

**NORTHERN NEW MEXIC COLLEGE
BOARD OF REGENTS SPECIAL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 30, 2013**

I. CALL TO ORDER

A special meeting of the Board of Regents of Northern New Mexico College was held on Monday, September 30, 2013 in the Boardroom of the Montoya Administration Building on the Espanola Campus. Regents present: Michael P. Branch, Alfred Herrera, Rosario (Chayo) Garcia, and Feliberto Martinez. Regent Cecille Martinez-Wechsler was absent and excused from attending the meeting. Board President Michael Branch called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m.

Northern New Mexico College staff present: Dr. Nancy “Rusty” Barceló, President; Dr. Anthony Sena, Provost and VP of Academic Affairs; Ricky Serna, VP of Institutional Advancement; Dr. Matthew Martinez, Director of Northern Pueblos Institute (NPI); Dr. Patricia Trujillo, Director of the Office of Equity and Diversity; and Amy Pena, Assistant to the President and Recording Secretary. Also present were Samuel Ledoux, Student at Northern, and Lindsey Bright, reporter with the Rio Grande Sun.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The final agenda was approved as presented.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Approval of College RPSPs

Mr. Ricky Serna, Vice President of Institutional Advancement, explained that Research and Special Projects (RPSPs) are special funding appropriations by the State Legislature. The process for submitting RPSPs was changed recently. The forms and new format for submission were provided by the Higher Education Department (HED) a couple of weeks ago. The submission due date is Tuesday, October 1, 2013. The Regents were provided a portion of what will be submitted to HED (copies attached). The HED will schedule hearings with the institutions. Individuals responsible for drafting the RPSPs will attend the hearings. Mr. Serna stated that HED looks for three things: 1) how integral the projects are to the goals of higher education as set forth by HED; 2) how sustainable the projects can be; and 3) how the projects are tied to the mission and vision of each institution. Mr. Serna pointed out that funding of RPSPs are not set; funding can be removed, decreased, or increased by the Legislature or subject to veto by the Governor.

The Regents took about 20 minutes to read through the two RPSP proposals (copies attached) presented by Dr. Matthew Martinez, Director of the Northern Pueblos Institute, and Dr. Patricia Trujillo, Director of the Office of Equity and Diversity.

1. RPSP Title: Northern Pueblos Institute, P’OE-Native American Pathways to Success Initiative.

Project Contact Name: Dr. Matthew Martinez

Proposed Budget: \$200,000

Project Summary: Northern is both a Hispanic and Indigenous Serving Institution. Programming and student support on campus needs to adequately reflect the institution’s diverse

student body. The P'oe funding requested is for an additional language faculty line in Pueblo Indian Studies as well as for additional staff and resources to recruit and mentor Native American studies from surrounding communities.

Goals: 1) Increase Northern's capacity to serve students by improving academic support and curriculum improvements, thereby improving students' retention and graduation rates; 2) Increase the number of Native American faculty and staff that represent the diverse student body; and 3) Increase outreach to each of New Mexico's tribal communities which includes Indian education stakeholders of the 22 tribes and their education departments. Collaborate with tribal communities, workforce and business representatives to increase graduation rates and placement. Develop a culture of leadership and mentoring among Native American students, campus and surrounding communities.

Regent Branch suggested that Dr. Martinez speak with Mr. Domingo Sanchez, VP for Finance and Administration, about overhead costs associated with the RPSP that may not be visible at this point in time.

Regent Alfred Herrera moved to approve the RPSP proposal as presented by Dr. Matthew Martinez to include a discussion with Mr. Sanchez regarding any additional costs that may be involved. Motion carried unanimously.

2. RPSP Title: Nuevomexicano Studies Research Center.

Project Contact Name: Dr. Patricia Trujillo

Proposed Budget: \$286,000

Project Summary: Culturally diverse, Northern's 1,825 students are 72% Hispanic and 11% Native American, proportionately representing the demographic of this sparsely populated rural service-area covering 5,860 square miles. Northern New Mexico has maintained a unique character as a multilingual and multicultural community comprised primarily of Native Americans and Hispanics who have co-existed alongside each in villages and pueblos for over four centuries. New Mexico's rich history, spectacular landscapes and distinctive cultures consistently generate scholarly interest. There have been countless academic studies completed about northern New Mexico; however, there has never been a dedicated research center that focuses on the histories, cultures, and arts of northern New Mexico in northern New Mexico.

This RPSP project will fund an Executive Director, a faculty and resources for a New Mexico Studies Research Center where students and faculty will have the opportunity to study and produce research about northern New Mexico utilizing the unique resources that Northern has to offer and leveraging the locations of its campuses. Funding for this project will enhance academic offerings at both campuses creating collaborations between the ¡Sostenga! Center for Sustainable Food, Agriculture and Environment; Northern New Mexico Heritage Arts Programs; and a new academic program in Cultural Studies. The Research Center will emphasize experiential learning, research, and service activities to implement practical solutions for our region, the state, the nation, and our world.

President Barceló stated she will speak with Dr. Sena about prioritizing these two RPSP proposals.

Regent Alfred Herrera moved to approve the RPSP proposal as presented by Dr. Patricia Trujillo with a request that the budget be adjusted to reflect the appropriate benefits and overhead, and that Administration look at the two RPSPs for the purpose of prioritizing. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Regent Herrera moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Minutes Transcribed by Josephine Aguilar, Executive Assistant.

APPROVED:

/S/

Michael P. Branch, Board President

/S/

Cecille Martinez-Wechsler, Secretary/Treasurer