

University Research Council
Draft Minutes
May 2, 2013

- Present:** Jeffrey Arterburn, Vimal Chaitanya, Richard Fortin, Stephen Hanson, Shanna Ivey, Sam Fernald, Steve Stochaj
- Absent:** Rani Alexander, Salim Bawazir, Susan Beck, Rebecca Creamer, Muhammad Dawood, Joanne Esparza, O.D. Hadfield, Kathleen Huttlinger, Cathy Kinzer, Collin Payne, James Robinson, Robert Smits, Laura Thompson
- Guest:** Ricardo Rel

1. Outreach Opportunities re: Legislative Research/Economic Development – Ricardo Rel

Assistant Vice President for Government Relations, Ricardo Rel, provided URC with a handout titled “Highlights of Governor’s Action on Bills” (see attached document for record). He said that all NMSU programs remained intact and that there was no additional funding for the Water Resources Research Institute (WRRI). Mr. Rel also said that the NMSU system received \$3.6M more than last year.

Mr. Rel anticipates state interest in economic development, and water/drought next year. He told URC to contact Sam Fernald if they have any information that might support the water area. He said that Joseph Cervantes is on the drought subcommittee and that this might pose an opportunity for NMSU.

The Government Relations office has Facebook and Twitter accounts which can be reached by visiting their website at <http://www.nmsu.edu/~legislat/>.

2. Elect URC Chair

On April 29th, an email was sent to URC members requesting they submit one or more names of URC members for URC Chair position. Stephen Hanson was nominated and by unanimous vote was selected as the URC Chair for academic year 2013 – 2014 and effective July 1, 2013.

3. Other

A suggestion was made and everyone agreed that a meeting should take place before August due to the new president coming in so that URC can prepare a presentation. It was also suggested that the URC start their meetings for the academic year in August.