Present: M. Bacon, N. Bacon, Barnes, Betanabhatla, Boucher, Boyer, Chundi, D’Souza, Dwyer, Edick, Elder, Gershovich, Hewins-Maroney, Holley, Mei, Miller, Morcous, Noble, Ottemann, Paterson, Reames, Reilly, Smith, Stanton, Tarry, Thorp, White, Winter

Excused: Heidel, Lamsam, Parnell, Sollars,

Absent: Lin, Ilcisin, Mordaunt, Novikov, Tixier y Vigil,

NEWLY ELECTED SENATORS for 08-09:

Attendees: Anderson, Bartle, Bernstein, Erickson, Haworth, Johanningsmeier, Kercher, Laquer, Marx, O’Connell, Proulx, Ritzman,

Excused: Mitchell

I. The meeting was called to order at 2:15 p.m.

II. The minutes of the April 9, 2008, meeting were approved.

III. Officers’ Reports

1. President’s Report: Senator Tarry reported

1. The Board of Regents meeting was held April 18, 2008. The Board heard a presentation from Provost Linda Pratt regarding funded research. She provided an overview of externally funded research trends on each of the four NU campuses. Historically, UNO and UNK have been evaluated by the Board in this area on the basis of external awards from all sources of funding (federal, state, local, and private) with strategic framework goals of doubling sponsored awards in ten years, which represents seven percent compounded growth. The Provost's new recommendation for future evaluation apparently limits sponsored awards to only those that are received from federal agencies, while the quantitative goals remain the same. This is either a mistake on the part of the central administration or it represents a significant change in the way UNO will be evaluated. Chancellor Christensen is aware of this issue. The Provost also presented information about student outcomes garnered from the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE), which attempts to measure how well the university is engaging its students in learning. The Provost provided snapshots of NSSE data from UNK, UNL, and UNO, which compared the survey results from each campus to national averages among peer institutions. The five
benchmark measures provided were Level of Academic Challenge, Active Collaborative Learning, Student-Faculty Interaction, Enriching Educational Experience, and Supportive Campus Environment. Data for 2006 First-Year and Senior UNO students were reported and compared to data from similar cohorts at "Urban Universities." In each case, UNO lags behind the national peer average, but the differences are small (1-2%) and without more information about the survey and the peer groups it is difficult to determine what we really know from such a comparison. It is important to note, however, that NSSE and the Collegiate Learning Assessment are emerging as the tools of choice for evaluating the campuses in meeting their strategic goals as established by the Board. It would be wise for the Senate to take a careful look at these surveys and assessment tools, since it is increasingly likely that the Board will make decisions based on NSSE and CLA results. I have asked the Provost to send her slides for distribution to the Senate.

A number of students from UNL and one student from UNO spoke to the Board during the public comment period about fee increases. At UNL the issue was an increase in the library fee. At UNO the issue was the shuttle fee increase, which helps fund the rental of the Crossroads garage. While both fee increases and a variety of others were passed or accepted, fees remain a concern for the Board. For better or worse, UNO compares well with its BoR peer institutions on fees. For FY 2007-2008, UNO's mandatory fees amounted to $823 per year for resident undergraduates, which left the campus ranked 10th out of 11 peers and at 60.8% of the peer average of $1,354. By comparison, UNL ranks 6 out of 11 and sits at 92.2% of its peer average of $1,215.

Kris Kabourek also addressed the Board and provided information on the preliminary 2008-2009 budget as well as the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 budget request. The University now has budget information from the Legislature for next year, but the Board has not established the tuition rate. Included in the presentation was information about assumptions for the 2008-2009 budget. Compensation is expected to increase 4.2% next year. This number reflects the fact that no increase in health care costs is projected for the coming year. Facilities costs (utilities, new building operations and maintenance, and the statutorily required Building Depreciation Assessment, and the LB 605 debt service requirement) will rise 20.7%. Operating costs will only increase .2%, which reflects an increase in the accounting fees the university pays the state. Otherwise, inflationary operating cost increases are "managed by the university." If a 3.3% rate of inflation is assumed, the increase that has to be absorbed amounts to $2.2 million. All of this amounts to a projected budget shortfall of $14.7 million, which includes a 1% tuition increase for LB 605 debt service. The amount of the actual shortfall will depend on the tuition increase adopted by the Board. It would take an 8% tuition increase (+ 1% LB 605 increase) to balance the budget. The Board's Strategic Framework has established 5% + 1% (LB 605) as its target and some Board members have stated they want a lower increase. At 5% +1% the NU system budget will be $5.6 million short. At 3% + 1% the budget shortfall will be $9.2 million. UNO's share of any budget shortfall will be about 16.5% of the total. Therefore, a 5% +1% scenario would lead to just over a $900,000 cut at UNO and a 3% + 1% increase scenario would result in a $1.5 million cut at UNO. This situation is not likely to improve as we look into the future, since state
appropriations for higher education are continuing to decline as a share of the university's overall budget and the Board has expressed its reluctance to balance the budget through tuition increases.

2. Executive Committee & Administration meeting was held April 16, 2008. The Chancellor responded to the Senate's recently passed resolution regarding the University's day-care facility. He was primarily concerned about the Senate's recommendation that UNO develop a lab school as part of the day-care facility, since this represents a significant departure from what the university is doing and would require a substantial investment of resources. He pointed out that the original goal was to develop a day-care that would meet national accreditation standards. The differences between day-care and preschool curricula and facilities was discussed. The administration agreed to provide the Senate with information about the current day-care operation and also agreed to work with the Senate and Student Government to explore the issue if that is desired.

The Chancellor also provided information about parking at Crossroads and on campus. The parking situation at UNO has become more difficult for a number of reasons ranging from construction on campus, which results in lot closures, to the substantially increased cost of using the parking garage at Crossroads Mall. UNO has explored a number of alternatives to Crossroads, but has found that at least for now, none of these options is viable. The current arrangement with Crossroads is for one year, so the Administration is continuing to study options. An information sheet about the parking situation is included in your packets.

