Faculty Senate Minutes August 1998

UNO Faculty Senate

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UNO Faculty Senate Minutes
Wednesday, August 19, 1998, 2:00 P.M., MBSC Dodge Room

The Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha met on Wednesday, August 19, 1998, from 8:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at the Mahoney State Park Riverview Lodge. The president, Shelton Hendricks, presided.

In Attendance: Ali, Allen, Bartle, Baum, Brown, Bruckner, Carlson, Carroll, Deichert, DeLone, Diamond, Foster, Gessaman, Hendricks, Kuhlman, Lee, Metal-Corbin, Nazem, Parnell-Smith, Paterson, Rech, Rogers, Shaw, Skreija, Stergiou, Valle
Those Excused: Clute, Engelmann, Harland, Newton, Suzuki
Those Absent: Aschenbrenner, Bradshaw, Craiger, Harland, Irvin, Krause, Lewis, Maher

Guest(s): Chancellor Belck, Vice Chancellors Buck, Hodgson, and Mudd, Assistant Vice Chancellor Wade Robinson, Steve Kapplar, senior project manager/STAMATS Communications, Inc., and Suzanne Allen, Research Associate/STAMATS Communications, Inc.

Morning Session:

Shelton Hendricks opened the meeting at 9:00, and introduced Vice Chancellor Derek Hodgson.

Vice Chancellor Hodgson's major points included the following:

Retention and Student Success. We at UNO must do better than we've done in the past. We currently have 52% of first year freshmen who are retained to their sophomore year. Only 22% of students graduate after six years. We need to meet more reasonable goals: 70% retention to sophomore year and 40% graduation rate after six years. Today’s student is different. We must teach our current students to be good students before we teach them to be good accountants, teachers, sociologists, etc. Some ways we might incorporate to help freshmen include: 1) an adopt a freshman program where faculty and administrators are assigned to mentor a few freshmen; 2) supplementary instruction methods to help underachieving students; 3) adopt some sort of freshman year experience program; 4) consider revising our academic forgiveness programs to give students a second chance. Our main focus must be students. An additional focus should be that many more faculty attend graduation.

Curriculum Reform. We must respond to the need for technology literacy in much the same way that we have previously responded to a need for writing literacy in all disciplines.

Outreach and Community Service. UNO is doing an excellent job to reach out to K-12 schools through the College of Education. We must continue those efforts and replicate them in other settings. We might consider additional recertification programs (non degree programs of 12 to 15 hours rather than 36 to 39 hours) as needed for our graduates.
Globalization. UNO is doing well in attracting enough students from other cultures and countries to help our more traditional students understand the larger world we live in. We need to continue!

Research and National Visibility. We must seek national visibility but must also be consistent in our own mission to serve our community. I promise I will continue to financially support research and search for additional support. We will be judged by our impact on our own community. I hope to continue to talk to you - and with you - in the future. Faculty members engaged Vice Chancellor Hodgson and other guests in discussion of various related issues until noon. The committee meetings occurred in informal settings throughout lunch.

Further discussion of student academic success ensued.

Afternoon Session:

President Hendricks asked for approval of the May 13 minutes. Senator Diamond moved and Senator Skreija seconded; the minutes were approved as submitted.

Officers Reports

President's Report: Senator Shelton Hendricks

No report.

Senator Hendricks announced that his 1997-98 annual report will be posted on the senate home page.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report: Senator Claudette Lee

No report.

Vice President's Report: Senator Martha Bruckner

No report.

Executive Committee Report

Presentation and Approval of Summer Action:

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Senator Bruckner presented and moved for approval the following:

Senate Constitution, Article IV. Organization of the Senate, paragraph 7: "The senate shall hold at least one regular meeting at a stated time each month during the academic year. In the months of June and July, the Executive Committee and Cabinet (the chairs of the standing committees) shall meet in lieu of the senate and will attend to any matters of faculty interest and
responsibility. All decisions taken by the Executive Committee and Cabinet under this grant of authority must be presented to the senate at its next regular meeting and a motion of approval voted upon.” As approved by the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska on May 16, 1998.

Approval of Resolution 2313 06/10/98: Executive Committee

BE IT RESOLVED, that Edward Terence Foster has been elected, by ballot vote of the NU external faculty serving 50% or more on the UNO campus, as the external faculty representative for a three-year term from May 13, 1998, through May 10, 2001, to replace Avery Schwer.

