

7-9-1997

## Faculty Senate Minutes July 1997

UNO Faculty Senate

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**UNO Faculty Senate Minutes**  
**Wednesday, July 9, 1997, 2:00 P.M., MBSC Dodge Room**

The Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha met on Wednesday, July 9, 1997,  
at 2:00 p.m. in the Dodge Room of the Milo Bail Student Center.

The president, Shelton Hendricks, presided.

In Attendance: Bradshaw, Brown, Bruckner, Camp, Carroll, Clute, Deichert, Gessaman, Harland, Hendricks, Johnson, Lee, Lewis, H. Maher, S. Maher, McKay, Nazem, Ravichandran, Reidelbach, Russell, Serenco, Stacy, Stolen, Suzuki, Topp

Those Excused: Arbalaez, Aschenbrenner, Bykerk, Carlson, Diamond, Francke, Harrington, Krause, Mundell, Newton, Rogers, Schwer, Skrejija, Valle

Those Absent: None

Senator Hendricks asked for approval of the May 14, 1997, minutes (agenda attachments 1-8) and the June 11, 1997, minutes (agenda attachments 9-11). The minutes were approved.

Officers' Reports

President's 06/11/97 Report, Shelton Hendricks

Meeting of the Board of Regents 05/16/97

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 (see "Statement of Board of Regents" - agenda attachment 14) 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 15)

Weber Retirement

Memory Book Deferral - New deadline for submissions is September 8, 1997. Gift Donation = \$865 Please encourage colleagues who have not already done so to make a contribution.

Photograph, 06/10/97, 12:00 p.m., MBSC (Rain Date: 06/11/97)

Reception, 06/24/97, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m., MBSC (Senate Donation = \$250)

Senator Hendricks is currently serving on a committee along with representatives of the Staff Advisory Council, University Relations and students to plan the chancellor's retirement reception. The executive committee and cabinet approved a \$250 donation toward the reception to come out of the 1997-98 faculty senate budget.

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: 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. Senator 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: Senator 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 on the senate. 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 and Senator Diamond as chair of the Rules Committee. Senator 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, more directly, currently 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 16-17)

President's 07/09/97 Report, Shelton Hendricks

Meeting of the Board of Regents 06/21/97

Items of Particular Interest to UNO:

- Ernest Peck was named interim chancellor at UNO and John Farr interim vice-chancellor for a academic affairs. Both appointments are effective July 1, 1997.
- Also, approved temporary salary adjustments.
- Approved reorganization of UNO's College of Business Administration.
- Approved a use agreement with the Ak-Sar-Ben Future Trust for land now belonging to UNO which is adjacent to the grandstand.
- After concluding discussions in closed session, approved a waiver of their rules regarding the naming of campus buildings and renamed the UNO Fine Arts Building for Del and Lou Ann Weber. Also, passed a resolution congratulating Weber on his retirement and thanking him for his many contributions.

#### Items of General Faculty Interest:

- Approved a 4.5% increase in student tuition. This is 1.5% more than previously approved. This additional 1.5% is to be applied to deferred maintenance assuming the state government joins in this effort during the legislative short session. This action followed considerable discussion, including comparisons of tuition rates in Nebraska with those of the institutional peers of each campus. All University of Nebraska campuses are considerably below their peer means. For total tuition and fees, UNO is 28.5% below the average for its peer group. A complete breakdown of these comparisons is available in the senate office.
- Approved the 1997-98 operating budget. Includes an average 3% raise for all faculty and staff. Primary enhancements at UNO are related to IS&T (approximately \$562,000), expansion of Omaha-based engineering programs (\$150,00), and the Brennan Institute (\$116,548---not requested by the regents but mandated by the legislature). Also includes an addition of \$669,200 to be used to recruit high-ability students to all campuses and \$1,262,115 earmarked for information technology for the entire system.
- Approved 1996-97 academic program reviews required by the Coordinating Commission for Post-Secondary Education. At UNO these programs are: Studio Art (BASA, BFA), Art History (BAAH), Art (BGS), Dramatic Arts (BADA, MA), English (BA,BGS, MA), French (BA, BGS), Spanish (BA, BGS) German (BA, BGS), Music (BGS, BM, MM), and Creative Writing (BFA). All were recommended for continuation.
- Approved a resolution introduced by Regent Hassebrook directing the administration to evaluate the possibility of providing an additional \$500,000 each of the next four years (for a total increase of \$2,000,000) to provide student aid based exclusively on financial need.
- Academic Affairs Committee reported on their discussion of the role of a liberal education in a democratic society.
- Other Items: Looked at a lot of pictures and a model of what Memorial Stadium in Lincoln will look like when currently planned additions are completed.