3. The Chancellor’s Council met April 24, 2008. All information is in above reports.

B. Treasurer’s Report: Senator Tarry explained the April 2008 Budget report.

IV. Executive Committee Report: Vice President Barnes moved the following resolutions for the Executive Committee, all were approved:

A. Resolution 2900, 5/14/08: Faculty Senate Members:

BE IT RESOLVED that Chancellor Christensen, etc., has been notified that the following thirteen (13) faculty members have been elected to serve three-year terms from May 14, 2008, through May 11, 2011, unless noted:

College of Arts & Sciences (5)
Jessiline Anderson
Charles Johanningsmeier
Frederic Laquer
Matthew Marx
Patrice Proulx

College of Business Administration (1)
John Erickson

College of Education (2)
Carol Mitchell
Mitzy Ritzman

College of CFAM, (1)
Bonnie O’Connell
BE IT ALSO RESOLVED that the following thirteen (13) senators will be completing their term of service at the May 14, 2008, Faculty Senate meeting:

- Paul Barnes (ED)
- Jayaram Betanabhatla (A&S)
- Nancy Edick (ED)
- Jack Heidel (A&S)
- Barbara Hewins-Maroney (CPACS)
- Owen Mordaunt (A&S)
- Robert Ottemann (CBA)
- Juliette Parnell (A&S)
- Hugh Reilly (CFAM)
- Robert Smith (A&S)
- Scott Tarry (CPACS)
- John Thorp (External Member)
- Victor Winter (IS&T)

There being no objection, at this point the duty of presiding transferred to Vice President Barnes so that President Tarry might present the following resolutions. All were approved.

B. Resolution 2901, 5/14/08: **Appreciation for Service to Outgoing Senators**

**BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha extends its gratitude to the following outgoing Senators, in deep appreciation for their service to the Faculty Senate:

- Paul Barnes (ED)
- Jayaram Betanabhatla (A&S)
- Nancy Edick (ED)
- Jack Heidel (A&S)
- Barbara Hewins-Maroney (CPACS)
- Owen Mordaunt (A&S)
- Robert Ottemann (CBA)
- Juliette Parnell (A&S)
- Hugh Reilly (CFAM)
- Robert Smith (A&S)
- Scott Tarry (CPACS)
- John Thorp (External Member)
- Victor Winter (IS&T)

C. Resolution 2902, 5/14/08: **Appreciation for Service to Chairs of the Standing Committees**

**WHEREAS,** the Standing Committees are responsible for much of the work of the Faculty Senate,

**WHEREAS,** the Chairs of the Standing Committees together form the Cabinet and assist the Executive Committee in responding to the concerns of the faculty and in setting the agenda for the Faculty Senate,

**BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha expresses its sincere appreciation to members of the Cabinet:

- Senator Suzanne Sollars (Academic & Curricular Affairs)
- Senator Lisa Boucher (Educational Resources and Services)
D. Resolution 2903, 5/14/08: **Appreciation for Service to Faculty Senate Liaisons**

WHEREAS, the Faculty Senate depends upon reliable communication with other faculty, student, and alumni organizations,

WHEREAS, the following colleagues provided reports on the activities of the Academic Planning Council, the Alumni Association, the UNO Chapter of the AAUP, the Academic Freedom Coalition of Nebraska, the Graduate Council, the Strategic Planning Steering Committee, among others,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha extends its gratitude to the following colleagues for serving as liaisons to these various groups:

- Senator Douglas Paterson (Academic Freedom Coalition of Nebraska)
- Senators Nancy Edick and Hugh Reilly (Academic Planning Council)
- Dr. David Carter (Alumni Association Board of Directors)
- Senator Henry D'Souza (American Association of University Professors)
- Dr. Robert Blair (Graduate Council)
- Senator Robert Smith (Strategic Planning Steering Committee)
- Senator Juliette Parnell (Faculty Task Force for the Development of a Common Course Evaluation)

E. Resolution 2904, 5/14/08: **Appreciation to Vice President Barnes**

WHEREAS, Senator Barnes assumed the duties of Faculty Senate Vice President in May 2007,

WHEREAS, he presided over monthly meetings of the Executive Committee & Cabinet with quick wit and keen insights,

WHEREAS, he graciously substituted for President Tarry when called upon,

WHEREAS, he provided thoughtful perspectives and sage advice to the Faculty Senate, the Rules Committee, and President Tarry,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha expresses its sincere gratitude to Senator Paul Barnes for his contributions as Vice President.

F. Resolution 2905, 5/14/08: **Appreciation for Service to Secretary-Treasurer Sollars**

WHEREAS, Senator Sollars assumed the duties of Faculty Senate Secretary-Treasurer
WHEREAS, she assisted Sue Bishop in the business of the Senate by overseeing and reporting on the budget and contributing to the development of Senate agendas and minutes each month,

WHEREAS, shegraciously substituted for President Tarry when called upon,

WHEREAS, she provided excellent leadership to the Committee on Academic & Curricular Affairs,

WHEREAS, she enthusiastically represented the Faculty Senate on a number of University committees and working groups,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha expresses its sincere gratitude to Senator Suzanne Sollars for her contributions as Secretary-Treasurer.

G. Resolution 2906, 5/14/08: Appreciation for Service to Parliamentarian James Carroll

WHEREAS, James Carroll has served for many years as the Parliamentarian of the Faculty Senate,

WHEREAS, his knowledge and skilled application of parliamentary procedure have made the Senate a more efficient and effective deliberative body,

WHEREAS, his selfless service as Parliamentarian confirms his dedication to the ideals of shared governance,

WHEREAS, he has advised President Tarry, the Executive Committee & Cabinet, and the Faculty Senate with patience, grace, and a delightful sense of humor,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha expresses its sincere gratitude to James Carroll for his service as Parliamentarian.

