

3-13-2002

## Faculty Senate Minutes March 2002

UNO Faculty Senate

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**Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha  
2001-2002 Senate Agenda  
Wednesday, March 13, 2002, 2:30 p.m., Chicano Awareness Center**

Introduction of Guests and Presentations:

Derek Hodgson, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs: Budget  
Arturo Roblez-Ramirez, Executive Director of the Chicano Awareness Center: Welcome

Official Call To Order

Presentation and Approval of Minutes: March 13, 2002, minutes (agenda attachment - pages)

Officers Reports

President's Report: Senator W. Bacon

Written Reports:

Executive Committee and Administration, February 20, 2002 (agenda attachment - pages)

Chancellor's Council, February 28, 2002 (agenda attachment – pages)

Board of Regents, February 22-23, 2002 (agenda attachment - pages)

Announcements:

Faculty Senate Election Results: The following fourteen (14) faculty members have been elected to serve three-year terms from May 8, 2002, through May 11, 2005:

College of Arts & Sciences (8) Chris Allen  
Jonathan Benjamin-Alvarado  
G. Griffith Elder  
Bruce Garver  
Joan Latchaw  
Harvey Leavitt  
Harmon Maher  
Wai-Ning Mei

College of Business Administration (1) Darryll Lewis

College of Education (2) James Akers  
Josie Metal-Corbin

College of Fine Arts (1) Mary Caroline Simpson

College of Public Affairs & Community Service: Karl Kosloski, Henry D'Souza  
External Faculty (1): tba  
(Election to be held in March as per By-Laws)

Retiring Senators: The following senators will complete their term of service during the 2001-2002 academic year and will be honored with a plaque at the May 1st, Awards Banquet:

Wally Bacon 05/11/99 - 05/08/02  
Joong-Gun Chung 05/11/99 - 05/08/02 Ann Coyne 05/11/99 - 05/08/02

George Engelmann 05/11/99 - 05/08/02  
James Fawcett 09/13/00 - 05/08/02  
Richard File 05/11/99 - 05/08/02  
James Hagen 05/10/00 - 05/08/02  
Melodee Landis 05/11/99 - 05/08/02 Carol Mitchell 05/11/99 - 05/08/02  
Brigette Ryalls 08/01/01 - 05/08/02  
Jack Shroder 05/11/99 - 05/08/02  
Franklin Thompson, III 05/11/99 - 05/08/02  
Christopher Tuan 05/11/99 - 05/08/02  
Steven Williams 05/09/01 - 05/08/02  
Solomon Zhao 05/10/00 - 05/08/02

Secretary-Treasurer's Report: Senator Bruckner

Budget Report, February 2002 (agenda attachment page)

Executive Committee Report: Senator Coyne

Chancellor's Written Response to Senate Resolutions (agenda attachment - Pages

On behalf of the Executive Committee and Cabinet the following two resolutions will be moved:

Regarding Martha Bruckner:

Whereas Martha Bruckner is an esteemed colleague and friend;

Whereas Martha Bruckner has worked diligently and tirelessly for the benefit of the University of Nebraska at Omaha and the Faculty Senate;

Whereas Martha Bruckner has accepted a challenging position outside the University;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha thanks Martha for her years of dedicated service, and wishes her success in her new endeavors.

Survey of Graduate Day/Time/Place:

Whereas a number of issues regarding the location, day, and time of the University's graduation ceremony have arisen,

Whereas these issues have raised the possibility of altering the final exam schedule,

Whereas the preferences of students and faculty regarding these issues are largely unknown,

Be it resolved that a survey of the faculty via Blackboard will be conducted on behalf of the Senate by the Goals and Directions Committee.

Standing Committee Reports

Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs: Senator N. Bacon

Committee Report of February 27, 2002, meeting: (agenda attachment pages 15-16)

On behalf of the Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs, Senator N. Bacon will move the following three resolutions:

Resolution regarding deadline for selecting the CR/NC option

Whereas students considering the CR/NC option should make this decision based on a clear understanding of what a course entails,

Whereas gathering adequate information about the course may well require two class meetings (in other words, for most evening classes, two weeks),

Therefore be it resolved that the deadline for choosing the CR/NC option be changed to Tuesday of the third week of class.

Resolution regarding due date for grades

Whereas the registrar has proposed that the university set a single due date for grades, recommending that the date be set seven calendar days (excluding university shutdown days) after the last scheduled final exam,

Whereas this proposal is simpler and more convenient than the current system of staggered due dates for grades,

Therefore be it resolved that the due date for grades be set seven calendar days (excluding university shutdown days) after the last scheduled final exam.

