



**NEW MEXICO STATE UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS
REGULAR MEETING
May 6, 2022 at 8:00 AM**

Regents of New Mexico State University

Chair Ammu Devasthali, Vice Chair Arsenio Romero, Secretary/Treasurer Neal Bitsie, Dina Chacón-Reitzel, and Christopher T. Saucedo

Non-Voting Advisory Members - ASNMSU President Mathew Madrid, Faculty Senate Chair Julia Parra, Employee Council Chair Susanne Berger

University Officials - Chancellor Dan E. Arvizu, Ph.D., Interim Provost Dorothy Campbell, Ph.D., Vice Chancellor Ruth A. Johnston, Ph.D., Ed.D., General Counsel Roy Collins III, J.D.

MINUTES

A. Call to Order, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

Chairwoman Devasthali called the meeting to order at 8:01 AM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Regent Romero lead the Board of Regents and all those who were present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Confirmation of Quorum, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

The Chief of Staff confirmed the quorum. Four members of the Board were present in the Board Room of the Educational Services Center; Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali, Vice Chair Arsenio Romero, Secretary/Treasurer Neal Bitsie, and Regent Dina Chacón-Reitzel. Regent Christopher Saucedo joined virtually.

The Chief of Staff took the roll call of the non-voting advisory members: Faculty Senate Chair Julia Parra, Employee Council Chair Susanne Berger, and ASNMSU President Mathew Madrid were present in the Board Room.

The Chief of Staff took the roll call of university officials: Chancellor Dan Arvizu, Interim Provost Dorothy Campbell, Vice Chancellor Ruth Johnston, General Counsel Roy Collins were present in the Board Room.

2. Approval of the Agenda, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

Chairwoman moved to amend the agenda to move item K, the Chancellor's report, to immediately follow the awards and recognitions, which is item B. Regent Romero seconded the motion. All were in favor and none were opposed. Motion passed.

3. Introduction of Chief Information Officer Thomas Bunton, Vice Chancellor Ruth Johnston

Vice Chancellor Johnston introduced Chief Information Officer and Associate Vice President Thomas Bunton. He began his role at NMSU a few weeks ago. Thomas has a Ph.D. in Organizational Communication from the University of Wisconsin Milwaukee, where he worked for several years aiding the institution in becoming R1. Thomas earned a master's degree in computer and information technology as well as his bachelor's degree in a double major in pre-law and psychology at Purdue. Thomas has more than 20 years of experience from technology and has held many leadership positions at University of Wisconsin Milwaukee, Purdue, and

University of Arkansas in Little Rock, where he began as Director of Technology and Infrastructure Operations and within two years was promoted to Vice Chancellor and Chief Information Officer. As Vice Chancellor and Chief Information Officer he was responsible for Strategic Vision and Leadership of IT initiatives for the university. Vice Chancellor Johnston stated that Thomas is adding tremendous value to NMSU.

Thomas Bunton is pleased to be a part of NMSU. Thomas Bunton went on to say, “The excitement I see and the potential I see on this beautiful campus is amazing. You can’t find a better time to join a campus than when you graduate students. The excitement I see with parents and the potential we provide them is absolutely amazing. Great job to you. Great job to the administration and certainly to our students.”

4. Introduction of ASNMSU President-Elect Garret Moseley and ASNMSU Vice President-Elect Kaleb Herndon, President Mathew Madrid

ASNMSU President Madrid introduced the ASNMSU President-Elect Garret Moseley. Garret Moseley is a junior studying government and criminal justice. Prior to being elected, Garret served as a senator for the College of Arts and Sciences.

Garret appreciated the recognition and is looking forward to 2022-2023.

B. Awards and Recognitions, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

1. Athletic Recognitions, Head of Athletics External Affairs Chet Savage

Head of Athletics External Affairs Chet Savage stated that they are honoring teams and individuals who have been honored through the Western Athletic Conference and for Championships. There are 16 sports at NMSU and are honoring 7 teams and representatives. Head of Athletics External Affairs Chet Savage appreciates everyone’s support of intercollegiate athletics and continued with the recognition as follows:

Men’s Basketball regular season, Western Athletic Tournament Champions and went on to the NCAA and won a game in the NCAA tournament, which is the first time in a number of years.

Teddy Allen – Men’s Basketball - 2021-2022 WAC Regular Season - Player of the Year as well as Newcomer of the Year.

Johnny McCants – Las Cruces native, second team All-Western Athletic Conference – All Defensive Team.

Jabari Rice – Second Team All-Western Athletic Conference.

