



REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

January 21, 2025

Zoom

Members Present: Marcus Anderson, Angela Beauchamp, SarahBeth Caswell, Jacquelyn Chasteen, Sharina Desai, Deena Duran, Grace Faustino, Mark Fischer, Frankie Flores, Rene Forsythe, Jennifer Kavka, Chelsea Kies, Sierra Kowalski, Tayli Lam, Joseph Lane, Jhoniq Lentsch, Johnny McGinnis, Frankie McQuerry, Emilie McVay-Ash, Stephen Murillo, Ivan Olay, Amie Ortiz, Madeline Pennington, Zachary Peterson, Natalie Rowe, Kristina Rucker, Carla Sakiestewa, Yadéeh Sawyer, Jessica Serna, John Shaski, Damion Terrell, Sarah Treviso, Quinton Valencia, Robinson Worley.

Members Excused: Jennifer Chamberlin Payne, Marvin Gouch, Angela Marie Graham, Regis Lacher, Bryn McCabe-Kelly, Michael McNeil, Bonnie Minkus Holmes, Gonzalo Olivas, Mary Phibbs, Andrea Quijada, Jason Quinn, Winton Wood, Lisa Yuka.

Members Absent: Michael Baca, Gilbert Gallegos, Loraine Koleski, Candace Lounsbury, Amanda Ortiz.

Also Present: Parliamentarian Adam Hathaway; Gov Rel Chair Mary Clark, HSCS Chair Vanessa Roybal

- I. **Call to Order:** Speaker Ortiz called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.
- II. **Roll Call:** Secretary Hawkins called roll of members and quorum was established.
- III. **Approve Agenda:** With unanimous consent, the agenda was approved.
- IV. **Land Acknowledgement:** The Land Acknowledgement was read by Councilor Desai.
- V. **Approve Minutes:** With unanimous consent the minutes from December 17, 2024, were approved.
- VI. **Constituent Comments:** None
- VII. **Reports:**
 - a. President's Report: President Olay: Olay wished the council a Happy New Year and commented on the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and his profound contributions to civil rights and social justice. Olay went on to talk about and update the council on:
 - Recent Accomplishments including the Staff Appreciation Breakfast which provided us with opportunities to celebrate outstanding staff members and highlight the vital role of staff at UNM.
 - One key focus for the Staff Council this year has been increasing engagement with legislators to ensure they understand who we are and why we exist. We are the voice of the staff at UNM, shining a light on their needs, challenges, and achievements.
 - During the Business Meeting, we had two engaged legislators in attendance who heard directly from staff about our priorities. These conversations emphasized the importance of including UNM staff and the Staff Council in legislative efforts. Similarly, at the Staff Appreciation Breakfast, a legislator and their aide joined us, providing another platform for dialogue.
 - The Basic Needs Survey data presented at these events was particularly eye-opening for our legislative guests, sparking meaningful discussions about the needs of our community. These initial conversations have been invaluable, but they are just the beginning. We must continue to expand our outreach and deepen our relationships with more legislators to amplify the voices of UNM staff.
 - Upcoming Engagement/opportunity for dialogue with legislators will be on January 29th during UNM Day at the State Capitol. A group of Staff Councilors will travel to Santa Fe to showcase the Staff Council and its mission. I want to thank everyone who has contributed to this effort—whether by preparing materials, organizing logistics, or providing support. Your hard work has been instrumental in making this event possible. Additionally, President-Elect Damion Terrell and I will attend the UNM Alumni Legislative Reception that evening to continue these vital conversations about staff needs.

- Reflection and Gratitude: As I reflect on the past six months of my term as President, I am proud of the progress we've made in strengthening our engagement with legislators. I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Staff Council Government Relations Committee for their dedication and to the office of UNM Government Relations for their ongoing support. Thank you all for your continued efforts to support our staff and further our mission. Let's keep up the momentum in this new year!

b. Executive Committee Report: President Elect Terrell updated the council on the following business and discussion items in Executive Committee:

- Parental leave
- Lactation spaces on campus
- Parental leave policy
- FMLA
- Catastrophic Leave
- Smoke free campus, communication and how to enforce
- Staff Appreciation Breakfast SC committee representation
- Funding and event requests: Jim Davis awards, Be Kind Carnival, UNM Day at the Capital, which we will also be tabling at.
- Capital Outlay request process
- Marketing for Government Relation
- Naloxone Emergency boxes
- Drone project update
- Basic Needs Consortium
- Staff survey about CNM courses

VIII. **Motion:** Councilor Anderson moved to amend the agenda to add a second Constituent Comment period before continuing with reports. Motion was seconded and approved with unanimous consent.

