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Faculty Senate Minutes December 1998

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UNO Faculty Senate Minutes
Wednesday, December 9, 1998, 2:00 p.m., MBSC Dodge Room

The Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha met on Wednesday, December 9, 1998, at 2:00 p.m. in the Dodge Room of the Milo Bail Student Center.
The president, Shelton Hendricks, presided.

In Attendance: Ali, Allen, Aschenbrenner, Bartle, Baum, Bradshaw, Brown, Bruckner, Carlson, Carroll, Clute, Craiger, Deichert, DeLone, Diamond, Engelmann, Foster, Gessaman, Hendricks, Irvin, Krause, Kuhlman, Lee, Lewis, Maher, Newton, Parnell-Smith, Paterson, Rech, Rogers, Shaw, Skrejija, Stergiou, Suzuki
Those Excused: Harland, Metal-Corbin, Nazem, Valle
Those Absent:
Late Arrival: None

Guest(s): None

Senator Hendricks asked for approval of the November 11, 1998, minutes (agenda attachments 1-5). The minutes were approved as submitted.

Officers Reports

President's Report: Senator Shelton Hendricks reported on the following items:

Stamats Communication, Inc. - Summary of Research and Audit Findings: The report is available in the senate office for review. A number of interviews and surveys were conducted which are of interest. This company also did a survey for UNO five years ago.

Chancellor's Council Meeting, November 18th: The computer business and finance system was discussed; the goal is to move toward a paperless process except for state and federal documents which legally require a signature. The system seems to be relatively user-friendly, however, training will definitely be necessary.

Board of Regents: The board did not meet in November; the next meeting will be Saturday, December 12th.

Outreach Committee Meeting, November 18th (distance learning, off-campus classes, BGS degree): The committee is addressing what to do with the College of Continuing Studies, distance learning, and satellite facilities. Faculty representation needs to be increased on the committee. For now the committee will mainly be addressing administrative issues as well as looking at how to modify the current PKCC contract. It is anticipated that some change in the administrative scoop of the college will occur.

Senior Lectureship: Refer to the AAUP report (V, A).

Issue Resolution and Complaint Procedures for Prohibited Discrimination: Federal representatives of the EEO commission were on campus earlier this fall in response to racial incidents on campus. One of their recommendations was to change the procedures by which we currently resolve complaints informally. The procedure is perceived, particularly by students, as placing the complainant at a definite disadvantage right from the start. A draft of the document along with proposed changes has been referred to the Committee of Faculty Personnel and Welfare. Per Senator Brown, there is a need to respond asap based on the upcoming deadlines.

Academic Plan: The plan has dramatic consequences for faculty if accepted as-is. The Executive Committee and Cabinet are charging all standing committees with reviewing the document at their January meetings and reporting their findings to the full senate in February. A consensus response will be put together at the February Executive Committee and Cabinet meeting for presentation to Vice Chancellor.

Additions to Academic Affairs: All were referred to December 7th, Chancellor's Bulletin regarding campus-wide changes, particularly in Academic Affairs.

E-Mail Changes: Two new e-mail devices, E-NOTES and UNO Forum, have been implemented as of today. Also all backup copies only of e-mail messages that are archived on the file servers will be automatically deleted after seven days; CWIS backup e-mails will remain archived for 60 days. These are the electronic copies automatically saved on all file servers, not files within each PC.

Commencement Attendance: Attendance is encouraged at commencement and reserved parking permits are available from the senate office. Senator Bartle suggested attendance would be increased if child care was provided.

The Executive Committee and Cabinet honorary degree reviews are due in by Friday.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report: Senator Claudette Lee

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Senator Lee presented the November 30, 1998, budget report (agenda attachments 6-7).

Vice President's Report: Senator Martha Bruckner

No report.

Executive Committee Report: Senator Martha Bruckner

President-Elect

Faculty Senate Constitution, Article IV., Organization of the Senate: The president shall first serve as president-elect for a term beginning at the first regularly scheduled meeting of the spring semester, which will be followed by a regular one-year term as president beginning at the last regularly scheduled meeting of the academic year. The president-elect shall be elected at the last

regularly scheduled meeting of the fall semester from among the membership of the senate. The president may serve successive terms through re-election, in which case there will be no president-elect for that spring semester and no past-president until the incumbent president completes his or her final term.

Senator Hendricks relinquished the chair to Senator Bruckner.

Senator Bruckner opened the floor to nominations for president-elect.

