
Wednesday, November 1, 2017, 2 p.m., ASH 196

Members: Adams, Arbelaez, Barone, Elder Grams, Landow, Miller, Nash, Robins,
Woody

- I. Official Call to Order:** Vice President Barone
- II. Presentation and Approval of Minutes:** October 4, 2017 (agenda attachment –pgs. 1-18)
- III. Officers' Reports**
 - A. President's Report:** Senator Grams

November 1, 2017

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for all the work you are doing each day to make UNO and its educational opportunities the best they can be. You have contributed to UNO's success as demonstrated in a few key measures: our 2016 first-year retention rate has risen to 77.9%, and the graduation rate rose a few points to 47%. Although this measure can be misleading given that some of our students will go on to graduate from other institutions, leading to an overall higher success rate for the students, I appreciate everything faculty are doing to make this happen and I think we can do even better. Our work in the classroom, on student advising, encouragement of student research, and development of meaningful experiential and co-curricular learning opportunities, all contributes to engaging and retaining successful students.

Before I summarize other recent events, I note that orders for graduation regalia via the Bookstore need to be placed by Friday, November 3, for faculty who need this to attend the December graduation. If you haven't been to graduation in a while, please consider attending. The experience at Baxter Arena is very nice, and the division of the ceremonies and procedures make it relatively easy for faculty to participate. Our presence is not only meaningful for students and their families but is an important part of the esprit de corps of our institution. However, I also understand that it is a time burden, especially with three graduations per year, and that not everyone has regalia. A few ideas for solution: rotate attendance around among the faculty in your unit, and share regalia with those who do not own it. My own smaller unit has two outfits – one shorter and one longer – that may be shared by whoever is able to attend the graduation.

The bad news about budget is that State finances are not improving, and cautionary measures taken to reserve 1% of budget likely will be continued through the third and

fourth quarters. The good news is that UNO has been spared cuts to its academic enterprise, perhaps due to its overall very lean base budget and the operations-side savings that are resulting from the BRT efforts. However, the BRT implementation is subject to review, as we saw when proposed changes to leave were postponed temporarily and will be studied further (these would have affected UNO staff and a few faculty, and most faculty and staff on other campuses). In addition, the future probably holds more budget concerns, barring unforeseen improvements or windfall. Your input is very important and we are glad to serve as the conduit, so please contact your Faculty Senate representative or me with any suggestions.

You have already heard about changes to some of UNO and UNMC's administrative structure. I will serve on the hiring committee for the shared Vice Chancellor for Business, Finance, and Economic Development, beginning at the end of November. In addition, some changes in the leadership of NARI have been made, and Dr. James Linder now assumes that leadership role.

The Transition Advisory Council – which advises Chancellor Gold on his transition to the leadership of UNO – has held its 5th meeting and is preparing to conclude its work, while the Transition Advisory Team (a larger group with similar purpose) has a few more meetings scheduled. The focus of the TAC has turned to some strategic planning. A new UNO strategic plan is now available (see <https://www.unomaha.edu/strategic-plan/index.php>). Accordingly, I have been working with the Standing Committees, the UNO Student Government, and other campus groups to ensure that the Senate is moving forward on projects that pertain to all of the four strategic goals. As you read through our Senate agenda, you see that the committees are hard at work on a wide range of issues. I want to thank them for their dedication and investment of time and effort. We are eager to hear from faculty who have suggestions about any of the topics discussed in the Senate agenda, or who would like to propose issues we have not yet considered.

Thank you to the many units and individuals who have invited me to meet with them, hear faculty suggestions and concerns, and answer questions. The invitation is still open, so if your unit would like to me to drop by a department meeting, or if any other groups or individuals would like to consult, please email me or get in touch with Sue Bishop.

For those of you on the Senate, now is the time to think about leadership roles for next year. These roles are important for the flourishing of the Senate and of UNO generally, and their challenges are also rewarding and educational. If I can answer questions about any of them, please contact me.

For those of you not on the Senate, please think about running to be your College's representative. We have an excellent group that is doing important work, and we try to be as efficient as possible with meetings. Your time will not be wasted, you will develop great relationships with colleagues across the university, and you will be making a difference on matters you consider important to UNO and its faculty.

