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Faculty Senate Minutes September 1999

UNO Faculty Senate

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UNO Faculty Senate Minutes
Wednesday, September 8, 1999, 2:00 p.m., MBSC Dodge Room

Attendees: Ali, Allen, Aschenbrenner, Bacon, Bartle, Baum, Chung, Clute, Conyers, Craiger, DeLone, Diamond, Engelmann, Gessaman, Harland, Hendricks, Irvin, Kuhlman, Landis, Lehrer, Lewis, Metal-Corbin, Nazem, Parnell-Smith, Paterson, Rajaram, Shaw, Smith, Sobel, Suzuki, Thompson

Late Arrival: Deffenbacher

Excused: Coyne, Foster, Mitchell, Rech, Shroder

Unexcused: Tuan

Guests: Cynthia Madden and Renee Irvin - CCSW Task Forces Vice Chancellor Hodgson and Donald Greer -- Prohibited Discrimination Nancy Hicks, Omaha *World-Herald* Reporter.

Presentation and Approval of Minutes (2:00 to 2:10 p.m.): Senator Paterson asked for approval of the August 18, 1999, minutes (agenda attachments 1-21). The minutes were approved as submitted.

Guest Speaker on the Quality of Life on Campus (2:10 to 2:30 p.m.): Cynthia Madden and Renee Irvin will address the senate concerning the Chancellor's Commission on the Status of Women's (CCSW) Task Forces for Sense of Community, Equality/Respect, Safety/Security, and Sexual Harassment/Grievance Procedures. These task forces, made up of UNO community members, have been meeting since last March's CCSW Gender Equity Forum called "Outside the Box - a dialogue to advance the concerns of all women in the UNO community." (See handout presented at meeting.)

Guest Speaker on Prohibited Discrimination (2:30 on): Vice Chancellor Hodgson will present administrations' concerns/views on the "Issue Resolution and Complaint Procedures for Prohibited Discrimination -- University of Nebraska at Omaha" document. Dr. Donald Greer will present UNO's Chapter of AAUP's perspective. The senate has been asked for their input on this document which is scheduled to be presented to the BOR at their September meeting.

Presentation: Both Dr. Donald Greer and Vice Chancellor Hodgson conveyed satisfaction with the prohibited discrimination document agreeing it was finalized on Tuesday, September 7th. It was noted the wordsmanship is still being adjusted, however, both anticipate the final version will be presented to the senate by the end of the week.

Dr. Greer, President of the UNO Chapter of AAUP, requested the following statement be placed in the senate minutes: "September 8, 1999: Dear Doug, As you know, the UNO AAUP has been engaged with administration throughout the summer in a series of extended discussions concerning the university's proposed Policy on Prohibited Discrimination. Thanks to the good faith efforts and creative thinking of all concerned I am happy to report that we have resolved our differences. Final language is being worked out and will be forwarded to the Faculty Senate in the near future. On behalf of the UNO AAUP I would request that the Faculty Senate review the procedure and approve it as expeditiously as possible. Although we had some problems with

previous versions, I do want to thank members of the Senate for the time and effort that was devoted to previous drafts of this important policy."

Discussion: Senator Paterson shared the available options for handling the final prohibited discrimination document: 1) pass it blindly or reject it; 2) call a special senate meeting to review and discuss it; and 3) empower the Executive Committee and Cabin to post the document on web for review by all senators followed by feedback on which the committee would then act on behalf of the full senate.

Motion/Second: Senator Diamond moved that the senate empower the Executive Committee and Cabinet review the final document and make a decision on behalf of the full senate. Senator Baum seconded the motion.

Discussion: Discussion continued on the best way to review the final document and on the complications surrounding the editing or rejection of said document. Senator Hendricks clarified the document needs to be accepted or rejected but not amended noting this same document was previously approved by the senate in May, 1999. He further stated that if the document needs to be amended it should instead be voted down. Senator Paterson explained if the document was amended both AAUP and administration would have to re-evaluate it as well.

Withdrawal of Motion/Second: Senator Diamond withdrew his motion. Senator Baum withdrew his second.

Motion/Second: Senator Hendricks moved approval of the posting the "Issue Resolution and Complaint Procedures for Prohibited Discrimination -- University of Nebraska at Omaha" document on the senate web site for the purpose of being reviewed by all senators followed by the submission of voting for or against the document as it stands by e-mail within one week of the date of posting at which time the senate empowers the Executive Committee to act on behalf of the full senate based on the results of said vote. Senator Gessaman seconded the motion.

Discussion: Discussion followed on whether it was best to vote by e-mail or intercampus mail; the majority agreed e-mail would be used due to time restraints. It was also agreed the deadline for voting would be one week from date the document was posted.