H. Resolution 2907, 5/14/08: Appreciation for Service to Administrative Technician Sue Bishop

WHEREAS, Sue Bishop has continued her service to the Senate as its Administrative Technician,

WHEREAS, her organizational skills and attention to detail contribute to the efficient and effective day-to-day operations of the Senate office,

WHEREAS, she provides support, assistance, and encouragement to the Senate President,
WHEREAS, she is a good steward of Senate resources and effectively manages the Senate budget,

WHEREAS, she assists and supports Senate committees with enthusiasm and good humor,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha expresses its sincere gratitude to Sue Bishop for her service as Administrative Technician.

Again, there being no objection, at this point the duty of presiding transferred to President Tarry so that Vice President Barnes might present the following resolution, which was approved.

I. Resolution 2908, 5/14/08:  **Appreciation for Service to President Tarry**

WHEREAS, Scott Tarry has provided excellent leadership as President of the UNO Faculty Senate during the 2007-2008 academic year, and

WHEREAS, he has served as an eloquent facilitator in meetings of the UNO Faculty Senate, and

WHEREAS, he has articulately and passionately represented his colleagues and the university in conversations with the Chancellor, Vice Chancellors, the Board of Regents, and the University President, and

WHEREAS, he has provided confident and positive leadership to his colleagues, the represented faculty of UNO, and the campus community during a year of continued change; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha extends its deep appreciation to Professor Scott Tarry for his outstanding service to the faculty and the University as President of the UNO Faculty Senate during the 2007-2008 academic year and wish him continued success in all future endeavors.

V  **Standing Committee Reports**

A. Committee on Educational Resources and Services:  Senator Boucher reported the Educational Resources & Services Committee met on April 30, 2008. Members present: Senators Boucher, Boyer, Parnell, Stanton, Thorp; Members absent: Senator Ottemann

Our main item of business was selecting the Paul Beck Scholarship awardees from a total of 18 applications. Our congratulations to the following winners:

- **Graduate Full-Time Scholarship ($650):** Stephanie Matthews
- **Graduate Part-Time Scholarship ($350):** Amy Warren
- **Undergraduate Full-Time Scholarship ($650):** Mahsa Sorouri
- **Undergraduate Part-Time Scholarship ($350):** Lisa Green

We also discussed returning members and selection of a new chair for the committee.
Senator Boyer volunteered and the current committee will support her election as the 2008-2009 ER & S Committee Chair.
Senator Parnell mentioned that the Course Evaluation Task Force will meet on May 1, and they are expected to finalize their report to the Faculty Senate.

End of the Year Report for this committee:

Goals for the Past Year (2007-2008):
1. Monitor the progress of the Course Evaluation Faculty Task Force by having an ER & S committee representative attend meetings.
2. Invite guests to future standing committee meetings from the different resource areas for current updates and information (i.e. library, computer services).
3. Assess and coordinate awarding the Paul Beck Scholarships.

Accomplishments during the Past Year:
1. The committee met with Lanyce Keel from ITS to discuss updates in computer and technology services to faculty. In particular, faculty was asked for their feedback to Blackboard upgrade planning and use of features, notified of the availability of automated test scanning, and Safe Assign pilot testing.
2. The committee met with Dean Shorb from the Criss Library to discuss the library renovation and other services for faculty and students.
3. Senator Parnell attended Course Evaluation Faculty Task Force meetings, and provided updates to the committee and Faculty Senate.
4. The committee determined award amounts and selected Paul Beck Scholarship Award winners.

Possible Goals for Next Year:
1. Follow-up on computer and technology services, particularly results from the Safe Assign pilot, use of automated test scanning, etc.
2. Invite Dean Shorb for an update on library renovations and services.
3. Continue to assess the status of the Paul Beck Scholarship fund itself (amount available), and coordinate awarding the scholarships.
4. Follow-up from the Course Evaluation Faculty Task Force final report, notably the possibility of implementing on-line course evaluation.

B. Committee on Faculty Personnel and Welfare: Senator Hewins-Maroney reported the committee met Wednesday, April 23, 2008.

Members in Attendance: Dr. Meredith Bacon, Dr. Karen Dwyer, Dr. Griff Elder, Dr. Jack Heidel, Dr. Jay White, and Dr. Barbara Hewins-Maroney (chair)

Review of Year’s Activities
The committee reviewed its activities and identified issues for the upcoming year. The committee felt it had been proactive in identifying and investigating concerns pertinent to the well-being of UNO faculty. The upcoming year will be a continuation of many of the activities plus the addition of new ones.

### Issues Reviewed During 2007 – 2008

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<td>Regents’ Policy for Emeritus Faculty</td>
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<tr>
<td>UNO Emeritus Faculty and Telephone Directory</td>
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<td>Family-friendly/Gender Neutral Bathrooms</td>
<td>Resolution Proposed and Passed (will evaluate periodically)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Faculty Parking</td>
<td>New</td>
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The Faculty Senate Personnel and Welfare Committee members wish to thank the Faculty Senate President, the Executive Committee, our fellow Senators, and the UNO faculty for their support. Our work has been more rewarding because of the interest, input, and assistance given to our work.

C. Committee on Goals and Directions: Senator Reilly reported

**Year End Report** (April 2008)

Members: Jayaram Betanbhatla, Henry D’Souza, Zial Huq, Laura Ilcisin, Doug Paterson, Robert Smith, Hugh Reilly

1. Business in Past Year:
   a. Goals for Past Year
      · Meet with Wade Robinson to discuss involvement of Goals and Directions Committee in helping to formulate plans for any potential campus-wide crisis
      · Prepare a report on alternative energy sources for future campus use
      · Look at tuition and fee structure, especially its impact on minority and economically disadvantaged students. Areas of focus to include: Goodrich program, Minority Student recruiting, Relationship with Metropolitan Community College, working with “Bright Futures.”
   b. Business Assigned or brought to the committee during the year:
      · Look into the controversy that erupted over the canceling of bake sales on campus.
      · Work with Wade Robinson to create a plan to deal with educational needs in the event of a campus disaster.