Finally, one of the most important things happening over the past month is that conversations about how to respond to student concerns and encourage student retention and success are actively in progress. The UNO Student Government, as you

will see in the current and past Senate agendas, has passed a few different resolutions that deal with concerns about receiving more information, more timely feedback, and more engagement from faculty. We know that faculty are also under more time pressure than ever, and that the responsibilities assigned to part-time and full-time faculty can make these matters challenging. However, UNO's mission of transforming and improving the quality of life, along with our goal of "ensuring a supportive and invigorating environment in which all of our students can thrive and grow", demands that we continue striving to encourage student success. This is my priority issue over the next few months, as we find creative ways to maximize our resources and efforts toward helping students achieve academic excellence. As ever, I would love to hear from you about these topics, and other matters for the Senate, so please do not hesitate to email, call, or visit me soon.

B. Secretary/Treasurer Report: Senator Landow

1. EC&A: October 18, 2017

Chancellor Comments:

The Chancellor indicated that he thought the questions asked at the last faculty senate meeting were right on target. Two areas of questioning that he is pursuing: NARI, which he wants to become an asset for UNO. He said that he is confident in Dr. Jim Linder and hopes he can make it work for UNO. And the question that came up regarding merger, and why we aren't talking about an actual merger. He intends to contact the questioner and discuss the matter more specifically.

Resolution 4279 – Grievance Committee Summer Compensation

The Chancellor asked if it was possible to pause the clock so the faculty committees did not need to work in the summer. SVC Reed suggested that the resolution be put off for 30 days in order to further study the issue.

Discussion of Shared Governance Resolution:

Items B, C, D – additional information will be forthcoming on all three of these issues.

B. Classroom Space Availability

An Analysis of Classroom Times & Patterns has been mentioned. There is a need to follow up on results and any effects of prime time policy.

C. Parking

D. Retention Data

Discussion of Resolution 4311, Academic Freedom & Tenure Committee.

No relevant discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15.

(Student Government resolution is under New Business.)

**2017-2018 Resolution Action Table
(Action Pending and Current Resolutions)**

Res. #	Date Senate Passed	Title	Admin Accept	Sent for Senate Action	Denied	Deferred	In Progress	Final Action/Resolved
4311	10/11/17	Completed: Academic Freedom & Tenure Comm.	10/18/17					Acknowledged
TO BE FOLLOWED UP								
4282	3/8/17	Expenses Associated with Visas for International Hires	4/19/17					<i>SVC Reed explained the process for UNO paying for legal costs involved. These issues are usually handled by department chairs and personnel. Costs can't be nailed down, since they vary by who is involved. BJ Reed said he would ask for a one page description of the process made available to faculty.</i>
4279	12/14/16	Grievance Committees Summer Compensation	12/21/16 3/15/17 4/19/17					<i>- SVC Reed says they may need more information. It is a workload issue as much as a compensation issue. Let's have further discussion. - BJ reiterated that summer pay is not likely to happen, as faculty select a variety of service opportunities. Regarding the three grievance committees, he feels that faculty select this type of service, similar to how faculty choose to serve on thesis committee. Chancellor Christensen said these type of issues, like summer grievance committee work, seldom occur. He is also apprehensive of</i>

								<i>anyone who has service in the summer wanting compensation. Some service such as FS President and IRB receive workload compensation.</i>
CARRIED FORWARD								

2. Treasurer’s Report: Senator Landow (October 2017) (agenda attachment – pg. 19)

IV. Standing Committee Reports

A. Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs: Senator Miller

The Committee met Wednesday, October 25, 2017.
 Present: Connie Schaffer, Stan Wileman, Burch Kealey, Craig Maher, Kelly MacArthur and Holly Miller

There were two agenda items for this meeting.

The first agenda item was to continue the discussion of students need for adequate and timely feedback on assigned coursework. Last month committee members decided a method for securing data to determine if students feel they are or aren’t getting adequate and timely feedback was needed. Research was shared and the decision was made to pursue the addition of one question to the automated course evaluations (ACE) which are completed by students at the end of each semester. The current ACE has questions that address adequate feedback, but it doesn’t have a question that directly addresses the timeliness of feedback. Discussion ensued. Committee members agreed that a resolution was needed and voted unanimously to confirm the following resolution:

RESOLUTION: ACE Question Regarding Timely Feedback for Students

WHEREAS a student-centered goal of the University of Nebraska at Omaha is to prepare students for academic success, and

WHEREAS the faculty has the duty “to enroll, teach, and evaluate the work of students ...”, and

WHEREAS the Student Government of the University of Nebraska at Omaha has expressed through a resolution a desire for the faculty to give timely feedback to students reporting on the evaluation of their work,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate recommends to the UNO administration that the Automated Course Evaluation (ACE) include the following item in the Assessment and Evaluation section as the second item:

“Feedback on examinations/graded material was timely.”

