Faculty Senate Minutes February 2000

UNO Faculty Senate

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President: Paterson

Attendees: Ali, Allen, Aschenbrenner, Bacon, Bartle, Carroll, Clute, Engelmann, Gessaman, Landis, Maher, Mitchell, Nazem, Parnell-Smith, Paterson, Shaw, Sindt, Sobel, TBA (Suzuki)

Late Arrival: None

Excused: Chung, DeLone, Foster, Harland, Irvin, Kuhlman, Lewis, Metal-Corbin, Rech, Thompson

Unexcused: Baum, Coyne, Craiger, Lehrer, Rajaram, Shroder, Smith, Tuan

Guests: Robert Runyon, University Library Director

Remembering Helen Martin: Senator Paterson suggested few moments of silence for the passing away of Helen Martin.

Presentation and Approval of Minutes: The January 12th, minutes were e-mailed to all senators for review on January 13th (agenda attachments 1-7). Senator Paterson asked for approval of the January 12th minutes (agenda attachments 1-7). The minutes were approved as submitted (18 yes and one abstained).

Weber Lecture Series: Director Runyon addressed the senate. The main topic of his short speech was to address and advertise the Del and Lou Ann Weber Lecture Series. The series is designed to invite distinguished lecturers to give seminars on general topics on campus. Professor Francis Fukuyama will be the series speaker on Thursday 3/23/00 at 4:00. The announcement of the lecture and the itinerary of Professor Fukuyama's visit were distributed to the senate members. It was also mentioned that there is an appointed committee that is charged with the selection process. Currently the committee members are Tom Gouttierre, Janice Rech, Robert Runyon and Karen White. Senate members are encouraged to submit nominations for potential speakers to the committee members.

Officers Reports

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

Thank You for Service: On behalf on the senate, Senator Paterson extended the senate's deepest thanks to Senator Suzuki for his services. Senator Suzuki's service on the senate will discontinue due to his partial retirement. A replacement for Senator Suzuki has not been identified yet.

Welcome New Senator: The College of Public Affairs and Community Service has been asked to find a replacement to complete Senator Suzuki's term from February 9, 2000, through May 10, 2000. The appointment has not been made as yet.

Recognition of Service Awards: On behalf of the senate, Senator Paterson congratulated the following senators for their service awards:

Retiree: Duane Aschenbrenner
30 Years: Margaret Gessaman
25 Years: Ann Coyne
20 Years: Josie Metal-Corbin
15 Years: Janice Rech
5 Years: Wilma Kuhlman

Executive Committee and Administration Meeting: The January 19th, meeting was canceled because Chancellor Beck was ill.
Board of Regents Meeting, January 14th and 15th: Senator Paterson reported that the Lied Foundation granted $18 million to the College of Fine Arts at UNL. The grant would require changing the college name. The fund will be split as follows: ¼ for student activities; ¼ for faculty support; and ½ for program support. Senator Miller also talked about his opinion that gender and social equity create problems and result in less qualified applicants to be hired. Parking at UNL was also discussed in the meeting.

Chancellor's Council Meeting: The January 27th, meeting was canceled because Chancellor Belck was ill.

President Smith and NU Senate Presidents Meeting: The meeting will be held in Lincoln on Monday February 21st.

Budget Advisory Committee Meeting: No report, the committee did not meet in January. Senator Ali is scheduling a meeting sometime late February.

Trial Faculty/Staff ENotes Chat Line: Senator Paterson reported that he is working with John Fiene and Clair Fleener of ITS to develop an optional dialog option on ENOTES. This format would allow faculty, staff and students to discuss any topic of interest if they choose to. Few complications are currently been worked on. The committee on Educational Resources and Services has been charged to oversee the development of this process.

Pathways to Harmony Openings (02/26/00 ENOTES): The next Pathways to Harmony diversity program will be held on Thursday, February 10th, in the MBSC Ballroom from 9 am to 4 pm. Senator Paterson encouraged all senators to attend. It was mentioned that such diversity programs protect the university. For anyone interested in the program, contact Anita or Susan at 4-3211

Senator Paterson Attending Colleges Meetings: Senator Paterson mentioned that he plans to meet with all colleges (probably attend pre-organized colleges meetings). He would like to encourage members of all colleges to recommend more participation in senate meetings and activities. He would like to encourage all members to consider running for senate positions. Also, he would to know what the senate can do for the colleges.

Breakfast Meeting Between State Senators and AAUP Representatives: A breakfast meeting will be held between the state senators and the AAUP representatives in order to strengthen the connections. The next breakfast will be on Friday, February 18th.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report: Senator Ali reported the following:

Budget Report for January, 31st: The report has not been received from Accounting Services. It will be presented at the next senate meeting.

Budget Advisory Committee, Health Care Subcommittee Meeting: No report, the committees have not met since the last senate meeting. Since the meeting with David Lechner, NU Vice President for Business and Finance, was postponed due to illness, another meeting will be scheduled soon.

