

**MINUTES
of the
SECOND MEETING
of the
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

**July 24-25, 2023
Wallace Hall, Room 505
University of New Mexico-Los Alamos
4000 University Drive
Los Alamos**

The second meeting of the Science, Technology and Telecommunications Committee was called to order by Representative Debra M. Sariñana, chair, on July 24, 2023 at 10:03 a.m. in Room 505 of Wallace Hall at the University of New Mexico (UNM)-Los Alamos (LA) in Los Alamos.

Present

Rep. Debra M. Sariñana, Chair
Rep. Janelle Anyanonu
Sen. Craig W. Brandt (7/24)
Rep. Jason C. Harper
Rep. Charlotte Little
Sen. Michael Padilla (7/24)
Sen. Harold Pope
Sen. William P. Soules

Absent

Sen. Siah Correa Hemphill, Vice Chair
Sen. William F. Burt
Rep. Joy Garratt
Rep. Joshua N. Hernandez

Advisory Members

Rep. Christine Chandler (7/24)
Rep. Gail Chasey (7/24)
Rep. Yanira Gurrola (7/25)
Sen. Shannon D. Pinto (7/25)
Sen. Nancy Rodriguez
Rep. Linda Serrato

Rep. Jenifer Jones
Rep. Willie D. Madrid
Sen. Bill B. O'Neill
Rep. Larry R. Scott

Guest Legislator

Sen. Peter Wirth (7/24)

(Attendance dates are noted for members not present for the entire meeting.)

Staff

Mark Edwards, Bill Drafter, Legislative Council Service (LCS)
Ralph Vincent, Systems Consultant, LCS
Markela Clinton, Committee Coordinator, LCS

Guests

The guest list is in the meeting file.

Handouts

Handouts and other written testimony are in the meeting file and posted on the legislature's website.

References to Webcast

The time reference noted next to each agenda item in this document is cross-referenced to the webcast of the committee meeting, which can be found at www.nmlegis.gov, under the "Webcast" tab. The presentations made and committee discussions for agenda items can be found on the recorded webcast for this meeting.

Monday, July 24

Welcome and Introductions (10:03 a.m.)

Representative Sariñana welcomed the committee, and members of the committee and staff introduced themselves.

Welcome and UNM-LA Campus Status Update (10:07 a.m.)

Mike Holtzclaw, Ph.D., chancellor, UNM-LA, welcomed the committee and guests to the campus and described the programs offered and student profile of the branch campus. Kathryn Vigil, director, Student Affairs, UNM-LA; Paul Allen, Ph.D., dean of instruction, UNM-LA; and Bob Harmon, director, Business Operations, UNM-LA, further described the campus curriculum and instruction, student affairs and business projects. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20072423%20Item%201%20Chancellor%20Holtzclaw%20--%20UNM-Los%20Alamos%20Status%20Update.pdf>

Ground Truthing the Benefits and Risks of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) (10:45 a.m.)

Melanie Moses, Ph.D., professor, Department of Computer Science, UNM, and Dr. Lydia Tapia, Ph.D., chair, Department of Computer Science, UNM, presented many real-life examples derived from their university work in assessing the benefits and risks of generative AI. Dr. Moses and Dr. Tapia provided specific recommendations for legislative activities that might be considered as generative AI evolves. The presentation can be found here:

https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20072423%20Item%202%20AI%20Benefits%20and%20Risks%20Tapia_Moses.pdf

AI: Disinformation and the Threats Posed to Democratic Societies (1:30 p.m.)

Joshua Garland, Ph.D., interim director, Center on Narrative, Disinformation and Strategic Influence, Arizona State University, discussed the direct threats to democracy that are emerging because of the use of generative AI in developing disinformation. Dr. Garland

provided recommendations on regulations of AI-manipulated media in political campaigns. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20072423%20Item%203%20AI%20and%20Disinformation%20--%20Prof%20Garland.pdf>.

AI Concerns for Personal Freedoms and Government Misuse (2:33 p.m.)

Darren Byler, Ph.D., assistant professor, School for International Studies, Simon Fraser University, discussed concerns for personal freedoms with an overview of computer-vision aided surveillance being used in China and the way this produces an authoritarian lock-in that radically undermines the civil liberties of disfavored populations. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/Committee/Handouts?CommitteeCode=STTC&Date=7/24/2023&ItemNumber=4>.

AI Concerns for the Film Industry (3:38 p.m.)

Mel MacKaron, actor, writer and producer, and George R.R. Martin, writer, producer and entrepreneur, discussed their experiences in the film industry and expressed their concerns about how generative AI will be regulated to protect workers in the film industry. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20072423%20Item%205%20%20Mel%20MacKaron%20-%20Union%20Negotiations%20and%20Generative%20AI.pdf>.

Recess

The meeting recessed at 4:50 p.m.

Tuesday, July 25

AI Implications on the Criminal Justice System (9:16 a.m.)

Cristopher Moore, Ph.D., professor, Santa Fe Institute and member, Interdisciplinary Working Group on Algorithmic Justice, discussed the lack of transparency built into the algorithms being used to create assessments in the criminal justice decision-making process. Dr. Moore made recommendation to the committee that the legislature require transparency and auditability for any algorithm that state or local governments use to make or inform these life-altering decisions. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20072423%20Item%206%20AI%20Implications%20on%20the%20Criminal%20Justice%20System.pdf>.

How State and Federal Governments are Approaching AI Concerns (10:40 a.m.)

Heather Morton, director, Financial Services, Technology and Communications, National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), reviewed the NCSL project to document the federal and state legislation since 2019 that deals with the use of AI and the regulation of these

activities. Ms. Morton explained the NCSL resources available for the committee. The presentation can be found here:

<https://www.nmlegis.gov/handouts/STTC%20072423%20Item%207%20NCSL%20Artificial%20Intelligence%20Legislative%20Response.pdf>

Approval of Minutes (11:15 a.m.)

On a motion duly made and seconded, the committee approved the minutes of the June 6, 2023 meeting.

Public Comment (11:16 a.m.)

Jan Williams, fellow, Society of Women Engineers, described the plans to fund and develop a centralized network to act as a clearinghouse for science, technology, engineering and mathematics programs and projects.

Adjournment

There being no further business before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 11:22 a.m.

Tour of Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) (Legislators Only) (11:25 a.m.)

Committee members met at LANL and toured the facility.