

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO
BOARD OF REGENTS
Academic/Student Affairs and Research Committee
Monday, June 9, 2008

SUMMARY OF MEETING

Committee members present: Regent Raymond Sanchez (Chair); Regent Carolyn Abeita, Regent Dahlia Dorman; Faculty Senate President-elect Howard Snell; Staff Council President Loyola Chastain

Regents' Advisors present: Interim Provost Viola E. Florez; Vice President for Student Affairs Eliseo Torres; Interim Vice President for Research & Economic Development Jack McIver; GPSA President Christopher Ramirez; ASUNM President Ashley Fate

I. Call to Order

Regent Raymond Sanchez called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m.

II. Approval of Summarized Minutes from the Previous Meeting

Faculty Senate President-elect Howard Snell pointed out that the minutes did not include the discussion between himself and Interim VP Babbitt regarding the appropriateness of only using graduation rates as a metric of student success.

Regent Sanchez asked that the minutes be modified to include said discussion.

Regent Sanchez motioned that the minutes be adopted as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Open Comment Forum

IV. Reports/Comments

A. Comments from Regents' Advisors

ASUNM

Ashley Fate, ASUNM President, informed the committee that student the Housing Committee that was put together last semester put out an RFP for planning services to help with the student Recreation Center and have recently chosen a planning company, Van Gilbert, to help with the planning.

ASUNM President Fate informed the committee that she met with the Dean of Libraries regarding extended hours. A pilot program will be launched out of Parish Library to see how receptive students are to extended hours. Furthermore, ASUNM chose Parish Library due to safety and parking accessibility.

GPSA

Lissa Knudsen, GPSA Council Chair, filling in for GPSA President Christopher Ramirez, informed the committee that GPSA was going to discuss the Ballot Initiative that they recently passed. GPSA is working on several initiatives including UNM Childcare. GPSA has met with Regent Dorman and Abeita regarding this issue. GPSA is hoping to work with the University to coordinate the University's legislative priority list to reflect

the concern regarding UNM Childcare. Furthermore, the graduate students are very concerned about this discussion and this issue in general.

GPSA Council Chair Knudsen informed the committee that there are a couple of more issues to discuss but that she would leave that for GPSA President Christopher Ramirez to discuss at the next committee meeting.

Regent Sanchez commented that he does not see the UNM Parents' Association representatives in attendance. Ellen Wenzel, Special Assistant to the Board of Regents stated that the representatives of the UNM Parent Association can be here in the future if he decides. Regent Sanchez replied that it would be great to have the UNM Parents' Association represented at the next committee meeting.

B. Provost's Report

Viola Florez, Interim Provost & Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

Interim Provost Viola Florez informed the committee that regarding accreditation there were two academic units that went forward with their national accreditation review; the College of Education with their Teacher Education Program at the Undergraduate and Graduate level successfully achieved re-accreditation. Additionally, the Communications and Journalism Program has also met all the standards and has been re-accredited. The School of Law was reviewed for accreditation the 16th thru the 18th of April. The American Bar Association is requesting additional information regarding some of the standard compliances and they have given the Law School faculty until November 15th to comply.

Interim Provost Florez informed the committee that the institutional accreditation, through the HLC, and is making good progress. The new Provost will be at UNM on June 23rd where she will be briefed on the University's progress thus far. Additionally, an outside consultant has been hired to be sure that the University is still on the right track.

Interim Provost Florez informed the committee that the University has gone through several academic program review processes. The programs reviewed are; Mathematics, Biology, Spanish & Portuguese and Geology. These programs are currently working on an action plan that will be due at the end of the summer. All of the reports have recommendations moving forward.

Interim Provost Florez informed the committee that Extended University went through a unit review and that it was a very productive experience. Additionally, they are waiting for a final report by the external reviewers. According to Interim Provost Florez, Extended University gained a great amount of insight into what they should incorporate into the unit.

Interim Provost Florez informed the committee that the Diversity Plan has been approved by the President and it will be implemented on July 1st upon the arrival of the new Vice President for Equity & Inclusion, Dr. Jozi De Leon.

Interim Provost Florez informed the committee that Leo Romero has been appointed as the Interim Dean of the School of Law. Additionally the School of Law is preparing a list of potential search committee members. The University is hoping to post the position by August 1st. The Law School faculty is developing a draft Job Description.

Regent Abeita asked how big the search committee will be.

