

8-16-2000

Faculty Senate Minutes August 2000

UNO Faculty Senate

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**Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha
2000-2001 Minutes**

Wednesday, August 16, 2000, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Platte River State Park - Mallet Lodge
14421 346th Street
Louisville, Nebraska 68037-3001
Office: 402-234-2217; Fax: 402-234-2520

8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast Buffet: fruit trays, cinnamon rolls, bagels with cream cheese, muffins, coffee, hot tea and water.

9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Interactive Image Theater.

11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Picnic Special: fried chicken, baked beans, macaroni & cheese, lettuce salad, dinner rolls, coffee, ice tea, hot tea, pop and water.

12:15 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. Senate Meeting.

1:45 p.m. - 2:15 p.m. 1999-2000 Standing Committee Planning Session & Snacks: popcorn, pop, ice tea, hot tea and water.

2:15 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Chancellor Belck and Vice Chancellor Hodgson:

Updates on: Budget

Budget Re-allocations

Health Trust and Health Insurance

Strategic Plan

Open Question/Answer Session

Special Equipment Ordered: table top microphone.

Directions: Take Interstate 80 to Louisville Exit 426 approximately half-way between Omaha & Lincoln. Turn East (toward South Bend) onto Highway 66 for approximately 6 miles until you see the park entrance. At first fork inside park veer left.

Park Map: Available at www.ngpc.state.ne.us/parks/prsp.html (bottom of page).

Car Pooling: Please work with one another to arrange car pooling, especially with vehicles that already have a valid park sticker.

Park Sticker: Inform the gatekeeper you are with the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha and you will not be charged for a permit (a bill will be submitted to the senate instead).

Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha 2000-2001 Agenda

Wednesday, August 16, 2000, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Platte River State Park
14421 346th Street
Louisville, Nebraska 68037-3001
402-234-2217

Attendees: Ali, Allen, W. Bacon, Barone, Barron-McKeagney, Bartle, Baum, Carlson, Carroll, Chung, Elder, El-Rewini, Falconer Al-Hindi, File, Hagen, Johnson, Paterson, Ryalls, Shroder, Smallwood, Smith, Sobel, Zhao
Excused Full Day: N. Bacon, Foster, Landis, Mande, Mitchell, O'Connell, Shaw, Tuan, Valle

Excused AM Only: Coyne, DeLone, Irvin, Metal-Corbin, Thompson

Guests: Chancellor Belck, Vice Chancellor Hodgson

Presiding Officer (Senator Paterson): Constitution, Article IV: The senate's presiding officer shall be the president. In the president's absence, presiding officer of the senate shall be the vice-president or, if the need should arise, as provided in the bylaws. Bylaws, Article I, Section 1: The faculty senate president shall be the presiding officer of the senate...and shall chair the Executive Committee and the Cabinet when they meet in lieu of the full senate during the months of June and July.

Parliamentarian (Senator Bartle): Constitution, Article IV: The president shall appoint a parliamentarian, who need not be a member of the senate.

Quorum (19 Minimum) and Officially Call To Order: Constitution, Article IV: A quorum of the senate shall consist of a simple majority of the elected senators.

Presentation of 1999-2000 Year-End Minutes: Senator Paterson asked for approval of the May 10 (agenda attachments 1-35). The minutes were approved;

Senator Carroll abstained.

Presentation and Approval of Summer Minutes/Action:

Constitution, Article IV, Paragraph 7: The senate shall hold at least one regular meeting at a stated time each month during the academic year. In the months of June and July, the Executive Committee and Cabinet (the chairs of the standing committees) shall meet in lieu of the senate and will attend to any matters of faculty interest and responsibility. All decisions taken by the Executive Committee and Cabinet under this grant of authority must be presented to the senate at its next regular meeting and a motion of approval voted upon.

Bylaws of the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha, Article VI, Section 4, Paragraph 4.2 In accord with Article IV of the Constitution, the Executive Committee and the Cabinet shall meet jointly in lieu of the full senate in the months of June and July to conduct the faculty's business. All decisions made or actions taken shall be submitted to the senate at its next regular meeting in the fall. Senator Paterson asked for approval of the June 7 (agenda attachments 36-42). The minutes were approved; Senator Carroll abstained.

Officers Reports

President's Report: Senator Paterson reported on the following: Board of Regents Meeting, July 14-15: Senators Bacon and Ali attended on behalf of Senator Paterson who was out of town. Their reports will be presented later in the meeting. Executive Committee and Administration Meeting, July 19: Due to several members of the Executive Committee being out of town, the July meeting was canceled.