Approval of Resolution 2314 06/10/98: Committee on Rules

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following tenured faculty representative was elected in April, 1998, by the full faculty to serve a three-year term as a full-member from April 16, 1998, through April 15, 2001, and a three-year term as an alternate from April 16, 2001, through April 15, 2004, on the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee:

Thomas Tollman (reappointment)

Approval of Resolution 2315 06/10/98: Committee on Rules

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following non-tenured faculty representative was elected in April, 1998, by the full faculty to complete Hollis Glaser's term as a full-member from July 1, 1998, through April 15, 2001, and a three-year term as an alternate from April 16, 2001, through April 15, 2004, on the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee. Hollis Glaser will receive tenure effective July 1, 1998.

Sue Pendleton

Approval of Resolution 2316 06/10/98: Committee on Rules

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following name go forward as a three-year appointment from July 1, 1998, through June 30, 2001, to the University Committee on Undergraduate Academic Appeals (UCUAA) to replace James Carroll:

Robert Smith

Approval of Resolution 2317 06/10/98: Committee on Rules

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following name go forward as the faculty senate's Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs representative for a one-year appointment from July 1, 1998, through June 30, 1999, to the Academic Planning Council to replace Gordon Mundell:

John Newton
Approval of Resolution 2318 06/10/98: Committee on Rules

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following names go forward as three-year appointments from July 1, 1998, through June 30, 2001, to the University Committee on the Advancement of Teaching (UCAT) to replace C. Jo Manning (A&S) and Sharon Sobel (FA):

Angela Valle, College of Arts and Sciences
Larry Bradshaw, College of Fine Arts

Approval of Resolution 2319 06/10/98: Committee on Rules

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following names go forward as two-year appointments from July 1, 1998, through June 30, 2000, to the Chancellor's Commission on Multicultural Affairs:

Carol Mitchell, College of Education (reappointment)
Sharon Sobel, College of Fine Arts (replace Douglas Paterson)
Quiming Zhu, College of Information Science & Technology (new)
Miriam DeLone, College of Public Affairs and Community Service (replace Mike Carroll)

Approval of Resolution 2320 06/10/98: Committee on Rules

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following names go forward as three-year appointments from July 1, 1998, through June 30, 2001, to the University Committee on Computer Usage to replace Diane Andrew and Robert Egan:

Kathleen Henebry
Deborah Smith-Howell

Approval of Resolution 2321 06/10/98: Committee on Rules

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following names go forward as two-year appointments from July 1, 1998, through June 30, 2000, to the Discrimination Hearing Panel to replace Sheri Rogers and Aaron Smallwood:

Hesham Ali
Lorraine Gessick

Approval of Resolution 2322 06/10/98: Committee on Rules

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following names go forward as three-year appointments from July 1, 1998, through June 30, 2001, to the Educational Policy Advisory Committee to replace Brent Bowen, Martha Bruckner, Gary Day, and Lynn Harland:

Fuad Abdullah
David Conway
Cassia Spohn  
Robert Welk

Approval of Resolution 2323 06/10/98: Committee on Rules

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following name go forward as a three-year appointment from July 1, 1998, through June 30, 2001, to the University Committee on Facilities Planning to replace Pam Specht:

Russell Smith

Approval of Resolution 2324 06/10/98: Committee on Rules

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following name go forward as a three-year appointment from July 1, 1998, through June 30, 2001, to the University Committee on Honors and Awards to replace Richard Stacy:

Michelle Miller

Approval of Resolution 2325 06/10/98: Committee on Rules

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following name go forward as a three-year appointment from July 1, 1998, through June 30, 2001, to the University Committee on Library and Educational Resources to replace Bruce Chase:

Susan Maher

Approval of Resolution 2326 06/10/98: Committee on Rules

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following names go forward as three-year appointments from July 1, 1998, through June 30, 2001, to the Parking Advisory Committee to replace Joe Bertinetti and Steve Rehbein:

Frederic Laquer  
John Noble

Approval of Resolution 2327 06/10/98: Committee on Rules

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following names go forward as three-year appointments from July 1, 1998, through June 30, 2001, to the Student Publication Board:

Frederic Laquer (reappointment)  
Sheri Wilson (replace Michael Hilt)

Approval of Resolution 2328 06/10/98: Executive Committee
WHEREAS, the recently revised academic calendar for the University of Nebraska removes one class day from the fall and spring semesters, and

WHEREAS, any reduction afforded to students to interact with their instructors or to participate in laboratory, studio, or other academic activity threatens the academic integrity on an institution of higher education, and

