members, Dr. Arun Muthaiyan, Dr. Lora Stone, and Dr. Christopher Dyer, then received his thanks, along with the Senators and the administrative team. In particular, Professor Zimmerman praised the administrative team for being willing to work with faculty in the past strange and difficult year.</p> <p>At this point, Professor Zimmerman ceded the floor to Dr. Muthaiyan of the Nominations Committee.</p>	

**INFORMATION****FACULTY ASSEMBLY  
ELECTION RESULTS****DR. ARUNACHALAM  
MUTHAIYAN**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	
<p>Dr. Arun Muthaiyan took the floor to announce the results of the Faculty Assembly elections held between the 12<sup>th</sup> and the 14<sup>th</sup> of April.</p> <p><b>President:</b> Dr. Matt Mingus  <b>Vice-President:</b> Dr. Aretha Matt  <b>Secretary:</b> Dr. Keri Stevenson  <b>Operations Committee Members:</b> Professor Sonya Damon, Professor Sarah Llanque, Dr. Carolyn Kuchera  <b>Nominations Committee Members:</b> Dr. Arun Muthaiyan, Dr. Lora Stone, Professor Roseanna McGinn</p> <p>Dr. Muthaiyan also announced that the revisions to the constitution and by-laws had been approved by two-thirds of the voting faculty.</p> <p>At this point, the new Faculty Assembly President, Dr. Matt Mingus, took over the meeting. He thanked Dr. Muthaiyan for his work in running the election, and Professor Zimmerman for being President for the past two years. He then asked the administrative team to present their reports.</p>	

**INFORMATION****DEAN'S REPORT****DEAN DR. DANIEL PRIMOZIC**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	
<p>Dean Primozic first asked Dr. Muthaiyan to send him the election results so he could present them to the local advisory board. He then thanked the faculty for their effort during the past year, and Professor Zimmerman for his leadership of the Assembly. The Dean next congratulated Dr. Mark Remillard and Dr. Perry James, who had both recently successfully defended their dissertations.</p> <p>Dean Primozic also shared the news that most of the approvals are in for the Process Tech program; it had passed the Board of Regents. There are still some outstanding approvals remaining, such as from</p>	

HED. It looks like the approvals mean the classes will be on the fall schedule, but it has not yet been placed there.

As a final note, the Dean added that he was proud of the faculty, and then turned over the floor for a Student Affairs report.

**INFORMATION**

**STUDENT AFFAIRS REPORT**

**DR. JAMES  
MALM**

**DISCUSSION**

The Chancellor, Dr. Malm, stepped in as Ms. Michelle Lee, Acting Director of Student Affairs, was not able to attend the meeting. He had wanted to report on the spring graduation event. UNM-Gallup had just received approval two days prior after hours for the event to be live, after UNM had studied the proposal for an in-person graduation. It will be held on Friday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, at 10 AM, at the Gallup High School football field. There are 400 graduates eligible, as they are not only counting the ones from this semester, but also plan to re-invite 2020 graduates.

They will have to work within state guideline; for turquoise counties, those currently mandate no outdoor event larger than 150 people. This means there will be no guests present, only students, faculty, and university officials. However, they will be livestreaming the event for friends and family to watch. The graduation will be socially distanced, with all participants masked, and they will be keeping the bathrooms closed. This will be one reason they are planning a very short event. Dr. Malm stated that the focus will be on the core academic event of legally and actually conferring the degrees on the students.

Dr. Malm emphasized that this announcement is big news, but it is a one-off event; this will not change the tier system or who can be present on campus. Ms. Michelle Lee is currently Acting Director of Student Affairs due to Ms. Jayme McMahon's leave. She will be working with logistics and health concerns, and wants both students and faculty to feel safe enough to attend.

One Assembly member asked about the cap and gown situation for those faculty who do not have their own regalia. Dr. Malm replied that the administrative team is working with the bookstore to get hurry-up orders of regalia pushed through. If they cannot get the materials shipped here in time, faculty can attend the graduation in professional dress.

Dr. Malm added his own thanks to Professor Zimmerman for his tenure as President of the Assembly and thanked the other members of the Faculty Assembly leadership, and welcomed Dr. Mingus. Then the executive team departed.

**ACTION ITEM**

**UNM-GALLUP  
EXPERTS' CORNER**

**DR. ARUNACHALAM  
MUTHAIYAN**

**DISCUSSION**

Dr. Arunachalam Muthaiyan took the floor to share a Library Committee initiative with the Assembly that they hoped for the Assembly's support on. He added that he hoped faculty had had a chance to review the proposal sent by e-mail (see appendix to these minutes).

