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Faculty Senate Minutes April 2000

UNO Faculty Senate

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UNO Faculty Senate
Wednesday, April 12, 2000, 2:00 p.m., MBSC Dodge Room

Presider: Paterson

Parliamentarian: Aschenbrenner (Senator)

Attendees: Ali, Allen, Bacon, Bartle, Baum, Carroll, Chung, Clute, Coyne, Craiger, Deffenbacher, DeLone, Ebdon, Engelmann, Foster, Gessaman, Harland, Irvin, Kuhlman, Landis, Lehrer, Metal-Corbin, Mitchell, Nazem, Parnell-Smith, Paterson, Rajaram, Shaw, Shroder, Smith, Sobel, Thompson, Tuan

Late Arrival: None

Excused: Mitchell, Rech, Sindt

Unexcused: None

Guests: Vice Chancellor Hodgson

Excused from 04/26/00 Banquet: Aschenbrenner, Harland, Kuhlman, Thompson

Excused from 05/10/00 Senate Meeting: Aschenbrenner, Bacon, Ebdon, Harland

Presentation and Approval of Minutes: March 8, minutes (agenda attachments 1-18). The minutes were approved unanimously.

Introductions: Student Senate liaison, Erin Tomaso, was welcomed.

Vice Chancellor Hodgson (approximately 2:10 to 2:40 p.m.): Vice Chancellor Hodgson gave a presentation on the China Program followed by a question/answer period.

Officers Reports

President's Report: Senator Douglas Paterson

Executive Committee and Administration Meeting, March 15: The meeting was canceled since both Chancellor Belck and Senator Paterson were out of town and because it was scheduled during spring break

Special Meeting (in lieu of above cancellation), March 22: Attendees included Chancellor Belck, Vice Chancellor Hodgson, Gary Carrico, Senators Ali, Bartle and Paterson.

Chancellor's Council Meeting, March 23

Report on Inaugural Del and Lou Ann Weber Lecture, presentation by Francis Fukuyama, March 23:

Board of Regents Meeting and UNK Campus Visit, March 31-April 1: The University System asked for \$8.3 million dollars to enhance the health care fund, however, the governor only recommended \$4 million. The Legislature approved \$6.3 million dollars with the stipulation that the university could come back for the balance if the mathematics turned out to be accurate. The governor also approved \$500,000 for minority recruitment. UNO's health care fund is in dire straights based on the current allotment; there is no doubt the chancellor will have to ask for more money within the year. The shortfall this year doesn't mean we'll be short as of July 1 because the health care plan works on the calendar year (January through December). Vice Chancellor Hodgson has heard no recommendations or predictions at this time. The next BOR meeting is scheduled for May 12 and 13.

Retirement Reception, March 30: Congratulations to Senator Duane Aschenbrenner on his upcoming retirement. A reception was held in his honor on Thursday, March 30.

Intellectual Property Ownership and Scholarly Communication Conference, March 31: A conference is planned from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the UNL Lied Center for Performing Arts, Steinhart Room.

Faculty Senate Elections: The election of the 2000-2001 senators is currently underway. Colleges must submit their results by Friday, April 21, in order for the new senators to attend the annual banquet on April 26.

Faculty Senate Officers and Non-Senate Committee Representatives Election: The election of the 2000-2001 senate officers and representatives on non-senate committee will take place at the May 10, senate meeting. Anyone wishing to be considered for these positions or wishing to nominate a colleague are encouraged to notify a member of the Executive Committee. Nominations will also be taken from the floor during the election process. A summary of required meetings is listed below. Serious consideration should be given before applying as many positions require additional time and year round attendance.

Vice president

- Executive Committee and Cabinet (EC&C) meetings (1st Wednesday)
- full senate meetings (2nd Wednesday)
- EC & Administration meetings (3rd Wednesday)
- standing committee meeting (4th Wednesday)
- Deans Forum (monthly)
- NU Senate Presidents' meetings with President Smith (as scheduled)
- miscellaneous meetings as assigned

Secretary-treasurer

- EC&C meetings (1st Wednesday)
- full senate meetings (2nd Wednesday)
- EC & Administration meetings (3rd Wednesday)
- standing committee meeting (4th Wednesday)
- Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) meetings (as scheduled)
- BAC Health Care Subcommittee meetings (as scheduled)
- miscellaneous meetings as assigned