Chancellor's Council Meeting, July 27: Senator Ali attended on behalf of Senator Paterson who was out of town. His report will be presented later in the meeting.

Deans Forum: The Committee on Rules will be presenting a resolution regarding this issue later in the meeting. FYI: The Deans Forum meets at 8:30 a.m. on the first Thursday of every month in the Chancellor's Conference Room.

Verbal Report: Senator Paterson gave a described of the Deans Forum, the Council of Academic Deans and the Deans Meeting noting most action is taken by the Deans Forum which is the one the senate wants representation on.

Human Subject Researchers

Verbal Report: A document is simmering. Beginning September 1st, everyone dealing with human subjects must take a test to qualify to teach as of October 1. Review and Approval of Certificate Programs

Verbal Report: Vice Chancellor Hodgson has asked the senate to take a look at the current certification program. This issue will be addressed in the coming year.

Research Task Force: During the 1998-99 academic year, Chancellor Belck appointed this task force to study the role and place of research and scholarly activity at UNO and what could be done to enhance productivity and visibility in these areas. Their June 2, 2000, report is attached. (agenda attachments 51-55)

Verbal Report & Committee Charge: Chancellor Belck is looking for feedback on the report. Senator Paterson charged the Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs with this task.

2000-2001 Senate Information Packet (separate packet)

Reallocation of Budget - Verbal Report: Faculty need to stay on top of the reallocation process. Reallocation by retirement may continue unless tuition remission is allotted.

Tuition Remission - Verbal Report: The board of regents seems open to increasing tuition so it's comparable with the upper end of the university's peer group. These are tentative times but all kinds of promises are on the horizon.

UNMC Fetal Tissue Issue - Verbal Report: The presidential election this fall may arouse the fetal tissue issue for UNMC and Nebraska's representatives.

New Faculty of Color - Verbal Report: Ten slots for new faculty of color were available throughout the entire Nebraska University system. UNOmaha received the first six new allocations most of which came into existing lines.

Discussion: Senator Paterson asked if anyone present knew of an existing network to welcome new faculty. Senator DeLone suggested a "first-year connection for faculty" similar to the current program for students. Senator Paterson requested feedback on whether all minorities should be welcomed as one group. Senator Metal-Corbin suggested inviting all new faculty to the September senate meeting or having Sharon Ulmar host a gathering instead. Senator Carroll stated AAUP already has a program in place and suggested checking into what it offers with the possibility of combining any new program with their existing one.

Merit Pay - Verbal Report: Senator Paterson deferred this issue to Senator Bacon's report on the July 14, board of regents meeting.

China Program - Verbal Report: The senate will stay on top of this issue as it progresses.

Vice President's Report: Senator W. Bacon reported on the following: Board of Regents Meeting, July 14: Senator Bacon attended the July 14, meeting on behalf of Senator Paterson who was out of town.

Merit Pay - Verbal Report: Senator Bacon reported merit pay does not apply to UNMC and that UNK currently offers no merit pay to its faculty. He stated UNO has 30% merit and UNL is entirely on merit allowing their chairs full discretion in awarding it. UNO has contracted units and therefore, referred the board to AAUP. UNO Professor Jane West attended the meeting as an AAUP representative, however, when the regents were invited to ask her questions they declined. UNK spoke in favor of maintaining their position of no merit even though they too have a contracted unit.

New Charge -- Report on Reduction: Per the July 5, Executive Committee and Cabinet meeting, Senator Bacon offered to request an updated report on the reduction of lines due to attrition first provided by Vice Chancellor Hodgson last year. This is of particular importance if attrition is going to continue to be used as a means of budget reduction.

Verbal Report: Senator Bacon reported he asked Vice Chancellor Hodgson to address this issue during his presentation and deferred discussion until later in the meeting.

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

Budget Reports: 1999-2000 Year-End Budget Report & Chart, June 30 (agenda attachments 56-58).

Budget Report, July 31: The report has not been received from Accounting Services as yet.

Request for Budget Increase: Constitution, Article IV: The president shall prepare, in consultation with the appropriate university official, a budget request for transmittal to the chancellor for funds necessary to accomplish the purposes of the senate. The secretary-treasurer shall monitor the budget.

Verbal Report: Senator Ali reported that the Executive Committee and Cabinet voted in favor of requesting a budget increase for the current year and that Senator Paterson will follow through with the required paperwork.