IX. **Constituent Comments:** A constituent commented about the resolution regarding parking on campus and the request for 24 hours' notice.

X. **Reports (Cont.)**

c. Speaker's Report: Speaker Ortiz made the Committee Appointments of Gonzo Olivas to DEI and Grace Faustino as DEI Chair. With unanimous consent the appointments were approved.

d. Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Sakiestewa shared screen with the budget report and discussed encumbrments and anticipated costs and gave an overview of the staff appreciation budget. Sakiestewa encouraged councilors and committees to put their requests in, and gave a brief update on Outstanding Supervisor and Gerald May.

e. Committee Reports:

- Ethics – No report.
- Rules & Elections – update and preview of the upcoming grade elections process; showing the spreadsheet of action items, and what is coming up for council approval per the Election Code.
- Communications & Marketing – No report.
- Compensation – No report.
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion – No report.
- Environmental Sustainability – Recording from December with Rosie Dudley with presentation on the Integrated Campus Plan is now available.
- Government Relations – update on the \$190K capital outlay funds and the work going into spending those funds on lighting and campus safety projects; the next request was for \$500K for ADA upgrades and meeting with Accessibility Resource Center; and that they will be focusing on staff utilized areas.
- HSCS (Health Sciences Center Staff) – looking at introducing two resolutions to the council soon.
- Technology – Technology has not met but Terrell shared an update from the Faculty Senate IT Use committee including a new equitable access program for online material and AI resources. UNM Tech Days is also coming up and there are several changes and updates occurring soon that will directly affect staff, students, and faculty.

- x. Rewards and Recognition – they are working on the details for the Staff Appreciation Luncheon and Sawyer called for volunteers or anyone interested in being a part of it and the Jim Davis nomination form will be sent out soon so please nominate.
- xi. Staff Success – they are working lunch and learn events and a resolution they have been working on. Then, on behalf of the Staff Success committee, Councilor Pennington moved to adopt the Resolution for Transportation and handicapped for Handicapped essential staff. Council had discussion and debate. A motion was made to postpone the resolution vote until the February meeting. Motion was seconded and council had discussion and debate considering the motion to postpone. With unanimous consent, the motion to postpone was approved. This will be on February’s business meeting agenda under Unfinished Business.
- xii. Strategic Planning – Lane made a call for goals for the next five years for the council; they are making progress and will hopefully have an updated plan in May or June.
- xii. UNM Policy Review – encouraged comments for draft policy that recently came out; discussions with the Policy Office included clear paths for advancement, bereavement leave and other resolutions that contain asks for policy change.
- xiii. FSBC (Faculty, Staff, and Benefits Committee) – updates on the first meeting of year including the compensation increases request, projection of medical premium increase, looking at another shift in salary tiers.

f. New Business:

- a. Note the resolution was addressed in the Staff Success Committee Report.

g. 10-Minute Tidbit, PRP Adam Hathaway: Hathaway congratulated the council on a very professional and respectful meeting and reminded the council that is what happens when people follow the rules consistently and preserve protocols, a lot of business gets transacted with many people sharing their voice in an equal way. He then applauded councilor Anderson who asked the questions earlier about changing the agenda and encouraged everyone to do the same. Hathaway gave some detail about the approval of the agenda, modifying the agenda with a 2/3 vote, and wrapped up with a congratulations of the clear and professional way the resolution was dealt with, and a brief overview of the tools each councilor has to use to be recognized by the speaker and ask questions.

h. Councilor Introductions: Speaker Ortiz, Councilors Anderson and Desai introduced themselves.

i. Councilor Comments & Announcements: cameras turned on are appreciated so it’s easier to recognize each other in person, considering running for council and exec again in the upcoming elections; reminder that it is UNM policy to affirm peoples’ gender and gender identity with expression of pronouns; LGTBQ Frito Pie Friday is happening this week from 12-2 and everyone is invited; construction project in Fitz Hall that resulted in councilor losing their personal items from lockers and there doesn’t seem to be any recourse (councilors discussed and offered assistance); offer to help update the parking resolution that would gain support; lactation spaces resolution call for any experiences on campus; construction on old building is highlighting asbestos issues;

j. Meeting adjourned at 2:54 p.m. [Minutes](#) submitted by Amy Hawkins, Staff Council Administrator.