WHEREAS, given the flexible academic scheduling followed at UNO which includes many classes, laboratories and other scheduled academic activities that only meet once per week, there is the potential that many courses will lose up to a full week of class time, and

WHEREAS, the faculty will devise a multitude of procedures in attempts to assure that their students are not disadvantaged by this reduction in scheduled class time; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the faculty senate calls upon the UNO administration to make available to faculty resources, support services, and a policy of flexibility as the faculty attempts to address the academic problems posed by the altered calendar, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in future years the scheduling of classes shall give high priority to developing of course schedules that minimize the impact of the new calendar on classroom, laboratory, and studio time.

Approval of Resolution 2329 06/10/98: Executive Committee

WHEREAS, UNO will celebrate the beginning of its 90th academic year with a convocation on October 8, 1998, and

WHEREAS, such events are important to the life of a university and provide an opportunity for the university to take appropriate note of and celebrate its role in our community and the nation; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the faculty senate encourages all faculty to attend the convocation, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that those faculty whose classes and other academic activities may conflict with the convocation consider making appropriate arrangements to allow their students to attend.

Approval of Resolution 2330 07/01/98: Committee on Rules

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following names go forward as three-year appointments from July 1, 1998, through June 30, 2001, to the Educational Policy Advisory Committee to replace David Conway:

Thomas Lorsbach
Approval of Resolution 2331 07/01/98: Committee on Rules

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following names go forward as three-year appointments from July 1, 1998, through June 30, 2001, to the Student Activities Budget Commission (student government committee):

Duane Aschenbrenner
Frank Zahn (reappointment)

Approval of Resolution 2332 07/01/98: Executive Committee

WHEREAS, the faculty senate has a continuing interest in any planning for UNO's future, and
WHEREAS, the senate desires to be aware of and where appropriate contribute to the current strategic planning initiative; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the faculty senate requests that the chair of the faculty senate Committee on Goals and Directions serve ex-officio as a member of the Strategic Planning Steering Committee and serve as liaison between the senate and the planning process.

Senator Jim Carroll requested items ‘n' and ‘q' be considered separately.

The motion was approved except for items ‘n' and ‘q.'

Senator Carroll expressed his concerns regarding items ‘n' and ‘q' and an open discussion followed.

After the discussion, the motion was approved for both items ‘n' and ‘q.'

Standing Committee Reports.

Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs: Senator Jack Newton, chair.

No report for May, June, and July, 1998; the committee did not meet during the summer per the senate Constitution, Article IV. Organization of the Senate, paragraph 7.

Committee on Educational Resources and Services: Senator William Clute, chair.

No report for May, June, and July, 1998; the committee did not meet during the summer per the senate Constitution, Article IV. Organization of the Senate, paragraph 7.

On behalf of the Committee on Educational Resources and Services, Senator Clute presented the 1997-98 Annual Report (agenda attachments 42-43).

Committee on Faculty Personnel and Welfare: Senator Robert Carlson, chair.
No report for May, June, and July, 1998; the committee did not meet during the summer per the senate Constitution, Article IV. Organization of the Senate, paragraph 7.

On behalf of the Committee on Faculty Personnel and Welfare, Senator Carlson presented the 1997-98 Annual Report (agenda attachment 44).

Committee on Goals and Directions: Senator Sheri Rogers, chair.

No report for May, June, and July, 1998; the committee did not meet during the summer per the senate Constitution, Article IV. Organization of the Senate, paragraph 7.

On behalf of the Committee on Goals and Directions, Senator Rogers presented the 1997-98 Annual Report (agenda attachment 45).

Committee on Professional Development: Senator Lynn Harland, chair.

No report for May, June, and July, 1998; the committee did not meet during the summer per the senate Constitution, Article IV. Organization of the Senate, paragraph 7.


Rules Committee: Senator Arthur Diamond, chair.

No report for May, June, and July, 1998; the committee did not meet during the summer per the senate Constitution, Article IV. Organization of the Senate, paragraph 7.

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

Resolution 2333 08/19/98: Committee on Rules

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following names go forward as three-year appointments from July 1, 1998, through June 30, 2001, to the University Committee on Student Affairs:

Susan Pendleton
Maria Elvira Villamil

The motion was approved unanimously.