2. Accomplishments during Past Year
   a. Closure of Item by Resolution
      · Resolution #2892 (passed 11/14/07) asked that bake sales be allowed again on campus. The administration decided to rescind their ban on bake sales.
Resolution #2893 (passed 11/14/07) recommended that any future campus construction be mindful of the latest environmental and energy efficient design to enhance both our environmental reputation and to be as energy efficient as possible.

b. Closure of Items by other than resolution
   · A resolution dealing with the potential effect of campus disasters, natural and manmade, is being finalized and will be presented at the May meeting.

3. Other Committee Work
   · Robert Smith served on the Strategic Planning Committee
   · Doug Paterson served as our representative to AFCON
   · Henry D’Souza served as the faculty senate representative to UNO’s AAUP chapter.
   · Henry D’Souza served on the APC.
   · Hugh Reilly served as a faculty senate representative for the APC committee
   · Hugh Reilly served as faculty senate representative on the search committee for the Vice Chancellor of Business and Finance.
   · Hugh Reilly served on the search committee for UNO’s Director of University Relations

4. Business Items Unresolved
   a. Continue to look at the affect that an influx of new students from both the “Building Bright Futures” and the “Thompson Learning Program” might have on UNO’s ability to deliver a quality education for all of its students.

5. Possible Goals for Next Year
   a. Continue to look at the potential impact of Building Bright Futures and the Thompson Learning Program.
   b. With the likelihood of a tuition increase for 2008-2009, look at the impact of tuition and fees on UNO’s ability to attract minority and economically disadvantaged students.

Senator Reilly moved, on behalf of the committee, the following resolution, which passed:

**Resolution 2909, 5/14/08: UNO Disaster Planning:**

WHEREAS natural disasters such as floods, tornadoes, and earthquakes have caused several colleges and universities to temporarily suspend operations within the recent past, and

WHEREAS, terrorist attacks and attacks by individuals have had similar deleterious effects on the operation of institutions of higher learning, and

WHEREAS medical pandemics or large-scale civil disturbances could also severely curtail the smooth and efficient operations of this University,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate urges the Administration of this University to develop contingency plans to continue operations in alternate facilities on and off campus in the event that some natural or manmade disaster has degraded the normal functioning of the University’s physical facilities.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Advisory Committees of the several Colleges be consulted regarding the equipment, supplies, capabilities, and facilities that are required for some minimum ability to offer a limited number of courses under extreme, adverse conditions, and that the Administration consider the following items until said consultations can occur:

- Prepare a list of the courses that would continue to be offered for different sets of circumstances, ranging from the loss of a single building to the temporary loss of the entire campus.

- Prepare a plan for communicating with students and faculty regarding alternate classroom sites and times; said communication plan should include the possibility of internet failure.

- Prepare a plan to provide alternate on-campus classrooms (such as the Sapp Fieldhouse) should a single building be rendered unfit for use for a significant length of time.

- Prepare a list of possible off-campus sites that can act as temporary lecture classrooms, including such possible sites as Crossroads Mall, Qwest Center, Metro Community College, College of St. Mary’s, Creighton University, and area hotels, and the contractual requirements for said usage.

- Prepare a list of basic classroom items that would be needed and how to procure them. These items should include as a bare minimum smart carts, projector screens, chalk or marker boards, chalk, markers, chairs, and desks.

- Prepare a plan to provide photocopying services to faculty.

- Prepare a plan to provide alternate student support services such as financial aid, transcripts, work-study, and so forth.

E. Committee on Professional Development: Senator Noble reported this month we met “digitally” on April 30, 2008, through e-mail discussion of the following agenda items.

1. Ad Hoc committee to "assess" MyMAPP (led by Steve Bullock)
   We addressed the chair’s discussion with Scott Tarry about the involvement of our committee in the MyMAPP process. Faculty Senate is committed to maintaining involvement on this "team" and having Professional Development monitoring the issue on behalf the senate and providing the official senate reaction to any proposals or findings that emerge from the team's efforts. It will be more of a monitoring process to be sure that it's not something just being pushed along. Senator Noble will be representing the Professional Development Committee on the MyMAPP "team" and others are encouraged to volunteer.

2. Assessment of teaching effectiveness workshop
   Not many recent developments, but Senator Noble plans to meet with Deb Smith-Howell over the summer so we are ready to jump into this in the Fall.
3. Discussion of specific topics we want to address for next year.
   a. Assess and deal with the results of our survey attached to the UCLA survey.
   b. Involvement in the MyMAPP assessment process.
   c. Planning/promoting the teaching effectiveness assessment workshop.
   d. Create a workshop(s) directed towards mid-career faculty on topics like "appropriate teaching, research, and service expectations in mid-career" and specifically looking at the service expectations.

4. Outgoing committee member, Victor Winter
   Victor is the sole outgoing member of our committee. Victor has always performed his duties with passion and persuasion. Thank you, Victor, for your service to Faculty Senate and to the Professional Development Committee. We might be calling on your service again next year as we analyze the results from the survey.

Senators Included: Noble, Tixier y Vigil, Winter, Mei, Novikov, Lamsam.

E. Committee on Rules: Senator Miller reported
   Present: Bacon, Holley, Miller
   Excused: Barnes, Chundi
   Absent: Lin
   The Rules committee met on April 30, 2008, and verified the names of 48 nominees that committee members have secured for university committee openings. We also discussed options for the last nominees needed and Lyn Holley and Nora Bacon agreed to assist with this task. The committee decided that the spring faculty recruitment survey (101 responses) was successful and recommended using the same format next year (paper copy mailed first and an email version sent several weeks later). Committee members decided that it would be nice if we drafted a note that could be sent to all respondents via email before the end of finals week. The note would (1) thank them for participating in the survey, (2) remind individuals that agreed to serve as nominees that the Senate will vote on the committee slates during the May meeting, with election results will be sent via email, and (3) inform them that university committees have vacancies throughout the year and the survey list will be used by the Rules committee through February 2009. Committee members would like to have the note signed by both the Rules committee and the Faculty Senate President. Holly Miller volunteered to check with Sue Bishop and Scott Tarry regarding the feasibility of this request and than write a draft and send it to committee members for review before mailing.