Board of Regents, July 15

Verbal Report: Senator Ali reported he was unable to attend the council meeting and referred to the attached agenda for the issues covered.

Chancellor's Council, July 27 (agenda attachments 59-64)

Budget - Verbal Report: The biennial budget requested for next year is \$8.4 million and \$7.7 million for the following years, however, caution was expressed regarding whether those actual figures will be awarded or not. It was noted the regents seems to be more empathetic regarding budget requests these days and that they are talking about the possibility of a tuition increase in a positive light for the first time. Regent Wilson even submitted a resolution to encourage the governor and legislature to give serious consideration to increasing the overall budget.

Health Care - Verbal Report: An increase is expected of approximately \$1.00 per day. The question was raised on why the NU system is being expected to pay the same 21% rates other state employees currently pay when in all other matters each university is compared to its peer group. There is a sense amongst faculty that administration is accepting the increase unconditionally rather than fighting it.

Fall Commencement - Verbal Report: Fall commencement is currently scheduled for Friday, December 16, with a starting time somewhere between 3 and 4 p.m. Details will be provided as they are confirmed. The change is expected to affect this semester only.

Housing - Verbal Report: All residence halls are currently fill and the waiting list is growing. This is excellent news for our campus.

New Charge - Budget Advisory Committee and Health Care Subcommittee: At the May 10, senate meeting Senator Paterson charged Senator Ali with reducing the size of the committee to no more than five to ease scheduling conflicts which deterred meetings the previous year. He was also charged with setting up the first meeting for the 2000-2001 academic year.

Executive Committee Report: Senator W. Bacon

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

Resolution 2487, 08/16/00: On Behalf of the Assembly

WHEREAS, the central principle of shared governance is inclusiveness, and

WHEREAS, decision-making on academic matters at UNO takes place primarily in the Deans Forum, and

WHEREAS, the faculty are currently not represented on the Deans Forum; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the president of the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha be appointed each year to the Deans Forum.

Motion: The motion was seconded.
Discussion: There was no discussion.
Vote: The motion was approved unanimously.

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

Resolution 0000, 08/16/00: On Behalf of the Assembly = TABLED

BE IT RESOLVED, that the senate president appoints the following UNOmaha alum as the senate representative to the Alumni Association, Board of Directors: TBA (to replace Professor William Wakefield)

The resolution was held over to the September meeting to allow time to secure a nominee.

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

Resolution 0000, 08/16/00: On Behalf of the Assembly = TABLED

BE IT RESOLVED, that the senate president appoints the following senator, who is also a AAUP member, as the senate representative to the UNO Chapter of AAUP: TBA (to replace Senator Janice Rech).

The resolution was held over to the September meeting to allow time to secure a nominee.

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

Resolution 0000, 08/16/00: On Behalf of the Assembly = TABLED

BE IT RESOLVED, that the senate president appoints the following senator, who is also a graduate faculty member, as the senate representative to the Graduate Council: TBA (to replace Senator Lynn Harland).

The resolution was held over to the September meeting to allow time to secure a nominee.

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

Resolution 0000, 08/16/00: On Behalf of the Assembly = TABLED

BE IT RESOLVED, that the senate president appoints the following member of the Committee on Goals and Directions as the senate representative to the Strategic Planning Steering Committee: TBA (to replace Senator Hesham Ali).

The resolution was held over to the September meeting to allow time to secure a nominee.

Standing Committee Reports: Article IV, Section 1: All committee recommendations addressed to the faculty senate must be put on the agenda and presented to the senate without substantive alteration.

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

Minutes: The committee did not meet in July. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 30. The chair is responsible for sending e-mail agendas to committee members and senate office.

1999-2000 Final Report: The 2000-2001 committee will review the report during the breakout session later in the retreat. Any unresolved issues should be carried over by the new committee. (agenda attachments 65-71).

New Charge - Criteria for Department Versus School: Per discussion at the May 3, Executive Committee and Cabinet meeting, the committee is charged with establishing written criteria for what constitutes a department versus a school for future reference.

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

Minutes: The committee did not meet in July. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 30. The chair is responsible for sending e-mail agendas to committee members and senate office.

Verbal Report: Senator Baum stated that the committee anticipates running the Beck scholarship fund- raiser in the same manner as last year. They also hope to increase the endowment and encourage all faculty to participate.

1999-2000 Final Report: The 2000-2001 committee will review the report during the breakout session later in the afternoon. Any unresolved items should be carried over by the new committee. (agenda attachments 72-74)

Committee on Faculty Personnel and Welfare: Senator Shroder reported on the following:

Minutes: The committee did not meet in July. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 30. The chair is responsible for sending e-mail agendas to committee members and senate office.

