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Faculty Senate Minutes

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6-11-1997

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**UNO Faculty Senate Minutes**  
**Wednesday, June 11, 1997, 2:00 P.M., MBSC Dodge Room**

The Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha met on Wednesday, June 11, 1997,  
at 2:00 p.m. in the Dodge Room of the Milo Bail Student Center.  
The president, Shelton Hendricks, presided.

Attendance: Arbelaez, Bruckner, Camp, Clute, Diamond, Francke, Gessaman, Harrington, Hendricks, S. Maher, Mundell, Newton, Reidelbach, Rogers, Skreija, Stacy, Stolen, Suzuki  
Those Excused: Aschenbrenner, Bradshaw, Carlson, Carroll, Deichert, McKay, Topp  
Those Absent: Brown, Bykerk, Harland, Johnson, Johnson, Krause, Lee, Lewis, H. Maher, Nazem, Ravichandran, Russell, Schwer, Serenco, Valle

In the absence of a quorum, no official business was conducted; however, the president gave his report and a variety of issues were discussed during "For the Good of the Order."

Officers' Reports

President's Report, Shelton Hendricks

Meeting of the Board of Regents 5/16/97

Items of Particular Interest to UNO:

- Approved amended constitution and bylaws for the UNO College of Education
- Approved University of Nebraska/ First Data Resources, Inc., educational program agreement (copy available in senate office).
- Deferred action (pending opportunity for regents to read relevant documents) on University of Nebraska/First Data Resources, Inc., donation and covenant agreements.\*

\*Approved at a later teleconference.

- After much discussion in closed session, approved acceptance of a gift from the Sapp family for renovation of the UNO Field House and the naming of the facility as the "Lee and Helene Sapp Field House." Also, approved design and construction procedures for the facility.
- Items of General Faculty Interest After rejecting several limiting amendments, adopted a resolution ("Statement of Board of Regents" - agenda attachment 11) addressing censorship, freedom of speech, academic freedom and responsibility, and a request for special attention of faculty to the rights and sensitivities of students.

- Accepted a report from the Academic Affairs Committee to the effect that summer sessions were useful and should be continued much as they are conducted now.
- Agreed to continue annual visits of regents to each campus.
- Other Items Heard a report/update on the Kellogg Commission on the Future of Land Grant and State Supported Universities. (In the next century these institutions are likely to both change and stay the same.)
- After much erudite discussion as to the value and appropriateness of a great university offering certificates in dog grooming, approved the addition of seven new certificate programs at the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture at Curtis.
- Approved the establishment of a school of natural resource sciences at UNL. (To be created solely by reallocation of resources within UNL).

Appointments ("1997-98 UNO Faculty Senate and Committees" - agenda attachment 12)

#### Weber Retirement

Resolution: Resolution 3.1 is supported by the Executive Committee and Cabinet and approved for addition to the agenda.

Panel Discussion on Academic Freedom at next BOR Academic Affairs Meeting: The issue of academic freedom is being questioned by both the public and the board of regents, especially in regards to dramatic performances. Linda Pratt, chair of the UNL English department, will chair a panel discussion on Friday, June 20th. President Hendricks encouraged all to read the recent article in *Academe* by Vice Chancellor Edwards concerning post-tenure review.

Meeting with Vice Chancellor Peck and Registrar/Acting Assistant Vice Chancellor of Student Enrollment Services Wade Robinson: President Hendricks will meet with Dr. Peck and Dr. Robinson concerning incomplete grades for undergraduates and the deadline for submitting final grades.

Senator Resigns: Senator Lynott has resigned from the university after accepting a position in Georgia. Claudette Lee will be her replacement. Senator Lynott was the vice chair for the Committee on Professional Development; therefore, a new vice chair will need to be selected.

New Senate Appointments: Recent senate appointments include Senator Newton as chair of the Budget Advisory Committee, Senator Bruckner as chair of the Cabinet, Senator Diamond as chair of the committee on rules, Senator Francke as the Alumni Board representative and Senator Brown and the AAUP representative. President Hendricks will confer with Senator Diamond concerning the need for a fifth member of the Rules Committee since Senator Diamond was originally selected to represent the College of Business Administration and the library.

Strategic Planning: On Thursday and Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, administrators and faculty representatives participated in a retreat designed to re-evaluate and re-start the UNO strategic planning process. This process will continue and it will likely utilize established governance and administrative structures including the faculty senate. It is also likely that a planning methodology developed by Michael Dolence entitled "A strategic Planning Engine for Higher Education" will be used. A copy is on deposit in the senate office. Michael Dolence's e-mail address is: [mgdolence@earthlink.net](mailto:mgdolence@earthlink.net). Also, the web-site for this consulting firm may be accessed at: <http://home.earthlink.net/~mgdolence>.

Blue Ribbon Panel on General Education (agenda attachments 13-14)

Secretary-Treasurer's Report, Gordon Mundell

Because of the lack of a quorum, Senator Mundell will present the April, 1997, budget report at the July 9<sup>th</sup> meeting (agenda attachments 15-16).

Vice President's Report, Judith Harrington

No Report

Executive Committee Report

Because of the lack of a quorum, the following resolution will be presented at the July 9th meeting.

WHEREAS, the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska has reaffirmed its commitment to the constitutional right of free expression and to the institutional principle of academic and freedom, and

WHEREAS, the board of regents has resolved that it is not to act as a board to censor lawful university activities, and

WHEREAS, the board of regents has noted that with academic freedom comes the responsibility of faculty to act with good judgment and consider the rights of their students; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha expresses its appreciation and support for the positions adopted by the board of regents, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the faculty senate encourages all faculty members of the University of Nebraska at Omaha to be considerate and responsible when exercising the privileges accorded by academic freedom and to be particularly responsive to the rights, sensitivities, and opinions of their students as encouraged by the regents' resolution.

Standing Committee Reports

Rules Committee: Arthur Diamond, chair.

No Report

Committee on Faculty Personnel and Welfare: Andris Skreija, vice chair.

No Report

Committee on Professional Development: M. Martha Bruckner, chair.

No Report

Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs: John Newton, chair.

No Report

Committee on Educational Resources and Services: John Reidelbach, chair.

No Report

Committee on Goals and Directions: Loree Bykerk, chair.

No Report

Budget Advisory Committee: John Newton, chair.

No Report

Other Committee Reports

AAUP: Joseph Brown, senate representative.

No Report

Alumni Board: Warren Francke, senate representative.

No Report

Graduate Councils

No Report

Old Business

None

For the Good of the Order

New Business

None

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gordon Mundell  
Secretary-Treasurer