Members: Anderson, M. Bacon, N. Bacon, Bartle, Bernstein, Boucher, Boyer, Chundi, D’Souza, Dwyer, Elder, Erickson, Gershovich, Haworth, Holley, Holloway, Huq, Johanningsmeier, Kercher, Lamsam, Laquer, Marx, Mei, Miller, Mitenko, Morcous, Noble, O’Connell, Paterson, Proulx, Ritzman, Sollars, Stanton, Tisko, Tixier Y Vigil, White

Excused: Mitchell

I.  The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m.

II. The May 14, June 4, and July 9, 2008, minutes were approved as written.

III. Officers’ Reports

   A. President’s Report: Senator Sollars reported:

   The Executive Committee and Administration met on July 16, 2008. There was a reiteration of the 2008-2009 budget deficit of $744,000. Colleges have been notified of their budget reductions and are making plans to account for the changes. The 12-month program is now called the “Capacity Building” initiative and work will continue in the Fall semester to explore possibilities. Returning student registrations are down from last year. Many students are reporting they are “in no hurry” to register, often citing economy and uncertainty of finances as reasons. Athletics is considering charging for all tickets to events for faculty and staff. They plan to meet with Faculty Senate to discuss the matter. A 6% tuition increase has been approved by the Board of Regents. The myMAPP review committee met and recommended myMAPP be discontinued. A new program is being considered. It is hoped that the information in myMAPP can easily be transferred to whatever new program is chosen.


IV. Executive Committee Report: Senator Boucher reported

   A. Randy Adkins replaced Paul Barnes who resigned as Parliamentarian.

   A. New Senators since the May 2008 meeting:

   1. Edmund Tisko has replaced Tatyana Novikov (A&S) due to her resignation.
   2. Carson Holloway will temporarily replace M. Jeanne Reames (A&S) for F08.
3. Graham Mitenko will temporarily replace Shuanglin Lin (BA) for F08.
4. A temporary replacement for F08 is tba for George Morcous (EXT).

C. The EC&C was updated on the HR Director search and finalists were brought to campus. Molly K. Anderson was chosen as HR Director.

V Standing Committee Reports

Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs: Senator Gershvich reported the new B.S. in I.T. is still being discussed.

The meeting was recessed at 10:30 a.m. and the Standing Committees broke out to discuss plans and goals for the 2008-2009 Academic Year.

Just before noon most of the guests arrived, were introduced, and all went to lunch. Guests included:

- Vice Chancellor for Academic & Student Affairs Terry Hynes
- Vice Chancellor for Business & Finance Bill Conley
- SAC President Ivory Bobb, Jr.
- Student Government President/Regent Lucas Seiler
- Chancellor John Christensen arrived during lunch.

Presentations began at 1 p.m:

- Chancellor Christensen gave Centennial highlights.
- Vice Chancellor Hynes spoke of the faculty as the foundation of 100 years of UNO and engaging in shared governance.
- Vice Chancellor Conley gave a presentation regarding construction projects, their timing and cost.

A question and answer period followed.

The meeting resumed at 2:15 p.m. after the guests departed.

VI New Business

The Standing Committees reported on the breakout sessions:

A. Academic & Curricular Affairs: Senator Gershovich reported the committee’s Projected/Preliminary Agenda for AY08. During the course of the year the committee intend to deal wit the following subjects:

Old/Continuing Business: B.S. in I.T. Innovation at College of IS&T. At the August meeting the committee will evaluate the updated draft, submitted on 8/19/08 and comparing it with the initial proposal. In September Dr. Wagner will be invited to provide further explanation before the committee makes a recommendation on this
matter to the Faculty Senate.

New Business:

1. Coordination of Graduate Recruitment (taking advantage of opportunities such as regional academic fairs to promote graduate programs at UNO)
2. Facilitation of Faculty Research (UCR and other resources)
3. Ways to share information about faculty research (thinking about new forums to promote transparency and information)
4. Thompson Learning Communities (follow up on development of new project)

B. Educational Resources & Services: Senator Boyer reported Committee Goals for 2008-2009:

1. Follow up on the Common Course Evaluation.
2. Explore computer usage issues:
   a. Policies on “Restricted Data Security” and “Privacy”
   b. Application upgrades such as Blackboard, Microsoft Office, etc.
   c. Alternatives for Lotus Notes
   d. Safe Assign
   e. Automated test scanning
3. Award the Paul Beck Scholarship
   Consider raising additional funds for the endowment.
4. Initiate discussion of international programs including study abroad and scholarships awarded to international students and the impact of those scholarships on budgets.
5. Follow up on library renovations and services.
6. Take an initial look at resources needed for new programs initiated in the past 5 years and, perhaps, design a pilot project.