Chair of the Cabinet

- EC&C meetings (1st Wednesday)
- full senate meetings (2nd Wednesday)
- EC & Administration meetings (3rd Wednesday)
- standing committee meeting (4th Wednesday)

Chair of the Committee on Rules

- EC&C meetings (1st Wednesday)
- full senate meetings (2nd Wednesday)
- EC & Administration meetings (3rd Wednesday)
- standing committee meeting (4th Wednesday)

Parliamentarian

- full senate meetings (2nd Wednesday)
- standing committee meeting (4th Wednesday)

Discussion: Senator Paterson announced that Senator Bartle has already agreed to fill the position.

Academic Planning Council (APC): Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs representative

full senate meetings (2nd Wednesday)
standing committee meeting (4th Wednesday)
APC meetings (as scheduled)

Alumni Association (AA), Board of Directors: association prefers a UNO Alum

full senate meetings (2nd Wednesday)
standing committee meeting (4th Wednesday)
AA/BD meetings (as scheduled)

UNO Chapter of AAUP: AAUP member preferred

full senate meetings (2nd Wednesday)
standing committee meeting (4th Wednesday)
AAUP meetings (as scheduled)

Graduate Council (GC): graduate faculty member of the senate

full senate meetings (2nd Wednesday)
standing committee meeting (4th Wednesday)
GC meetings (as scheduled)

Strategic Planning Steering Committee (SPSC): Committee on Goals and Directions representative

full senate meetings (2nd Wednesday)
standing committee meeting (4th Wednesday)
SPSC meetings (as scheduled)

Faculty Senate/Staff Advisory Council Banquet, April 26: Invitations went out last week inviting all members of the 1999-2000 faculty senate to attend the annual banquet on Wednesday, April 26. Invitations will be given to the newly elected 2000-2001 senators as soon as possible after the election concludes on April 21. The evening begins with a 6:30 p.m. reception in the MBSC Nebraska Room followed by dinner at 7:00 p.m. in the MBSC Ballroom. Reservations are required and should be sent to Donna Hathaway at dhathawa@unomaha.edu by April 19. All are encouraged to attend.

New Award Presentation at Faculty Senate/Staff Advisory Council Banquet, April 26: The chancellor's office recently notified the senate office that the Employee of the Year will be honored at the banquet from now on.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report: Senator Hesham Ali

Budget Report, March 31 (agenda attachments 19-20)

Budget Advisory Committee and Health Care Subcommittee Meeting:

The committee did not meet in March.

Senator Hesham will present a report on behalf of Dr. Dale Krane, chair, who is unable to attend due to scheduling conflicts.

Verbal Report: Senator Ali summarized a memo he received from Dr. Krane which included the committee's struggle to find time to meet once its membership increased. Senator Ali also gave a report on the committee's meeting with David Lechner and the four major points he made regarding the health care problem: 1) a number of individuals dropped the dental program; 2) pharmaceutical expenses have increased dramatically; 3) the strong impact of the UNMC/NHS members leaving; and 4) a significant increases in claims. Members of the committee challenged these issues asking how claims could increase when only a total of 10 claims were over \$75,000? They also questioned the management of the trust fund which Dr. Lechner explained predated him leaving him without

immediate feedback. Dr. Lechner stated an independent committee will be brought in to investigate the plan; the committee then questioned how independent the committee will be when they are hired by administration. Dr. Lechner promised to provide a complete set of notes to the senate as well as get back to the committee with answers to their questions. Senator Ali concluded by stating the committee plans to meet once more before the end of the academic year to wrap things up and set an agenda for the 2000-2001 academic year.

Discussion: Senator Deffenbacher suggested keeping in mind that university employees pay a substantially smaller amount for health insurance than other state employees and we should be cautious because of that. He also asked who the manager of the trust fund was to which he was told John Russell was, however, he has since moved to UNMC.

Vice President's Report: Senator Janice Rech

Dean's Forum (Council of Deans): No report; Senator Rech remains on leave through mid-April.

President Smith and NU Senate Presidents Meeting (December through April):

No report; Senator Rech remains on leave through mid-April.