Vice President's Report: Senator Hesham Ali on behalf of Senator Janice Rech.

President Smith and NU Senate Presidents Meeting: President Smith and the NU Senate Presidents Meeting, February 21st: Senator Rech will not be able to attend the meeting since she will be on family leave. Senator Allen will be attending the meeting with senator Paterson.

Executive Committee Report: On behalf of the Executive Committee, Senator Ali announced the following and presented attachments 8-10:

Amendment of Senate Bylaws Per Resolution 2422: As required by Article VII, Section 1 of the Bylaws of the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha, the Executive Committee and Cabinet hereby officially announces its intent to introduce a motion (resolution) to amend the bylaws at the March 8, 2000, senate meeting. As required, the proposal has been reduced to writing (agenda attachment 8-10).

Standing Committee Reports
Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs: Senator Bartle reported on the following:

Agenda: January 26th (agenda attachment 11)

Minutes: January 26th (agenda attachment 12-13)

Resolution:

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

Resolution 2428, 02/09/99: Committee on Academic & Curricular Affairs

WHEREAS, the UNO Strategic Plan stresses placing student needs at the center, expanding educational opportunities for students from under-represented populations, and building bridges to the community, and

WHEREAS, the Peter Kiewit Conference Center credit classes have been eliminated, and

WHEREAS, off-campus credit courses and enrollments have decreased 30% from the fall of 1998 to the fall of 1999, and

WHEREAS, off-campus course offerings are vital to the health of an urban university; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the UNO Faculty Senate urges the development of a long-range plan that strengthens off-campus credit programming at UNO and that the plan be developed through a collaborative process that includes UNO faculty from various colleges and appropriate administrators and staff.

The motion was approved unanimously.

Discussion about the China Program: Senator Bartle reported that the Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs discussed the China program in their meeting and the issue of lack of enough details was raised. Several senators echoed the same concerns and indicated that it is very difficult to have an educated opinion about the program at this point due to the lack of sufficient information. Senator Paterson suggested that the senate may support a resolution in that regard under old business. Discussion continued about the program. Senator Gessaman reported that there is a possibility that the proposed starting date of the program be postponed to next January instead of August. It was also mentioned that some document in that issue needs to be available to the senate relatively soon since any document that needs to be approved by the Board of Regents must go through the faculty senate. Other concerns about the program, such as the grading policy and the lack of interaction, were also raised. Senator Shaw mentioned an article about Distance Education in the chronicle that addresses several concerns about the issue and emphasizes that studies show that Distance Education does not provide the attractive approach to traditional education as was originally expected. For further discussion related to the china program, refer to Old Business.

Committee on Educational Resources and Services: Senator Clute reported on the following:

Agenda: January 26th (agenda attachment 14)

Minutes: January 26th (agenda attachment 15-16)

New Charge, Faculty/Staff/Student/All-UNO ENotes Chat Line: At their February 2nd, meeting the Executive Committee and Cabinet charged the committee with overseeing this task and determining whether it should be recommended for use campus-wide. Refer to article III, section A, for further details.

Committee on Faculty Personnel and Welfare: Senator Deffenbacher reported on the following:
Minutes: No report; the committee did not meet in January.

Relevant Issues: At the February 2nd, Executive Committee and Cabinet meeting, Senator Deffenbacher reported the committee is looking for relevant issues to address since AAUP has taken over intellectual property and he'll be handling commencement parking on his own once Guy Conway's replacement is know. Suggestions are encouraged.

Committee on Goals and Directions: Senator Nazem reported on the following:

Agenda: January 26th (agenda attachment 17)

Minutes: A report has not been submitted as yet.

Verbal Report: The committee met with a representative from the University Foundation in the January 26th meeting. He indicated that it's possible to consider the idea of setting aside a percentage of gifts and donations for general education fund if the idea is supported by the administration. A resolution in that regard will be prepared and submitted by the committee in the next senate meeting.

New Charge, NU Foundation: At the February 2nd, Executive Committee and Cabinet meeting, the committee was charged with continuing to look into the issue of a flat percentage of all contributions being earmarked for academics and with pursuing why some faculty members have never been approached to contribute to the foundation.

Committee on Professional Development: Senator Allen reported on the following:

Minutes: A report has not been submitted as yet.

Verbal Report: Attached minutes are more accurate than the verbal report included in the agenda. Senator Allen reported that the bookstore is supposed to sell the Star, however, it has not been available. Senator Paterson volunteered to contact the Star.

Committee on Rules: Senator DeLone reported on the following:

Minutes: A report has not been submitted as yet.

Resolution(s):

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

Resolution 2429, 02/09/99: Committee on Rules

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following names go forward as appointments to the Kayser Professorship Review Committee:

Judith Watanabe
John Shroder

The motion was approved unanimously.