Interim Provost Florez responded that the search committee will not be larger than 20 members. Additionally, Interim Provost commented, that when the new Provost comes she will be asked for her input.

Regent Sanchez asked about the posting and clarifying what was meant by posting by August 1st.

Interim Provost Florez replied that this will be the job posting and that it needs to be posted by the deadline imposed by the American Bar Association which is August 1st.

Interim Provost Viola Florez informed the committee that the Dean of Engineering and the Dean of Anderson Schools of Management are pursuing outside opportunities. The Office of the Provost has begun the process for the appointment of replacing the respective Deans.

Interim Provost Viola Florez informed the committee that the College of Education has been recognized nationally by the National Council of Teacher Quality. The awards will be given on June 26 in Washington DC.

Regent Sanchez thanked Interim Provost Viola Forez for her service to the University of New Mexico.

C. Vice President for Student Affairs Report

Eliseo Torres, Vice President for Student Affairs

Vice President for Student Affairs Cheo Torres informed the committee that the New Student Orientation program, which also has a Parent Connection component, has been a great success.

Vice President for Student Affairs Torres informed the committee that the Summer Bridge Program has begun. Vice President for Student Affairs Torres recognized Pam Agoyo, Director of American Indian Student Services, for her efforts with the American Indian Student Services Summer Bridge Program. Additionally, Pam Agoyo raises money each year by holding a golf tournament.

Regent Abeita inquired into the funding for the American Indian Summer Bridge Program.

American Indian Student Services Director Agoyo replied that the money for the program is obtained primarily through legislative sources but is also augmented by different sources such as the golf tournament.

Vice President for Student Affairs Torres informed the committee that the National Summit for Latino Policy was kicked off. It was the brain child of Manny Frias, President of the Cerebro group out of Arizona. This is a working group that worked on various issues in Higher Education pertaining to Latinos.

Manny Frias thanked the President, Dr. Torres and Dr. Flores for granting the university support for the summit.

D. Vice President for Research's Report

Julia Fulghum, Interim Vice President for Research

Interim Vice President for Research and Economic Development Julia Fulghum informed the committee that she feels that as a flagship university the University of New Mexico needs to highlight the extensive interconnections between research and education. The University must also emphasize how critical research and education are for both parts of its mission. Interim Vice President for Research and Economic Development Fulghum wants to facilitate faculty driven research initiatives including cross-campus initiatives. Furthermore, Research wants to be an effective partner with the community, state and national collaborators. According to Interim Vice President for Research and Economic Development Fulghum, the absolute highest priority of the department of Research and Economic Development is to facilitate faculty developing, submitting grants, getting contracts efficiently awarded and making it easier for faculty to spend their research money. This includes looking at ways to make it easier for the hiring of students at all levels. According to Interim Vice President Fulghum, there are a huge number of efforts going on at this level. The University has been accepted into the Federal Demonstration Partnership which includes 10 federal agencies and 100 institutions of higher education with the goal of making it easier for contracts and sub-awards to be accepted and distributed.

Interim Vice President for Research and Economic Development Fulghum informed the committee that she has appointed a cross campus group to look at software that will facilitate proposal submissions. Additionally, Interim Vice President for Research and Economic Development Fulghum is evaluating all functions of the office including working with Executive Research Advisement committee and the Top Slice committee. Faculty Senate President Snell inquired about when the Research Audit Report will be released.

Regent Sanchez responded that the report is not ready to be released public right now but it will be released sometime in the future. According to Regent Sanchez, there have been certain initiatives that have been taken with regards to coordinating the entire effort to manage what the University received of the 2.2 million dollars.

Regent Sanchez asked Interim Vice President for Research and Economic Development Fulghum to discuss the Top Slice committee.

Interim Vice President for Research and Economic Development Fulghum informed the committee that the Research and Economic Development office is funded from grants. Therefore, the Top Slice committee looks at allocation of salary money for pre and post award, money for start-up, for faculty, for cost share and new initiatives as a top slice. This committee will set the priorities that will determine the overhead that is allocated to colleges and centers. According to Interim Vice President for Research and Economic Development Fulghum, the idea behind the committee is to develop a budget based on the money that is present. The other aspects of the Research Audit are plans for eliminating the deficit within the next three years. There are a variety of groups that are funded by the Research and Economic Development office that will be moved off its

budget. The Furthermore, the Research and Economic Development office will help these groups become more self-sufficient.

