

10-13-1999

## Faculty Senate Minutes October 1999

UNO Faculty Senate

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**UNO Faculty Senate Minutes**  
**The Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha met on**  
**Wednesday, October 13, 1999, at 2:00 p.m. in the MBSC Dodge Room.**  
**The president, Douglas Paterson, presided**

Presider: Paterson

Attendees: Allen, Aschenbrenner, Bartle, Baum, Chung, Clute, Conyers, DeLone, Diamond, Engelmann, Foster, Gessaman, Hendricks, Irvin, Kuhlman, Landis, Lehrer, Lewis, Metal-Corbin, Mitchell, Nazem, Parnell-Smith, Paterson, Rajaram, Rech, Shaw, Shroder, Smith, Sobel, Thompson, Tuan

Late Arrival: Coyne, Craiger, Deffenbacher

Excused: Ali, Bacon, Harland, Suzuki

Guests: William Wakefield, Alumni Association Board of Directors faculty representative

Presentation and Approval of Minutes: Senator Paterson asked for approval of the September 8, 1999, minutes (agenda attachments 1-11). The minutes were approved as submitted.

#### Officers Reports

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

Executive Committee and Administration Meeting, September 15th (agenda attachment 12)

Administration has been asked to provide a budget handout to clarify the reallocation. An offer has been made to one of the IS&T dean candidates who plans to return to Omaha with his family before making a decision.

Special Meeting of NU Senate Presidents and President Smith, September 23rd

No agenda was provided prior to the meeting; instead, all were informed the topic would be revealed at the meeting. The issue of a mid-course health insurance premium increase was discussed via a two-fold process. First, because this issue is a contractual negotiation a meet and confer is planned with AAUP and second, a review of a substantial health care cost increase for both faculty and staff.

Discussion: Senator Paterson shared he is currently putting together a Health Care Subcommittee as part of the Budget Advisory Committee to look into this issue. Discussion continued on when premium increases would take affect; one senator reported the cost of his medication increased three-fold last week. Senator Paterson stated he would look into this. AAUP will handle the health insurance issue for now.

Chancellor's Council Meeting, September 23rd: Senator Paterson was unable to attend due to the special meeting called by President Smith.

#### Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) Meeting

September 30th and October 12th: Both meetings were chaired by Professor Dale Krane and attended by Hesham Ali, Carol Ebdon, Douglas Paterson and Janet West. Janet West confirmed AAUP will pay for an internal audit. The committee's charge as an advisory and informative body to Senator Paterson as well as the UNO faculty concerning current budget reallocations and health care issues was clarified.

Discussion: On behalf of the BAC, Senator Paterson asked for the senate's support for scheduling monthly meetings with administration to get a strong working relationship underway. Senator Clute inquired how feedback would be provided to the senate; Senator Paterson shared the committee intends to have Professor Krane, BAC chair, make periodical reports to the full senate.

Board of Regents Meeting, October 1st: Senator Paterson reported that a private meeting between the Nebraska State School Board and the NU board of regents was held. The facilities plan was presented and athletics was discussed.

Discussion: Senator Clute asked if all four NU campuses have presented their strategic plan; Senator Paterson confirmed they have. Senator Clute then inquired how the comparative data will be shared system-wide and if the strategic plans showed any similarities and expressed concern for areas not deemed as "excellent" on all the campuses. Senator Paterson shared a common emphasis on technology and spoke of the UNL engineering school which had a proportionate increase in their faculty as did UNO's College of IS&T. He discussed the most striking part of UNL's proposal was their desire to be a national center for anything scientifically complex which had a startling massiveness to it including substantial images of what they foresee in the future. Senator Paterson noted this issue bears watching. He further stressed that the criteria prioritizing commission will be of great importance in the coming year.

Guest Speaker at November Senate Meeting: Guy Conway has been invited to address the senate concerning the university's policy on the distribution of non-university literature on campus. This was prompted by the senate's call for the Reader to be made available in the student center. He is out of town in October but has agreed to attend the November meeting.