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

Resolution 2430 2424-B, 02/09/00: Committee on Rules

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following faculty, at least two from each college, be recommended to Vice Chancellor Hodgson for service on the University Library Dean Search Advisory Committee:

College of Arts and Sciences: Jody Neathery
College of Business Administration: TBA
College of Fine Arts: TBA
University Library: Laura Dickson, John Reidelbach

Discussion: A friendly amendment was accepted to renumber the resolution for the submitted number of 2430 to 2424(b) since it's related to the resolution 2424 submitted and approved in the last senate meeting.

The motion was approved unanimously.

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

Resolution 2431 2430, 02/09/00: Committee on Rules

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following name go forward as a three-year appointment from 02/09/00, through 06/30/2002, to the University Committee on Computer Usage to replace Jeffrey Johnson who resigned from the committee:

Dennis Roncek

The motion was approved unanimously.

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

Resolution 2430 2431-A, 02/09/00: Committee on Rules

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following graduate faculty, at least ten, be recommended to Vice Chancellor Hodgson for service on the Associate Vice Chancellor for Research and Dean of Graduate Studies Search Advisory Committee:

Kenton Bales
John Bartle
Martha Bruckner
Richard Duggin
Jeff French
Cassia Spohn
Nicholas Stergiou

The motion was approved unanimously.

Other Reports

Academic Planning Council: Senator Bartle reported the following:

Written Report By Senate Representative: No report; the committee did not meet in January.

Verbal Report: Verbal Report. The committee will begin reviewing the Communication and Black Studies Departments in the next few weeks.

Alumni Association, Board of Directors: On behalf of Professor Wakefield, Senator Paterson reported the following:

Written Report By Senate Representative: Professor Wakefield submitted an e-mail report as follows: "The Board has met monthly since I joined it and has discussed many issues including "Legacy Scholarships" for children of Alumni attending UNO for the 2000-2001 academic year; Alumni Association's new World Wide Web site;"
Outstanding Service Awards went to Bob Runyon, Michele Sperle, Wendall Quist, and Gary Repair; and the expansion of the role of the Alumni Center and its opportunities for the future. The next Board meeting will be February 15, 5:00 p.m., UNO Alumni Center."

Discussion: Senator Paterson stated he would contact Professor Wakefield since no reports have been submitted to date.

American Association of University Professors (AAUP): Senator Rech reported the following:

Written Report By Senate Representative: A report has not been submitted as yet.

Verbal Report: Senator Rech reported that the main issue being addressed at this time continues to be intellectual property. After a brief discussion about intellectual property issues, senator Paterson mentioned that there will be a policy in that regard to be a part of the contract.

Graduate Council: Senator Lynn Harland, senate representative

Written Report By Senate Representative: A report has not been submitted as yet.

Strategic Planning Steering Committee: Senator Hesham Ali, senate representative

Written Report By Senate Representative: A report has not been submitted as yet.

Verbal Report: The committee's web site has been updated, form prototypes were worked on and resource teams were put together. A written report will be forthcoming.

Old Business

China Program: More discussion about the China program continued (see standing committees reports) and the concerns of the lack of enough details about the program were raised again and discussed. It was then suggested that a resolution in that regard is appropriate.

On behalf of the assembly, Senator Bacon moved the following resolution:

Resolution 2432, 02/09/00: On Behalf of the Assembly

WHEREAS, the China program has been a topic of conversation on campus for several months without any formal document available for faculty review, and

WHEREAS, UNOmaha faculty have a number of questions concerning the proposed UNOmaha degree program in China, and

WHEREAS, the faculty has not received sufficient detailed information about the proposed contact despite Vice Chancellor Hodgson's gracious presentation to the Senate on the proposal; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate respectfully requests that it be kept fully informed by the administration both concerning generalities and details of the contract as it takes shape; and that the Faculty Senate be consulted in those matters contained in the contract and its implementation over which the faculty normally has governance prerogatives.

Discussion: Senator Clute suggested a friendly amendment.

The motion was approved unanimously.

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."

Departmental Web Site Course Access Problems for Students

New Business

Course Info: Senator Bartle raised the issue of having problems related to Course Info. The concerns were echoes by several senators and it was mentioned that there has been lack of system support for Course Info from ITS. It was suggested that the Committee on Educational Resources and Services take on this issue.

Recycling Related Problems: Senator Landis raised the issue of the lack of consistent recycling program across campus. She indicated that recycling is handled differently at different locations on campus. It was agreed that a unified and consistent systems is needed in that regard. Senator Paterson promised to bring up this issue during the cabinet meeting with the administration.

Out of Date Information about Promotion and Tenure Guidelines: Senator Carroll noticed that there is an out of date information about tenure and promotion guidelines in one of the pages that can be reached from the university web site. The page includes information that is marked "Draft" and dated August 1996. Senator Paterson promised to bring this issue up during the cabinet meeting with the administration.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at (?) p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hesham Ali
Secretary-Treasurer