Faculty Senate President Snell asked whether the Research Audit will be released to the Board of Regents Academic/Student Affairs and Research committee when it becomes a public document. Faculty Senate President Snell commented that it would seem odd for the Academic/Student Affairs and Research committee not to see it before it becomes a public document

Regent Sanchez replied that the Research Audit would go before the full Board of Regents before this committee sees it and it will be public by then.

GPSA President Ramirez inquired about the role of the GPSA within the Research and Economic Development Office. GPSA President Ramirez stated that an issue for graduate students is access to funds and support for students seeking funding. GPSA President Ramirez asked if there is a role for GPSA within the Research and Economic Development Office.

Interim Vice President for Research and Economic Development Fulghum responded that historically the Office of Graduate Studies (OGS) and the Research and Economic Development Office have been very separate but that there is no good reason for this.

Interim Vice President for Research and Economic Development Fulghum believes that there is no reason for a separation between OGS and VPR and that her priority is to look at the interconnections between research and education.

GPSA President Ramirez asked if the Research and Economic Development office is involved with the Melon Foundation money.

Interim Vice President for Research and Economic Development Fulghum responded that it was primarily through the Provosts' Office and OGS.

E. Vice President for Enrollment Management's Report

Terry Babbitt, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management

Interim Vice President for Enrollment Management Terry Babbitt informed the committee that there are approximately 7,500 students for the Summer Session which generates 36,600 student credit hours. The headcount is up substantially over last summer due to a cancellation policy change where the University did not cancel the enrollment of students for financial reasons. According to Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management Babbitt, last year was a strong summer and the University is hoping for the same this summer.

GPSA President Ramirez asked for the numbers looking at retention for graduate students and whether they can be released publicly.

Interim Provost Florez responded that Charles Fledderman, Interim Dean of Graduate Studies, will be reporting on that very issue at this meeting.

V. Action Items

A. Approval of Doctor of Physical Therapy

Susan Queen, Director, Physical Therapy Program

Director of the Physical Therapy Program Susan Queen informed the committee that she is bringing forward a proposal to change the program from a Masters in Physical Therapy to a Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT). According to Physical Therapy Program Director Queen, one of the primary impetuses for this is that 90% of the Physical Therapy

(PT) programs offer the DPT. Furthermore the Physical Therapy program has lost its top four students in the Masters of Physical Therapy program to programs that offer the DPT. Currently there is a shortage of Physical Therapists in New Mexico. Those students who attend in-state are more likely to stay and practice in-state. Physical Therapy Program Director Queen stated that the University will convert its program towards the DPT and phase out the Masters programs. Furthermore, the Physical Therapy program would like to offer students who have earned their Masters of Physical Therapy to earn a DPT. Faculty President Howard Snell asked what was meant by the entry level curriculum. Physical Therapy Program Director Queen responded that it is an entry level professional curriculum where students come in with a Bachelors degree and when they graduate they are considered to be entry level practitioners.

Physical Therapy Program Director Queen informed the committee that financing the curriculum has two proposed funding mechanisms. The Physical Therapy program would like to institute a tuition differential based on the College of Pharmacy model. The Physical Therapy program is also requesting interim non-recurring funds from the state that would go with the UNM-HSC legislative request. The proposed tuition differential would increase the students tuition by \$1,653 which compared to other regional universities would put the University's Physical Therapy program in the range of the said programs. The request for non-recurring state funds would cover the first three years of the program and is a little more than \$475,000. Once the DPT program is in effect, it should be self-sufficient. The Physical Therapy program would like to increase its faculty by three and within the proposal are funds set aside for the increase. The Physical Therapy program also wants to increase class size to 30 per year. The majority of Physical Therapy programs have motion analysis equipment and the University's Physical Therapy program does not have that equipment. It would be used both for teaching and research. National standards increased in January of 2006 so it is essential that the University's Physical Therapy program have this equipment. All Physical Therapist have to pass a national board exam and the new exam is teaching based and the Physical Therapy program is trying its best to meet that content. The goal is to expect the first DPT class in fall 2009 and graduate by summer 2012. The Physical Therapy program degree completion tract offered to its students who have earned their Masters would require another 16 additional credits.

Staff Council President Chastain asked through the DPT completion tract would the 16 credits show on their transcripts.

Physical Therapy Program Director Queen responded that there would definitely be verification and reporting to the state board.

Staff Council President Chastain asked whether these students are licensed already.

Director Queen responded that most are and many more are expected to be.