Amelia McKee – Women’s Golf – 2022 Western Athletic Conference Champions – First Team and 2021 Western Athletic Conference Champions Player of the Year – First Team

Alison Gastelum – Women’s Golf – 2022 Western Athletic Conference Champions – First Team and 2021 All - Western Athletic Conference Champions Freshman of the Year

Danny Bowen – Women’s Golf – 2022 Western Athletic Conference Champions Coach of the Year and 2021 Western Athletic Conference Champions Coach of the Year

Chloe Gavino – Women’s Tennis – 2022 - First Team All-Western Athletic Conference Champions – Doubles

Lisa Zhu - Women’s Tennis – 2022 - First Team All-Western Athletic Conference Champions – Doubles

Aidan Thomas – Men’s Golf 2021 – All - Western Athletic Conference Freshman of the Year

Garrison Smith – Men’s Golf 2021 – All – Western Athletic Conference Champions Second Team

Mike Dirks – Men’s Golf 2021 - Western Athletic Conference Coach of the Year

Nicolas Buitrago – Men’s Tennis – 2021 All - Western Athletic Conference Champions – First Team Singles
Corey Clarke – Men’s Tennis – 2021 All – Western Athletic Conference Champions – Second Team Doubles
Petr Stavrovskij – Men’s Tennis – 2021 All – Western Athletic Regular Season Champions Honorable Mention
Jody Visser – Men’s Tennis – 2021 All – Western Athletic Regular Season Champions Honorable Mention
Pun Chanachai – Women’s Golf 2021 All – Western Athletic Conference Champions First Team
Nikki Butler – Women’s Softball – 2021 All – Western Athletic Conference Champions First Team Player of the Year
Matalasi Faapito – Women’s Softball – 2021 All Western Athletic Conference Champions First Team Freshman of the Year
Romsey Lopez – Women’s Softball – 2021 All - Western Athletic Conference Champions First Team
Gabby Aragon – Women’s Softball – 2021 All – Western Athletic Conference Champions Second Team
Kayla Bowen – Women’s Softball – 2021 All – Western Athletic Conference Champions Second Team
Maya Martinez – Women’s Softball – 2021 All Western Athletic Conference Champions Second Team
Kathy Rodolph – Women’s Softball – 2021 All Western Athletic Conference Champions Coach of the Year
Lia Mosher – Women’s Volleyball – 2021 All – Western Athletic Conference Champions First Team
Carly Aigner-Swesey – Women’s Volleyball – 2021 All – Western Athletic Conference Champions Second Team

2. Proclamation recognizing Julia Parra for her Service as Chair of NMSU Faculty Senate, *Chancellor Dan E. Arvizu*

Chancellor Arvizu read the proclamation for Dr. Julia Parra for her service as Faculty Senate Chair.

WHEREAS Julia Parra, will end her second term as Faculty Senate Chair on May 10th 2022.

AND WHEREAS, her experience of being first-generation college graduate and tenured associate professor at the School of Teacher Preparation Administration and Leadership brought a brought a dedicated and professional leadership style deeply benefited faculty senate to NMSU as a whole.

AND WHEREAS, her experience in online, blended, hyflex, pedagogy was invaluable to faculty as part of her beginning as Faculty Senate Chair at the height of the global Coronavirus pandemic when faculty were having to quickly pivot to online learning.

AND WHEREAS, her steadfast commitment to shared governance at NMSU created a sense of community and advocacy among all faculty during committee challenges at NMSU for the past two years.

AND WHEREAS, Dr. Parra worked with senators to advance legislation that provided solutions to key issues related to student success, shared governance, elimination of discrimination, promotion of decisions making at NMSU during the pandemic that was based on scientific principles and best practices and public health.

AND WHEREAS, she helped faculty senate in realigning standing committees in order to advance senator engagement and focused outcomes on issues undertaken in faculty senate.

AND WHEREAS, she worked tirelessly, well beyond her regular duties as faculty senate chair in order to serve the faculty at NMSU and ensure that the dedication of the faculty to NMSU was acknowledged both within the NMSU system and the larger New Mexico community.

AND WHEREAS, she provided invaluable service to the incoming members of the Board of Regents at NMSU administration during times of leadership transition and further her understanding of not only NMSU, but the challenges faced by faculty and staff and students during the pandemic.

AND WHEREAS, Dr. Parra provided a communication bridge between the office of the provost and the faculty where they both can understand and address the challenges faced by each.

AND WHEREAS, Professionalism and advocacy on behalf of not only NMSU faculty, but her thoughtfulness of staff and students has helped to make NMSU a better and more inclusive organization.

AND WHEREAS, she has listened attentively and shared comments and ideas with positive intent and did so with grace and dignity, integrity on the students, faculty, and staff with whom she collaborated.

AND WHEREAS, she provided leadership in serving others that was grounded in the knowledge in diverse, intellectual, cultural, and geographical characteristics of the NMSU system.

AND WHEREAS, Chancellor Arvizu said that he is impressed by her determination to overcome obstacles, while passionately advocating for NMSU's land grant mission and expressing her dedication and success of students of all levels.

NOW THEREFORE, be it proclaimed in official session of the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University thanks and commends Julia Parra for her dedicated service on this 6th day of May 2022, Las Cruces, New Mexico.

3. Proclamation recognizing Mathew Madrid for his Service as President of ASNMSU, Chancellor Dan E. Arvizu
Chancellor Arvizu read the proclamation for Mathew Madrid's service as president of ASNMU.