Senator Miller, on behalf of the Committee on Rules, moved the following, which was approved:

Resolution 2910, 5/14/08: Membership of Standing Committee Members

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following senators be appointed to the 2008-2009 Faculty Senate standing committees as designated:

1. Academic & Curricular Affairs Committee
2. Educational Resources & Services Committee

Lisa Boucher, A&S 2009
Jan Boyer, LIB 2010
Kyle Kercher, CPACS 2011
Frederic Laquer, A&S 2011
Mitzi Ritzman, ED 2011
Theresa Stanton, IS&T 2010

3. Faculty Personnel & Welfare Committee

Meredith Bacon, A&S 2010
Karen Dwyer, CFAM 2009
Griff Elder, A&S 2010
John Erickson, CBA 2011
Patrice Proulx, A&S 2011
Jay White, CPACS 2009

4. Goals & Direction Committee

Jessiline Anderson, A&S 2011
Henry D’Souza, CPACS 2010
Ziaul Huq, BA 2009
Matthew Marx, A&S 2011
Bonnie O’Connell, CFAM 2011
Doug Paterson, CFAM 2010

5. Professional Development Committee

Dwight Haworth, IS&T 2011
Teresa Lamsam, CFAM 2010
Wai-Ning Mei, A&S 2009
John Noble, ED 2009
Tatyana Novikov, A&S 2010
Yvonne Tixier y Vigil, ED 2010

6. Rules Committee

Nora Bacon, A&S 2010
Shuanglin Lin, BA 2009
VI Report of Special Committee - Common Course Evaluation Form Task Force Report:
Senator Tarry

To: Scott Tarry, 2007-2008 Faculty Senate President
From: Faculty Task Force to Design a Common Course Evaluation (John Grigg; May 10, 2008)

Please find enclosed the document designed by this task force in answer to its original charge as defined in James Shaw’s memo dated February 19, 2007.

Preamble

1. Evaluations as Faculty Learning Tools
   The TF approached its charge with the mindset that the primary purpose of course evaluations is to serve as a learning tool for faculty so they may improve their teaching skills. While we recognize that course evaluations will also be used by the university administration to assess teaching skills for the purposes of RPT, we strongly urge the Senate to make the administration aware of the limitations inherent in such assessments. Such limitations include, but are not limited to, the gender of the instructor, class size, introductory vs. upper-division courses, and elective vs. required courses. In addition, use of statistical results for purposes of RPT fail to take into account the inability of many people to understand and use statistical analysis appropriately.

2. Absence of a Final Comprehensive Question i.e. “evaluate the overall teaching ability of the instructor.”
   All questions on the form were included after vigorous debate by members of the TF. This included discussion over the precise wording of some of the questions. As you might imagine, the final wording of the questions represents a significant amount of compromise and concession on the part of members of the TF. In this fashion we reached unanimous agreement on all the questions included on the form. This debate was probably most vigorous when it came to the inclusion of a question which asked students to assess the overall teaching ability of the instructor. While a majority of TF members did not want to include such a question, a significant minority did want to include such a question. The arguments both for and against the inclusion of such a question were equally valid thus making it impossible for the TF to reach a unanimous opinion. Such a comprehensive question was excluded by a majority vote but we want the Senate to note the enthusiastic discussions behind this decision.

3. Department Specific Questions
   Since the charge of the task force was to develop a course evaluation instrument that could be used by all departments in all colleges, the TF attempted to avoid using
questions that may be relevant to only some departments (e.g. specific questions about laboratory sections). We suggest, however, that departments should be allowed to add a small number of questions, where appropriate, to elicit department-specific information.

4. Recommendation for Implementation
   a) Prior to implementation of this form, the TF strongly urges the Senate to obtain input from UNO students. Such input would include both their opinion of the questions as well as a check to make sure the students read the questions to have the meaning intended by the task force.
   b) The TF recommends that a pilot program be used before the form is introduced as the campus-wide evaluation tool. Such a program should probably run for a year and include courses from different colleges, at different levels, and of different class sizes. At the end of the pilot program, any re-designs of the form should be made. Although members of the current TF may be willing to serve as part of a group re-designing the form, they would not be obligated to do so.
   c) The TF notes the desirability of using statistical evaluation tools to provide broader understanding of campus-wide trends. Persons with the skills and training to perform such evaluation are members of the UNO community. However, asking them to do this would require negotiations with them and their respective departments.
   In order for such statistical evaluation to take place, it would be necessary to have an electronic course ratings database for interpretation of ratings (see point 1 above). The development and maintenance of such a database was discussed with IT staff by the TF members. Such contextual information is considered necessary for proper interpretation of course ratings e.g. a specific course’s ratings relative to comparable courses.
   d) The TF also considered the possibility of implementing on-line course evaluation at some point in the future. Although there are some benefits to such a system, there are also a number of drawbacks. The TF reached no definitive conclusion on this issue and suggests the Senate conduct further evaluation.

REVISED QUESTIONS
A Delivery of Instruction
  1. The instructor did a good job of explaining and clarifying the subject matter.
  2. Students were provided opportunities for critical thinking and analysis of core concepts.
B. Organization
  3. The syllabus clearly laid out course objectives, requirements, and assessment criteria, which were then adhered to by the instructor.
  4. The instructor was well prepared for class.
  5. The instructor made good use of class time.
C. Assessment
  6. Course assessment appropriately evaluated student learning.
  7. Information about my performance was available to me throughout the semester.
D. Classroom Climate
  8. Opportunities for class interaction and discussions were provided.
9 The instructor treated students with respect and was sensitive to issues of diversity and inclusion.
10 The instructor was responsive to students.