Staff Council President Chastain asked whether there is a demand for increase class space.

Physical Therapy Program Director Queen responded that there is definitely a demand including a high demand in rural areas.

Faculty Senate President Snell inquired whether the University would be accepting students who have completed their Masters elsewhere to complete their Doctorate at UNM.

Physical Therapy Program Director Queen responded that due to their faculty numbers they don't feel like they can offer that now. Currently it is offered for students that earned their Masters at UNM.

Faculty Senate President Snell asked what happens the program does not receive the non-recurring funds from the state.

Physical Therapy Program Director Queen responded that they are not sure but it's possible with the differential tuition approval they could delay the class increases.

GPSA President Ramirez asked whether it is a state requirement that the doctorate be earned in order for licensure.

Physical Therapy Program Director Queen responded that it is not a requirement but UNM needs it to have a DPT program to stay competitive.

**Motion for approval was made by Regent Sanchez, seconded by Regent Abeita
Motion passed unanimously**

B. Approval of GPSA Constitutional Amendment

Christopher Ramirez, President, GPSA

GPSA President Ramirez informed the committee that the amendment is a small articulation within its constitution and regards the benefit that the GPSA President receives which includes an education grant. GPSA is tying the education grant to an assistantship for budget planning purposes.

**Motion for approval was made by Regent Sanchez, seconded by Regent Abeita
Motion passed unanimously**

VI. Information Items

A. Graduate Student Enrollment Trends

Charles Fleddermann, Acting Dean, Graduate Studies

Acting Dean of Graduate Studies Charles Fledderman informed the committee that the University offers over 110 different graduate, professional and certificate programs. Within the state of New Mexico, the University awards over two-thirds of all doctorate degrees. Acting Graduate Studies Dean Fleddermann made note that the data he is presenting today differs somewhat from the data that is in the agenda book. The data he is presenting excludes ASM, Law, Pharm D and Medicine. OGS only keeps data for the programs OGS administers. The data he is presenting shows that the applications have declined over the past few years. Acting Graduate Studies Dean Fleddermann stated that the University needs to do something to get the applications back up.

UNM President Schmidly has stated that graduate enrollment on a national level should make up about 25 – 30% of the overall enrollment at a major Research University.

According to UNM President Schmidly, the University is somewhere in the 20% range and it should be closer to 30% so that there is definite room for improvement. The more applications the University receives the more they can grow the enrollment.

Faculty Senate President Snell said that he understood applicants accepted and percent accepted but what are the new enrollments.

Acting Graduate Studies Dean Fleddermann responded that not everyone that the University accepts shows up.

Faculty Senate President Snell asked about the percentage enrolled.

Acting Graduate Studies Dean Fleddermann replied that the percentage enrolled is the percentage of those students that the University accepted that actually show up for classes. Faculty Senate President Snell asked if an increase in said percentage means that the University is more successful in attracting its higher ranked applicants.

Acting Graduate Studies Dean Fleddermann replied that it could also mean that the University is dipping lower, there are lots of ways to interpret that unfortunately. If you have fewer applicants, the University clearly is accepting fewer than it has in the past. That can be interpreted that the University has fewer applicants and therefore those that are applying are probably not as good as the University has had in the past. But the University's yield is higher in terms of those who actually show up.

Regent Abeita asked if the admission percentage is actually up 7%.

Acting Graduate Studies Dean Fleddermann stated that the number changes week to week. This information is provided on a weekly basis. Furthermore, admission numbers are one thing, but the University will not know the number of students that actually show up and enroll until after August 15th.

Acting Graduate Studies Dean Fleddermann informed the committee that the economy affects enrollment figures in that a bad economy means higher enrollment numbers and vica-versa. 9/11 also had a huge impact on foreign enrollments because it became very difficult for students to obtain a visa. Many of those students ended up heading to different countries and therefore national figures show a great decline in engineering and science graduate student applications. According to Graduate Studies Acting Fleddermann, in the last couple of years the requirements have been eased a bit and nationally those enrollment trends are heading back toward where they used to be. Locally in Albuquerque there has been loss due to the collapsing of various partnerships such as College of Education and Albuquerque Public Schools. These are some of the factors which have effected enrollment. Acting Graduate Studies Dean Fleddermann believes that the University should definitely focus on recruitment. Recruiting offices nationally are really focused on recruiting undergraduates. Graduate students are looking for something very different than undergraduates. Graduate students are looking for working at specific departments or faculty members that they know are located at a certain school.