WHEREAS Mathew Madrid, as president of the Associated Students of New Mexico State University has served with distinction as an advisory member of the New Mexico State University Board of Regents since May 2020.

AND WHEREAS, Mathew dedicated his college years to ensure everyone was provided resources to reach their full potential.

AND WHEREAS, he was committed to working with NMSU and also students, faculty, and staff outside of the ASNMSU organization.

AND WHEREAS, he lobbied in Santa Fe for the lottery and the opportunity scholarship while in the roles of director of government affairs, after running a successful election to become the ASNMSU president.

AND WHEREAS, he worked determinately to advocate for resources for students to make all voices of the student body heard, both in the state and national levels.

AND WHEREAS, he oversaw the process to send qualified candidates to the governor for a new student regent.

AND WHEREAS, he chaired the Student Fee Review board comprised of students, faculty, and staff.

AND WHEREAS, he helped ASNMSU recover from the pandemic and upheld the community services offered to the students through these most difficult times.

AND WHEREAS, NMSU Chancellor Dan Arvizu said that he is impressed by Mathew's leadership skills, his talent for relationship building and his ability to address difficult issues with confidence and humility.

NOW THEREFORE, be I proclaimed in official session of the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University thanks and commends Mathew Madrid for his dedicated service on this 6th day of May 2022, Las Cruces, New Mexico.

C. **Report from the NMSU System Chancellor to the Regents of New Mexico State University, Chancellor Dan E. Arvizu**

Chancellor Arvizu acknowledged the work that has been done related to the pandemic and countless heroes that haven't been recognized for all the great that work they do and asked Vice Chancellor Johnston to do a recognition on the great work that Facilities and Services employees have done.

Vice Chancellor Johnston gave a special shout-out to Facilities and Services. They spent a tremendous amount of time and energy beautifying the campus so that students and parents can get a sense of joy that everyone has felt on campus. For example, Hadley Hall landscaping has totally been re-planted. They really focused on the walk from this building to Educational Services and through the horseshoe. They have done a lot of landscaping, laying concrete, and work outdoors. Their work is a testament to making sure that the students, families, faculty, and staff feel like this is a place that cares deeply.

Chancellor Arvizu stated that this past week he had a very positive meeting with the student representative from the graduate school and acknowledges that it was a very productive meeting and recognizing that we are all here for ensuring that our students are taken care of. There have been challenges and issues relative to graduate students. Chancellor Arvizu was very inspired by the opportunity to meet with representatives and understand more specifically some of the challenges they face. That meeting resulted in a statement that the Chancellor released. "I had a very positive and productive meeting with several of our grad students yesterday morning. The State Employer Relations Board voted to certify their union earlier this week and I informed that NMSU would not appeal that decision. I look forward to continuing this dialogue with our graduate assistants as we work to address the concerns they have raised." Chancellor Arvizu stated that he is confident that our students are well attended and motivated by all the right factors. This is an opportunity to move more aggressively than we ever have on this issue.

Chancellor Arvizu announced that the NMSU branch campuses have started having their graduation ceremonies beginning last night. Grants, Carlsbad, and Alamogordo are having their in-person graduations today. They've spread their leadership around so that they have an administrator at each of their ceremonies. Dr. Linda Scholz is representing NMSU in Grants. Dr. Shelly Stovall will be representing in Alamogordo. Dr. Ken Van Winkle will be representing in Carlsbad. DACC had their graduation last night, joined by Regent Devasthali, Dr. Johnston, the DACC Advisory Board and superintendents Travis Dempsey, Ralph Ramos, and Debbie Moore. Also, New Mexico State Senator Carrie Hamlin, more than 75 faculty and staff, and more than 800+ students who applied for graduation.

Chancellor Arvizu stated that there will be an upcoming internal management retreat. The purpose of this is to build a network and continue the progress on LEADS 2025 Strategic Plan and make modifications as necessary.

Chancellor Arvizu stated that there is a lot of attention at the state level on enrollment with a tremendous amount of financial aid that NMSU has received for students. That is going to support and help improve enrollment as time goes on. On May 19th at the next LFC meeting, the Chancellor, joined by the Vice President for Student Success, Dr. Scott and ASNMSU President Garrett Mosely, will be addressing the LFC. There are approximately 4,000 students enrolled in the summer, which is about the same as what it was last year. The Fall semester starts on August 17th and prior to that there will be orientation sessions, which gives some indication of what the fall semester will look like. The student applications for fall are up 20%. Graduate student applications are up by 5% as well. Transfer students are up by about 10%. It's too early to make projections in this COVID era. Chancellor Arvizu gave a shout-out to the online programs. The online programs have 140 new enrollments already and are on tract to add 600 students for the fall semester.

Chancellor Arvizu announced that last Wednesday evening the Teaching Academy Gala celebration took place. It was inspirational and faculty play a valuable part in it. Former Deputy Provost Greg Fant gave some remarks, such as creating a positive, engaged, learning environment, which was inspirational.

Chancellor Arvizu acknowledged the most challenging issue this year, which are the fires that are raging in the northern part of the state.