Verbal Report: Senator Shroder announced the committee plans to watch the intellectual property and the domestic partnership benefits issues closely in the coming year.

1999-2000 Final Report: The 2000-2001 committee will review the report during the breakout session later in the afternoon. Any unresolved items should be carried over by the new committee. (agenda attachment 75)

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

Minutes: The committee did not meet in July. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 30. The chair is responsible for sending e-mail agendas to committee members and senate office.

Verbal Report: Senator Coyne stated the committee will keep an eye on funding for core courses through Foundation donations.

Discussion: Senator Paterson requested time to meet with Senator Coyne during the morning retreat session to further discuss this issue.

1999-2000 Final Report: The 2000-2001 committee will review the report during the breakout session later in the afternoon. Any unresolved items should be carried over by the new committee. (agenda attachments 76-85)

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

Minutes: The committee did not meet in July. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 30. The chair is responsible for sending e-mail agendas to committee members and senate office.

Final Report: The report has not been received as of the printing of this agenda. Copies of the 1999-2000 monthly reports are attached instead. (agenda attachments 86-93)

Committee on Rules: Senator Sobel reported on the following:

Minutes: The committee did not meet in July. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 30. The chair is responsible for sending e-mail agendas to committee members and senate office.

Final Report: The report has not been received as of the printing of this agenda. The only monthly report submitted during the 1999-2000 academic year was the August 25, agenda which is attached. (agenda attachments 94-95)

New Charge - Procedures for Senate's Three Faculty Committees: Per discussion at the May 3, Executive Committee and Cabinet meeting, the committee is charged with modeling changes in the three faculty committees

(Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee, Faculty Grievance Committee, Professional Conduct Committee) so they operate the same.

Resolution(s): FYI Only - Update: On behalf of the Executive Committee and Cabinet, the following names were forwarded to Vice Chancellor Hodgson by the Committee on Rules:

Resolution 2485, 07/05/00: Committee on Rules

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following names be forwarded to Vice Chancellor Hodgson as nominees to fill one three-year appointment from 07/07/00 through 07/31/03 as the UNO representative on the University-Wide Departmental Teaching Award (UDTA) Selection Committee to replace outgoing member Donald Dendinger. Names and vitaes must be submitted to Provost Lee Jones no later than August 21. Provost Jones will make the final selection.

James Conyers
Jerry Cederblom
Elvira Garcia

Resolution 2486, 07/05/00: Committee on Rules

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following names be forwarded to Vice Chancellor Hodgson as nominees to fill one two-year appointment from 07/07/00 through 07/31/02 as the UNO representative on the Outstanding Teaching and Instructional Creative Activity Award (OTICA) Selection Committee to replace outgoing member, Imafedia Okhamafe. Vitaes are required for all nominees. Names and vitaes must be submitted to Provost Lee Jones no later than August 21. Provost Jones will make the final selection.

Joanne Sowell
Leah Pietron
Kris Berg

Other Non-Senate Committee Reports

Academic Planning Council: Senator Landis

No report.

Alumni Association, Board of Directors: TBA

No report pending the appointment of a representative.

American Association of University Professors (AAUP): TBA

No report pending the appointment of a representative

Graduate Council: TBA

No report pending the appointment of a representative.

Strategic Planning Steering Committee: TBA

Verbal Report: Senator Ali explained that committee activity is expected to slow down this fall as they work toward finalizing last years tasks.

Old Business

Commission for Development of Criteria for Evaluation and Prioritization of Academic Programs: Report attached per July 5, Executive Committee and Cabinet meeting (agenda attachments 96-107).

Verbal Report: Senator Paterson reported that President Smith formed an NU wide committee which drew up the attached report. He noted concern exists for how the document will be used from this point forward. The intent of the report is as an extensive tool to be used by all departments. The commission will attempt to keep track of how the process is working as the year progresses.

Health Insurance Premium Increase: At the July 5, Executive Committee and Cabinet meeting the issue of an anticipated increase in health insurance premiums was discussed resulting in the decision to discuss the following areas of concern at the annual senate retreat: 1) why are UNOmaha's current premiums being compared to other state programs rather than the standard peer institutes which are used for all other comparisons; 2) is this strictly a bargaining issue that should be left up to AAUP; 3) about a year ago it was suggested a faculty member be placed on the health committee to be a part of the research, however, since this has not been done is there any reason why faculty can't do their own research on this issue; 4) can AAUP provide research data; 5) should faculty team with staff (Staff Advisory Council) since both are affected; and 6) should an ad hoc senate committee be formed to look into this issue.