C. Faculty Personnel & Welfare: Senator Elder reported the committee has chosen three themes for this year: Recruitment, Retirement, and Fees. The committee plans:

1. to invite the parking/facilities people to the first committee meeting in September.
2. to discuss gaps in the insurance benefit package during the second meeting in October.
3. to invite an administrator to discuss the increase (HPER, Parking, etc.) in the context of recruiting new faculty and the “benefits” offered by UNO.

Other Issues:
1. Continue to look at the possibility of moving UNO Child Care Center towards a Child Development Center.
2. Join with UNMC Committee and focus on a Leavenworth bike path between UNO and UNMC.

D Goals & Directions: Senator Paterson reported the committee met to begin to survey the opportunities available for “future visioning” in the service of the development of UNO. In an energetic and stimulating meeting, we considered the following possible areas of inquiry.
1. The identity of UNO regarding teaching, research/creative activity, and service.
   · Are we now all three?  Is this our distinction?
   · Is there an agency that seeks funders/funding for specific university projects and partnerships?
   · Explore Critical Thinking and Quality Education vs. Assessment(s).
2. What is the role of corporate money in education.  What is the direction of education – more and more private in its funding?
4. Faculty Health as a larger issue than HPER, but including HPER.
5. The role of the Bunker on South Campus, what is its relationship to UNO, what does it do, who is in there.  Also, the role of UNO to the military and Stratcom.
6. Recruiting for the 21st century:  cross disciplinary classes, cross-cultural experience, synergy project, how does UNO separate itself from others by not going all on-line or by intensifying the person to person contact as one committee member, Senator Marx, describes.  Studying in multiple areas. Emphasizing hands-on and experiential learning.  Students emerge more capable of growing in the world in synergy.
7. Diversity and recruitment of faculty and students, especially students of color.  We must realize these may often be difficult dialogues and be ready for it.  Furthermore, how do Building Bright Futures and the Thompson Scholars fit into this.  It might be good for the Senate to have a representative on the new Chancellor’s Commission on Inclusion and Diversity.  Related to this, the committee is curious about the status of the Minority Faculty Development program.  How do we make UNO a continually better place to work regarding diversity, and how do difficult dialogues become a regular part of university assessment?  The truly difficult subjects of class, race, and sex/gender must be a regular part of at least future thinking and perhaps also in relevant classes.
8. The committee would like to see the Senate be more visible to be effective, to persuade the administration to pay attention to faculty needs.
9. Briefly discussed was parking, especially regarding metro transit.  The committee is also unsure about parking costs in the west-side garage.  First, information is needed on the status of various parking sites and who can park where.  Then, the problem to deal with is not just with parking but with transportation to and from the campus.  This can be part of Greening.
10 Is it possible to make the international presence move visible at UNO on a daily basis, such as hearing languages, hearing international music (how about in HPER?!), concerts, etc.  Student Activities pays for most appearances, so can a broad rainbow of activities be cultivated?

E. Professional Development: Senator Noble reported the committee Goals for 2008-2009:

1. Assess/interpret results of “our” questions from the UCLA survey.
2. Finalize plans (with Deb Smith-Howell) for a workshop on “evaluating teaching effectiveness.”
3. “Publicity” of Research
- Public Affairs/Relations
  - hear from UCR and Center for Faculty Development representatives

4. myMapp related issues
   - when will the conversion occur
   - how will the conversion occur

5. Address the need for faculty to model the proper attribution of work to students in a classroom setting.

Present: Noble, Tixier y Vigil, Tisko, Mei, Haworth

F. Rules: Senator Miller reported

1. The committee determined meeting schedule and locations for the 2008-2009 year.
2. Current university committee openings were reviewed and a plan was agreed upon to secure the volunteers needed.
3. The list of broad issues presented by Pres. Sollars was discussed and it was decided that the Rules committee could work on the problem of University committees not meeting. It was tentatively agreed to approach this issue in a multi-step process.
   a. The committee will research records to determine the chairs of the 36 University committees that the Faculty Senate helps populate and secure a list of each committee’s current members.
   b. Then those committee chairpersons will be contacted this fall to make sure that they have an updated list of their members. They will then be encouraged to meet.

4. On a long term basis (a multi-year process) members of the Rules committee could research campus committee charters and membership regulations to determine if any actions are needed to enhance the committee’s ability to achieve their stated goals.

VII. The meeting adjourned at 2:56 p.m.