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Recommended Citation

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Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha 2001-2002 Senate Minutes Wednesday, February 13, 2002, 2 pm, Dodge Room, MBSC

Attendees: N. Bacon, W. Bacon, Bishop, Blair, Bragg, Bruckner, Carlson, J. Carroll, M. Carroll, Chung, Dickson, Engelmann, Fawcett, File, Hagen, Helm, Landis, Littrell, Mitchell, Nazem, Neathery-Castro, O'Connell, Pedersen, Ryalls, Sadlek, Schulte, Shroder, Smallwood, Thompson, S. Williams, Wolcott, Excused: Coyne, Elder, E. Williams, Zhao Absent: Dufner, Johnson, Tuan

Senator W. Bacon introduced the following guests.

Lee B. Jones, Executive Vice President and Provost, University of Nebraska Barb Treadway, Director, and Joe Bilek, student, Student Organizations and Leadership Programs Steve Kuss, President, Staff Advisory Council Stephanie Trudell, outgoing Student Senate/Faculty Senate Liaison Aaron Winters, incoming Student Senate/Faculty Senate Liaison

Guest Presentations

Lee B. Jones, was presented with a framed copy of Faculty Senate Resolution 2610, 01/09/02, a Resolution expressing appreciation for Dr. Jones' years of service at the University.

Barb Treadway, Student Organizations and Leadership Programs Director, and Joe Bilek, Vice President of the Student Board, gave an brief overview of the office and the groups/clubs that fall within its oversight. They expressed a need for faculty advisors. A sign up sheet was left with President W. Bacon.

Stephanie Trudell, outgoing Student Senate/Faculty Senate Liaison, announced that Student Government is planning two large projects: first, a conference for all Mid-West College/University Student Governments, to be held at UNO on May 1, 2003; second, a Student Diversity Center, which they hope to complete in 18 months.

The meeting was officially called to order by Senator W. Bacon at 2:27 pm.

The January 9, 2002, minutes were approved after correction of 86% to 68% in the President's report.

Officers Reports

President's Report: Senator W. Bacon reported on the following:

Executive Committee and Administration of January 16, 2002: Topics included university budget cuts, additional campus housing, diversity hiring, Malcolm X Festival, concerns regarding enrollment and SCH production increases, UNO Library serials budget cut, and Friday commencements.

Board of Regents meeting of January 18, 2002. Topics included a tour of UNMC, university budget cuts, pluses of "opportunity hires," maintenance costs vs. "gifts" to the university, gift of additional residence halls on UNO's South Campus. W. Bacon reported concern that the pattern of absence of UNO kudo awardees continues.

Chancellor's Council meeting of January 31, 2002. Topics included UNO's Malcolm X Festival, UNO ahead of system in minority hires, campus housing update, budget matters, a joint UNO/UNL PhD program in Information Technology, legal restrictions on UNO faculty running for public office, library cutting serials again, no decision on/if Maverick hockey will move to the Convention Center, and IS&P to receive reconstruction grant for use in Afghanistan.

Secretary Treasurer's Report: Senator Bruckner submitted the January, 2002, budget report.

Executive Committee Report: In the absence of Vice President Coyne, Senator W. Bacon brought the following resolution from the Executive Committee:

Resolution 2611, 02/13/2002: Regarding Suzanne and Walter Scott Foundation/Scott Village

WHEREAS the Suzanne and Walter Scott Foundation has generously pledged the necessary funds for the building of Scott Village on the South Campus of the University of Nebraska at Omaha, and

WHEREAS the Scotts' vision of a university, steeped in tradition but preparing the future, has so enriched the University of Nebraska at Omaha,

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha expresses its profound gratitude to the Suzanne and Walter Scott Foundation for its generous gift and its sincere thanks for the Scotts' visionary commitment to the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

The motion passed.

Standing Committee Reports

Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs:

Senator N. Bacon reported on the Committee meeting held on January 23, 2002. Topics included transfers from MCC, agreement that no further response was needed to Vice Chancellor Derek Hodgson's comments on senate resolution 2600 (on the implications of C- grades), discussion of response to Vice Chancellor Derek Hodgson's comments on senate resolution 2604 (repeated courses), Vice Chancellor Hodgson's proposal to set a single due date for grades.

Senator Neathery-Castro attended the UNO Student Government meeting to update them on C- issue. She recommended a regular liaison be appointed.

Committee on Educational Resources and Services:

Senator Dickson reported on the committee meeting of January 23, 2002. Topics included Paul Beck Scholarship application deadline date and funding, and University wide procedures relative to Dean searches.