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

Resolution 2351, 12/09/98: Executive Committee

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Executive Committee nominates Senator Douglas Paterson for president-elect.

There were no other nominations. The motion was approved unanimously.

Senator Bruckner relinquished the chair to Senator Hendricks.

Senator Hendricks congratulated Senator Paterson on his appointment and stated that all look forward to a very amusing year.

Standing Committee Reports

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

No report; the committee did not meet in November.

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

No report; the committee did not meet in November.

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

No report; the committee did not meet in November.

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

No report; the committee did not meet in November.

Committee on Professional Development: Senator Chris Allen and Senator Martha Bruckner

On behalf of the Committee on Professional Development, Senator Bruckner presented the November 23, 1998, minutes (agenda attachment 6).

On behalf of the Committee on Professional Development, Senator Bruckner presented the White Paper on Professional Development (agenda attachments 7-9) and requested that everyone review the document and be prepared to discuss, amend if necessary, and pass a resolution on it at the January senate meeting.

Rules Committee: Senator Arthur Diamond, chair.

No report; the committee did not meet in November.

Other Reports

AAUP: Joseph Brown, senate representative.

Senator Brown reported that food will be provided at commencement by AAUP. Contracting negotiations are proceeding. Discussion is taking place on how full-time non-tenure track positions should be handled. Prior feedback is also being taken into consideration. Senator Carlson referred to a request he previously filed with AAUP regarding lectureship. He noted that he just brought this issue up again at the December 8th, AAUP meeting and voiced he is not satisfied with the response that the subject cannot be discussed due to negotiations. Senator Brown explained that information on some issues, such as lectureship, cannot be released or discussed because it would jeopardize its actual negotiation position. He further emphasized that on this particular issue faculty must allow the ultimate negotiations to be done by AAUP, not the senate.

Alumni Board: Martha Bruckner, senate representative.

No report.

Graduate Council: Arthur Diamond, senate representative.

Senator Diamond reported that Senator Maher resigned from the position of Graduate Council representative and that he will complete her term through May, 1999.

The council met on November 9th. The main issue was the consideration of changes in the computer science masters program brought forward by Committee B. The main problem with this unusual proposal is that a syllabus has not yet been presented and the large majority of council members agree there is not enough specific information to make a decision at this time, therefore, the item was tabled until the next meeting. Discussion also took place on whether the advisory board could meet and vote in lieu of the full council but this suggestion was withdrawn after some discussion.

Also discussed, related to Committee C, were each college's criteria for graduate faculty. The intent and purpose of this information was questioned. Committee A met for the first time this year. Two issues considered were the academic plan and clarification of the controversial aspects of the graduate faculty and their meetings.

Senator Maher added that a special meeting of the council will be held in January to further discuss changes concerning graduate faculty membership. All graduate faculty will also be invited to attend. Senator Gessaman requested that the Graduate Council minutes be distributed to all graduate faculty so they are informed and can participate more fully in meetings and voting. Senator Bruckner reported that representatives from the graduate faculty will be meeting with the senate parliamentarian, Duane Aschenbrenner, regarding procedures. It is expected that Chris Reed will distributed a campus-wide e-mail announcement of the special meeting.

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

Senator Rogers reported the following:

1999 External Forum Dates: January 21st @ 7:30 a.m.
January 26th @ 7:30 a.m.
January 28th @ 5:00 p. m

External forums will be by invitation. There are approximately 700 on the current list.

1999 Internal Forum Dates: February 5th @ 3 p. m, MBSC
February 11th @ 3 p. m, MBSC
February 26th @ 3 p. m, MBSC
March 12th @ 3 p. m, MBSC

The latest plan should be on web page prior to the internal forum dates.

The committee is looking at a date to meet with the senate. The meeting schedule for Spring, 99, has changed to the second and fourth Wednesdays at 3:00 p.m. which is in conflict with the senate and standing committee meetings. For this reason, Senator Rogers has proposed the Strategic Planning Steering Committee (SPSC) report be presented earlier on the agenda so she can leave in time to attend the SPSC meetings.

Invitation for the May 10th, retreat have been mailed. If you did not receive one, please contact Senator Rogers.

Old Business

None.

For the Good of the Order: Bylaws, Article IV. Senate Agenda., Section 3: "This period of informal, unrecorded discussion is provided to encourage senators to voice opinions on timely issues and shall not normally exceed ten minutes."

New Business

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 2:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Claudette Lee
Secretary-Treasurer