Dean Flores gave an update to the critical situation at one of their Agricultural Experiment Stations, which is at risk. The science center in Mora is still in the path of the fires. Everyone in the college is committed and their sense of service is beyond what is written. Leslie Edgar went to Mora to assist the team in moving the seedlings and the seed bank. One of the biggest challenges with the forest is to replant. The only place in the southwest of the United States where seedlings are produced is in the Mora facility, the College of ACES at NMSU. They produce approximately 300,000 seedlings. Unfortunately, some of their research paths were burned in the fire. Last heard, the fire is 20% contained. Dean Flores and the Chancellor conveyed to the employees to be safe. The first thing that they did was to save the seed bank. Leslie went with her team and moved all of the seedlings to Los Lunas. Because there were 300,000 seedlings, they weren't easy to move and many trips were made to move all of them. This is an exemplary work of service from the university. The individuals in the college are working with the emergency teams in giving instruction on how to proceed. They created shelters in Taos, Las Vegas, Santa Fe, Springer Fairgrounds, Rio River Fairgrounds to keep pets safe. The governor reported in her letter to President Biden that 500 cattle are dead, which is a major impact in the state. They have been arranging for hay to be moved from the eastern part of the state to these areas because the cattle have to be taken care of. Dean Flores commends all extension individuals and one person in particular who lost her home in the fire.

Regent Romero thanked Dean Flores and his team for all of their work. The Las Lunas Extension Station is a good example of all of the facilities working together.

Chairwoman Devasthali and Regent Chacón-Reitzel thanked Dr. Edgar and everyone for their time and effort.

D. Public Comment, Associate Vice President Justin Bannister

Associate Vice President Justin Bannister said, "There are a few individuals that are signed up for public comment. I'd like to remind everyone in attendance that public comment is provided so that members of the community have an opportunity to give input to the Board of Regents. Please note that in compliance with the New Mexico Open Meetings Act, the Board is prohibited from taking action on any item that does not currently appear on the agenda, except in the case of an emergency. Consequently, regents will not take into account for action, any communication made in public comment unless the matter is already on the agenda for consideration at today's meeting. Each individual addressing the Board is asked to state their name and please keep their comments to within three minutes and I will let you know when 30 seconds remain. The first person who has signed up for public comment is Holly Massey."

Holly said, "I'm Holly Sumrall Massey and this morning I speak on behalf of myself and David Massey, who is unable to attend due to his work schedule. We are native New Mexicans. We love New Mexico, Las Cruces, and New Mexico State. My comments come today as a very disappointed and sad Aggie heart. I'm a 1998 graduate of New Mexico State with my bachelor's in accounting and my husband's in '95 bachelor's graduate and a '98 masters graduate as well. Our families, combined, have eight NMSU graduates. The Chancellor's decision to require students to be vaccinated to attend New Mexico State is appalling. We are preparing to send the third generation to New Mexico State this fall. One of our daughters was set to begin her education at New Mexico State this coming August, but we're now working on plans to possibly go out of state if the vaccine requirement is not rescinded. We do understand that an exemption may be honored; however, this is quite ridiculous, making this declaration after three years and an accurate unscientific data sets to substantiate such a decision. It has proven that vaccines for a virus do not work. COVID-19 is not a disease. COVID-19 is not a required vaccination per the New Mexico Department of Health to attend public school. As of today, per the COVID-19 dashboard the number of COVID-19 cases reported is 0.01%. This clearly indicates a mandate to require vaccination is unfounded. I am positive that there is pressure from the state and federal agencies to withhold funds if such a vaccine mandate is not made. Every dollar helps, but what is more important is the student. Nelson Mandela said 'education is the most powerful weapon we can use to change the world.' However, New Mexico State is now

denying that knowledge to help change the world. Instead, Chancellor Arvizu is now dictating what a student must do to attain and receive an in-person education at New Mexico State University. Online learning has proven to fail so many students of all ages and it isn't right for ours. It's only obvious and unfortunately there has to be continued decrease enrollment and decrease in private donation due to his decision. The short-term effects may be difficult, but the long term will have rewards of many generations who will recall that New Mexico State University allowed individuals to make their own decisions regarding the vaccine. The increase in projected enrollment as he just stated of an uptick of 20% will not hold true if this vaccine requirement stays in place. We know the Board of Regents cannot respond on public comment, but our prayer is that the Board will reflect upon our request to rescind the mandate. Zig Ziglar said if 'you're not willing to learn, no one can help you. If you're determined to learn, no one can stop you.' Do not be the one who stops others from learning. Thank you for your time."

Associate Vice President Bannister introduced the next individual for public comment, Matthew Varakian.