Discussion: Senator Paterson reported two newspaper racks are now located in the student center to promote the sharing/recycling of the Omaha *World-Herald*. He also noted that the larger issue is whether faculty want to address the current policy prohibiting the distribution of free publications on campus.

Fall Convocation: A celebration of UNOmaha's 91st academic year took place on Thursday, October 7th. Senator Paterson's speech is posted on the senate web site.

Discussion: Senator Paterson thanked all who participated in the convocation.

Sixth Annual Bell Tower Challenge, October 20th, Noon: Three senators are needed to participate in this annual event. The goal is to collect can goods for the Omaha Food Bank. Plaques are awarded for the largest number of cans stacked in a 20" square in one minute (for as long as the bell tolls); the most creatively stacked cans (may include costumes of stackers or supporters); and the most enthusiastic team. Judges are local news media, community and/or campus leaders. The faculty senate team won the grand prize for "most cans stacked" in the first Bell Tower Challenge in 1995.

Discussion: Senator Paterson reported the deadline for entering the challenge was October 12th, however, he felt sure organizer Professor Corbin would allow the senate to participate if a team could be formed. He then called for volunteers; Senators Nazem, Paterson and Sobel volunteered.

Senate Coordinator Out of Office For Two Weeks: Sandy Jensen will be out of the office from Friday, October 15th, through Friday, October 29th. She will return on Monday, November 1st. Agendas and minutes for the October 27th, standing committee meetings should still be forwarded via e-mail no later than Friday, October 19th. All other senate issues should be directed to Senator Paterson during this time.

UNL Athletic Budget: Senator Paterson referred to an article in today's Omaha *World-Herald* by regent Drew Miller to freeze UNL's athletic budget.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report: Senator Hesham Ali

Budget Reports: On behalf of the Executive Committee, Senator Rech reported that the following budget reports were received this week from Accounting Services and will be presented at the November meeting.

- a. July 31, 1999: Report will be presented in November.
- b. August 31, 1999: Report will be presented in November.
- c. September 30, 1999: Report will be presented in November.

Past President: Senator Shelton Hendricks Expansion of Membership at NU Faculty Senate Presidents' Meeting with President Smith: Reminder to Senator Hendricks to attend the November meeting with Senator Paterson.

Vice President's Report: Senator Janice Rech

Expansion of Membership at NU Faculty Senate Presidents' Meeting with President Smith: Reminder to Senator Rech to attend these meetings with Senator Paterson from December, 1999, through April, 2000.

Executive Committee Report: Senator Janice Rech

Resolution(s):

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Senator Rech moved the following: Resolution 2409, 10/13/99: Executive Committee

WHEREAS, the faculty senate president, in consultation with the Executive Committee, has ascertained the need to activate the senate Budget Advisory Committee in light of the recent budget reallocations, and

WHEREAS, according to the senate bylaws, the committee shall be charged with acquiring 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; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following names go forward as appointments to the senate Budget Advisory Committee for three-year terms from October 13, 1999, through July 31, 2002:

Martha Bruckner  
Carol Ebdon  
Dale Krane  
Janet West

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the secretary-treasurer of the faculty senate act as liaison between the committee and the Executive Committee and the senate president serve as ex-officio. Senate representatives will serve one-year terms from October 13, 1999, through May 17, 2000 (the end of the current senate year) at which time the 2000-2001 senate officers will step in.

Hesham Ali, senate secretary-treasurer  
Douglas Paterson, senate president

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the following names go forward as appointments to the senate Budget Advisory Committee's Subcommittee on Health Care for three-year terms from October 13, 1999, through July 31, 2002:

Boyd Littrell  
Hesham Ali, liaison to full committee  
TBA

Discussion: Senator Sobel inquired if the 'TBA' position would be filled. Senator Smith questioned the necessity of passing a resolution for a president appointed committee. Senator Paterson explained that rather than forward suggestions on his own he prefers to keep the senate informed as well as obtain their approval via a resolution.