The second agenda item focused on the need for faculty members to be involved in any decisions made about academic teaching tools. We operate within a four campus system, so we know some decisions need to be made for efficiency, however teaching tool decisions should have faculty input. Two examples were discussed. Committee members were asked to be observant and pay close attention to situations where our professional expertise matters and/or decisions that may impact on our teaching practices. This topic will be revisited in the future if more examples surface.

In the new business portion of the agenda opinions were expressed supporting the need for Faculty Senate to be fully involved in all university matters connected to teaching. The Five Year Digital Learning Strategic Plan was used as an example. The Faculty Senate is only listed as a partner in one goal of this plan and committee members felt that the Faculty Senate should have input in all goals linked to digital learning. If any senator has a concern linked to this issue, they are invited to share their concern with Stan Wileman who is serving as the Faculty Senate representative to the Technical Resource Committee.

Also in the new business portion of the meeting the chair shared a student government resolution (SR 16/17) that was sent to her as a possible assignment for the A & C A committee. The chair suggested the resolution should go to the EC&C. Committee members offered comments and stated that they supported the decision to send the resolution to the EC&C. Below are the committee members’ three concerns about this student government resolution:

1. There was a strong objection to the words “in collaboration with the Faculty Senate” stated in the “Therefore be it resolved” paragraph. Members did not feel that the full senate has been part of this collaboration.
2. The actions encouraged in the “Therefore be it resolved” paragraph fall under course management or course content and this request infringes on academic freedom.
3. The final paragraph, “Be it further resolved,” speaks to adding a question to ACE. Student Government has no say in the process of what questions are included in ACE.

Several issues were discussed in the “For the Good of the Order” portion of this meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:41 p.m.

PENDING:

1. Student Government Resolution for Timely Feedback from Faculty

Senator Kealey asked the Senate to address the Student Government Resolution to have all faculty give timely feedback to students. This discussion expanded to also include faculty member’s use of learning management systems and adherence to professional expectations.

Senator Elder stated that the Faculty Senate owes Student Government a response and attention to the SG Resolution.

(Sent to A&CA 4/12/17) (AC&A report 4/26/17 for to discuss)

B. Committee on Educational Resources & Services: Senator Robins

PENDING:

- 1. Canvas and UNIZEN dashboard availability.** *The EC&C, on 6/7/17, sent this to the Educational Resources & Services Committee.*
- 2. Student Accommodation Letters.** *10/2017:* To assist us in understanding current practices, Senator Robins invited Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Cathy Pettid to a future committee meeting. She will attend the October 25, 2017 meeting. She also sent along a few questions for clarification of our needs and interests which we discussed. A follow-up email with our topics of interest and concern was sent to AVC Pettid.
- 3. Request for Travel Authorization and Purchase of Travel.** *10/2017:* Senator Robins briefly reported on having located the source of the document used by UNO titled "Request for Travel Authorization and Purchase of Travel." At a future meeting we will discuss suggestions for additions to this document to assist faculty in identifying the need for and for purchasing travel insurance.

C. Committee on Faculty Personnel & Welfare: Senator Elder

The Committee met October 25, 2017.

Present: John Noble, Tammie Kennedy, Pauline Brennan and Griff Elder

Excused absence: Marshall Prisbell and Dale Tiller.

Guests: Joe Brown and Jim Shaw

We met with Joe Brown and Jim Shaw, representing AAUP, to talk about uncompensated summer work for faculty on 9 month contracts. We wanted to know whether the topic had come up during contract negotiations, and how the issue had been framed.

They agreed that Grievance Committee service is its own category, given the rigid timeline, and the fact that it is the responsibility of the administration to make sure that the policies and procedures including the timelines are followed.

