Vice President Report for April 27, 2022

Crimson Kickoff

The group coordinating the Crimson Kickoff has, for the first time, decided to include graduate students. So far there is no firm plan for how we’re going to participate – so we’re looking for ideas. It would be nice to create a subcommittee of the GSC to develop a firm plan to participate.

Graduate School Updated

Some interesting developments came up in the meeting. 1) Graduate Assistants should be getting a 7% raise effective July 1st. Our raises are supposed to be tied to faculty/staff – which got 3% on April 1st and will be getting 4% on July 1st – but, the decision was made to give GAs raises on July 1st. As I’ve said before, “regular” student workers will not be getting raises under the legislature-approved increase. Instead they’ll be getting raises January 1st when minimum wage goes up. 2) For those doc students enrolled in hybrid programs – the university is looking at allowing those students to enroll in NMSUO classes as well. I’ll be touching base with those administrators again over the summer to see how that can be facilitated. During COVID more classes were being offered online so it wasn’t as big an issue. With more classes face to face, the need for NMSUO course offerings is becoming more important.

Focus Group for Teaching Academy

I was part of a focus group for the Teaching Academy last Thursday. What came from that group was that it doesn’t appear a lot of graduate students are participating. Just to remind folks, these classes are free – and, at least for me – have been a Godsend in terms of preparation and support for teaching at the college level. If you haven’t taken the class – a PhD is not enough – let me be the first to recommend it.