The motion was approved unanimously with the condition that the missing candidate (TBA) be presented in a future resolution.

Standing Committee Reports

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

Agenda: On behalf of the Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs, Senator Bartle presented the September 29, 1999, agenda (agenda attachment 13).

Minutes: On behalf of the Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs, Senator Bartle presented the September 29, 1999, minutes (agenda attachments 14-16).

Discussion: Senator Bartle announced if anyone is interested in using classrooms in PKI they should contact Becky Means, assistant registrar, to find on availability.

Resolutions:

On behalf of the Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs, Senator Bartle moved the following:

Resolution 2410, 10/13/99: Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs

WHEREAS, resource allocation decisions should follow the careful evaluation of academic programs, and

WHEREAS, the academic program reviews serve as a valuable source of information to guide future planning; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the academic program reviews should be used as one of the criteria in the reallocation decision by the Chancellor's Office, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that explicit reference should be made to the findings of the academic program reviews in the reallocation justification.

Discussion: Senator Smith announced he spoke against the resolution during the standing committee meeting and explained that even though these reviews are very useful, particularly from an outside view, in showing the strengths and weaknesses of departments he is concern they might infer a strong department needs less money and a weaker more. He further stated he feels other issues are not clearly addressed in this resolution. Senator Nazem supported passing of a resolution but prefers the issues are addressed separately. Senator Hendricks stated these studies are the best source of sharing data on program quality. Senator Gessaman supported Senator Hendrick's comment adding it is unknown what sources will be used by the criteria commission therefore providing well documented sources of information on each department is better than having no control over what documents are used. Senator Sobel shared that small department reviews truly share the strength and weaknesses of those department rather than just documentation on how many students participate in the programs and/or graduate. Senator Kuhlman shared concern for not knowing how data will be used no matter what source is used adding that the reviews supported by this resolution will ensure they are at least included.

The motion was approved with one nay.

New Charge Per 09/08/99 Senate Meeting; Distribution of Free Literature: Senator Paterson charged the committee with looking into the current policy on the distribution of free publications on campus, particularly in the student center. No action will be taken until after Guy Conway addresses the senate at the November 10th, meeting. See Committee on Professional Development.

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

Agenda: Document has not been submitted by chair.

Minutes: On behalf of the Committee on Educational Resources and Services, Senator Clute presented the September 29, 1999, minutes (agenda attachment 17).

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

Discussion: Senator Clute reported that Senator Baum discovered that book orders, especially those submitted for the spring semester, are not actually submitted to the supplier until later for two reasons. First, the bookstore doesn't have sufficient room to store books for upcoming semesters and second, they also don't have the budget to pay for the books that far in advance. Senator Baum expounded that the bookstore is concerned about students who buy books and attend class but do not register until later in the semester thereby throwing off the book/class count. The bookstore has requested that the committee look into the current policy on late registration and, if it is determined to be serious, consider proposing a late fee to deter future abuse.

Beck Scholarship: Senator Clute reported the committee is moving forward with fund raising activities for the Paul L. Beck Memorial Faculty/Staff Scholarship. He noted donations are already ahead of last year and asked that senators who volunteered to assist with the fund raiser remain for a brief update immediately following the senate meeting.

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

Agenda: Document has not been submitted by chair.

Minutes: On behalf of the Committee on Faculty Personnel and Welfare, Senator Kuhlman presented the September 29, 1999, minutes (agenda attachment 18).

New Charge: University of Nebraska Policy on Ownership of Intellectual Property: This issue was remanded to the Committee on Faculty Personnel and Welfare by the Executive Committee and Cabinet on October 6th. At the September senate meeting, Senator Harland suggested the committee use Professor Michael O'Hara as a consultation on this very difficult issue. Senator Rech, AAUP senate representative, reported AAUP has requested they be kept informed on this issue and noted they would appreciate being included in any pertinent discussions.