Resolution regarding repeated courses:

Whereas the faculty senate has affirmed (in resolution 2604) that when a student repeats a course, the most recent grade is the most accurate assessment of his or her mastery of current course material and thus the grade most appropriate to calculate into the GPA,

Whereas the faculty senate has further affirmed (in resolution 2607) that for the special case of graduation with honors, every grade awarded should be included in the calculation,

Whereas students who have been unsuccessful in a course should be permitted to persist in seeking mastery of the course material,

Whereas students who have satisfactorily completed a course should be discouraged from repeating it more than once if, by doing so, they take seats needed by other students,

Whereas the Registrar should be given unambiguous direction regarding catalog copy in this respect,

Therefore be it resolved that the section in the undergraduate catalog now headed "Removal of 'D' or 'F' Grades from Grade Point Average" be revised as follows:

#### Repeating Courses

If a student with a grade of D+ or lower repeats the course, he or she may register through early registration. If a student with a grade of C- or higher opts to repeat a course, he or she may register through early registration only once (that is, for one repeat). For any subsequent repeat, the student may enroll only during the first week of class and with the permission of the instructor. Letter-graded courses must be repeated for a letter grade, and credit/no credit courses must be repeated for credit/no credit. All courses and grades will continue to be a part of the student's permanent academic record (transcript). When determining eligibility for graduation with honors, every grade awarded is computed into the GPA. For all other purposes, only the most recent grade earned in a course is computed into the GPA.

Committee on Educational Resources and Services: Senator O'Connell

Committee Report of February 27, 2002, meeting: (agenda attachment - pages  
Committee Report of February 27, 2002, meeting: (agenda attachment pages 16-17)

On behalf of the Committee on Educational Resources and Services, Senator O'Connell, will move the following resolution regarding Dean Searches:

WHEREAS UNO faculty feels that the role, responsibilities, and impact of faculty on the Dean search committees is unclear;

WHEREAS the Board of Regents by-laws and guidelines regarding Dean searches are brief and vague leading to a variety of interpretations and inconsistent application from one Dean search to the next;

WHEREAS the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs has not consistently followed the guidelines for the composition and conduct of the search committee or disseminated the guidelines to committee members; and

WHEREAS an inclusive and transparent search process encourages faculty participation;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha urges that:

the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs develop procedural guidelines for the selection and conduct of the Chair and members of the Dean search committees, such search guidelines define the role and responsibilities of the Chair and the search committee members as well as the legal and generally accepted steps in the search process, implemented search guidelines be followed consistently, and Dean search committees be coordinated out of the office of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.

Committee on Faculty Personnel and Welfare: Senator Shroder

Committee Report of February 27, 2002, meeting: (agenda attachment page 19)

On behalf of the Committee on Faculty Personnel and Welfare, Senator Shroder will move the following resolution regarding Part-Time Faculty:

Whereas, part-time faculty are an important resource for UNOmaha especially for teaching evening general education service courses, and

Whereas, current UNOmaha staff 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 thus uses base salary as a limiting factor in determining teaching opportunities for UNOmaha staff in teaching for administrative units other than units of their primary appointment, and

Whereas, the policy stated in University of Nebraska Executive Memorandum No. 19 is blatantly unfair and discriminatory toward lower paid UNOmaha staff employees who are potentially allowed to teach less than higher paid UNOmaha staff employees,

Be it resolved, UNOmaha Faculty Senate urges part-time instructors in administrative units who are university staff 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 modification of Executive Memorandum No. 19 so that overload assignments are not governed based on salary percentage.

Committee on Goals and Directions: Senator Hagen

Committee Report of February 27, 2002, meeting: (agenda attachment pages

Committee on Professional Development: Senator Engelmann

The committee met briefly on Feb. 27, 2002: to discuss the question of representation of the UNO Faculty Senate, as a member organization, at meetings of the Academic Freedom Coalition of Nebraska (AFCON). Based on his attendance of the February meeting, Senator Blair noted that AFCON has a number of ongoing activities that require continuity. Based on his suggestions the committee recommends that the president of the senate appoint a representative to AFCON from senate. The representative should be prepared to attend AFCON meetings, which are held monthly in Lincoln throughout the academic year. Senator Blair also observed that while UNL is represented in AFCON by a number of member organizations such as the UNL chapter of the AAUP, the faculty senate is the only body at UNO that is a member.

Committee on Rules: Senator File

On behalf of the Committee on Rules Senator File will move the following resolution regarding replacements on the University Committee on Research:

BE IT RESOLVED: that the following names go forward as three year appointments, from August 1, 2002, through July 31, 2005 on the on the University Committee on Research:

John McKenna (English) - Humanities position - replacing Jeremy Lipschultz  
Art Diamond (Economics) - Business Administration position - replacing Sufi Nazem  
Jeannette Seaberry (Counseling) - At-large position - replacing Donald Greer

Non-Senate Committee Reports

American Association of University Professors (AAUP): Senator Sadlek

AAUP/Faculty Senate Liaison Report: The Executive Committee met on 12 February 2002 and 26 February 2002. The main items of business were (1) on-going grievance activity related to Black Studies, (2) the administration's request to re-open the current contract to allow a roll-back of the negotiated 6% faculty raises for next year, (3) the administration's request to pay less than the contracted rate for under-enrolled summer courses, and (4) a faculty questionnaire in preparation for next year's collective bargaining. The questionnaires are completed and will be going out to the faculty in the very near future. On 28 February 2002, the entire chapter of the AAUP met to discuss a response to point #2 above. The consensus at the meeting seemed to be in favor of the position of the negotiating team, which is not to reopen negotiations.

Graduate Council: Senator Tom Bragg

Written Report: (date), minutes (agenda attachment)

Old Business

For the Good of the Order:

New Business

Announcements:

Awards Banquet: May 1, 2002, Cocktails: 6:30 pm, Dinner: 7 pm Next Faculty Senate Meeting: April10, 2pm., MBSC, Dodge Room

Adjourn.