

New Mexico EPSCoR State Committee Meeting
26 October 2009
New Mexico EPSCoR State Office

Minutes

Called to order: 11:00 am

Attendees: Jack Jekowski, Viola Flores, Julia Fulgham, Van Romero, Tom Bowles, Anthony Sena, Nan Sauer, Marie Garcia, Vimal Desai Chaitanya, John Montgomery, Valerie Montoya, Stephan Helgesen, Kurt Steinhaus, Bill Michener, Katherine Mitchell, Anna Morrato

New State Committee members, Dr. Viola Flores, Secretary of NM Higher Education Dept., and Valerie Montoya, VP of Academic Affairs at the Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI) were introduced.

Minutes from the May 2009 meeting were approved with minor corrections.

Jack Jekowski provided his perspective on the Reverse Site Visit (RSV) he, Bill Michener and John Wilson made to the National Science Foundation (NSF) EPSCoR office. He congratulated the State Office for making a successful presentation and noted that Bill Michener has already provided responses to the 11 recommendations made by the NSF review committee. He emphasized that NSF is increasing their focus on the importance of the "Broader Impacts" criterion—clarifying how the program will have an impact on society in general. RII proposals that did not fully address the Broader Impacts were not funded.

Bill Michener reviewed the NSF recommendations from the RSV and the NM EPSCoR responses to those recommendations. The RSV powerpoint presentation is available on the EPSCoR website (www.nmepscor.org). With input from members of the Management Team, plans have been put in place to address each of the 11 recommendations; documentation of progress in addressing the recommendations will be included in the Annual Report to NSF.

One of the 11 recommendations, which emphasized enhancing diversity of faculty at research institutions, was discussed in more detail. It was determined that Bill would speak with individual committee members and members of the Diversity Committee to get additional input and would proceed with the development of a Diversity Plan as was proposed to NSF. The draft plan will be presented at the next State Committee meeting.

A summary of Year 1 Activities and upcoming events was provided for the committee. It was noted that a Track 2 grant, "*Cyberinfrastructure Development for the Western Consortium of Idaho, Nevada, and New Mexico*", was awarded in October 2009 and a Kick-Off meeting is scheduled for November 5 in Reno. The proposal for

"C2: Improving Broadband Access for Tribal and Regional Colleges in New Mexico" will be submitted to NSF before the November 2 deadline.

During lunch, Bob Parmenter, Chief Scientist of the Valles Caldera National Preserve (VCNP), reviewed the research and education efforts currently underway at the VCNP.

A review of the DOE EPSCoR program was presented; this program works as "seed" money to broaden leverage between national laboratories and research faculty. The committee discussed ways to expand this program and increase the success rate of proposals submitted to DOE.

The next meeting will be scheduled using a Doodle Scheduler and will be held at the Valles Caldera National Preserve.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.