Executive Committee Report: Senator Hesham Ali

2000-2001 Faculty Senate Representation

Bylaws of the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha, Article II.. Elections., Section 4: No later than the end of the second week in the month of March preceding the election of senators, the chief executive officer of the university shall furnish the faculty senate president with appropriate faculty rosters to be used for determining the number of senators to be elected from each college and from the "external faculty" serving on the UNO campus. A roster of "non-collegiate" faculty members shall also be provided at this time. After consulting with the Executive Committee, the faculty senate president shall notify the appropriate academic deans of the number of seats the respective colleges are entitled to fill during the ensuing academic year. This notification shall occur prior to the first of April.

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

Resolution 2438, 05/10/00: Executive Committee

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Executive Committee recommends to the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha that the 467 faculty actively employed, on leave of absence, or on partial retirement with the rank of instructor or above as of the Spring, 2000, semester will be represented by the following distribution of seats for the 2000-2001 academic year:

College of Arts and Sciences 15
College of Business Administration 4
College of Education 5
College of Fine Arts 3
College of Information Science and Technology 2
College of Library 1
College of Public Affairs and Community Service 5
College of External NU Faculty 2
37

Discussion: Senator Paterson explained the drop in representation for the College of Education noting that the shared HPER faculty previously counted in that college's total were assigned to the chancellor for the first time in the documents provided by Institutional Research. Discussion continued.

Motion: Senator Aschenbrenner moved to postpone this issue until later on the agenda in lieu of Senator Metal-Corbin calling Dan Blanke for more details.

Second: Senator Bacon seconded the motion.

Vote: The motion to delay the resolution was passed unanimously.

Motion Readdressed: Senator Metal-Corbin called Dan Blanke during the senate meeting and reported back that he confirmed those faculty listed under the chancellor on the report provided by Institutional Research teach .5% or less for the College of Education and should therefore not be included in the count for senate representation.

Motion: Senator Paterson announced the original resolution stands as presented.

Second: The motion was seconded again by Senator Bacon.

Vote: The motion was approved unanimously.

Spring, 2000 Commencement Marshals

On behalf of the Executive Committee, Senator Ali presented the following:

Resolution 2439, 05/10/00: Executive Committee

BE IT RESOLVED, that the senate president appoints the following two senators to serve as marshals at the Spring, 2000, commencement as defined by Resolution 2418:

Resolution 2418, 11/10/99: Committee on Faculty Personnel and Welfare

WHEREAS, it is an honor for faculty to serve as marshals at commencement, and

WHEREAS, the present system used to select faculty commencement marshals has proven difficult to implement fully; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following procedure will be used henceforth: two faculty marshals shall be selected for each commencement by the faculty senate president. Selection shall be from a list of faculty senate and faculty volunteers.

William Clute
George Engelmann

The motion was approved unanimously.

Standing Committee Reports

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

Agenda, March 29 (agenda attachment 21)

Minutes, March 29 (agenda attachments 22-23)

China Program Discussion

1999-2000 Final Report: Due in senate office by May 31.

Committee on Educational Resources and Services: Senator William Clute, chair.
Minutes, March 29 (agenda attachment 24)

Discussion: The issue of two UNO graphic artists being given 90 days notice before their positions were eliminated was discussed. Senator Paterson reported he talked to Larry Peterson who said he understood and half expected to be released due to the budget reallocation. Mr. Peterson also shared concerns for the campus at-large in regards to the elimination of the Graphic Arts Department. Senator Clute noted part of the irony of releasing technical people is that they could certainly be making larger salaries elsewhere but have chosen to work on campus because of their dedication to the system and the university atmosphere.

1999-2000 Final Report: Due in senate office by May 31.

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

Minutes, March 29 (agenda attachment 25): Senator Deffenbacher expressed concern that, according to shared information, the chancellor has not responded to the Faculty Grievance Committee's decision on a recent case nor has she replied to the senate resolutions.

1999-2000 Final Report: Due in senate office by May 31.

New Charge, Search Committees for Faculty Positions: At the April 5, Executive Committee and Cabinet (EC&C) meeting the committee was charged with pursuing whether the senate should support the formation of search committees to encourage equity when hiring new faculty. Consideration was also given to the inclusion of items such as hiring creatively (i.e., colleague who doesn't hold a Ph.D. yet is fully qualified for tenure); asking for an additional line to bring in a high profile minority faculty member; concern surrounding the NU system being required to bring in an additional 60 minority faculty by either 2001 or 2002 or suffer the loss of federal funding; and stressing that UNO needs to be intentionally welcoming to prospective and new faculty.