Peter Wolcott reported on the activities of the UNO Distance Education Strategic Planning Advisory Council, which has developed a Distance Education Strategic Plan in response to the requirements of the U-wide Distance Education Strategic Plan.

Committee on Faculty Personnel and Welfare:

Senator Shroder reported that the committee met on Wednesday, January 30, 2002, 2:30 p.m., MBSC Redick Room. Discussion regarded part-time instructors and salary issues.

Committee on Goals and Directions:

Senator Hagen reported on the committee meeting of January 23, 2002. Topics included graduation time and place, sister university selection, budget issues and the Faculty Senate Budget Advisory Committee, and ITS questions and answers. A Graduation Ceremony Survey was attached.

Committee on Professional Development:

Senator Engelmann reported that the committee met on Jan. 23. The only business of substance was to discuss representation on the board of AFCON. The committee decided that, as discussed at the last executive committee meeting, the senate president should be the senate representative of record on the board with other designees from the senate attending the meetings. But, until we have a better understanding of the function of the board, we will not

propose any specific mechanism for meeting attendance. Robert Blair attended the February meeting, and, as a result, recommended that there be only one representative chosen to attend the AFCON meetings.

Committee on Rules:

Senator File reported that James Carroll has been temporarily appointed to serve on the Undergraduate Academic Appeals Committee. This appointment is for a 60 day period to allow the committee to meet. The Committee is beginning to look at major replacements on the University-Wide committees and Senators were asked to volunteer.

Non-Senate Committee Reports

Academic Freedom Coalition of Nebraska (AFCON):

Senator Sadlek attended the AFCON Board Meeting on January 12, 2002, at Gere Library in Lincoln. The main item of discussion was the controversy surrounding the student newspaper and its advisor at Omaha Central High School.

Alumni Association, Board of Directors:

Senator Bruckner reported that the UNO Alumni Board of Directors met on January 15 at the Alumni House. Members heard about recent Alumni activities and reviewed the schedule for the next few months. The organization is making some changes in the oversight of the pickle funds, and is planning with Global Holidays to offer some trips to alumni members in the near future. Guest Ron Withem, Associate VP for External Affairs and Director for Governmental Relations at UN, spoke to the group. Financial reports were reviewed. The next meeting is February 19.

American Association of University Professors (AAUP):

Senator Sadlek, Faculty Senate/AAUP Liaison, reported that the Executive Committee met on 21 January 2002 and on 29 January 2002. The main item of business in both meetings was the on-going grievance activity relating to Black Studies. The committee is also working on an up-dated faculty questionnaire in preparation for next year's collective bargaining. He also reported that there is a recent AAUP issue related to a university system request to reduce the UNO faculty raises for next year.

Graduate Council:

Senator Bragg reported that the Graduate Council met on November 12, 2001. Topics included budget cuts, federal earmarks, approval of December 21, 2001 graduation list, Graduate Student grade point averages (including C+ and C-), Committee B approvals, and a library reading room for students.

There was no old business.

New Business:

Senator Carroll brought up a problem with having Friday of the first week of classes as the last day for students to change to credit/no credit grading . President W. Bacon charged the Academic and Curricular Affairs Committee to look into the matter further.

Senator Carlson moved:

WHEREAS, part-time faculty are an important resource for UNOmaha especially for teaching evening courses, and

WHEREAS, current UNOmaha employees are often qualified to teach in administrative units other than units of their primary appointment and historically have formed an important population for recruiting part-time faculty, and

WHEREAS, University of Nebraska Executive memorandum No. 19 states "... no overload assignment shall provide income in excess of twenty percent (20%) of the staff member's base salary...", and

WHEREAS, the policy stated in University of Nebraska Executive Memorandum No. 19 is blatantly unfair and discriminatory toward lower paid UNOmaha employees. For example, in the College of Arts and Sciences, part-time instructors are typically paid \$2000 per course. Thus, a staff member of another administrative unit who is paid \$30,000 per year by the primary unit would be allowed to teach no more than three courses during the year for the College of Arts and Sciences, while a staff member of the same unit who is paid \$40,000 per year would be allowed to teach four courses during the same year,

BE IT RESOLVED, the UNOmaha Faculty Senate urges part-time instructors in administrative units who are university employees in other university units be treated the same and subject to the same guidelines and policies as part-time instructors who are not university employees in other university units, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the UNOmaha Faculty Senate urges repeal of Executive Memorandum No. 19.

After some discussion it was moved to commit this to committee. Senator Carlson asked and was allowed to withdraw his motion, which is under consideration by the Committee on Personnel and Welfare.

Announcements: The next Faculty Senate will be held on March 13, 2002. It will be held in the Chicano Awareness Center. A bus will be available to take Senators to the meeting.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 3:17 p.m.