#### Post-Tenure Review:

Resolution by UNO-AAUP (agenda attachments 19-20)

UNL Proposal (available in senate office)

National AAUP Position Document (available in senate office)

Draft NCA Report (available in the senate office)

Senator McKay Resigns: Senator McKay has resigned from the senate after accepting the position of associate dean of the College of Education at Central Washington University. The Committee on Goals and Directions will need to elect a new vice chair to replace Senator McKay.

Strategic Planning: It is unclear exactly where strategic planning is heading. Senator Hendricks received a memo from Vice Chancellor Peck requesting that an ad hoc committee be assembled to bridge the gap between the current and subsequent administrations to deal with this issue. The committee will be charged with identifying several models by which planning can be conducted at UNO. Two faculty members who are experts on the planning process will represent the faculty on this committee. Other members will be the three vice chancellors: John Farr, Gary Carrico, and Mary Mudd. Senator Hendricks stated that Dr. Peck has invited feedback regarding the forming of this committee. There is a sense of backing off of the current process and creating a more efficient model; action cannot be delayed until the next administration is in place. A report will be drafted to the regents with model suggestions. For better or worse, the senate will become more involved with subsequent planning processes.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report: Shelton Hendricks, president.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Senator Hendricks presented the April, 1997, budget report (agenda attachments 21-22) and the May, 1997, budget report (agenda attachment 23). Senator Hendricks explained the final disbursement of the 1996-97 year-end monies.

Vice President's Report: Shelton Hendricks, president.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Senator Hendricks presented the Council of Academic Deans' June 26, 1997, agenda (agenda attachment 24). Discussion followed on distance learning.

Executive Committee Report: M. Martha Bruckner, senator.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Senator Bruckner moved the following:

Resolution 2240

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.

The motion was approved.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Senator Camp moved the following:

Resolution 2241

WHEREAS, Don Leahy now for a second time has served with distinction as UNO's director of intercollegiate athletics and has presided over an exciting period of renewal and expansion of UNO's athletic programs, and

WHEREAS, Don Leahy throughout his career has exemplified, and insisted upon adherence to, the highest standards of integrity and sportsmanship and has shown due regard for the well-being of UNO's student athletes while encouraging coaches and athletes alike to strive always for excellence both on and off the playing field; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha on behalf of the entire faculty expresses its appreciation and gratitude to Don Leahy for his exemplary leadership in the development and maintenance of nationally competitive intercollegiate athletic programs of high quality at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

The motion was approved.

Standing Committee Reports

Rules Committee: Richard Stacy, senator.

On behalf of the Rules Committee, Senator Stacy moved the following:

Resolution 2242

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following names go forward as three-year appointments (July 1, 1997, through June 30, 2000) to the University Committee on the Advancement of Teaching (UCAT):

Jim Dick, ED  
Betty Hickman, IS&T  
Roger Sindt, BA

The motion passed unanimously.

On behalf of the Rules Committee, Senator Stacy moved the following:

Resolution 2243

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following name go forward as a three-year appointment (July 1, 1997, through June 30, 2000) to the University Committee on Athletics:

Otto Bauer

The motion passed unanimously.

On behalf of the Rules Committee, Senator Stacy moved the following:

Resolution 2244

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following name go forward as a three-year appointment (July 1, 1997, through June 30, 2000) to the University Committee on Computer Usage:

Kim Sosin

The motion passed unanimously.

On behalf of the Rules Committee, Senator Stacy moved the following:

Resolution 2245

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following name go forward as a three-year appointment (July 1, 1997, through June 30, 2000) to the University Committee on Facilities Planning:

Harvey Leavitt

Discussion followed regarding the re-appointment of Harvey Leavitt, whose term on the University Committee on Facilities Planning just ended.

The motion passed unanimously.

On behalf of the Rules Committee, Senator Stacy moved the following:

Resolution 2246

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following names go forward as three-year appointments (July 1, 1997, through June 30, 2000) to the Parking Advisory Committee:

Densel Acheson  
Kenneth Eller



The motion passed unanimously.

On behalf of the Rules Committee, Senator Stacy moved the following:

Resolution 2247

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following names go forward as three-year appointments (July 1, 1997, through June 30, 2000) to the University Committee on Research (UCR):

Jeff French, At-Large Representative  
Jim Thorson, PACS

The motion passed unanimously.

On behalf of the Rules Committee, Senator Stacy moved the following:

Resolution 2248

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following name go forward as a three-year appointment (July 1, 1997, through June 30, 2000) to the Academic Planning Council:

Margaret Gessaman

The motion passed unanimously.