We discussed another category of service that occurs at department or college request and is associated with infrequent events like accreditation/departmental review. Faculty sometime feel that they can't say 'no' even though, the responsibility spills into the summer months. Joe and Jim plan to write an article on this topic for the AAUP newsletter that will explain what is under the contract vs. what isn't and thus becomes a point of negotiation with chairs/deans.

We also discussed that fact that in our profession it is normal for faculty to work on their research straight through every summer, and on most weekends, and the fact that there isn't any good way to account for this under the contract.

Next Month, we have invited Farrah Grant, Sarah Burke (Sustainability Coordinator) and Kevin Jones (Transportation Coordinator) to talk with us about transportation issues at UNO, and the 2015 Report:

<https://www.unomaha.edu/sustainability/center-for-urban-sustainability/docs/UNO-transportation-study.pdf>

[Enhancing Transportation Demand Management Options at the ...](#)

www.unomaha.edu

1 Enhancing Transportation Demand Management Options at the University of Nebraska at Omaha: The Costs, Benefits and Challenges of Implementation

PENDING:

1. **Sorority Rush during the week before class in the H&K building. 10/2017**

This issue was brought up at EC&A on Wed Sept 20. BJ Reed says that this issue has been assigned to Dan Shipp. John Noble is following up with Dan Shipp.

2. **HPER Fees. 10/2017:** On Mon Sept 18, there was an initial faculty/staff wellness-based incentive program meeting in EAB 202 organized by Dan Shipp. Attending: Dan Shipp, Cathy Pettid, Joe Kaminski, Jeanne Surface, Griff Elder, Cecil Hicks, Carol Kirchner, and Esther Scarpello.

The group met to discuss how UNO could develop and pilot a wellness-based incentive program for faculty/staff. The wellness program needs still to be worked out—both programmatically and financially. But roughly, the idea is that, UNO would offer a pilot program that would partially reimburse the cost of a HPER membership based upon member usage and participation in specific wellness program elements. Tentatively, the financial incentive might be as much as a \$100 reimbursement of the \$150 per semester HPER membership fee. Details have to still be worked out. The working goal is to offer this pilot program starting in January (but if not January, then the following August-2018).

The working group plans to meet every two weeks. The first meeting will discuss the requirements for reimbursement.

I have been asked to put together a Faculty Senate Focus Group that this working group can consult.

3. **Summer Creep. 10/2017 cont.: RESOLUTION 4279, 12/14/16: Grievance Committees Summer Compensation**

While most of us are on 9 month contracts, many uncompensated service obligations require summer participation. Members on the committee have their own anecdotal accounts of what we perceive to be a trend. We are hoping to discuss this topic with the AAUP, so that we can begin to connect some of the dots. We have contacted AAUP. The topic is on their agenda for Friday October 6, 2017.

RESOLUTION 4279, 12/14/16: Grievance Committees Summer Compensation

4. **Faculty/Staff Safety Processes.** 10/2017 cont.: Dr. Gina Toman has been named Faculty Human Resources Officer and Assistant to the Senior Vice Chancellor. She begins her new role on October 11.

We are interested in the administration developing a website similar to the Student Safety Website.

Note: We felt that the following site makes a good model:

<http://academicpersonnel.unc.edu/faculty-policies-procedures-guidelines/>

We expect Gina Toman will help us address the request that there be a flow-chart that will help faculty understand and negotiate the many resources that are available: Ombudsperson, EAP person, counseling, BRT, etc. What information is confidential, etc. This “flowchart” may manifest itself in the form of the website mentioned above.

D. Committee on Goals and Directions: Senator Arbelaez

The Committee met October 25, 2017 at 2.30 p.m.

Present: Richard Stacey, Dan Hawkins, Bradley Bereitschaft, Christopher Kelly, Hamid Sharif-Kashani, Maria Arbelaez

Guests: Omar Correa, Enrollment Management and Hank Robison, Institutional Effectiveness

1. We met with Omar Correa and Hank Robinson. Both presented data on retention and discussed the steps they are taking toward improvement. UNO had record enrollment this fall. Over 50 percent of it is first generation population. For these students there are many roadblocks to achievement. Among these are students’ full time employment and inadequate academic preparation for college. Correa estimates that more aggressive recruitment techniques will result in better retention. UNO is working with area and state public and private schools to attract more students. New dorms have aided recruitment but there is much more progress needed. In the same way, networks to support student learning and help them continue are insufficient to address the need. Mention of budget cuts that closed the learning center and first year experience had a negative impact on retention.