Vote: The motion passed unanimously.

Officers Reports

President's Report: Senator Douglas Paterson reported on the following items:

Board of Regents Meeting: August 27, 1999

Special Board of Regents Meeting: August 28, 1999

Discussion: Dr. Dickerson presented the layout of his book followed by questions from the board of regents. The four NU faculty senate presidents made a presentation regarding their concerns

with Dickerson's plan which was wrapped up by Senator Paterson. As a result of the meeting, President Smith formed a new task force to set criteria for prioritization on this issue. Senator Paterson emphasized the importance of the four NU faculty senate presidents uniting against the Dickerson model. He suggested instead documenting what we already do well, what we need to do well and avoiding the temptation of prioritizing/ranking. Senator Paterson noted part of the process will be supported by the implementation of the senate Budget Advisory Committee. Senator Ali added that Dickerson's plan is simply a tool to be used and not necessarily accepted as-is and further suggested an alternative model is desperately needed. Discussion continued on the reasoning behind the reallocations, where money will be reallocated to and the imbalance between private and public education.

Senator Metal-Corbin voiced concern for the unceremonious letting go of both faculty and staff, particularly staff who just seem to disappear without any thanks for their years of service. Senator Paterson agreed to bring this issue up with administration.

Chancellor's Council Meeting: August 26, 1999

President Smith and NU Senate Presidents Meeting: September 2, 1999

Executive Committee and Administration Meeting: No meeting in August due to administration addressing the senate at the August 18th, retreat.

Omaha *World-Herald* Higher Education Reporter: Nancy Hicks notified the senate office she will be serving as the temporary higher education reporter until a replacement is found for Jena Janovy who has transferred to the sports desk. Nancy currently works out of Lincoln and can be contacted at 1-877-473-9582 or hicksrose@hotmail.com. Ms. Hicks plans to attend the September and October meetings. Nancy Hicks was not in attendance.

Technology and Education Meeting with Senator Landis: A meeting is scheduled at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, September 3rd, in KH 520. Senators Ali, Clute and/or Rech are encouraged to attend; please reply to Senator Paterson.

New Charge Per 09/08/99 Senate Meeting; Bookstore Textbook Order Policies: Senator Paterson remanded the issue of looking into the book stores policy for ordering textbook.

Discussion: Senator Clute shared the 1998-99 Committee on Educational Resources and Services' action regarding this issue and stated they would be continuing working on it. Senator Parnell-Smith expressed concern for students purchasing books at alternative locations and asked for advise on how to respond to students on this issue. Several senators supported allowing the student to decide where they are best serviced and as faculty their position is to teach the class if the student has the book, no matter where it was purchased. Senator Baum reported the bookstore has shared their feelings that they do offer good service and that students prefer to have the book in hand at the time of purchase rather than wait for them to be mailed.

Fall Convocation: Mark your calendar and plan to participate on Thursday, October 7th. We need to come up with a way to get the word out and encourage participation by as many faculty as possible.

Discussion: Academic regalia is preferred, however, no one should hesitate to come. Faculty will be encouraged to let students out early to participate.

Expansion of Membership at NU Faculty Senate Presidents' Meeting with President Smith: President Smith has requested expanded membership at these meetings from each senate's Executive Committee as chosen by the current senate president. Consideration will be given to who this representative will be with emphasis on the positions of past-president (May through November for historic purposes to support newly elected senate president) and vice president (December through April).

Discussion: The president-elect at the other three NU campuses have already been designated as the additional representatives. Senator Paterson asked Past-President Hendricks to accompany him through November with Vice President Rech taking over from December through April. Senator Paterson suggested the senate consider changing the election process for the president-elect to match that of the other campuses.

University of Nebraska Policy on Ownership of Intellectual Property: Attached draft provided by UNK. (agenda attachments 22-35)

Discussion: Senator Paterson reported he will remand this issue to the appropriate standing committee. Senator Harland suggested the committee contact Dr. Michael O'Hara, CBA, as a consultant on this very difficult issue.

Faculty/Staff Picnic: Thanks is extended to Senators Thompson, Suzuki, Mitchell and Bartle for volunteering their services at the picnic on behalf of the senate.

Reformation of the Senate Budget Advisory Committee: As charged by the senate on August 18th, Senator Paterson is in the process of selecting faculty members to sit on the 1999-2000 Budget Advisory Committee. Once formed, the committee will be work in conjunction with the Committee on Goals and Directions to investigate the current budget reallocations and lack of faculty involvement in the process.

Bylaws of the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha Section 7: Faculty Senate Advisory Committees.