I. Availability
11 The instructor was available for consultation outside of the classroom setting.

General Comments
- What did you like about the course?
- What would you change about this course?
- Would you like to comment on or explain any of your numeric ratings?

VII Non-Senate Committee Reports

A. American Association of University Professors (AAUP): Senator D’Souza submitted a note from the recent AAUP Electronic Newsletter (received in Senate office April 16, 2008):
After a short-lived recovery in 2006–07, faculty salaries are lagging behind inflation again this year. Yet the salaries paid to head football coaches, presidents, and other top administrators do not seem to reflect an economic downturn. Over the past three decades, the ranks of contingent faculty, nonfaculty professionals, and administrators have swelled while the number of tenured and tenure-track faculty stagnated. These are the central findings of Where Are the Priorities? The Annual Report on the Economic Status of the Profession, 2007–08, released today by the AAUP.
http://www.aaup.org/AAUP/comm/rep/Z/ecstatreport2007-08

The AAUP’s annual report has been an authoritative source of data on faculty salaries and compensation for decades. Here are some highlights of this year’s report:
- Overall average salaries for full-time faculty rose 3.8 percent this year, the same as the increase reported last year. But with inflation at 4.1 percent for the year, the purchasing power of faculty salaries has declined for the third time in four years.
- Long-term salary trends indicate a widening differential between the average salaries of faculty members at private colleges and universities and the average salaries of their colleagues at public institutions. When public institutions struggle to attract and retain the best faculty, our nation faces the risk of creating separate but unequal systems of higher education.
- The salaries paid to head football coaches at Division I-A universities are ten times as high as the salaries of senior professors. What does this say about the priorities of these universities?
- The gap between faculty salaries and salaries paid to administrators continues to grow. This year’s report builds on previous discussions of presidents’ salaries by including data for other top administrators.
- Over three decades, employment patterns in colleges and universities have been radically transformed. While the number of tenured and tenure-track faculty has grown 17 percent, the ranks of contingent faculty (both part and full time) and full-time nonfaculty professionals have each tripled, and the count of administrators has doubled.

The complete report is available on the AAUP’s Web site. This year, for the first time, a complete set of institutional data is available on the Web site.
B. Graduate Council: Professor Blair reported the Graduate Council met April 14, 2008 in the MBSC Council Room. The Graduate Dean, Deb Smith-Howell, discussed several items of interest to the Council. She reported on her participation in a Midwest meeting of the Council of Graduate Schools and indicated that she would be attending a Dean’s Institute sponsored by the Council in the near future. Next spring the Council of Graduate Schools will be meeting in Kansas City and hoped some UNO Graduate Council members could attend. Dean Smith-Howell also provided updates on the selection of an SIS vendor, the new Graduate Studies website, and the recent graduate program chairs breakfast. Dean Smith-Howell will be asking recipients of graduate studies marketing grants to report on their efforts.

Committees A and B gave brief reports. Committee A continues to work on revising the Graduate College Strategic Plan. On March 10, the Graduate Council met at the Peter Kiewit Institute to begin the strategic planning process for an initial planning session using a computer program at the Collaboration Science Institute. Committee B approved 10 new course syllabi and an area of concentration for the MPH program. Contact hours continue to be an issue for many of the new syllabi submissions. The Spring 2008 list of applicants for graduate degrees was approved. Graduation depends on the applicants meeting all of their program requirements.

There was discussion on expanding the annual Elton S. Carter Thesis Luncheon to a general awards recognition event for graduate students in 2009. Dean Smith-Howell indicated that there is a need to identify all of the awards given by academic units to graduate students.

April 28 at 2:30 pm will be the spring Graduate faculty meeting. Agenda items are welcome.

A representative and an alternate from both committees were selected for potential summer work by the Graduate Council.

The official minutes of the April 14 2008 Graduate Council will be available from the Graduate Office in the future.

C. Strategic Planning Steering Committee: Senator Smith reported the Strategic Planning Steering Committee met Wednesday, April 23, 2008 in the Chancellor’s conference room and was presided by Dr B. J. Reed.

A kick-off event for the community engagement links will be held in September, 2008. Letters are being sent to various campus groups and those who showed interest at the strategic planning event in February.

Planning is progressing for the centennial celebration. Opening weekend will be October 8-11, 2008. Activities will include bus tours for alums and a Saturday morning open house. Questions should be directed to Lee Denker, Director of the Alumni Association.

The AQIP systems portfolio is being constructed. Reports required for the portfolio are to be submitted by June 1. Some required information will be gathered by mining the myMAPP data base as well as other campus information sources; the document will be available on-line as it is generated for feedback from the campus community. No information is yet available on the efficacy of myMAPP to provide the pertinent information.
VIII New Business

The senate recessed for retiring Standing Committee Members to caucus to elect Chairs, except for the Committee on Rules.

A. President Tarry explained that President-Elect Sollars was unable to attend this meeting and he would continue in her place until the 2008-2009 Vice President is elected.

B. Resolution 2911, 5/14/08: **Standing Committee Chairs:**

BE IT RESOLVED, that according to the Bylaws of the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska, Article VI, Section 1, the retiring standing committees have met and selected the following chairs from their continuing members:

Moshe Gershovich, Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs
Jan Boyer, Committee on Educational Resources and Services
Griff Elder, Committee on Faculty Personnel and Welfare
Doug Paterson, Committee on Goals and Directions
John Noble, Committee on Professional Development

IX 2007-2008 (Outgoing) Senate

Concluded at 3:10 pm. Exiting Senators were excused. Incoming Senators took their seats.

X Organizational Meeting of the 2008-2009 (Incoming) Faculty Senate

The following motions were approved:

A. Resolution 2912, 5/14/08: **Appointment of Parliamentarian**

BE IT RESOLVED, that according to the Constitution of the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska, Article IV, the senate president appoints Paul Barnes the parliamentarian of the 2008-2009 Faculty Senate.