Matthew said, "Hello Board of Regents. My name is Matt Varakian. I'm a Ph.D. student in the astronomy department. I've spoken at the last few Board of Regents meetings, mostly about the issues facing graduate workers at this university and the failure of the administration to address those issues so far. Today, however, I'm here to thank the Chancellor for not only to meet with myself and several other of my graduate student colleagues earlier this week, but also for making the decision not to appeal the Labor Boards decision to certify our union and committing to meet us at the bargaining table for negotiations, hopefully in short order. And a meeting that I agree, as you stated earlier, was productive and positive. However, this does not mean that we've forgotten what it took to get here. We maintain that these decisions, hopefully positive changes, bring about are long overdue. So, it took a year for our union to get certified and the issues that have graduate tuition, health insurance, and poverty wages have gone on unaddressed for much longer than that. So, there are graduate students at the university that will be unable to return in the fall if they have to pay tuition, as Chancellor you heard in our meeting the other day. We need relief as soon as possible. With that in mind, I hope NMSU will act swiftly to begin negotiations in the coming weeks because some of us, literally, cannot afford to wait any longer. So, I look forward to be part of being part of those negotiations and continuing the dialogue and finding some solutions. Thank you."

Associate Vice President Bannister introduced the next individual for public comment, Dan Vargo.

Dan said, "My name is Dan Vargo. I'm a graduate student in the ACES College and a member of the graduate workers union. I can say that properly now that the Chancellor has agreed to stop the process of challenging the unions in court and finally recognize us, which we really appreciate. This was a long hard road to get here and I only became involved this year. I want to start by thanking the people who got this started and the years of effort they've put in despite the extreme resistance from the university at every turn. Now we have a real opportunity to make a difference in the conditions of graduate students at NMSU. This needs to happen soon though. Students that stay at the university are facing worse and worse poverty conditions with every passing day. As the cost of living rises dramatically, we just stay stagnant and health insurance tuition continue to rise. Not only is it unacceptable to force workers into these conditions, but it is taking a significant toll on the university. Every day more and more students realize that it's no longer possible for them to attend a university that forces them into debt and poverty in a pay-to-work scam is on par with pyramid schemes. These students are leaving to join the majority of US institutions that offer tuition remittance, better wages, and health insurance. We had a productive meeting, as Matt and the Chancellor said previously and the Chancellor committed to begin negotiating asap. We're excited to begin that as soon as possible, as he said. This is our opportunity and your opportunity as Board of Regents to support the Chancellor in this and push to negotiate so that we can meet the need for tuition remittance by fall semester. The need at this university has never been greater, but we have an opportunity to make a real difference in the lives of hundreds of employees. Thank you."

Associate Vice President Bannister announced the next person for public comment, Liam Goodall; however, he

was not in attendance. Associate Vice President Justin Bannister reported that that concluded public comment for today.

Chairwoman Devasthali thanked Associate Vice President Bannister and everyone who made public comment and stated that their voices have been heard.

E. Approval of the Minutes, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

- 1. Special Meeting Minutes March 4, 2022**
- 2. Regular Meeting Minutes March 14, 2022**
- 3. Special Meeting Minutes March 28, 2022**

Chairwoman Devasthali moves approval of minutes, items E-1, E-2, and E-3 in a single motion. Regent Chacón-Reitzel seconded the motion. All were in favor and none opposed. Motion passed.

F. Regent Committee Reports

1. Real Estate Committee Report, Regent Dina Chacón-Reitzel

Regent Chacón-Reitzel stated that the Regents Real Estate Committee met twice since the last report at a board meeting. The first meeting was on April 14 and the committee recommended approval of the easement for El Paso Electric company that is seen on today's consent agenda item, H-10. Also, the committee recommended moving the NMSU System 5-year plan for consideration by the board, which is consent item H-6. The committee also discussed several upcoming and potential topics that may be brought forward to the committee in the future. The committee heard a presentation about the DACC Creative Media Building, but additional information was requested and an additional meeting was scheduled. The follow up meeting occurred on April 29 where additional information was provided about the DACC Creative Media Building. The committee recommended moving this item forward for the Board's consideration, which is consent item H-7. As a result of the conversation, the committee gained insight into the processes and staff will explore different ways of presenting such projects. The next meeting is scheduled for May 31.

2. Audit and Risk Committee Report, Regent Ammu Devasthali

Chairwoman Devasthali stated that the Regents Audit and Risk Committee met three times since the last report. Two of the meetings were special meetings called for voting members only and the members reviewed the audit report regarding the vote of no confidence, which was later publicly released by the Chancellor. The committee also met on February 23 in a regular meeting where presentations were provided by the Office of Institutional Equity and IT Security. The next meeting is scheduled for May 25, which will be the annual interest entrance conference for external audit conducted by Moss Adams. There were no questions on the report.