The faculty president, in consultation with the Executive Committee, may appoint advisory committees that include but are not limited to the following:

Budget Advisory Committee. The Budget Advisory Committee shall consist of three faculty members appointed, one each year, for three-year terms. The chairperson shall be an individual who has expertise in budget matters. The committee shall acquire detailed knowledge of the budget and expenditures of the entire University of Nebraska System and shall act as a source of

information and independent opinion for the faculty senate. The secretary-treasurer of the faculty senate shall act as liaison between the committee and the Executive Committee.

Discussion: Appointments are underway.

IS&T Dean Search: Senator Craiger stated that the search committee will meet on September 9th; a recommendation is expected.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report: Senator Hesham Ali

Budget Reports:

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Senator DeLone presented the June 30, 1999, year-end budget report (agenda attachment 36).

July 31, 1999: This report has not been received from Accounting Services, therefore, it will be presented at the October 13th, meeting.

August 31, 1999: This report has not been received from Accounting Services, therefore, it will be presented at the October 13th, meeting.

Vice President's Report: Senator Janice Rech

Senator Rech announced the Weber Lecture Series has asked Dr. Francis Fukuyama to speak at UNO in March, 2000. Faculty and students will be invited to participate in activities surrounding. A book signing will be included; Dr. Fukuyama wrote, "The End of History."

Executive Committee Report: Senator Janice Rech

No report.

Standing Committee Reports

Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs: Senator John Bartle, chair.

Minutes: On behalf of the Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs, Senator Bartle presented the August 25, 1999, minutes (agenda attachments 37-38). Senator Bartle reported no action has been taken by the committee as yet, however, they're continuing to prepare their agenda for the coming year.

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

Minutes: On behalf of the Committee on Educational Resources and Services, Senator Clute presented the August 25, 1999, minutes (agenda attachment 39).

Paul L. Beck Memorial Faculty/Staff Scholarship: Senator Clute presented a new fund raising proposal to the senate asking senators to participate on a volunteer basis covering their own department. The senate supported the proposal and volunteers agreed to stay after the meeting to pick up fund raising packets.

Committee on Faculty Personnel and Welfare: Senator Ken Deffenbacher, chair.

Minutes: On behalf of the Committee on Faculty Personnel and Welfare, Senator Kuhlman presented the August 25, 1999, minutes (agenda attachment 40).

Committee on Goals and Directions: Senator Sufi Nazem, chair.

Minutes: On behalf of the Committee on Goals and Directions, Senator Nazem presented the August 25, 1999, minutes (agenda attachment 41) noting the committee has taken no action at this time but remains in the discussion phase.

Committee on Professional Development: Senator Chris Allen, chair.

Minutes: On behalf of the Committee on Professional Development, Senator Allen presented the August 25, 1999, minutes (agenda attachment 42).

Committee on Rules: Senator Miriam DeLone, chair.

Minutes: On behalf of the Committee on Rules, Senator DeLone presented the August 25, 1999 minutes (agenda attachments 43-44) noting the committee is working on unifying the election process for the Professional Conduct Committee, the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee and the Faculty Grievance Committee. A plan on how to present more information to the senate on nominees is also underway.

New Charge: Senator Paterson charged the Committee on Rules with investigating the legalities of members/guests going "off the record" during meetings and how this should be reported in the minutes. This issue came up during the September 1st, discussion of agenda item X, C (below).

Discussion: Senator DeLone requested input on this issue.

Resolution(s): Senator DeLone gave background information on each of the committees prior to moving the following resolutions.

On behalf of the Committee on Rules, Senator DeLone moved the following:

Resolution 2407, 09/08/99: Committee on Rules

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following name go forward as a three-year appointment from September 8, 1999, through June 30, 2002, to the University Committee on Undergraduate Academic Appeals (UCUAA) to replace Carol Mitchell:

Sheryl McGlamery

The motion passed unanimously.

On behalf of the Committee on Rules, Senator DeLone moved the following:

Resolution 2408, 09/08/99: Committee on Rules

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following names go forward as three-year appointments from September 8, 1999, through June 30, 2002, to the newly formed University Committee on Technology Planning:

James Hagen, College of Arts and Sciences

Jack Armitage, College of Business Administration

Mandj Sharma, College of Education

Steven Williams, College of Fine Arts

Beverly Hagen, College of Public Affairs and Community Service

TBA, College of Information Science and Technology

Discussion: Senator Shaw noted the University Library is not represented noting this is a very important issue to them. Senator DeLone agreed to follow up on whether additional representation could be added. Senator DeLone withdrew the IS&T nomination at this time in lieu of a nominee.

The motion passed unanimously.

Other Reports

Academic Planning Council: Senator John Bartle, senate representative.

Agenda/Minutes: Senator Bartle will attend the first meeting of the 1999-2000 academic year on Friday, September 17th, at 1:00 p.m.