Resolution(s):

On behalf of the Committee on Faculty Personnel and Welfare, Senator Deffenbacher presented the following:

Resolution 2440, 04/12/00: Committee on Faculty Personnel and Welfare

WHEREAS, the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha passed Resolution 2370 on April 14, 1999, endorsing domestic partnership benefits for all UNO non-married staff and faculty, and

WHEREAS, neither the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska nor the chancellor of UNO have responded to this resolution; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha wishes, yet again, to express its strongest support for the sentiments expressed in Resolution 2370.

Resolution 2370, 04/14/99: Committee on Faculty Personnel and Welfare

WHEREAS, the University of Nebraska has declared and affirmed a policy of equal employment opportunities, affirmative action in employment, and nondiscrimination; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, the UNO Faculty Senate endorses domestic partnership benefits for all UNO non-married staff and faculty as long as procedures can be adopted that provide for documentation of: 1) the partners' commitment to each other (e.g. the partners have been in an exclusive relationship for a specified number of months and intend to remain together indefinitely; the partners are not married to each other or anyone else, or related to each other by blood so closely that state law would prohibit them from being married to each other, etc.), 2) sharing of financial obligations (e.g. they own a home together or are jointly listed on a lease; they hold joint bank accounts, they have joint liabilities, including motor-vehicle loans or credit-card accounts, etc.), and 3) joint responsibility for each other's welfare (e.g. they are named as each other's beneficiary on life-insurance policies; they are named as the primary beneficiary in each other's wills; etc.)

Discussion: Senator Bacon stated he was part of the supporting board for the gay-straight alliance and that in his opinion it would be wiser to wait until after the November regental elections before addressing this issue. He further noted that it was hoped all four senate presidents would like to put forward a coordinated effort, however, UNL has already chosen to take a distinct position on their own. He then questioned whether the end purpose would be served if UNO also chose to take an independent stand. Senator Bacon concluded that the issue isn't as much about what the board's willing to do regarding equity and management but rather their political point of view. Discussion continued. Senator Paterson considered passing the resolution as-is and charging the committee with continuing to address the issue in the next academic year Senator Bacon agreed stating none of the NU chancellors are against this issue but the way to play it politically is to match up the progress of this issue to the political processes. Senator Bacon agreed to provide the senate with a copy of the resolution passed by the UNL Academic Senate.

Vote: A verbal vote was taken; one senator abstained.

Division of the House: Senator Clute called for a division of the house: 21 voted yea; 3 voted nay; one abstained.

Discussion: Senator Paterson agreed to return with more information next month.

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

Minutes: No report; the committee did not meet March.

1999-2000 Final Report: Due in senate office by May 31.

Committee on Professional Development: Senator Chris Allen, chair.

Minutes, March 29 (agenda attachment 26): Senator Allen reported there were three days left to apply for a service learning grant noting there has been an enormous increase of applications this year. The deadline of the 15th falls on a Saturday; it's unknown if that extends the date through Monday.

1999-2000 Final Report: Due in senate office by May 31.

Committee on Rules: Senator Miriam DeLone, chair.

Minutes: The committee met on April 5; a report has not yet been submitted.

Annual Faculty Survey for Committee Volunteers: Senator DeLone encouraged all to complete and return the annual surveys which were distributed this week. She also asked that all senators prompt the same amongst their colleagues.

1999-2000 Final Report: Due in senate office by May 31.

Resolution(s):

Three-Year Terms 08/01/00 - 07/31/03:

Resolution 0000, 04/12/00: Committee on Rules

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following names go forward as three-year appointments from 08/01/00, through 07/31/03, to the Adjudicatory Panel:

TBA (to replace Maria Arbelaez)
Jayaram Betanabhatla (reappointed)
Robin Ogle (to replace Deborah Irvin)
Lotfollah Najjar (reappointed)

This resolution was presented for informational purposes only. It was held over until May pending securing additional nominees.

Resolution 0000, 04/12/00: Committee on Rules

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following names go forward as three-year appointments from 08/01/00 through 07/31/03, to the University Committee for the Advancement of Teaching (UCAT):

Amy Rodie, College of Business Administration (to replace Roger Sindt)
TBA, College of Education (to replace James Dick)
Lotfollah Najjar College of Information Science & technology (Hesham Ali)

This resolution was presented for informational purposes. It was held over until May pending securing additional nominees.