3. Financial Strategies, Performance and Budget Committee Report, Regent Christopher Saucedo

Regent Saucedo stated that the Regents Financial Strategies, Performance and Budget Committee met three times since the last report on December 9, 2021. The committee met on February 23 and there was an informative discussion about the budget request process, stimulus funding updates and they reviewed a preview of tuition proposals. The meeting happened soon after the regular legislative session so, they received an update from Ricardo about the outcomes of the session, particularly about compensation and opportunity scholarships. The committee met again on March 24 in which the more formalized tuition and fee proposal budget guidelines were presented. These tuition fee proposals and budget guidelines were presented and approved by the full Board of Regents on March 28. In the third meeting, the committee met

this week, on May 3 in which the operating budget was presented, which is an action item for today, as item I-3. In addition, the budget adjustment request for fiscal year 21-22 were presented and they are on the agenda. Item I-2 is for budget adjustments. The discussion was informative and many questions were asked. The committee believes that these items are ready for consideration by the full Board of Regents. Two of the items are on the consent agenda and are Transfer of Uncollectable Accounts Receivable to Inactive Accounts for Fiscal Year 20-21 as well as Temporary Investments Report for the quarters ending December 31, 2021 and March 31, 2-22 were also presented. The next meeting is scheduled for May 25 and is intended to be in person and will focus on the future of the budget process at NMSU. Regent Saucedo appreciates everyone's participation, in particular the community members. There were no questions on the report.

4. Student Success Committee Report, *Regent Arsenio Romero*

Regent Romero stated that the Regents Student Success Committee met twice since his last report. On January 10 the committee met and heard several key very informative presentations. The committee received a preliminary enrollment report from Vice President Scott. Vice President of Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity, Linda Scholz, provided an overview of the strategic diversity plan lead by her department. The committee also heard from Dr. Dulcinea Lara about some ideas they shared about border lands and ethnic studies programs at NMSU. Finally, we heard an overview of the Aggie Next Step program from Laura Bittner and Newt McCartney, 4-H. The committee met again on February 24 and the agenda primarily focused on the outcomes of the legislative session. Regent Romero made a note that for the first time they're able to bring the Regents Student Success Committee an update from the Faculty Senate Student Success Committee. This generated a lot of discussion. In both meetings the community college leaderships reported from each of the campuses. This has been a regular agenda item in the Student Success Committee for the past year. This is not only important for the committee to understand the differences between campuses, but also some similarities, in common opportunities and challenges that each campus faces. The next meeting will be held on May 26. There were no questions on the report.

G. Advisory Member Reports

1. NMSU Faculty Senate Report, *Chair Julia Parra*

Faculty Senate Chair Julia Parra stated that Faculty Senate had their final meeting for the fiscal year yesterday and passed all of the propositions that were on the agenda. Two of note were, to establish part time temporary faculty representation on Faculty Senate and an additional proposition asking for support issuing longer work contracts for part time temporary faculty. Dean Flores referred to the criticality of service and one of the final propositions, which asks the leadership to review the status of faculty service at NMSU. Faculty Senate Chair Parra stated that the report needs to be revised and resubmitted to include all of the votes that occurred yesterday. There were no questions on the report.

2. Associated Students of NMSU Report, *President Mathew Madrid*

President Madrid reported that the new ASNMSU administration is in full swing with their hiring of their cabinet. All positions should be filled by June or early July. Over the past year, ASNMSU held over 60 events and had over 6,000 unique attendees in total to all of those events. Their services range from on and off campuses, assisted over 2,300 students, and over half a million dollars was appropriated through ASNMSU Senate back to student organizations through reimbursements as well as strategic investments on the campus. There were no questions on the report.

3. NMSU Employee Council Report, *Chair Susanne Berger*

Employee Council Chair Susan Berger reported that the Employee Council met in March and the points of discussion were faculty and staff performance evaluations and salary increases. The concern was raised that the evaluation criteria being interpreted differently by respective supervisors, possibilities leading to

inequities in scoring, which would affect merit raises. As a description, some supervisors tend to expect that an employee demonstrate top of the class and fantastic work for the classification of “meets expectations.” While other supervisors expect an employee to demonstrate “meets expectations,” which would be equivalent to a “C student” and the “Exemplary” classification would be the equivalent of an “A student.” The interpretation by the supervisor can be an issue for the staff. This is something that Employee Council would like to work with the appropriate groups to schedule for discussion of cohesive interpretation for staff. Employee Council will be revising the employee constitution and bylaws and review the list of current committees that are still relevant. They are working on updating their website and through the summer. Employee Council focused on and organized the Founders Day picnic in April. They introduced the new Aggie legend, Dr. White. He was honored as well as two award recipients for 2021-2022. A few of Employee Council members are part of the action team and are working together on university wide issues that have been identified. The next Employee Council meeting will be Thursday, May 12. There were no questions on the report.

H. **Affiliated Entity Reports**

1. **NMSU Foundation Report**, *Vice President Derek Dictson*
2. **Arrowhead Center Inc. Report**, *Director & CEO Kathryn Hansen*

The affiliated entity reports are deferred and the written reports can be reviewed in the binder.