The Library Committee wants to create a database to encourage collaboration between UNM-Gallup faculty members and promotion of their scholarly research and what duties they would be willing to

fulfill for other faculty and students. This Experts' Corner would be added to the library page at the beginning of the fall semester. Data will be collected via a survey, a draft of which is currently available until April 30<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Muthaiyan said that the survey will collect data about research interests, as well as interests individual faculty members have in providing scholarly services to students and colleagues. It will be posted publicly, and that way, students and community members can search for it, as well as faculty. The database will be searchable by department or name.

Dr. Muthaiyan added that faculty members' names, emails, and division names will be public, but their phone numbers will not be published in the database. Faculty who are contacted by the media should direct them to the PR office, although the database will allow the media and others to search for experts they want to speak to.

**I move that the Assembly support this plan.**

**Motion:** Arun Muthaiyan

**Seconded:** Yes

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** Unanimous

**Motion Carried:** Yes

Dr. Muthaiyan finished his presentation by thanking the Assembly for their support.

## INFORMATION

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

### DISCUSSION

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

**UNMG Senator to ABQ:** Dr. Tracy Lassiter said there had been no Faculty Senate update since the Assembly meeting in March. However, the Branch Committee Liaison Group is closer to becoming a Standing Committee in the Senate. It has gone through the Policy Committee, and is currently going back to the Faculty Senate Ops Committee for review. Then it will be voted on. This vote may happen before the current academic year is over, or in the fall, but Dr. Lassiter hopes it will be this year. She said it has been a good step to get recognition for branch faculty from our colleagues in Albuquerque.

**Budget Review Committee:** Dr. Bruce Gjeltema had sent out a brief narrative on the committee's report. The state budget has been hit hard by the COVID shutdown and the oil price dip at the same time. Things have recovered quickly but not fully. The federal relief monies have helped a lot. Because so many of New Mexico's citizens live in poverty, this makes a bigger impact; the CARES Act and HEROES Act have helped sustain us.

Future funding is uncertain, Dr. Gjeltema said, but we will wait and see. 5% of our budget was taken back by the state in spring, as they were anticipating economic fallout. The aid and the recovery in oil prices meant that it was looking good in January, and they matched last year's budget fairly closely. We lost 5%, but we saved some money in utilities, adjunct salaries, and retirements, and there are also currently unfilled faculty and staff positions that have saved more. This budget is about the same as last year's at the same time, which is good news. We do have an 8% leaner campus than we did before, and we do not really understand the shortfalls because we are working remotely. We will need to assess the impacts of losing staff members and admin assistants, and how this will hit our efficiency. We have currently not had to draw from reserves, partially because we are under diminished operations.

Dr. Gjeltema finished his report by stating that he thinks faculty have to be able to approve future budget decisions, especially on strategic hiring or spending.

**Committee on Teaching Excellence:** The chair was not present at the meeting. However, a member said that the committee has been working on documents to recommend to the faculty.

**Constitution and By-Laws Committee:** Dr. Stevenson stated that this committee did not hold a separate meeting in April, but had collaborated on e-mailing faculty members eligible to vote and reminding them to do so. She thanked Dr. Jordan Balaban and Professor Lilia Cuciuc, the other members of the committee, as well as Ms. Cecilia Stafford and Professor Sonya Damon of the Operations Committee, who had taken on some emailing duties, and everyone who had voted for the constitution and by-laws changes.

**CARC:** This committee had no report.

**Faculty Committee on Student Affairs:** Technically this committee still exists because the constitution has to be approved before it is officially dissolved, but there was no report to present.

**Curricula Committee:** The chair of this committee, Dr. Carolyn Kuchera, had recently stepped down. In her final report to the Assembly, she stated that they had conditionally approved the Construction Tech program review, and had held an election for a new chair and vice-chair. The chair will be Dr. Lora Stone and the Vice-Chair Professor Jonathan Lumibao.

**Library Committee:** Dr. Arun Muthaiyan announced that this committee's final meeting will be next week, along with the election for a new chair. The committee is working on a possible proposal for an academic journal that could also benefit the scholarly work at UNM-Gallup's campus. This proposal will be presented in the fall.