On behalf of the Rules Committee, Senator Stacy moved the following:

Resolution 2249

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following names go forward as three-year appointments (July 1, 1997, through June 30, 2000) to the Chancellor's Commission on Multicultural Affairs:

Fuad Abdullah, BA  
Carol Mitchell, ED  
Douglas Patterson, FA  
Shireen Rajaram, A&S

The motion passed unanimously.

Committee on Faculty Personnel and Welfare: Robert Carlson, chair.

No report; committee did not meet in June.

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

No report; committee did not meet in June.

Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs: Jill Russell, vice chair.

On behalf of the Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs, Senator Russell presented the June 25, 1997, minutes (agenda attachment 25). Senator Russell reported that the committee is working on several resolution and hopes to present them in the near future. Discussion took place on post-tenure review.

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

No report; committee did not meet in June.

Senator Reidelbach referred to memo from Randy Sell regarding raising funds for the Paul Beck Memorial Faculty/Staff Scholarship. Senator Reidelbach stated that he has already discussed this issue with the former chair of the Committee on Educational Resources and Services, Jim Akers. The committee plans to streamline the process at the September meeting.

Committee on Goals and Directions: Loree Bykerk, chair.

No report; committee did not meet in June.

Budget Advisory Committee: John Reidelbach, senator.

No report; committee did not meet in June.

#### Other Committee Reports

AAUP: Joseph Brown, senate representative.

Senator Brown reported that an error in the disbursement of special salary adjustments caused a little more than half to be dispersed during the first half of the contract. AAUP and the administration have agreed to extend a special salary adjustments to assistant professors. It is the administration's intention to make this extension to assistant professors' salaries in the second year of the current contract as well; however, it will depend upon available funds.

Alumni Board: Warren Francke, senate representative.

No Report

#### Graduate Councils

No Report

#### Old Business

None

For the Good of the Order

New Business

Tape Record Senate Meetings: Because of largely inaudible recordings, discussion on whether to continue tape recording the senate meetings took place. Senator Gessaman requested that the Executive Committee look into the cost of improving the senate's equipment in lieu of discontinuing recording the meetings.

MBSC Faculty/Staff Dining Room: Senator Hendricks discussed the lack of use of the MBSC faculty/staff dining room and noted that an alternate location is being sought rather than giving up the room completely.

Staff Advisory Council Picnic: Senator Hendricks announced that the staff picnic will be held on Tuesday, September 2nd from 11:30 to 1:30 p.m. The senate will provide ice cream at a cost of approximately \$130.

Paul Beck Memorial Faculty/Staff Scholarship (agenda attachments 26-27): Senator Hendricks referred this issue to the Committee on Educational Resources and Services.

Review of Chancellor Candidates: Discussion took place on whether the senate, as a body, should take a position regarding the chancellor candidates; considerable opinion supported submitting individual preferences to President Smith instead. Discussion continued on whether the Executive Committee and Cabinet should take a position since they had been invited to meet with the candidates. Senator Hendricks encouraged all to contact President Smith directly as well as to encourage their constituents to participate, keeping in mind the July 14<sup>th</sup> deadline.

Quorum lost at this point.

Agenda for August, 1997, Retreat: Senator Hendricks requested suggestions for the August retreat agenda. He reported that if the new chancellor is available he/she will be invited; if not, Interim Chancellor Peck would like to report on strategic planning. Standing committees will plan their individual agendas for the year and the regular monthly meeting of the senate will take place.

Professional Conduct Committee: Senator McKay, who has resigned to take a position in Washington, was chairing the current Professional Conduct Committee investigation, which has been going on for approximately six months. The university's lawyer is being consulted on whether a new member should be elected to replace Senator McKay at this point in the investigation.

Late Grade Report: The registrar's office is constantly making reports on grades that are not turned in on time. This problem needs to be identified and addressed by faculty. Discussion followed during which it was suggested that sometimes the grade reports are never received by

faculty or they are sent so far in advance that they are misplaced. Senator Hendricks will determine which standing committee to assign this issue to for further investigation.

Senator Camp reported that President Smith has charged a new intercampus task force to consider adding holidays to the academic calendar and noted that this committee has already met once. Concern has been raised for the infinite number of problems created by such calendar additions while still trying to accommodate each semester's requirements. The committee encourages suggestions. This issue was originated by a survey done by a UNK student organization in which it was determined that the fall semester is interminably long and would benefit from a mid-semester break. A second, more focused proposal, is to recognize Martin Luther King, Jr. day in January. Discussion followed. Senator Camp noted that a formal proposal will be forthcoming.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gordon Mundell  
Secretary-Treasurer