B. Resolution 2913, 5/14/08: **Vice President of 2008-2009 Faculty Senate**

BE IT RESOLVED, that according to the Constitution of the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska, Article IV, the faculty senate elects the following senator as 2008-2009 Vice President:

Senator Lisa Boucher, to replace Senator Barnes

At this point Past-President Tarry passed the gavel to Vice President Boucher.

C. Resolution 2914, 5/14/08: **Secretary/Treasurer of 2008-2009 Faculty Senate**
BE IT RESOLVED, that according to the Constitution of the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska, Article IV, the faculty senate elects the following senator as 2008-2009 Secretary/Treasurer:

Senator Meredith Bacon, to replace Senator Sollars

D. Resolution 2915, 5/14/08: **Chair of Committee for Rules:**

BE IT RESOLVED that according to the Bylaws of the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska, Article VI, Section 5.6, the 2008-2009 senate president appoints the following senator Chair of the Committee for Rules:

Holly Miller.

E. Resolution 2916, 5/14/08: **Appointment of Chair of the Cabinet**

BE IT RESOLVED, that according to the Constitution of the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska, Article IV, the senate president appoints the following senator 2008-2009 Chair of the Cabinet:

John Noble.

F. Resolution 2917, 5/14/08: **2008-2009 Standing Committees Vice Chairs**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the standing committees have met and selected the following vice chairs from the 2008-2009 members:

- John Bartle, Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs
- Theresa Stanton, Committee on Educational Resources and Services
- Karen Dwyer, Committee on Faculty Personnel and Welfare
- Bonnie O’Connell, Committee on Goals and Directions
- Teresa Lamsam, Committee on Professional Development
- Lyn Holley, Committee on Rules.

XI **New Business:**

A. On behalf of the Committee on Rules, Senator Miller (Rules Chair) moved the following resolutions, which were approved:

1. Resolution 2918, 5/14/08: **Campus Committees:**

   a. **Campus Safety Committee**

   BE IT RESOLVED, that the following name go forward as a three-year appointment from 08/01/08, through 07/31/11, to the Campus Committee on Safety:
b. **Educational Policy Advisory Committee (EPAC)**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following names go forward as three-year appointments, from 08/01/2008 through 07/31/2011, to the Educational Policy Advisory Committee to replace:

- Steve Torres, A&S (to replace Jeffrey Peake)
- Marshall Prisbell, CFAM, (to be reappointed).

AND one name to go forward to complete the term for Laura Dickson (08/01/06 - 07/31/09), who has retired from UNO:

- Robert Nash, Library (to replace Laura Dickson).

c. **Greek Ideals Implementation Committee**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following name go forward to complete Jennifer Dalby’s three-year appointment from 08/01/06, through 07/31/09, to the Greek Ideals Implementation Committee:

- Mitzi Ritzman, (to replace Jennifer Dalby).

d. **Judicial Committee (Pool of Names)**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following names go forward as three-year appointments, from 08/01/2008 through 07/31/2011, to the pool of names for the Judicial Committee:

- Cher McAllister, (to replace Victor Winter)
- Claudette Lee, (to replace Miriam DeLone)
- John Grigg (to replace Steve Bullock).

AND, as Laura Dickson has recently retired, to complete her term (08/01/07-07/31/10):

- Jan Boyer (to complete Laura Dickson’s term).

e. **Parking Advisory Committee**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following name go forward as three-year appointment from 08/01/08, through 07/31/11, to the Parking Advisory Committee:

- Kenneth Kriz, (to replace Steve Walker).
f. Named Professorship Review Committee

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following two faculty serve on the Named Professorship Review Committee (Kiewit, Kayser, & Isaacson Professorships) from 8/1/08, through 7/31/09. (The Administration will select one additional member of this committee.)

Lisa Kelly-Vance (to replace Bruce Johansen)
Patrice Proulx, (to replace Ann Fruhling).

g. Wellness Stampede

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following name go forward as a two-year appointment from 08/01/08, through 07/31/10, to serve on the Wellness Stampede Advisory Committee:

Dave Helm, (to replace Pamela Smith).

2 Resolution 2919, 5/14/08: University-wide Committees:

a. Athletics, University Committee on

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following name go forward as a three-year appointment from 08/01/08, through 07/31/11, to the University Committee on Athletics:

Scott Tarry (to replace Chris Marshall).

b. Excellence in Teaching Award, University Committee on

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following faculty member be recommended for service as three-year appointment, from 08/01/2008 through 07/31/2011, on the University Committee on Excellence in Teaching. (Two members should be recipients of the award and one member should be "first year faculty member holding a Ph.D."). These members will serve staggered terms, and their replacements will be appointed to serve terms that would balance term endings, except for the first year faculty member, who serves one year (08/01/2008 - 07/31/2009).

Teresa Dody, CFAM, (to replace Marshall Prisbell)
Raj Dasgupta, IS&T, (to replace Leah Pietron)
AND,
Elizabeth Leader Janssen, new faculty holding PhD, (to replace Rosemary Strasser) (term: one year).

c. Facilities Planning, University Committee on
BE IT RESOLVED, that the following name go forward as a three-year appointment from 08/01/08, through 07/31/11, to the University Committee on Facilities Planning:

Jeremy Baguyos, to replace Jeremy Lipschultz.

d. Honors and Awards, University Committee on

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following name go forward as a three year appointment from 08/01/08, through 07/31/11, to the University Committee on Honors and Awards:

Saundra Wetig, (to replace James Akers).

e. University Committee on Library and Learning Resources

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following names go forward as three-year appointments from 08/01/08 through 07/31/11, to the University Committee on Library and Learning Resources:

Barbara Robins, (to replace Shannon Holland),
Evangelina Brignoni, (to replace Dwight Haworth).

f. Outstanding Teaching and Instructional Creative Activity Award (OTICA) Selection Committee:

Be it resolved, that the following name be forwarded to Executive Vice President & Provost Linda Pratt as a nominee to fill one two-year appointment (8/1/08 - 7/31/10) as the UNO representative on the Outstanding Teaching and Instructional Creative Activity Award (OTICA) Selection Committee:

Ann Fruhling (to replace Karen Dwyer).

