Attendees: Adkins, Anderson, Bacon, Corcoran, Glaser, Randall, Shaw, Skreija, Watson

I. The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m.

II. The minutes of the October 5, 2005, Executive Committee & Cabinet meeting were approved.

III. Officers’ Reports

A. President’s Report: Senator Glaser

1. Enrollment Management Services Committee meeting was held October 11, 2005. Cicotello reported on two student surveys. Generally, students expect internships, service-learning, community engagement, to learn more about diversity and have diverse experiences. The other survey looked at students who did not matriculate but who were admitted to UNO. UNO will hire a part-time Native-American recruiter and a new Latino/a recruiter. Multi-cultural recruitment day was held on 10/21/05. There are 122 National Merit Scholars in Nebraska. Rosalie Saltzman is trying to recruit them. There was a World-Herald Fall College Fair section at the end of October.

2. Executive Committee and Administration meeting was held October 19, 2005. Resolution 2807 was acknowledged (regarding in-state tuition for Iowa residents in the three counties within the metropolitan area). The Chancellor informed us that there is steep opposition to offering in-state tuition to out-of-state residents in the legislature. Wade Robinson is putting together a proposal which includes some differential tuition, but not full in-state tuition. The administration accepted the other resolutions (R2801 and R2804 regards committee nominations; R2805 regards formation of an ad-hoc committee to clarify procedures of the Faculty Grievance Committee; R2806 regards faculty use of students’ social security numbers). We also discussed the four faculty senate presidents’ upcoming meeting with President Milliken and the special Board of Regents’ meeting about the Chili Greens property and UNO housing.

3. Four Faculty Senate Presidents’ met on October 19, 2005, in York, Nebraska and agreed on five agenda items to bring up with President Milliken:
1) Faculty representation on the state PK-16 education committee (UNK)
2) Encouraging the meeting of the University-wide benefits committee (all)
3) Domestic partnership benefits (all)
4) Diversity money (all)
5) Stem cell research (UNMC)

4. Special Board of Regents meeting was held October 21, 2005. The Board of Regents approved conveyance of the Chili Greens property. Most of the meeting concerned new UNO housing and where the housing might be located. The Regents want more information regarding the master plan for the 11/11 board meeting. They will vote on the housing proposal at that meeting.

5. Chancellor’s Council met on Thursday, October 27. Much of this meeting was about the above-mentioned Board of Regents meeting. We also talked about the state senators’ visit to UNO on 10/31 regarding LB 605 (funding for improvement and expansion of facilities on all four campuses). Senator Shaw took over for the second half of the meeting so that I could go to the meeting with President Milliken. An architect has been working on plans for expanding the HPER building. Funding will be acquired from student fees. Attendance at the ABC Breakfasts has declined considerably over the past few years. Associate Vice Chancellor John Fiene showed an Educause video which addressed network security breakdowns at George Mason University and the University of Maryland--Baltimore County. The lapses were bad, with thousands of personnel and student records copied by intruders, and the universities had to spend several hundred thousand dollars repairing the damage. Mr. Fiene encouraged the Deans to start thinking about what systems their colleges run and to identify files which contain sensitive information. Assistant Vice-Chancellor Rita Henry is coordinating efforts to provide assistance to the University of New Orleans (the other UNO). Hurricane T-shirts have been designed and will be available for $10.00. Coin donation boxes will soon appear at cashier's counters around campus. The Salvation Army has contacted UNO and asked for assistance in finding volunteer bell ringers for the holiday season. Vice-Chancellor Christensen reported that a differential tuition proposal for Mills, Pottawattamie, and Harrison Counties in Iowa will be sent to President Milliken. The proposal will ask that Iowa residents in those counties pay 110% of in-state tuition. This amount remains about $50.00 lower than Iowa's public universities. Dr. Christensen anticipates that the program needs to generate about 2000 credit hours to break even.

6. NU President’s Meeting with Four Senate Presidents was held October 27, 2005. Regarding the five items on our agenda:
   1) He wasn’t sure how feasible or useful it would be to have a faculty member on the state PK-16 education committee. This committee is a steering committee that sets general direction and the nuts-and-bolts work will be done by faculty (and others).
   2) The U-wide benefits committee has met this semester. Milliken wants our input about how often they should meet and what they should do. We expressed that we want them to meet more than not at all (which has been
the case in the last two years). Right now the administration is informing this committee about what is going on from their perspective. There is an opportunity for faculty to set the agenda for future meetings.

3) Milliken believes that our best arguments for domestic partnership benefits will be about competition, both with our peers and with the private knowledge industry. This might be an item we want the U-wide benefit committee to take up.

4) Milliken stated that diversity funding has not come from the legislature but through re-allocation. He intends to continue it.

5) He didn’t think there was much to do about stem cell research. UNMC is doing as much as it can within Bush’s guidelines.

Much of our meeting with Milliken had to do with prioritization and assessment. There was consensus among the faculty senate presidents that prioritization has been a problem, often hurts faculty morale, takes up an inordinate amount of time for little funding, that it needs to be revisited so that more programs can get a chance at priority funding, and that prioritization needs to coincide with larger issues the university is facing (i.e. a growing Latino/a population). Milliken generally agreed. He said the Regents expect the prioritization to be updated and monitored and he is very concerned about making sure the Latino/a population increase their presence in the NU system. There was also consensus from the faculty senate presidents that assessment is a necessary part of higher education and that we need to figure out a way to do it effectively but so that it does not become a burden on the faculty. He also warned us that there will be another layer of assessment coming at us. We did not ask him about this.

