

Whereas, the Faculty Senate leadership, represented by the Operations Committee, has been in communication with faculty from across the campus who are concerned about the lack of institutional continuity created by the unprecedented number of recent departures in the upper administration ranks;

And whereas, the Faculty Senate is the representative body for the Faculty, and as such, it is incumbent on us to respond when faculty have serious concerns, particularly at the University-wide level;

And whereas, the Faculty Senate has an obligation to maintain and strengthen shared governance as a required component of accreditation;

And whereas, the following resolution was endorsed by the Faculty Senate by a vote of 59 for, 2 against, which represents a 91 percent response rate:

Vote of Confidence in current Administrative Leadership

The Faculty below wish to express their confidence in the leadership of our Interim President, Chaouki Abdallah, and strongly recommend that his term of service be extended through Spring of 2019.

Interim President Abdallah has been engaged in several crucial initiatives and actions that could not have awaited the arrival of his successor. Given his experience as a Faculty member, Department Chair, Provost and now President, we recommend that he be given time to stabilize these efforts before asking his successor to assume these challenges without needed institutional experience and knowledge. Further turnover in administrative leadership, at this time, would likely have a disruptive effect on initiatives that must be addressed imminently and are crucial to the well-being of our University and to the people of New Mexico whom we serve.

Critical issues at hand include:

- 1. Pending accreditation*
- 2. Loss of administrative leadership and with it, indispensable institutional knowledge*
- 3. Highly unstable finances, both within the State and the University*
- 4. The imminent need to re-evaluate old strategies in a new environment through the Re-engineering initiative*
- 5. Address the ongoing and mitigate potential compliance issues that involve state and federal governmental agencies*

Therefore, be it resolved:

In view of the overwhelming sentiment of the Faculty Senate in favor of delaying the recruitment and hiring of a new president of UNM by one year, the Faculty Senate requests in the strongest possible terms, that the UNM Board of Regents hold a formal vote on the Faculty Senate Resolution delaying the hiring of the new president by one year.

(Approved by the Faculty Senate as of August 25, 2017 by electronic vote)