I. **Consent Items**, *Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali*

1. **Revision and Restructuring of Title 1 of the Regents Policy Manual**, *General Counsel*
2. **Repeal of RPM 2.43 (Community College Faculty Council)**, *Executive Director Ken Van Winkle*
3. **Temporary Investments Report for the Quarters Ended December 31, 2021 and March 31, 2022**, *Associate Vice President D’Anne Stuart*
4. **Disposition/Deletion of Property**, *Associate Vice President D’Anne Stuart*
5. **Transfer of Uncollectible Accounts Receivable to Inactive Accounts for Fiscal Year 2020 – 2021**, *Associate Vice President D’Anne Stuart*
6. **NMSU System: Five Year Facilities Plans**, *University Architect Heather Watenpaugh*
7. **NMSU DACC: Creative Media Building at Arrowhead Park (Revised)**, *University Architect Heather Watenpaugh*
8. **Arrowhead Center, Inc. Corporate Bylaws Modifications (Position Directors)**, *President/CEO Kathryn R. Hansen*
9. **Posthumous Honorary Degree**, *Interim Provost Dorothy Campbell*
10. **El Paso Electric Company Perpetual Easement for Relocation of an Existing Electrical Service for the Ag Modernization Project**, *Special Assistant to the President Scott Eschenbrenner*

Regent Romero made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Regent Bitsie seconded the motion. All were in favor and none were opposed. Motion passed.

Regent Chacón-Reitzel made a motion to break for 10 minutes. Regent Romero seconded the motion. None were opposed. The Board of Regents went into recess at 9:15.

RECESS (10 MINUTES)

Chairwoman Devasthali called the meeting into order at 9:25am.

J. **Action Items, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali**

1. Conferral of Degrees, Chancellor Dan E. Arvizu

Interim Provost Dorothy Campbell recognized the graduating class of Spring 2022 and requested conferral of the degrees and certificates for the graduating students. Conferral is contingent upon the students' satisfactory completion of the courses in which they are enrolled and in meeting the requirements of the appropriate catalog. It is further contingent upon the assumption that the content of the thesis submitted by each student required to do so is original unless otherwise presented in the document. The journey of a student through New Mexico State University is filled with caring faculty and staff working at the front of classrooms or behind the scenes. Interim Provost Campbell thanked the graduating class for their efforts.

Chairwoman Devasthali commended the students of the Spring class of 2022 for their hard work, resilience, and persevering.

Regent Bitsie stated that this graduating class is particularly special because he is also graduating. Regent Bitsie stated that he is very pleased with the title of the new college, Health, Education, and Social Transformation. Social transformation can be applied to the whole spectrum of the institution. That's what higher education serves to do. Regent Bitsie stated that Cesar Chavez once said, "Once the social change begins, it cannot be reversed. You cannot uneducated a person who has learned to read. You cannot humiliate a person who feels pride. You cannot oppress people who are not afraid anymore." Regent Bitsie hopes for the graduating students of this year feels empowered by what they've achieved, feels pride in what they've done and create social transformation.

Regent Romero stated that this is his favorite time of year. He has seen students as 3 or 4-year olds and kindergarteners to walking across the stage graduating high school, receiving their bachelors, then their higher education degrees. It's an honor to see them grow up. Regent Romero thanked the students, faculty, and staff.

Regent Saucedo is excited for this graduating class because they have faced challenges in the middle of their college career and they figured out how to still do it. Congratulations to them and their parents.

Chairwoman Devasthali moved to approve the conferral of degrees and certificates for Spring 2022. Regent Bitsie seconded the motion. All were in favor and none were opposed. Motion passed.

2. Budget Adjustment Requests (BARS) for fiscal year 2021-2022, Chief Budget Officer Kimberly G. Rumford

Chief Budget Officer Kim Rumford stated that units across campus and community campuses with non-I&G funds to put together their best estimates for the remainder of the current fiscal year and develop budgets for the new fiscal year. The budget office reviews what is provided to them and produces the estimated actuals and operating budgets for the instruction in general and the plant funds. The budget office prepares the budget adjustment requests (BARS) for all campuses. The purpose of the BARS is for spending authority with the state for FY22. BARS are based on the estimated actuals that the budget office produces. BARS reflect major developments since the beginning of last year, including additional appropriations that are spendable this year, such as compensation. The budget office prepares the estimated actions by analyzing the current spend amounts, then adding any known activities, such as this year, compensation. There is a 3% increase in compensation, which came in April 1. Afterwards, they add contingencies to ensure that they do not exceed the budgetary authority. The BAR for Carlsbad includes the transfer of assets. Therefore, as they transfer the assets to them, they produce an expenditure on the BAR to reflect that to bring their fund balances down to zero. There's an extraordinary large BAR request for Carlsbad for this year and they close out the campus.

There were no questions for the report.

Regent Romero motioned to approve the Budget Adjustment Requests (BARs) for fiscal year 2021-2022. Regent Chacón-Reitzel seconded the motion. All were in favor and none were opposed. Motion passed.