Provost Pratt will make the final selection.

g. Student Affairs, University Committee on

BE IT RESOLVED: that the following name go forward as a three year appointment, from 08/01/08 through 07/31/11 on the on the University Committee on Student Affairs:

Carolyn Gascoigne, (to replace Maria Elvira Villamil).

h. Technology Resources & Services, University Committee on

BE IT RESOLVED, that, to replace James Akers, Tracy Bridgeford, Victor Winter, and Russ Nordman, whose terms are expiring, the following three
names go forward to the University Committee on Technology Resources & Services, as three-year appointments from 08/01/08 through 07/31/11:

Tracy Bridgeford, (reappointed)
Kathleen Henebry, (to replace James Akers)
Anita Saalfeld, (to replace Victor Winter)

And the following name to go forward for a one-year appointment from 08/01/08 through 07/31/09 to correct an imbalance in term endings:

Neal Topp, (to replace Russ Nordman).

i. UCAT (University Committee for the Advancement of Teaching)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following two names go forward as three-year appointments from 08/01/08 through 07/31/11, to the University Committee for the Advancement of Teaching (UCAT):

Juan Casas, A&S (C: Natural Sciences), (to replace Wayne Harrison [A&S:A])
Barbara Hewins-Maroney, CPACS (reappointed).

j. UCRCA (University Committee on Research & Creative Activity)

BE IT RESOLVED: that the following three names go forward as three year appointments, from 8/1/08 through 7/31/11, and the following two names as one year replacements, from 8/1/08 through 7/31/09, on the University Committee on Research & Creative Activity (UCRCA):

- Lisabeth Buchelt, A&S (Humanities), (to replace Patrice Proulx)
- Weiyu Guo, BA, (to replace John Erikson)
- Pamela Smith, At Large Member, (to replace Zhenyuan Wang Linda Parker)
- Dana Richter-EggersA&S (Natural Sciences) to complete the term for Scott Snyder, who must resign)
- Daniel Hawkins, At Large Member, (to temporarily replace John McCarty for one year).

k University Council on Distance Education

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following two names go forward as one three-year appointment from 08/01/08, through 07/31/11, and one two-year appointment, 08/01/08, through 07/31/10 (to stagger term endings), to the University Council on Distance Education:

Rami Arav, (08/01/08-07/31/11)
Nora Hillyer, (08/01/08-07/31/10).
3 Resolution 2920, 5/14/08: Appointments by Senate President and Standing Committees to be Faculty Senate Representatives: all were approved. (These committees are listed on the monthly senate agenda and senate appointees make regular reports to the senate):

a. AAUP Executive Committee (American Assoc. of University Professors)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the senate president appoints the following senator, who is also a AAUP member, as the senate representative for a one year appointment from 05/14/08, through 05/13/09, to the UNO Chapter of AAUP:

Nora Bacon, (to replace Henry D’Souza).

b. Academic Freedom Coalition of Nebraska (AFCON)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the senate president appoints (or reappoints) the following senator to be the senate representative for a one year appointment, through May 2009, to the Academic Freedom Coalition of Nebraska (AFCON):

Doug Paterson (reappointed).

c. Alumni Association Board of Directors

BE IT RESOLVED, that the senate president appoints the following UNO alum as the senate representative for one year, 05/14/08 through 05/13/09, to the Alumni Association, Board of Directors:

Paul Barnes, (to replace David Carter)

d. Academic Planning Council (APC)

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following names go forward as the Faculty Senate's representatives to the Academic Planning Council from the Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs and the committee on Goals and Directions each for a one-year term from 05/14/08, through 05/13/09:

Senator Charles Johanningsmeier, Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs
Senator Henry D’Souza, Committee on Goals and Directions.

e. Budget Advisory Committee (Faculty Senate Committee)

BE IT RESOLVED, the Faculty Senate President has appointed

John Bartle (to replace Randy Adkins)

to the Faculty Senate Budget Advisory Committee for a term of three years, August 1, 2008 to July 31, 2011.
f. Graduate Council

BE IT RESOLVED, that the senate president appoints the following member of the Graduate Council to be the liaison between the 2008-2009 Faculty Senate and the Graduate Council for a one-year term from 05/14/08, through 05/13/09:

Frederic Laquer (to replace Robert Blair).

g. Strategic Planning Steering Committee

BE IT RESOLVED, that one member of the 2008-2009 Faculty Senate Goals & Directions committee will be appointed to the Strategic Planning Steering Committee for a one-year term from 05/14/08, through 05/13/09:

Jessiline Anderson (to replace Robert W. Smith).

B 2008-2009 Calendar of Senate and Standing Committee meetings

1. Executive Committee & Cabinet Meet: First Wednesday Every Month:
   a. Officers, Chair of Cabinet, and Standing Committee chairs
   b. Year round (June through May)
   c. 2:00 p.m.
   d. ASH 196

2. Full Senate Meetings: Second Wednesday Every Month
   a. All senators
   b. September through May (no meeting in June & July; see special instructions below for August)
   c. 2:00 p.m.
   d. MBSC Dodge Room

3. Executive Committee & Administration: Third Wednesday of Every Month
   a. Officers, Chair of the Committee on Rules, and Chair of Cabinet only
   b. Year round (June through May)
   c. 2:00 p.m.
   d. EAB 201
   e. Agenda made by Senate President, typed by Faculty Senator Coordinator

4. Standing Committee Meetings: **Last Wednesday** of Every Month
   a. All Senators excluding President
   b. August through April (no meetings in May, June, & July)
   c. 2:00 p.m.
   d. Room arrangements (and agenda) are made by each Chair

C. Faculty Senate Retreat (next full Senate meeting):
   1. Wednesday, August 20, 2008
   2. Day long meeting (8:30 am to 2 pm)
   3. Mahoney State Park
   4. Attended by all Senators
### Schedule for 2008-2009

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**XII** The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.