Resolution 0000, 04.12.00L Committee on Rules

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following names go forward as three-year appointments from 08/01/00, through 07/31/03, on the University Committee on Research (UCR):

Lisa Boucher, College of Arts and Sciences (to replace Bruce Chase)
TBA, College of Information Science & Technology (to replace H. Saiedian)
John Bartle, College of Public Affairs and Community Service (P. Smith)

This resolution was presented for informational purposes only. It was held over until May pending securing additional nominees.

Resolution 0000, 04/12/00: Committee on Rules

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following names go forward as three-year appointments from 08/01/00, through 07/31/03, to the Educational Policy Advisory Committee:

Leah Pietron, College of Information Science and Technology (Pam Specht)
Laura Dickson, Library (to replace James Shaw)
TBA, College of Public Affairs and Community Service
(to replace Cassia Spohn)

This resolution was presented for informational purposes only. It was held over until May pending securing additional nominees.

Resolution 2441, 04/12/00: Committee on Rules

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following names go forward as three-year appointments from 08/01/00, through 07/31/03, to the University Parking Advisory Committee:

Denise Herz (to replace Densel Acheson)
Richard Duggin (to replace Kenneth Eller)

The motion was approved unanimously.

Resolution 2442, 04/12/00: Committee on Rules

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

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following name go forward as a three-year appointment from 08/01/00, through 07/31/03, to the University Committee on Athletics:

Kent Kirwan (to replace Otto Bauer)

The motion was approved unanimously.

Other Reports

Academic Planning Council: Senator John Bartle, senate representative.

E-Mail Report By Senate Representative: The Academic Planning Council did not meet in March. It will meet April 21 to finalize the program reviews.

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

Written Report By Senate Representative: Senator Paterson reported that Dr. Wakefield verbally reported there the chancellor is scheduled to talk with the board on April 18, after which he'll submitted a written report for the May senate meeting.

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

Written Report By Senate Representative: No report was submitted.

Graduate Council: Senator Lynn Harland, senate representative.

Written Report By Senate Representative: No report was submitted.

Verbal Report: On behalf of Senator Harland who had to leave early, the coordinator reported there was nothing of importance to report to the senate at this time.

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

Written Report By Senate Representative: No report was submitted.

Verbal Report: Senator Ali reported faculty have not been well represented at the gatherings. The committee decided to send out invitations to specific faculty with the hope of encouraging attendance. Senator Ali suggested those interested should contact their deans and/or Lanyce Keel

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."

Department Closings and Cutbacks

New Business: Bylaws, Article IV. Senate Agenda., Section 3: Final action on new business shall not include decisions on matters requiring approval by the chancellor or the governing body of the university until thirty days shall have elapsed after introduction, and the opportunity is provided for appropriate committee recommendation except when such business is an "emergency matter." The expression "emergency matter" used in Article IV of the constitution shall apply to any new business at any meeting of the faculty senate when two-thirds of the members present and voting approve. The vote on the question of "emergency matter" and all votes on the substantive question under consideration shall be roll-call votes).

New Standing Committee Charge -- Call for CPACS Departments to be Changed to Schools: Vice Chancellor Hodgson has requested that the senate be given first consideration toward the College of Public Affairs and Community Service's recommendation that the Departments of Criminal Justice and Public Administration become schools, thereby making their status similar to that of the School of Social Work. If approved locally by the senate and administration, the change would also require regental approval. Vice Chancellor Hodgson shared concern and appreciation that academic and curricular changes requiring regental approval should first come to the senate and that such changes, while primarily administrative, have a significant impact on the academic units involved. He further inquired if senate action was still possible during the 1999-2000 academic year.

Discussion: Senator Paterson remanded this issue to the Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs for further examination. Senator Bartle stated it is a way to make the department more competitive.

Retirement Receptions: Professors Warren Franck and Otto Bauer's retirement receptions will be held Monday. All are encouraged to attend. Senator Paterson shared he attended Senator Aschenbrenner's retirement reception and then acknowledged his extraordinary institutional memory, his part in being the bricks and mortar of the university and concluded he is happy to have been able to work with Senator Aschenbrenner and deeply appreciates all his efforts on behalf of the senate.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hesham Ali
Secretary-Treasurer