Discussion: Senator Paterson reported this is a non-issue according to Vice Chancellor Hodgson. Senator Rech discussed a document which was forwarded to AAUP for negotiations. She further stated that because this is a non-negotiating year for AAUP and faculty, this issue will not be addressed until next year. A lengthy discussion continued on the enormosity of the issue and the need to stay on top of it while at the same time not interfere with AAUP's role. All agreed faculty need to be pro-active. Senator Paterson explained Vice Chancellor Hodgson's statement and charged the committee with staying ahead of this issue. Senator Shroder held up the AAUP Footnotes which was delivered to all faculty on October 13th, in which this very issue is addressed and encouraged everyone to read it. Senator Shaw spoke of strong concerns the Library has struggled with for years regarding copy right and trade mark policies stating they must be defended continually or faculty risk surrendering their interest by default. Senator Paterson suggested sponsoring an open discussion which Senator Gessaman supported. She further questioned why, if Vice Chancellor Hodgson supports this issue, he has a senior staff member working on a committee that is addressing this issue. The majority agreed the more faculty know what's going on and understand the issue the better off they'll be. This in turn will also support AAUP when they go to the table backed by informed faculty. Senator Baum encouraged Senator Paterson to raise this issue with the other three NU faculty senate presidents with the possibility of addressing the issue jointly. Senator Paterson stated he needs more education on this issue. Senator Dffenbacher supported getting faculty involved to reflect and talk about this issue suggesting this may be something AAUP should put at the top of their trading list. Senator Lehrer posed questioning whether faculty want to garner something out of this issue or prevent the university from profiting and asked if the senate is suggesting faculty be invited to the table as well. Senator Paterson assured those present that faculty will be invited to the table and it will be extremely beneficial if they're ahead of the curve on this issue before that time comes. Senator Deffenbacher warned against passing a resolution at this point and instead hold forums to inform the faculty. Senator Smith shared satisfaction with current university arrangements regarding patents which awards  $\frac{1}{2}$  of all income to the university system,  $\frac{1}{4}$  to the department and  $\frac{1}{4}$  to the faculty member. He further stated that as a non-union faculty member he doesn't want AAUP representing him without his input.

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

Agenda: Document has not been submitted by chair.

Minutes: On behalf of the Committee on Goals and Directions, Senator Nazem noted he was in China earlier this month and the vice chair, Senator Parnell-Smith, did a fine job running the meeting and preparing the minutes. Senator Nazem then presented the October 1, 1999, minutes (agenda attachment 19).

Committee on Professional Development: Senator Chris Allen, chair.

Agenda: Document has not been submitted by chair.

Minutes: On behalf of the Committee on Professional Development, Senator Allen presented the September 29, 1999, minutes (agenda attachment 20).

Discussion: Senator Allen reported he volunteered to take on the issue of free publications at the September meeting and would take it on if the Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs was willing to surrender it. Senator Bartle agreed.

Committee on Rules: Senator Miriam DeLone, chair.

Agenda/Minutes: No report; the committee did not meet in September.

Resolution(s):

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

Resolution 2411, 10/13/99: Committee on Rules

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following name go forward as a three-year appointment from 08/01/99, through 07/31/2002, to the University Committee on Library and Educational Resources. Faculty representative was increased by one by the 1998-99 Task Force on University Committee.

James Czarnecki

The motion was approved unanimously.

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

Resolution 2412, 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:

Stanley Wileman, College of Information Science and Technology

The motion was approved unanimously.

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

Resolution 2413, 10/13/99: Committee on Rules

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following faculty go forward as an appointment to the newly formed ad hoc Committee on Removing Barriers created by the Task Force on University Outreach:

James Conyers

The motion was approved unanimously.