3. Operating Budgets for Fiscal Year 2022-2023, Chief Budget Officer Kimberly G. Rumford

Chief Budget Officer Rumford stated that the operating budgets reflects the decisions that were made by the board in February, March and the actions of the legislature as well as management decisions on workplace the funding. Chief Budget Officer Rumford is requesting approval on the total expenditures for each campus as shown on the first slide of the presentation. This provides them with spending authority for the new fiscal year, FY23. As per the Sources and Uses slides amounts are shown per each line item. Note that Carlsbad is included in FY22 figures, but not in FY23. This results in a significant change, as a 38% decline in local appropriations. The other campuses are all receiving increases in their local mill tax levy. A pie graph is included in the binder to show a visual representation of funds by function unrestricted and restricted. Instruction and General are the highest at 38%, \$216,301,955. I&G combined with research is 70% of the total and student aid is another 17% of the total. A break down of Las Cruces Campus-Unrestricted Current Funds Expenditure Categories for Instruction and General FY23 proposed and FY22 approved budgets and a presentation was provided. Instruction is still the largest spend category, at 58%, followed by Plant O&M. The Las Cruces Campus-Current Funds, unrestricted and restricted, expenditure categories for research were also presented. Total expenditures are up by approximately 8%. They expect increases in grant funding. In addition to that, they have increases and appropriations in AES in research and other RPS areas, which they received stated funding, including the compensation funding for this year. The primary drivers for the increase are from AES and PSL. The Las Cruces current funds (unrestricted and restricted) expenditure categories for public service was presented. A break down of Sources and Uses for each of the community colleges were presented.

Chairwoman Devasthali asked what the percentage of decline of enrollment is at the campus in Alamogordo. Vice Chancellor Johnston answered that they will get them that number.

Regent Saucedo stated that in the committee meeting they discussed the opportunity scholarship and whether or not enrollment will be sustained. The challenge of projecting enrollment will be difficult.

Regent Romero made a motion to approve the operating budget for FY23 as presented. Regent Saucedo seconded the motion. All were in favor and none were opposed. Motion passed.

K. Report from the New Mexico Department of Agriculture to the Regents of New Mexico State University (Board of Agriculture), Cabinet Secretary & Director Jeff Witte

The report from New Mexico Department of Agriculture is deferred to a written report that is in the binder.

L. Announcements and Comments, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

1. Good News for NMSU!

Regent Romero congratulated President Madrid and Regent Bitsie on graduating. He's excited to see what is next for both of them.

Regent Chacón-Reitzel also congratulated Regent Bitsie and President Madrid for their accomplishment and is proud of them both.

Regent Bitsie highlighted all of the student life. One had to do with Greek life, particularly Sigma Chi fraternity. Regent Bitsie's roommate, Andrew, is in the fraternity. He's the philanthropy chair. Traditionally, fraternities and sororities have a certain philanthropic organization that they donate to. Delta Gamma usually helps with wooded warriors. Another one works with an autism organization. Sigma Chi does work in the cancer area.

Normally they raise money throughout the year for the Huntsmen Cancer Foundation. On average, the NMSU chapter has raised \$5,000 - \$7,000 a year. However, this year, over the week of April 11-15 they raised \$11,000 and totaling at \$21,000 for the entire year, which is more than the UNM and Texas chapters combined. Because of that, they joined the 20K club. There was a lot of work that he saw went into raising the money.

Regent Saucedo congratulated to the graduates, their families, their parents, and the faculty who helped them get this far. Congratulations to Regent Bitsie and President Madrid on graduating.

Chairwoman Devasthali thanked Dr. Leslie Edgar and her team as well as everyone at Extension Services and the Science Experiment stations for their hard work and efforts to save the trees and the seed bank. Also, to the NMSU athletes that were celebrated today. Also, to note, there is an MA and MFA show at the university art gallery. The MFA show is called, 'The Better Show #bringyourown' and the MA show is called, "Establishing Our Own Art History, the Influence of Judy Chicago." They are on view until May 14.

President Madrid thanked for all the sentiments given to him today. President Madrid gives all the credit to the successes of his administration's staff, of whom many are graduating this year. Shout out to them. Also, congratulations to NM State Esports, who recently conducted a twitter competition to receive money from Takis. NMSU won the competition by 200,000 interactions on Twitter. As a result of the competition, they are receiving around \$35,000 for their Esports team to make investments.

Vice Chancellor Johnston did a shout out to the DACC graduation last night, which is the pre-cursor to the rest of the commencement ceremonies. Shout out to all of the community colleges and the early college high school students. Students and their families were joyous and vibrant. It's a testimony to all of NMSU students. Vice Chancellor Johnston did a shout out to all staff, who are behind the scenes daily. In particular, the people in student success who are helping students with advising, tutoring, and 'turning on a dime' every time it's necessary to be called out. Also, amazing work from everyone in the financial team to get it completed on time. Also, to the HR department for their hard work and to everyone who is behind the scenes that most people wouldn't know about.

Dr. Parra did a shout out to staff as well, in particular Gloria Podruchny, who has been amazing each day. Also, gratitude to the essential workers on campus who never left and struggled with COVID and family scenarios.

M. Adjournment, Chairwoman Ammu Devasthali

Regent Chacón-Reitzel made a motion to adjourn. Regent Bitsie seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 9:55am.

Meeting Minutes Approved on July 8, 2022 by the New Mexico State University Board of Regents.



Ammu Devasthali
Board of Regents Chair



Neal Bitsie
Board of Regents Secretary/Treasurer