GPSA President Ramirez stated that they found that New Mexican graduate students are looking at the institution and that is something to be aware of.

Acting Graduate Studies Dean agreed with GPSA President Ramirez and stated that he was referring to potential students from outside of New Mexico. Nevertheless recruiting is not a centralized effort and rather it is something that happens on a departmental level. It is not as easy to think about recruiting strategies at the graduate level as it is on the undergraduate level.

Acting Graduate Studies Dean informed the committee that under the charge of former Provost Reed Dasenbrock, OGS was instructed to become more involved in recruitment efforts. Under this charge OGS did attend a few regional recruitment fairs and he attempted to represent the departments as well as he could to raise consciousness regarding the University's graduate programs. Another effort by OGS was to focus on non-degree graduate students and trying to persuade them into applying into a program. OGS does not know just yet how many students actually applied. OGS is conducting

more collaborative efforts by using some of the money that it has for recruitment to fly prospective graduate students to the University and meet with faculty and view the campus. OGS has also helped support departmental recruiting events. This summer and into the fall OGS is partnering with four departments to buy names of students from the GRE exam people. OGS can target recruitment by buying these names and targeting marketing materials. We have to assess the effectiveness of these various initiatives. We assess this by finding out how many of these prospective students end up applying at the University.

Acting Graduate Studies Dean informed the committee that the committee should be aware that there are a lot of barriers to recruiting and getting students into the University's graduate schools. The OGS recruitment budget is only \$40,000. Furthermore, Assistantship salaries are not competitive nationally and there are not enough of them. Acting Graduate Studies Dean informed the committee that he discovered that a lot of departments don't have Teaching Assistants (TA) or Graduate Assistants (GA) but they split the current GA-ship into three or four pieces. This is not a good incentive for students to attend the University. OGS has had some assistance with the 8% raise for TA's. The University needs to increase that for Graduate Assistants. The University also increased our TA positions by 50 more.

GPSA President Ramirez stated that a number of departments have cut assistantships, cut courses and sections. While the University has added assistantships they have also cut sections of some of the core classes. There are a number of students who are depending on assistantships that will be out of a job in the spring.

Acting Graduate Studies Dean stated that most of the cut courses were added back. It was the case initially but OGS data showed that those courses have been re-instated. Week by week it has changed. The bottom line, according to Acting Graduate Studies Dean Fleddermann, is that in order for the University to remain competitive, it needs to continue the trend that was passed in the last budget which will create more positions and have them pay better.

Acting Graduate Studies Dean informed the committee that OGS really does not know what its capacity is for graduate programs. There are probably cases where there are programs doing well and some cases where programs are not doing well at all. Acting Graduate Studies Dean informed the committee that he is hoping to conduct a study examining capacity soon. OGS also does not have data on retention. OGS does not analyze retention rates and Acting Graduate Studies Dean believes that there is an impression that by the time someone is in graduate school they don't need the retention efforts but that is probably not a good assumption. Retention date for graduate students is something that OGS and Enrollment Management will be working on in the near future. Faculty Senate President Snell stated that it seems that the individual graduate student and faculty member interface is particularly lacking. Faculty President Snell the reason he does not accept graduate students is because he does not have time and graduate students do not count unless he teaches a graduate class. Faculty President Snell would also be responsible for them raising the grant money that they do the research on. The University does not have good support for student research. If the University can find ways to increase the amount of funds for student research and also reward faculty thereby

encouraging faculty to take more graduate students then perhaps faculty would consider it.

Acting Graduate Studies Dean Fleddermann stated that there are many other support methods which are valuable. OGS would like to increase funds for support of graduate student research in science and for travel grants but the money OGS has available is woefully inadequate.

Research and Economic Development Interim Vice President Fulghum stated that there are a couple of different conversations occurring that are discussing different numbers. One conversation is comparing the University's graduate numbers to its peers and the other has to do with breaking out of the band.

Regent Dorman asked if there was a link between the departmental honors program and the University graduate students. Regent Dorman also asked how much housing impacts potential student's decisions.

Acting Graduate Studies Dean Fleddermann responded that the housing issue might be a component of graduate student's decision regarding which institution to attend.

GPSA President Ramirez stated that it is important to recognize and focus on issues of equity and inclusion and recognizing that the University of New Mexico plays a special role in that regard. According to GPSA President Ramirez, there are a number of departments that are doing an amazing job at recruiting students of color some that are not. The University needs to be aware of the role that it plays in the community as a whole and recognize that it needs to be a leader when it regards issues of equity and inclusion.