Students who do not score aptly for college algebra directed to take the class at Metro. There is consideration of other courses that constitute early barriers to retention and success in the sciences and humanities. In the case of English Composition, they are making headways toward significant improvement.

In all, progress has been taking place toward retention. Not in ideal numbers but small headways made.

2. In relation to True MavValues Initiative we suggest the following addition:

Truth

We uphold the responsibility and freedom to search for truth in our academic pursuits.

Pending:

1. **Facilities Planning and Faculty Representation** (*Sent to G&D 2/10/16*) – As important and continuous decisions are made regarding facilities planning on campus, we would like to see more faculty involvement in these plans, and be allowed frequent opportunities to engage in discussion with administration about facilities planning. The one committee the Faculty Senate is aware of is the University Committee on Facilities Planning, which typically meets once a year. The University Committee on Technology Resources, Services & Planning meets more frequently, but its primary focus is on the technology needs of the campus. In a previous meeting Goals & Directions met with Deb Smith-Howell to address administrative communication and questions about the University's Strategic Plan and the Faculty Senate's part in that process. We discussed the possibility of a more regular liaison with Dr. Smith-Howell with a representative from the F.S. Goals and Directions Committee that could increase the level of communication and information in this area.
2. **Unit Based Recruiting:** (*Sent to G&D 8/17/16*) This item has focused on how individual departments may contribute to the recruitment and retention of students in better pursuit of the University's enrollment goals. Goals and Directions temporarily tabled this item and it will remain on our *Pending* list.
3. The UNO Admin responded to Resolution 4285, 5/10/2017: **Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)** with plans to draft guidelines for faculty. EC&A would appreciate members of the FacSen committee (e.g. Dan Hawkins et al) staying closely in touch with Student Affairs (Dan Shipp, Jonathan Benjamin-Alvarado) and the CFE to review and collaborate. (*Sent to G&D to keep in touch 6/7/17*).
4. **Soliciting Faculty Insights on UNO's Leadership Transition.** (*The EC&C, on 6/7/17, sent this to the Goals & Directions Committee.*)

5. **Mav Creed**

The following was submitted to the UNO Faculty Senate. Attached below it is the resolution from Student Government, a note that the Staff Advisory Council will also pass a favorable resolution, and the Mav Values Document. The UNO EC&C, on 6/7/2017, forwarded this item to the Goals & Directions Committee for discussion at the August 16, 2017, Retreat.

On Mar 31, 2017, at 8:32 AM, Philip Covington
<pcovington@unomaha.edu> wrote:

Faculty Senate, Staff Advisory Council, and Student Government:

Over the course of about 18 months, a university task force took on the task of creating a document that captures the essence of what it means to be a UNO Maverick. The task force included members appointed by Faculty Senate, Staff Advisory Council, and Student Government. Data was gathered from nearly 900 members of the university community, with special attention given to garnering feedback from individuals in under-represented groups.

Six primary themes emerged from the analysis of the data and the task force worked to briefly define each, intentionally weaving in language from the raw data. Those six statements form the core of the Maverick values document. These

community standards serve as a foundation for mutual expectations of engaging one another within this university community and with our partners beyond.

It is our pleasure to forward the document to you and ask for your formal support of its tenets before we advance it to the Chancellor's Cabinet for final approval.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dr. Dan Shipp, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs & Enrollment Management and

Dr. Phil Covington, Senior Director of Student Life and Chair of the Defining the Maverick Experience Task Force

Student Government Resolution:

WHEREAS, the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) is committed to creating distinctive values that all faculty, staff, administration, and students should follow, and;

WHEREAS, beginning in 2015, a taskforce of people from all areas of campus conducted and analyzed survey data, brainstormed ideas, and created a finalized document featuring the values that all UNO members should engage in and expect from others, and;

WHEREAS, two surveys were utilized to determine initial ideas for why students came to UNO, what they like about UNO, and whether they are proud to be a Maverick, and;

WHEREAS, there was data collected from close to 900 members of the UNO community, and there was a primary focus on reaching underrepresented individuals, and;

WHEREAS, after analyzing the data, the taskforce realized that the UNO community was lacking a creed to clearly define what it meant to be a Maverick and the Maverick experience, and;

WHEREAS, through extensive work, the taskforce, with assistance by University Communications and Dr. Dan Shipp, created a Maverick Value document listing the specific values as well as a statement noting that these values must be integrated in order to have an impact.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Student Government of the University of Nebraska at Omaha (SG-UNO) supports the Maverick Value document that better defines what it means to be a Maverick and its integration into the University system and communities beyond.