Alumni Association, Board of Directors: Professor William Wakefield, non-senate representative.

Agenda/Minutes: Senator Paterson informed Jim Leslie that Professor Wakefield has offered to submit a monthly report to the senate on behalf of the faculty.

American Association of University Professors (AAUP): Senator Janice Rech, senate representative.

Agenda/Minutes: Documents have not been submitted by senate representative.

Graduate Council: Senator Lynn Harland, senate representative

Agenda/Minutes: Documents have not been submitted by senate representative. Senator Harland reported the committee has not met as yet.

Strategic Planning Steering Committee: Senator Hesham Ali, senate representative.

Agenda/Minutes: Senator Ali was unable to attend the August 25th, meeting. Faculty participation in the upcoming forums on September 8th, 17th, and 22nd, is encouraged.

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

UNO Teaching, Learning and Technology Round Table: Derek Hodgson sent a team of UNO faculty and staff to the Teaching, Learning and Technology Institute (TLTI) in Williamsburg, Virginia this summer to be trained in the use of their model which is currently in use on many campuses nationwide. The purpose of the TLTI model is to focus technology and equipment decisions on pedagogical issues facing higher education. Team members Russell Smith, Leah Pietron and Melodee Landis have already met with Senator Paterson to discuss the senate's involvement in the development of a UNO TLTI committee. Senator Landis has requested time at the September 8th, senate meeting to share the team's vision on how the committee might function and what services it could offer (agenda attachments 45-50).

Discussion: Senator Landis reported that after struggling for several year with technology uses on campus, a group was sent to the round table institute which resulted in the attached documents 45-50, research shows quite a disconnect between the actual use of technology and its ideal uses in teaching and learning in the classroom. The formation of a formal advocacy group has been proposed, most likely under John Fiene's direction. A future presentation is planned once the center is implemented to further explain its function and features. Vice chancellor Hodgson will be requesting funds from the foundation to support this venture.

Student Demonstration: Students plan to demonstration on Friday, September 3rd, along the perimeter of University Village in opposition to fencing in the residence halls. No further details are known.

Discussion: Senator Paterson stated that a hot dialogue continues on whether the fence will be completed. The fence currently lines only the south University Drive by the residence halls. Senator DeLone reported the demonstration was canceled in lieu of an open discussion at the next student senate meeting.

Standing Committee Agendas and Minutes: All committees agendas and minutes will be posted on the faculty senate web site (<http://www.unomaha.edu/~sjensen/9900-agendas.htm>). Chairs, or their designees, are responsible for e-mailing these documents to the senate office in a timely manner. Senator Paterson charged the Committee on Rules with investigating the legalities of members/guests going "off the record" during meetings and how this should be reported in the minutes.

Procedure for Recognizing Released Employees: At the request of the Committee on Rules, Senator Paterson will discuss this issue with the chancellor in light of recent faculty and staff who have left the university with no recognition.

Discussion: Senator Paterson noted this is in response to the very thing Senator Metal-Corbin address earlier in the meeting.

Move Election of Senate President(-Elect) Earlier in Year: Consideration should be given to moving the election of the incoming president (president-elect) earlier in the academic year. This would allow the new officer to begin participating in the meetings with President Smith and the other NU faculty senate representatives prior to taking office. FYI: The UNO faculty senate would then follow the same presidential election process as the other three NU senates.

Vice President to President Track: Due to time constraints, the Executive Committee and Cabinet did not complete their discussion on changing the senate bylaws to have the vice president automatically become president-elect. For this reason, this issue will be brought forward at the October 13th, meeting instead.

Audio-Visual Equipment:

Discussion: Senator Harland spoke to the issue of audio-visual equipment that breaks down and will not be replaced sharing she previously discussed with issue with Senator Baum in conjunction with the Committee on Educational Resources and Services. Senator Clute voiced concern over the amount of money being spent on technology with little being targeted for the support of the equipment. Senator Metal-Corbin requested the Audio-Visual Department be required to distribute a reorganization list campus-wide to clarify who handles what areas and where they are located. She and other senators also expressed concern for issues surrounding audio-visual equipment such as: broken equipment will not be replaced; concern for lack of support staff to assist with and train on use of equipment; and the department seems to be moving toward the maintenance of high-tech classrooms rather than providing equipment campus-wide.

Current Free Publication Policy On Campus: New Charge, September 8, 1999: Senator Paterson charged the Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs with looking into the current policy on the distribution of free publications on campus, particularly in the student center. Senator Paterson will contact Guy Conway in regards to addressing the senate at an upcoming meeting; no action need be taken by the committee until after he speaks.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Hesham Ali
Secretary-Treasurer

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