GPSA Council Chair Knudsen stated that we should attempt to make the graduate experience not that torturous by making the University more family friendly.

B. Status of Rome Program

Thomas Bogenschild, Director, International Programs & Studies

International Programs & Studies Director Bogenschild informed the committee that there have been many hurdles in the development and implementation of the Rome program. The University ranked dead last when ranked against its peers in regards to International Education. Not only is the University sending very few students but it is only sending our students for two weeks or less. Some university constituents pointed out that our students are very poor and that is very true. The Regents have allocated some funds for students in need of financial resources to study abroad and as of today over \$300,000 in these funds. The Banner system has also been an obstacle for pursuing study abroad. Financial Aid and timing are other issues that create obstacles for pursuing study abroad. According to International Programs & Studies Director Bogenschild, other universities have addressed these issues successfully and the University can and should do the same. The single most effective way to grow International Education is to create a Platform Abroad, to create a program that is designed specifically to address UNM student needs. This program would facilitate and coordinate all the different issues that deter study abroad. The sociological impact of the potential Platform Abroad would also assist and support students who have decided to travel to various other parts of the world. These students would be able to go in groups rather than in just ones and twos. International Programs & Studies hopes to be moving in the near future to a self-sufficient model

Staff Council President Loyola Chastain asked which Core and degree requirements the program would be fulfilling

International Programs & Studies Director Bogenschild replied that in time courses, having a business semester etc., will be added so they can fulfill their requirements abroad.

Staff Council President Loyola Chastain asked whether if in time all the courses will transfer automatically or will the students need to do the due diligence.

International Programs & Studies Director Bogenschild responded that the student will not have to do the leg-work because the courses and instructors will be vetted therefore the transfer of credits will happen automatically through the system.

Regent Dorman asked how soon can students start taking classes abroad.

International Programs & Studies Director Bogenschild stated that the program likes to take juniors but many are trying to complete their requirements so sometimes sophomores are taken. Also, there are many factors to consider but maturity level is key.

Regent Dorman asked how soon in advance would a student have to apply to study abroad.

International Programs & Studies Director Bogenschild responded that the sooner a student applies the better.

GPSA Council Chair Knudsen asked whether this program is set-up for graduate students.

Director Bogenschild responded that the program is open for graduate students but we are depending on departments and individual faculty to take the initiative. We are open to any possibility for graduate students. Anyone who really wants to make use of this program should. We have an adult program set-up and they are very enthusiastic.

Regent Abeita stated that the hands-on experience is very important and would make a difference in a student's life. According to Regent Abeita, the responsibility of a university is to develop well-rounded people who can operate well in the world. Minority students who would really benefit from this experience are really hampered. This is something that the Foundation can possibly help with.

C. Accreditation Status Report

Nancy Middlebrook, Director, University Accreditation

University Accreditation Director Middlebrook informed the committee that regarding the University's accreditation effort, there was created a committee for each of the five criteria, a committee for the special emphasis and a steering committee for all areas of the University. In total there are about 80 people who are working hard toward accreditation. The consultant is coming in and the committees are working on a revised version of a full draft to provide to the consultant when she comes in on June 23rd. The consultant is Marlene Straith from Oklahoma State University, who was also on the University's 1999 accreditation site team. She will be meeting with many university officials and will give advice on how the University's self-study is going.

Regent Abeita asked if the consultant will be giving immediate feedback.

University Accreditation Director Middlebrook replied that the consultant will give the President and other officials some feedback during the exit meeting. Furthermore, the goal is to have a document ready by the time the fall semester starts. By the end of the fall semester, the University needs to have the document finalized because February is when it is due to the site team. University Accreditation Director Middlebrook informed

the committee that the Higher Learning Commission is in the process of getting the site team set. There are a few familiar faces that will be on this team. The Accreditation committee has seen a preliminary list of team members and we have a right to review the team and give some input. The Accreditation committee is also working on setting up a resource area with a library of documents that will be helpful to have in both hard-copy and e-copy format.

Regent Abeita stated that it is helpful to see the activity and to be aware of the target date. April is not very far away and it is good to see that everyone is on task.

University Accreditation Director Middlebrook stated that she would like to commend everyone who is on the committee and people who have contributed.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:24 p.m.