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

Resolution 2334 08/19/98: Committee on Rules

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following names go forward as nominations for a two-year appointment to the Outstanding Teaching and Instructional Creative Activity Award (OTICA) Selection Committee (vitae required).
Only one UNO representative will be selected from these nominees by Provost Lee Jones.

    Donald Grandgenett
    Imafedia Okhamafe
    Daniel Sullivan

The motion was approved unanimously.

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

Resolution 2335 08/19/98: Committee on Rules

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following name go forward to complete Betty Hickman's term as the College of Information Science and Technology representative on the University Committee on the Advancement of Teaching (UCAT) from August 19, 1998, through June 30, 2000. Professor Hickman is transferring from the College of Information Science and Technology back to the College of Arts and Sciences:

Hesham Ali

The motion was approved unanimously.

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

Resolution 2336 08/19/98: Committee on Rules

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following name go forward to complete Geri Hutchins' term on the University Committee on Computer Usage from August 19, 1998, through June 30, 2000. Professor Hutchins is taking a position at another university.

Gary Day

The motion was approved unanimously.

Chancellor Belck introduced Vice Chancellor Buck who discussed a number of issues confronting UNOmaha in the coming year.

Chancellor Belck addressed the following issues:

Restructuring of the University

    faculty needs to be a part of the process
    concern regarding articles in paper regarding morale
    create vision of how we want UNO to be viewed
strategic planning will do this

poised for where we want to go

IS&T

residence halls

limited resources is really a window of opportunity

academic standards is key

retention important

freshman bonding important

P16 Initiative

how we work with public schools

articulation agreements with community colleges

distance learning

a task force will be organized

September 19th, dedication of the field house

Fall (September) 1999, move to IS&T

funding needed to renovate engineering building for CPACS

discussion of consolidation of departments was postponed until later

how to engage the community more as a metropolitan university to help meet each other's needs

academic initiatives

should evolve from faculty senate

no faculty senate lobbying to legislature per President Smith

message sent needs to be from Nebraska system as a whole (not individual campuses)
Vice Chancellor Buck meets regularly with Ron Withum
targets programs each semester
slanting of education in favor of privileged
do we craft interest based on the interest of the privileged
public education to private interest
construction on residence halls will begin in September, 1999
Criminal Justice and Goodrich will be moved.
intramural co-curricular activities
land needed
timing of breaks between classes will need to be addresses to allow for travel time
between main campus and south campus
move programs to south campus
research a possibility
additional housing
College of Business Administration
need more land

Other Reports
AAUP: Senator Joseph Brown, senate representative.
Senator Brown reported that AAUP has a quiet summer; they met with John Russell and Vice Chancellor Hodgson.
Alumni Board: Senator Martha Bruckner, senate representative.
No report.
Budget Advisory Committee: Senator John Newton, chair.
No report for May, June, and July, 1998; the committee did not meet during the summer per the senate Constitution, Article IV. Organization of the Senate, paragraph 7.
Graduate Councils: Senator Susan Maher, senate representative.

No report.

Strategic Planning Steering Committee: Senator Sheri Rogers, senate representative.

Senator Rogers reported that the committee will meet on Thursday, August 20th, at 10:30 a.m. She encouraged all to forward any issues of concern to her. The next meeting is planned for Wednesday, August 26th, at 3:00 p.m.

Old Business

None.

For the Good of the Order

Senator Lee raised concern about the drinking water in Annex 40 (social work). Chancellor Belck agreed to look into it.

New Business

Post Tenure Review:

On behalf of the assembly, Senator Carlson moved the following:

Resolution 2337 08/19/98: On Behalf of the Assembly

BE IT RESOLVED, that the faculty senate approves the proposed guidelines for post-tenure review document dated June 26, 1998.

Senator Carlson then proposed the following amendment to the proposed guidelines for post-tenure review document:

"A Peer Review Committee shall be selected to conduct the review of the faculty member's performance. The Peer Review Committee shall be composed of five tenured faculty from within and outside the reviewee's department who hold an academic rank at least equal to that of the faculty member under review. The Peer Review Committee shall be chosen by, but not from, the appropriate college personnel committee. Members of the year's previous departmental and college personnel committee who participated in the faculty member's previous year's review shall also be excluded. If necessary to provide specific expertise, the college personnel committee may select one Peer Review Committee member from outside UNO."

Discussion followed.

A vote on the proposed amendment was taken and failed on a 10-10 vote.
A vote on the original motion (resolution) was taken and passed.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Sincerely,

Martha Bruckner and Claudette Lee
Vice President Secretary-Treasurer