Staff Advisory Council: On April 11, 2017, Staff Advisory Council voted unanimously to pass a resolution in support of the document spelling out what it means to be a UNO Maverick.

Below is the Mav Values Document:

We the students, faculty and staff of the University of Nebraska Omaha (UNO) hold the following community values to be the foundation of our identity as Mavericks.

As Mavericks, we commit daily to advance and support our community values:

Authenticity

We stay true to our authentic selves and respect the unique and shared histories of the other members of our community.

Integrity

We strive to make sure our words are consistently reflected in our actions and treatment of others.

Inclusion

We are committed to cultivating a campus climate that welcomes and supports people of all cultures, beliefs, identities, and backgrounds.

Service

We engage in service with others to improve the lives of individuals throughout the Omaha metro area, state and beyond.

Resilience

We rise above difficult challenges through hard work and courageous determination.

Achievement

We accomplish our individual and shared goals by reaching high personal and professional levels of excellence.

We realize that these values are only words until we integrate them into our individual and shared actions. We commit to advancing these values as Mavericks at UNO, in the greater Omaha community, and beyond.

6. Parking Changes and Parking for Adjunct (Part Time and Temporary) Faculty:

Link for reference: <https://www.unomaha.edu/news/2017/04/parking-changes-coming-to-campus.php>

Part-time permit options.

- *Night Only Surface Permit – after 2:30 P.M.*
- *Lot T \$5 Entry - Weeks 2-16 of Fall/Spring Semesters (all-day)*
- *Daily/Hourly Permit Options \$1-4*
- *Reduced fee West or Pacific Street Garage Permit - \$200 Annually*
- *\$3 after 12:30 P.M. in the East Garage Lots U and T only.*
- *Lot 26 (no permit required with free limited shuttle service)*

E. Professional Development: Senator ~~Adams~~ or ~~Nordman~~

The Committee met October 25, 2017.

Senators present: Julie Blaskewicz Boron, Melissa Cast-Brede, Russ Nordman

Excused absences: Travis Adams, Zhigang Feng, Victor Winter

Those present used today's meeting as a work session for the questionnaire we would like to send to the Deans. It is our hope that this questionnaire will give us a clearer picture campus-wide on how the colleges evaluate and rank fellowship applications.

Over the course of the next month we will continue to fine-tune the document. In our November meeting we hope to create the questionnaire using Qualtrics.

PENDING:**1. Faculty Professional Development Leave policies/procedures: Given a**

growing number of questions and concerns about this issue, our committee will be gathering information (policies/procedures) at all levels (regents, university, colleges, departments) and comparing those documents in order to explore questions, including:

- a. Can faculty get a full year of leave if waiting until 12 years of service instead of at 6 years?
- b. What are the earning restrictions while on leave (sabbatical)?
- c. What documents govern how leave is prioritized/awarded?
- d. What are the criteria for leave across colleges/departments? How consistent are these?
- e. Who all reviews and/or weighs in on these decisions?

What language does the AAUP contract have regarding leave/sabbatical?

F. Committee on Rules: Senator Nash

PENDING:

1. The Committee continues to review which Campus & University committees require participants who also serve on the Faculty Senate, and which committees might be served by representatives from the faculty at large.

V. Other Faculty Senate Committees

A. Faculty Senate Budget Advisory Committee Report: Prof. Hall, Maher, O'Hara

VI. Ad hoc Committees

A. Ad hoc UNO-UNMC Faculty-to-Faculty Communication and Collaboration Committee: Professor Sollars

Members:

Timi Barone	Dhundy Bastola	Elizabeth Beam
Catherine Bebhart	Emily Glenn	Craig Maher
Amarnath Natarajan	Debra Reilly (<i>UNMC alternate</i>)	Eleanor Rogan
Connie Schaffer	Destynie Sewell	Mark Shriver
Suzanne Sollars	Adam Tyma	Glenda Woscyna

The Committee met November 1, 2017, and unanimously passed the following resolution and asked that it be passed to the UNO and UNMC Executive Committees for their consideration.