**Strategic Planning Committee:** Dr. John Burke reported on the progress of the building plans in store for the campus. The original plan, for an \$8 million new building, was rejected. However, the legislature did allot some money for renovations, and other funds are being pulled from money that was set aside in hopes of a new building and from the reserves. The CTE faculty have chosen option 1 for the design plan, which is renovation for the buildings with CTE faculty staying in place. The whole budget for the project will be about \$6 million. The timelines are uncertain, but the anticipated start to building will be in summer 2022.

**Distance Learning Committee (ad hoc):** Dr. Yi-Wen Huang, the chair, announced that there have been emails about two online courses for online instruction. UNM-Gallup faculty can register for any of them.

There will also be a mandatory course in Learning Central on online teaching that all faculty must complete. Dr. Huang will send out a reminder to the faculty if she sees it, but it had not yet been uploaded.

The Distance Learning Committee will also be collecting information regarding courses faculty have taken in online instruction, and the faculty's willingness to take courses like this in the fall. They will need the division chairs' support to gather this information.

Finally, Dr. Huang notified the Assembly of the election of a new chair for the DLC: Dr. Carmela Lanza.

**Adjunct Faculty Affairs Committee (ad hoc):** Dr. Kristian Simcox stated that the committee had met last week to finalize their work for this year and set goals for the fall. One of the things they wish to do is revive the adjunct orientation. They will also be electing a new chair in their first meeting of the fall.

**INFORMATION**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**VARIOUS**

Professor Zimmerman gave a bargaining update for the union; the conversations are ongoing. However, the union is a little closer to a final contract with UNM administration. He urged faculty to contact him if they have questions, and reminded the Assembly that the union covers all full-time faculty except visiting members and division chairs. He believes there will be some strong benefits in the finalized contract for adjuncts, lecturers, and branch faculty.

Professor Sonya Damon said that there will be CPR classes offered in the future; the campus may also receive help from county officials to put on an Emergency Management Course. This relies partially on approval from the Safety Committee. Faculty and students can currently do this course on the Albuquerque campus; it involves such facets as active shooter drills in classrooms and the formation of a volunteer campus emergency response team. This team would serve as a stopgap in an emergency situation until the accredited agencies arrived.

There will also be CPR courses offered online in summer and fall. The class takes from 3-5 hours. Professor Damon said there is a possibility of offering such a course during Convocation Week, but it is not certain as they do not have the approval yet.

**ACTION ITEM**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**I move to adjourn.**

**Motion:** Keri Stevenson

**Seconded:** Yes

**Vote:** Unanimous

**Motion Carried:** Yes

**Meeting adjourned at 1:19 PM, by Faculty Assembly President Dr. Matt Mingus.**

**Recorded by:** Keri Stevenson, Faculty Assembly Secretary, on April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2021

## Appendix: UNM-Gallup Experts' Corner Proposal

To: The UNMG Faculty Assembly  
From: Arunachalam Muthaiyan, Chair – Library Committee  
Date: April 07, 2021  
Subject: “UNMG Experts’ Corner” - Project Proposal from the Library Committee

On behalf of the Library Committee, I respectfully submit the following project proposal to the UNMG Faculty Assembly for the comments and recommendation.

### **Introduction**

As a two-year community college, our UNM-Gallup is a teaching intense institute and our faculty are always dedicating most of their time for teaching. However, our UNM requires scholarly activities from our faculty for Retention, Promotion and Tenure evaluation. We always strive to continue our research and scholarly activities. To facilitate a collaborative and interdisciplinary research and scholarly activities on our campus, our Library Committee would like to propose the project “UNMG Experts’ Corner”.

### **Information**

***UNMG Experts’ Corner:*** As you know, faculty experts from different disciplines are serving on our campus. To encourage their collaborative research activities, and to offer their scholarly services to the fellow faculty and our students, we need a searchable database to find a right expert available on our campus. The Library Committee would like to build a database that can be accessible from the library web page.

***Plan:*** In the beginning of each academic year, the Library Committee or the Library Director will send the data collection invitation email to our faculty, and compile the data. With the help of IT and Web Designer, the data will be uploaded on the library website. The database can be accessed from the link “UNMG Experts’ Corner” by our campus community including students to search and find an expert for their collaboration and scholarly services.

A draft data collection form is available in this link for your review until April 30, 2021 (5:00 pm).

If you have any questions, please contact: [muthaiyan@unm.edu](mailto:muthaiyan@unm.edu)

The Library Committee, looks forward the comments, suggestions, and recommendation from the Faculty Assembly.

Thank you!