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

Resolution 2414, 10/13/99: Committee on Rules

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following name go forward as a three-year appointment from October 6, 1999, through July 31, 2002, to the ad hoc Enrollment Management Steering Committee:

Bruce Garver

The motion was approved unanimously.

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

Resolution 2415, 10/13/99: Committee on Rules

Ballot Vote: BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha bylaws, section 6.1, Committee on Faculty Grievances, the following faculty member is brought forward by the Rules Committee for ballot election by the senate to replace Scott Harrington as the associate professor representative for a three year term from October 13, 1999, through September 15, 2002:

Janice Rech  
TBA

Ballot Vote: BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha bylaws, section 6.1, Committee on Faculty Grievances, the following faculty member is brought forward by the Rules Committee for ballot election by the senate to replace Deborah Smith-Howell as the associate professor representative for a three year term from October 13, 1999, through September 15, 2002:

David Helm  
Judith Harrington

Ballot Vote: BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha bylaws, section 6.1, Committee on Faculty Grievances, the following faculty are brought forward by the Rules Committee for ballot election by the senate to replace Deborah Irvin as the Committee on Faculty Personnel and Welfare representative for a one-year term from October 13, 1999, through September 15, 2000:

Wilma Kuhlman  
Henry Lehrer

Ballots were distributed, returned and tallied by Senators DeLone and Rech. Those elected were Janice Rech, Judith Harrington and Wilma Kuhlman.

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

Resolution 2416, 10/13/99: Committee on Rules

Ballot Vote: BE IT RESOLVED, that in accordance with Section 1.1 of the University of Nebraska at Omaha Professional Conduct Committee's Rules and Procedures, the following two nominees (all tenured faculty ranked assistant professor or above) are brought forward by the Committee on Rules for ballot election by the full senate as follows:

One representative must be elected by ballot vote to serve a three-year term from October 13, 1999, through October 15, 2002, to replace outgoing member William Tappich. The newly elected representative will also serve as an alternate for three-years from October 16, 2002, through October 15, 2005. William Tappich will continue serving as an alternate for three-years from October 16, 1999, through October 15, 2002 per Resolution 2175.

Karen Falconer Al-Hindi  
Roger Hoburg

Ballots were distributed, returned and tallied by Senators DeLone and Rech. Karen Falconer Al-Hindi was elected.

Other Reports

Academic Planning Council: Senator John Bartle, senate representative.

Written Report By Senate Representative: Senator Bartle presented a written report on the September 17th, and October 1st, meetings (agenda attachment 21).

Alumni Association, Board of Directors: Dr. William Wakefield, faculty representative.

Written Report By Senate Representative: Document has not been submitted. Professor was not in attendance.

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

Written Report By Senate Representative: Document has not been submitted.

Graduate Council: Senator Lynn Harland, senate representative.

Written Report By Senate Representative: On behalf of Senator Harland, Senator Diamond presented a verbal report stating the main issue settled was the implementation of a change in the graduate Toefl score to 543 minimum unless otherwise approved by individual departments. UNL's policy calls for a minimum Toefl of 500 with no appeal process. The council discussed this issue at length eventually approving it. The joint UNO/UNL graduate degree was also

discussed. Action items deferred were the proposal for a certificate program and double credit counting for dual master programs (i.e., public administration and social work). These issues were sent back to committee to clarify.

Discussion: Senator Shroder supported Paterson's suggestion that the senate look into the joint graduate degree issue. Senate Craiger spoke on behalf of the IS&T faculty stating he knows they would greatly appreciate the support of the senate in passing a resolution questioning the joint program. He further stated there is a fairly extensive document explaining the degrees which was updated in the last few months to include a Ph.D. in Infomax at UNL. Concern was voice over whether this is a political move and if so, an information approach would be the most valid. Senator Bartle stated he would like to hear the other side of the story and that there may be a very good reason for the action taken.

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

Written Report By Senate Representative: On behalf of Senator Ali, Senator Paterson presented a written report on the September 8th, and September 22nd, meetings (agenda attachments 22-23).