RESOLUTION: UNO/UNMC Communication and Collaboration

WHEREAS, UNO and UNMC have a rich history of collaborative efforts; and

WHEREAS, University leadership, the Omaha philanthropic community, faculty, and students seek opportunities to enhance direct campus-to-campus conversations to leverage our intellectual capital; and

WHEREAS, these conversations and collaborations lead to new discoveries and

creative activities that have significant impact within our community; and

WHEREAS, programs are most successful when barriers to collaboration are removed, with benefits of removing these barriers far outweighing the costs,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the UNO/UNMC ad hoc Faculty Communication and Collaboration Committee recommends the following actions:

1. Investigate and publicly report on library resources that might be shared among the two institutions to provide both physical and virtual access to research materials for faculty and students who wish to collaborate.
2. Provide reciprocal parking on the UNO and UNMC campuses; when UNO and UNMC faculty visit the other school, they be allowed to use their permits to park in the faculty lot of the same classification, and when students from either school visit the other school, they be allowed to use their permits to park in student lots of the same classification. Increase parking availability for guests associated with collaborative efforts.
3. Provide shuttle services to transport faculty and students to the other campus, reducing the time needed for travel/parking and increasing opportunities to connect in person.

VII. Non-Senate Committee Reports

A. Digital Learning Directors Meetings: Senator Cast-Brede

September 11, 2017, Meeting.

Topics included:

- Faculty Liaisons for Instructional Design – find the list of liaisons on this page (click on Faculty Liaisons in red on top list): <https://www.unomaha.edu/academics/online-learning.php>
- iLos trainings – UNO’s new fully accessible video platform. Trainings cover different features within iLos and range from introductory to more in-depth conversations about ways to incorporate iLos into teaching.
- Spring 2017 Digital Education Strategic Plan – report was shared ahead of time and highlights were discussed during the meeting.
- Health/vaccination holds – Suzanne Withem (Coordinator of Digital Learning) has had some initial conversations here at UNO and Dr. Lindburg is looking at how UNL has automated their process. This information will allow us to advocate for processes that might better serve virtual students.
- Digital Education BRT – the document summary has been requested, but at this time, it is not available for distribution. It will be shared upon availability.

October 2, 2017, Meeting.

Topics included:

- iLos demo and reminder about upcoming training opportunities.
- Upcoming Canvas trainings (incentivized and other). Participants may apply to receive \$100.00 stipends to attend all day Canvas training (only one stipend per

- applicant).
- InsideTrack Report (Inside Track conducted a needs assessment which examined:
 - How perspective student leads are generated and converted.
 - How NU Online can most effectively support this work.
 - Passion and dedication to the mission was identified as a core strength.
 - More clarification and training regarding faculty/staff roles was identified as a need.
- Open Educational Resources presentation from Assistant Professor, Megan Salisbury (Criss Library).
- Testing Center expanded hours in Fall 2017.
 - Respondus use –Secure browser that prevents students from accessing other URL’s or applications while testing.
- Listing online minors and improved recommendation of program availability online/evening/in-person.
- Hybrid courses began Fall 2018.

VIII. Unfinished Business

PENDING

A. Participation in UNO Faculty Senate (*Fall 2016 to EC&C Pending*)

Need to encourage and strengthen participation on UNO Faculty Senate.

1. One possibility might be to change the FS Constitution
2. Discussions with Colleges
3. Go to Chairperson mentor(s)?
4. Go to Board of Chairs

How to Encourage Faculty to Serve on the Faculty Senate: Informal data collection by the committee of approximately 40 UNO faculty members has generally revealed that *Service* of this nature tends to be acknowledged with little payoff compared to the perceived time commitment associated with governance. There is also a great deal of misinformation about the time obligations; nevertheless, most of the faculty we talked to showed little interest in this service even after we answered questions. The Goals and Directions Committee is now discussing ways to help the departments incentivize Faculty Senate and other University service opportunities by increasing by better recognizing the value of this service in ways such as higher Merit rankings on Annual Review, etc. (*The EC&C asked, on 6/7/17, that this be discussed at the 8/16/17 FS Retreat.*)

B. Change Start Time of UNO Faculty Senate Meetings?

On 6/7/17 the EC&C suggested this be discussed at the 8/16/17 FS Retreat.

