**University of New Mexico**

**STAFF COUNCIL MEETING**

**January 18, 2011**

**SUB Lobo A & B**

**Members Present:** Elsie Baldwin, Marsha Baumeister, Nissane Capps, Bob Christner, Mary Clark, Maria Daw, Renee Delgado, Annabeth Fieck, Mike Gatchell, Richard Goshorn, Kim Halpern, Penny Hogan, Mary Jacintha, George Kelbley, Sterling (Merle) Kennedy, Joyce Krantman, Ana Parra Lombard, Janet Luarkie, Karen Mann, Andra McClung, Suzanne McConaghy, Linda McCormick, Kathy McKinstry, Greg Molecke, Rebecca Rendon De Gonzales, Shelley Rael, Ginger Roark, Joni Roberts, Tom Rolland, Fred Rose, Debbie Ruiz, Inigo San Gil, and Roberta Zozaya.

**Members Excused:** Elisha Allen, Deb Battin, Carol Bernhard, Natalie Bruner, Cassandra Burnett, Theresa Everling, James Gale, Carolyn Hartley, Lisa Kiscaden, Juan Larrañaga, Etta Linton, Amie Ortiz, Jonathan Price, Jackie Schaefer, Tracy Wenzl, James Wernicke and Carl Willcox.

**Members Absent:** Romeo Alonzo, Jean Griffin, Shannon McCoy-Hayes, Lisa McHale, and Patricia Montano.

**Parliamentarian:** Adam Hathaway excused.

**Call to Order:** at 1:00 p.m. by Speaker, Linda McCormick.

**Amended Agenda was approved.**

**Minutes of December 21, 2010, approved.**

**Constituent Comments:** Marcia Finical commented about the 1/4/11 campus shooting incident at UNMH.

**Executive Committee Report, President-Elect Mary Clark:** Clark presented Dean Jojola with a Staff Hero Award. Clark, President Kennedy and Councilor Goshorn are participating on the Executive Budget Committee, which is reviewing cost-containment recommendations from various constituencies across campus. On 1/7/11, Clark, Councilor Allen and Councilor Mann attended a workshop in Santa Fe entitled, “Legislative Outlook 2011-Understanding the State Budget.” On 1/10/11, Clark attended the Faculty Senate budget meeting. On 1/13/11, Clark, President Kennedy and Councilor Allen met with Marc Saavedra, Director of the UNM Government and Community Relations Office. On 1/19/11, President Schmidly will speak to the campus via a live webcast. In light of recent violence, Clark encouraged everyone to watch the training video, “Shots Fired” to learn about safety procedures. Clark reported that in March, 2011, the Staff Council will launch a new initiative called, “UNM Staff Cares” and requests that each Staff Council Committee submit an issue to her that they feel is important to staff.

**President’s Report, President Merle Kennedy:** Kennedy reviewed main topics of concern for staff which include the budget and ERB. On 1/6/11, Kennedy met with President Schmidly to discuss the budget. On 1/5/11, Kennedy met with Helen Gonzales, VP for HR to clarify the interpretation of the Holiday Closure Policy. Since UNM closed early on 12/23/10, those staff that were not allowed to leave early were given compensatory time in lieu of time off. On 1/6/11, Kennedy attended the BOR F&F Committee meeting. On 1/6/11, Kennedy attended the LFC reception for new legislators hosted by the UNM Alumni Association. On 1/6/11, Kennedy attended the Faculty Staff Benefits Committee meeting.

**Guest Speaker:** Curt Porter, Associate Vice President in Academic Affairs/Office of the Provost, talked about the Academic Affairs budget process.

**Speaker’s Report, Speaker Linda McCormick:** McCormick explained that there is a new Staff Council Committee, called the Chairs Steering Committee, comprised of Council Committee Chairs. The Committee will meet quarterly to discuss items of mutual interest to the various Council Committees.

**Committee Reports:**

\*\*Communications – Suzanne McConaghy: The Staff Council website is the main topic of discussion/work.

\*\*Compensation – Suzanne McConaghy: McConaghy and Inigo San Gil were elected Co-Chairs. The focus of the Committee will be on pay and benefits.

\*\*Employee Rights and Policy Review – Romeo Alonzo: No report.

\*\*Government Relations – Elisha Allen: No report.

\*\*Faculty Staff Benefits – Nissane Capps: VP for HR, Helen Gonzales, provided the Committee with an update on the Retiree Healthcare Taskforce. Recommendations from the Taskforce are due by March, 2011. Marc Saavedra, Director, Office of Government and Community Relations, made a presentation to the Committee. A discussion of the possibility of a reduction of the tuition remission benefit was discussed.

\*\*Retirement – Tom Rolland: Rolland was elected Chair of the Committee. At the moment, the Committee is reviewing many topics such as healthcare and ERB vs. PERA pensions. Rolland said that staff is the only constituent group that does not have representation on the ERB. President-Elect Clark asked Rolland to find out how ERB members are appointed.

**Guest Speaker:** Sandra Liggett, Vice President for UNM Foundation, talked about the UNM Foundation and their endowments.

**Committee Reports (continued):**

\*\*Rewards and Recognition – Kathy McKinstry: On 12/16/10, McKinstry, President Kennedy, President-Elect Clark and Staff Council Admin. Coordinator, Kathy Meadows met with Zoo officials to discuss the possibility of hosting the 2011 UNM Staff Picnic. The Committee decided to contract with Isotopes for the 2011 UNM Staff Picnic. The Picnic will be on 7/23/11.

**Councilor Comments**: Fred Rose spoke against the Governor’s proposal to exclude the K-12 teachers from contributing an increased percentage to the Educational Retirement pension fund.

Kim Halpern spoke about the possible loss of the tuition remission benefit and its effects on Continuing Education.

Mary Clark stated that the Staff Council Picnic money was pulled back and asked Treasurer, Karen Mann if those funds had been returned. Lisa Marbury, ISS, stated that the budget is in the process of being reviewed.

President Kennedy stated that his 1/6/11 meeting with President Schmidly was very cordial and that President Schmidly was complimentary of Staff Council and encouraged Kennedy to stand up for staff.

Rebecca Rendon De Gonzales informed the Council that the Vice President for Equity and Inclusion will host a Town Hall addressing diversity initiatives on 2/17/11 from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. in the SUB, Ballrooms A&B.

**Motion to adjourn, adopted at 2:36 pm**.

Minutes submitted by Kathy Meadows

The meeting, in its entirety, can be viewed by going to <http://staffcouncil.unm.edu>.