Verbal Report By Senate Representative, October 13, 1999: On behalf of Senator Ali, Senator Hendricks was going to presented a verbal report on the October 13th, meeting, however, he left before the report came up on the agenda.

Feedback Requested: At the October 6th, Executive Committee and Cabinet meeting Senator Ali stated that, as the senate's appointed representative, he prefers to speak on behalf of the full senate rather than merely expressing his own opinion. For this reason, he asked the standing committee chairs to keep him informed on what their committees would like him to address at the Strategic Planning Committee meetings.

## Old Business

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: On behalf of the assembly, Senator Paterson presented the following:

Honorary Doctorate Candidates: Thomas Lorsbach, chair of the Committee on Honors and Awards, contacted the senate office on Thursday, September 16th, regarding the appropriate procedure for presenting candidates for senate approval. A new slate of nominees will be forwarded to the senate Executive Committee and Cabinet for review in November. The committee's goal is to present the finalist to the board of regents by November 25th, at the latest.

The following was posted in the October 4th, issue of the UNOmaha Notes, Volume XIII, No. 32:

Call for Nominations for Honorary Degrees: Faculty, staff, alumni and other members of the UNOmaha community are encouraged to nominate candidates to receive the honorary doctorate from UNOmaha. Any person who has contributed beneficially and substantially to society at large through outstanding intellectual, creative or humanitarian accomplishments is eligible for consideration. Nominations with justification should be sent to Tom Lorsbach, chair of the University Committee on Honors and Awards, at KH 421. Use the form attached to today's issue of Notes to submit your nomination. The deadline for submission is Oct, 22. For more information, call x4-3345.

Confidentiality of Class Lists: Senator Rech has been contacted by several faculty who expressed concern for how confidential student records, such as class lists, are discarded and the potential misuse of them if found intact.

New Faculty Pay: A request has been submitted for the senate to look into new faculty members being paid for their first two weeks of work in August rather than having to wait until the end of September for their First paycheck. Senator Rech agreed to check into this issue further at the October 6th, Executive Committee and Cabinet meeting.

HPER Facilities and Faculty Satisfaction Discussion: Senator Paterson reported he has been contacted by several faculty who are uncomfortable with the removal of the shower curtains in the men's locker room. After addressing this issue with the appropriate HPER staff, a compromise was reached by allowing curtains on half the stalls.

Work Environment & Physical Conditions in the Arts and Sciences Building: A faculty member has come forward with strong concerns over the unhealthy environment employees are currently working under. The employee contacted OSHA on October 6th, asking how to request the "hazardous working conditions" be investigated (i.e., dust explosion a few days ago; dust remains so thick footprints show up on floor; plus various other issues over recent months such as bugs, mice, gas leak, carbon monoxide). OSHA referred the employee to the State of Nebraska, Department of Labor; the employee contacted this agency in writing on October 8th. The employee may contact the Arts & Sciences senators for feedback and/or support. At the decision of the Executive Committee and Cabinet, this issue will be discussed with administration at the October 20th, meeting.

Discussion: Senator Aschenbrenner shared frustration with noise caused by construction and its interference with a number of classes, particularly speech classes. Senator Allen reported the computer lab in room 183 was closed today for the rest of the semester due to concerns for dust, heat and overall dangerous conditions. Senator Sobel suggested contacting the Campus Environmental Safety Officer. Senator Allen stated she has been contacted and doing her best but it's still not enough. This issue was remanded to the committee on Faculty Personnel and Welfare.

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: This issue was carried over from the September 1st, meeting due to time limitations. Call for consideration/discussion of changing senate bylaws to have the vice president automatically become president-elect.

#### Bylaws of the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha

Article I. Duties of the Officers. Section 2: The faculty senate vice-president shall preside over the senate during the absence of the faculty senate president, chair the Executive Committee except when meeting jointly with the Cabinet in lieu of the full senate in June and July, and perform other duties appropriate to the office.