At the 8/16/17 Faculty Senate Retreat there was brief consideration of potential benefits and drawbacks to convening Faculty Senate meetings 15 or 30 minutes later. The matter was left to the Executive Committee to gather relevant data from Institutional Effectiveness, and report back.

On 9/7/17 information was received from Thomas Walker, MAcc, Business Analyst, Office of Institutional Effectiveness, that “A majority of courses” (for all faculty) “are ending between 2 and 3 o’clock (14:00 and 15:00, respectively). The 4pm to

6pm timeslot is your best shot to have the least amount of faculty affected.

C. Parking at UNO

- *On 9/25, Vanessa Rath, Parking Services Manager, noted that Faculty/staff Pacific Street Garage permits will be able to park in the West Garage on Dodge Campus. Day/Night permits can park anytime, Night only (after 2:30pm) will not be valid in either garage until after that time. This will be valid for the 2017/18 academic year only.*
- Faculty Senate meeting parking, for Scott Campus senators, in CEC parking lot when there is no large Community event scheduled was questioned. Both President Grams and Chancellor Gold will look into this. (FS mtg. 10/11/17)

D. Classroom Space Availability

An Analysis of Classroom Times & Patterns has been mentioned. There is a need to follow up on results and any effects of prime time policy.

IX. Good of the Order

X. New Business

A. President-Elect Eligibility for 12/13/17 Election (agenda attachment – pg. 20)

B. Student Success & Retention

1. From T. Hank Robinson, director, Office of Institutional Effectiveness: “One of the better reports OIE produces on retention and completion can be found in UNO’s institutional archive, Digital Commons. Here’s the link to the ‘2016 Student Outcomes Report:’
<https://digitalcommons.unomaha.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1026&context=oeassessment>. “
2. **Student Government Resolution SR 16/17:
COURSE FEEDBACK AND GRADING REQUIREMENTS**
(received UNO Faculty Senate office 10/24/17)

WHEREAS, the University of Nebraska at Omaha is committed to offering the best educational experience and cognitive growth for students, and;

WHEREAS, many students feel that the current standard and time it takes for some faculty to return graded homework assignments and provide feedback is inadequate and detrimental to their educational development, and;

WHEREAS, studies show that students who receive grades and feedback throughout the semester perform better and are more likely to reenroll next semester than those who don’t, and;

WHEREAS, by encouraging faculty to enter in grades and provide feedback in an adequate amount of time, we create a culture of mutual accountability

and open lines of communication for discussions regarding progress in the class between students and faculty- bettering the educational experience for all, and;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that SG-UNO in collaboration with the Faculty Senate, encourage faculty to provide grades or other forms of feedback at least one (1) week before the drop date, and a minimum of 10 days before midterms and finals.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a question will be added in course evaluations at the end of the semester, asking students to rate the professor's timeliness of returned work- ensuring that the standard we are attempting to set is attempting to be achieved by our faculty members.

C. Mobile App Project: Senator Grams

XI. Adjourn

XII. Announcements

A. Faculty Senate Mtg.: Wednesday, November 8, 2017, 2 p.m., CEC 230/231
Speaker: SVC BJ Reed

B. EC&A Mtg: Wednesday, November 15, 2017, 2 p.m., EAB 200

C. EC&C Mtg: Wednesday, December 6, 2017, 2 p.m., ASH 196

Schedule for 2017-2018	
EC&C Meetings (Usually 1 st Wednesday of month) (ASH 196)	Faculty Senate Meetings (Usually 2 nd Wednesday of month) (Usually in CEC 230/231)
	June
*July 12	July
*August 9	August 16, 2017 (Retreat) (3 rd Wednesday) (Classes begin 8/21/17)
September 6	September 13
October 4	October 11
November 1	November 8
December 6 (Prep Week)	December 13 (Finals Week) (Commencement 12/15)
*January 10 (Semester Begins 1/8/18)	*January 17
February 7	February 14
March 7	March 14 (Spring Break 3/18-25)
April 4	April 11
May 2 (4/30 – 5/3 Finals) (Commencement 5/4)	May 9