Government Relations Committee
Proposed Agenda
Thursday, July 24th 11:00am-12:00pm
Scholes 101

Attendees: Renée Delgado-Riley, Danielle Gilliam, Jarrett Hines, Nathan Holscher, Joanne Kuestner, Gina Urias-Sandoval, Marc Saavedra

I. Introductions

II. Overview of Committee Charge

The Government Relations Committee formulates, advocates for and helps implement activities, literature and programs educating the governmental and general communities as to staff issues and proposes possible remedies to problems generated by those issues. The committee also tracks and reports on legislative issues that affect the university staff, and, where possible as the legislative process allows, makes recommendations to the Staff Council concerning those issues. The committee also helps plan and implement avenues to encourage and support staff in exercising their civic rights and responsibilities.

All constituent and Staff Councilor comments need to be funneled through the chair of this committee and he/she will relay those messages to Marc Saavedra and the Government Relations Office.

III. Meeting Times

Tuesdays and Thursdays in the afternoon appear to be better times. Renée will send out a Doodle poll to find an alternative meeting time.

IV. Review of Legislative Priorities

Marc Saavedra, Director of Government Relations came and gave an overview of the UNM Priorities and the Council of University Presidents’ Priorities for this coming legislative session.

Funding Formula - Individuals across campus will be working together to propose changes and assign values of the funding formula for higher education

- At Risk Students
- Degrees Awarded
- Course Completion
- Workforce development
*This will be up to us to figure this out and relay message to the Secretary of Higher Education

**Compensation** - After 3 years of having to deal with ERB solvency issues and working alongside Staff Council and lobbying to avoid 20 million of cuts, Marc believes compensation will continue to look up in the future for Staff. Only 62% of Staff are on I & G funding, thus the University will continue to be responsible for 38% of non-I & G staff.

**Lottery** - This continues to remain an issue for as it is solvent for Fall, but not for Spring. A taskforce has been created to keep abreast of these issues.

**General Obligation Bond** - UNM will ask for 100 million, but will be focusing on providing this to work on the Physics building. This is very competitive, but UNM hopes to get at least 35% of what it is requesting. All constituent and Staff Councilor comments are encouraged to go through Renée and we can be advocates for UNM staff.