Section 4: Upon election, the president-elect shall become a member of the Executive Committee. He/she shall endeavor to become thoroughly familiar with the senate's operating procedures and its role as the faculty's voice in the campus system of shared governance. The president-elect shall perform such other duties from time to time as may be delegated by the president or the Executive Committee.

Section 5: The past-president shall serve on the Executive Committee in an ex officio, non-voting advisory capacity during the summer months and the fall semester next following the expiration of his/her term as president. In addition, the past-president shall be entitled to attend senate meetings and join in discussion or debate during the aforementioned period but shall be without vote.

Article VII. Amendments. Section 1: These bylaws can be amended at any business meeting by simple majority vote of those eligible to be cast by the entire senate providing that at the preceding meeting an announcement has been made declaring intent to introduce a motion to amend at the next meeting and describing its content and purpose. The proposal must be reduced to writing when presented for a vote.

#### Constitution of the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha

Article III. Election of Senators. An election of senators shall be held during the spring semester of each academic year as provided by the bylaws. All balloting results shall be printed in the agenda for the May senate meeting and subsequently distributed to the chancellor as provided in the bylaws. After election results have been approved, senators shall themselves elect the officers of the senate except for the president, who shall be elected as provided in Article IV of this constitution. A simple majority of votes eligible to be cast shall be sufficient to elect each officer.

Article IV. Organization of the Senate. The officers of the senate shall consist of the president, the vice-president, and the secretary-treasurer, and, in the spring semester, the president-elect if there be one. The senate shall conduct its business through committees as described in this constitution and in the bylaws. 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 falls 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. The vice-president shall serve a term of one year, assuming office at the last regularly scheduled meeting of the academic year. The vice-president shall be elected from among the membership of the senate. The person serving in this office may serve successive terms through re-election.

Article VI. Amendments. Amendments to the constitution may be initiated by written petition signed by twenty-one faculty members of the university as defined in Article II. Such petition shall contain a statement of the wording of the proposed amendment. Proposed amendments shall be reviewed by the Executive Committee and presented with a recommendation for approval or disapproval to the full membership of the senate. Petitions for amendment of the constitution must be presented to the Executive Committee at least thirty days before the recommendation of the Executive Committee is to be presented to the senate. Proposed amendments shall be voted upon by the senate and approval by two-thirds of the eligible voting members of the senate shall be necessary. Voting shall be by secret ballot. Approved amendments shall then be presented to the university faculty for ratification. Voting by the faculty members shall be by secret ballot. Amendments which are ratified by two-thirds of the faculty casting ballots shall go into effect thirty days after the completion of the vote. Amendments not receiving the necessary two-thirds vote of the faculty members casting ballots shall be considered defeated and shall not go into effect.

The board of regents, or its successor governing board, acting according to its regular procedures, shall retain the right to veto any amendment which has been ratified by the faculty. Amendment of the bylaws of the senate shall be according to procedures established by the senate, and such procedures shall be enunciated in the bylaws. The faculty senate by a two-thirds majority vote may establish a Constitutional Review Committee to evaluate the constitution and propose such changes as are deemed necessary to accomplish the purposes of the faculty. Recommended changes in the constitution must be submitted for approval by the faculty senate and ratification by vote of the university faculty in accord with procedures set forth in the first paragraph of this article.

Article VII. Adoption of the Constitution. This constitution shall be considered adopted by the faculty upon a two-thirds vote of the senate, submission of the constitution to a vote of the faculty of the university and approval by two-thirds of the faculty members casting ballots in a vote by secret ballot, transmittal of the approved constitution by the chancellor to the president of the University of Nebraska, and adoption of the constitution by the board, according to its own procedures.

Move to next agenda.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 3:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hesham Ali  
Secretary-Treasurer

This page was created and is maintained by Sandy Jensen. Last Update: 01/04/00