Verbal Report: Senator Bacon noted he informed Vice Chancellor Hodgson that the issue of increasing health insurance premiums would come up at the senate retreat and that discussion would be held over until the vice chancellor was present. Senator Ali explained how the university came to the present situation stating the senate's Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) wrestled with this issue a good share of last year. He reminded the senate of the BAC's meeting with David Lechner, NU Vice President for Business and Finance, and his promise to get back with answers to the committee's questions regarding the increase; he has not.

Discussion: After some discussion it was agreed administration should be asked why it appears they are not taking action against this substantial increase. It was noted President Smith intends to inform the University-Wide Fringe Benefit Committee of the final decision; the majority questioned why the committee has not been consulted prior to this point. Senator Bartle stated the senate's Budget Advisory Committee has done an extraordinary job on this issue. He further commented that while administration promotes shared governance they do not seem to be participating in it regarding this issue. Senator Bacon noted that another point to keep in mind is that because of the increase in aging faculty the raise in insurance premiums will not be short-term. Senator Carroll urged the senate to contact the University-Wide Fringe Benefit Committee, particularly UNO's representative, and inform them that faculty want to be more involved in this issue prior to any decisions that are made. Senator Paterson agreed to contact the faculty representative, Dr. Dan Sullivan.

For the Good of the Order: Bylaws, Article IV, 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: Bylaws, Article IV, 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.

Lack of Funding for Graduate Assistants and Consideration for Departments to Grow Their Own Graduate Assistants: Per discussion that began at the May 3,

Executive Committee and Cabinet meeting and continued to the August 9, meeting, Senator Paterson charged the Committee on Educational Resources and Services with looking into this issue.

Service Learning: Per discussion that began at the May 3,

Executive Committee and Cabinet meeting and continued to the August 9, meeting, Senator Paterson charged the Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs with looking into energetic form of community based learning with the goal of providing a forum for discussion and support.

Formation of Ad Hoc Constitution and Bylaws Committee: An ad hoc committee to review and update the senate constitution and bylaws based on the following guidelines needs to be formed. A similar committee was formed on September 20, 1997 per Resolutions 2250 and 2253; it's members were: H. Carl Camp, senate president 71-72, 91-92, 92-93, 96-97; David Corbin, senate president 95-96; John Newton, long time senator; Kermit Peters, senate president 87-88; Kim Sosin, senate president 89-90; and Justin Stolen, senate president 76-77.

Constitution, Article VI: 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.

Bylaws, Article VI, Section 7, Paragraph 7.2: With the advice and consent of the faculty senate, the president may appoint ad hoc and special committees from time to time to conduct inquiries and hearings, carry out special studies, and accomplish other tasks of the senate. The size, composition, and duration of operation of each such committee shall be appropriate to the purposes and objectives set forth in the committee's charge. Broad representation of the faculty normally should be sought. Membership need not be confined to members of the faculty senate.

On behalf of the Assembly, Senator Sobel moved the following:

Resolution 0000, 08/16/00: On Behalf of the Assembly = TABLED

WHEREAS, the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha's constitution and bylaws require modification and updating due to cumulative changes in recent years; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the faculty senate establish an ad hoc committee for the purpose of reviewing its constitution and bylaws and recommending appropriate modifications, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that said ad hoc committee be made up of knowledgeable members of the faculty, not necessarily limited to incumbent senators and that once established the committee report its recommendations to the senate as soon as is practicable, and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that according to the Bylaws of the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska, Article VI, Section 7, with the approval of the senate, the president appoints that the following faculty to serve on the Constitution and Bylaws Committee:

TBA, chair
TBA
TBA
TBA
TBA
TBA

Discussion: The resolution was tabled until October to allow additional time to obtain nominees.

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

Resolution 2488, 08/16/00:

WHEREAS, Shelton Hendricks has been appointed to the position of Associate Vice Chancellor for Research and Dean for Graduate Studies, and

WHEREAS, he served with distinction in a number of capacities as a leader of the faculty, and trusting he will remember whence he came; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha congratulates Dr. Hendricks and wishes him well in the discharge of his new duties.

Motion: The motion was seconded.

Discussion: There was no discussion.

Vote: The motion was approved unanimously!

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hesham Ali
Secretary-Treasurer