A. Treasurer’s Report: Senator Shaw presented the October 2005 budget report.

IV Standing Committee Reports

A. Committee on Educational Resources and Services: Senator Watson reported the committee met on 26 October. Senators Watson, Shaw, Williams, Ortman, and Thorp, and Lanyce Keel (ITS Representative), were in attendance. There was one agenda item: preparation for the ER&S focus groups on course evaluations on 2, 3, and 4 November 2005. The committee reviewed the proposed questions for a standard course evaluation system, and prepared a protocol to guide the focus groups discussions.

Ms. Ulmar discussed minority faculty issues. She stated that some faculty felt isolated in their departments and that some departments did not know how to move to make minority faculty feel welcome and at home. She also felt that minority female faculty face two barriers, that they are members of a minority and that they are female. Ms. Ulmar also mentioned the steps Chancellor Belck has taken to reach into the minority community and to be aware of the concerns of female faculty and the issues they face.

She felt that mentoring of newly hired faculty might be one way to increase retention of faculty.

C. Committee on Goals and Directions: Senator Bacon reported the committee met October 26, 2005, and formulated the following resolution:

**Resolution Regarding Restoring Funds for Hiring and Retention of U.S. minorities and Women:**

**Whereas** the successful achievement of the missions of a metropolitan university of distinction requires a diverse faculty reflecting the rich cultural diversity of the metropolitan area, and

**Whereas** outstanding U.S. minorities and women faculty have been recruited and retained with the assistance of the legislatively appropriated minority recruitment funds,

**Therefore be it resolved** that the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha strongly urges the University of Nebraska to restore these essential funds for the hiring and retention of U.S. minorities and women.

This resolution was withdrawn when President Glaser decided the Faculty Senate Ad-hoc Budget Committee should look into the source of recent funding support for diversity diversity hires, whether through NU re-allocation as President Milliken told the senate presidents or through directed support from the legislature resulting from legislation Ernie Chambers sponsored in the unicameral a few years ago for minority recruiting.

D. Committee on Professional Development: Senator Corcoran reported the committee met on 26 October 2005. Senators Bullock, Corcoran, Paterson and Roland, were in attendance. Carrying out the Committee’s oversight responsibility we met with the Chair of UCR. Elaine Lahue and the Director of the Office of Sponsored Programs and Research, Mary Laura Farnham. The Committee passed the following resolution, which will be presented to the full Senate meeting next week:

**WHEREAS,** all UNO tenure-track and tenured faculty are eligible for funding from campus-wide funding sources such as UCR and UCAT; and,

**WHEREAS,** UNL-appointed tenure-track and tenured faculty (from the following colleges: Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources; Architecture;
Engineering and Technology; and Education and Human Sciences) teach exclusively at UNO; and,

WHEREAS, there may in the future be faculty at UNO who are sited at UNMC or UNK;

WHEREAS, UNO faculty believe all UNO faculty instruction should be supported in theory and practice by ongoing research/creative activity and improved pedagogy; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the UNO Faculty Senate encourages UNO campus funding sources such as UCR and UCAT that any NU faculty member who holds a tenured or tenure-track position at UNO should be considered eligible for funding support.

F. Committee on Rules: Senator Randall reported that the committee passed the following resolution which will be presented to the full senate next wee:

Resolution Regarding University Committee on the Advancement of Teaching (UCAT):

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following name go forward to complete Jim Jones’ three-year term (July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2006) to the University Committee on the Advancement of Teaching (UCAT):

Kathleen Henebry, BA.

AND, that the following name go forward to complete Andrzej Roslanowski’s three-year term (July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2008) to the University Committee on the Advancement of Teaching (UCAT):

Wayne Harrison, Psychology, A&S.

V. Non-Senate Committee Reports

A. Graduate Council: Senator Paterson submitted the following report: the meeting was held October 24, 2005. Presiding: Dr. Thomas Bragg, Dean – Graduate Studies and Research. The ADROCA Committee has met. Nomination forms will be ready soon. A new policy is that nominees who are not selected not only will have their materials considered the next year if they so wish, but will be able to update their material that year, which was not permitted before. Theresa Baker’s position will be filled, though the office is still seeking information and documents from her period of supervision. UCR will have $50,000 to distribute this year to applicants. Monies again will go only to tenure-track, non-tenured faculty. A question was raised later in the meeting about whether UNL, UNK, and even UNMC had “state designated” dollars, like UCR, for research. Dean Bragg said he would look into this. The Graduate website is being updated. Since last spring UNO has been offering on a pilot basis a graduate
certificate in Information Operations, in conjunction with IST, Arts and Sciences, Communication, and Offut Air Force Base. It is a 3-5 course offering that intends to educate military information people the opportunity to study outside military parameters into fields such as communication, global politics, and religion. Faculty will teach on a contract basis and their teaching would not be part of their load. The purposes are essentially for military betterment. Dean Bragg said that the certificate would go through the normal review process this semester and next. The matter of the elimination of “Fellow” status and the increase in load of some faculty was discussed. Some faculty asked that the Dean’s office work to make more information about research done at UNO available to a wider public.

B. Strategic Planning Steering Committee: Senator Bacon reported there is a new web site for Strategic Planning. An Advance will be held in the Spring.

C. UNO Spirit Committee: Senator Bernstein submitted the following report: A staff member, Helen Fountain, from Multicultural Affairs, won the Health Fair promotion (a cool gym bag filled with goodies). International Studies will be hosting an event next month (the International Cafe) during International Studies week. The Spirit Committee has agreed to help sell the Hurricane Relief shirts at the spirit stations. The cost is $10.

VI New Business

A. President Elect Recruitment: Senator Glaser reminded the EC&C that the Faculty Senate President-Elect election will take place in December. Members of the EC&C will receive a list of Faculty Senate term endings, and each Senator will have the list in their November agenda packet. Any senator with at least one more year in his/her term is eligible.

VII The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.