Executive Committee & Cabinet Minutes – 7/14/10

Members present: Barone, Bartle, Benjamin-Alvarado, Elder, Erickson, Laquer, Marx, Siy.
Absent excused Mitchell

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

II. The June 2, 2010, Minutes were approved.

III. Officers’ Reports

A. President’s Report: Senator Laquer reported:

1. Enrollment Management Steering Committee: June 8, 2010
   
   Fall Undergraduate and Graduate admission statistics were presented (as of June 1.
   Distribution of numbers restricted, will be shared in the meeting; newer data
   pending).
   
   Undergraduate applications _______ Undergraduate admissions_______
   Graduate applications _______ Graduate admissions_______ (Highly variable by
   program; application deadline has passed.)
   
   Incomplete applications are being followed up by email and phone. A presentation
   on the Thompson Learning Community will be made to the BoR on Friday.
   Orientation numbers are down compared to last year, but up from 2008. The numbers
   of students attending special sections for honors and engineering are down, but are up
   for the Thompson Learning Community and transfer sections. Registration for
   orientation is on-line; only open sections are displayed. Academic advisors still not
   comfortable explaining Mavlink, thus the roll of orientation. Progress on
   NeSIS/Mavlink was reported. Go live date is July 1; tuition goes on and the bill can
   be viewed. Need to convert legacy balances, bank information, parental access to
   view bill. Scholarship and financial aid will appear in August. Generation of Reports
   (Dashboard) is under way. The Faculty Center has been modified.
   
   AVC Smith-Howell reported the Gen Ed requirements have been approved by all
   colleges. The Steering Committee will be in place in August. A website is being
   developed over the summer.
   
   An AP high school teacher training institute was in progress here at UNO. Sixty one
   teachers attended from 24 school districts in 10 states.
   
   FS President Laquer asked if there had been any contact with the 2000 high school
   students at the Nebraska FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) recent
   conference in Omaha (OWH May 22). No was the answer; however some of these
   sorts of meetings do not allow college recruiters.
   
   The July 13 meeting has been cancelled.
2. Milliken Letter
Response to President Milliken Letter 2010 June 4 sent to all four Faculty Senate Presidents, and then shortly later all faculty and staff. President Laquer in concert with the executive committee prepared a response which was sent by email June 9 at 06:34 PM (see documents Milliken_Letter to faculty and staff on budget recommendations - 6-4-10.pdf, FS-Pres response to Milliken Letter&reply 100609.pdf).

3. Board of Regents Meeting: June 11, 2010, Varner Hall
The morning session, Academic Affairs Committee started at 9:30 with a presentation on “Improved Access and Financial Aid” by Linda Pratt (Executive Vice President and Provost). Total institutional need based aid has increased from $2.2 million in FY 2002, to $9.93M in FY 2011. The last 5 years the increase has been about 6%/year. Two years ago Collegebound Nebraska [http://collegeboundnebraska.com/] promised all Nebraska residents meeting UN admission requirements, and who were Pell Grant eligible would pay no tuition. In FY 2011, the family income level is $53,000/year to receive a maximum Pell grant of $5,273. In 2020 there are almost 6000 students receiving this guarantee, up 17% from 2009. Average Pell Grant is $3,670, Collegebound Nebraska adds to that to reduce the tuition. The numbers of students receiving Pell grants were flat from FY 2005-09 (~7900 ± 300), but increased in 2010 to 9539 (est.) due to an increase in the maximum Pell family income level. The percentage of Nebraska resident students receiving some sort of financial aid is 82%, at UNO it is 94%. Buffett scholarships are not included in their counting as the bill is paid directly by that Foundation.

Next Pratt discussed the (Susan Thompson) Buffett (Foundation) Scholarships and the (Wm. H.)Thompson Learning Communities (Thompson is Susan Buffett’s Father). Programs have existed since the 60’s but were poorly known. Program was expanded in 2007. The number of first year Buffett Scholars entering the Thompson Learning Communities has increased from 230 in AY 2008-09 to 385 to 661 in AY 2010-11. U-wide the growth has been 385% over that period, with the growth at UNO 478%. (68 – 393 students). Retention has been high, > 92%; and GPA has been comparable to other campus freshman at 3.0/4. (Apparent Grade inflation u-wide was noted). Advising, mentors, workshops, social events are all paid by the Buffett Foundation. Special sections of classes consisting of 20 TLC students only have been offered. In the first three years 39 UNO professors have taught TLC sections, and for the 2010 AY 21 to 26 new UNO faculty will be added. At UNL the numbers are 41 and 16-30, and at UNK 10 and 5. UNK then presented their experience, and distributed a color glossy tri-fold brochure they use to recruit students. Unique to UNK is that their freshmen develop and execute a scholarly project. UNL noted use of smaller classes with top faculty, a mid semester performance check in the 5th week (common to all UNL students). Associate VC Deb Smith-Howell presented UNO’s experience. Less than 20% reside on campus with 80% from metro Omaha, 71% are first generation, 40% from underrepresented populations, 63% female. ACT scores are comparable to the rest of UNO students. With rapidly increasing numbers of participants, the diversity has increased and the median ACT score has decreased. Faculty participants hold monthly meetings. UNO students participate in community service (each month is a different event) with a focus on civic engagement. Common to all campuses are frequent contact with peer mentors, various support systems, tutoring, computer labs, and the formation of a community.
The Business Affairs Committee discussed the NU Budget Recommendations. President Milliken presented a summary of his proposal, similar to the letter distributed to the campus earlier in the week. Tuition is proposed to be increased 6%; 4% to the base budget, and 2% to be retained for u-wide projects. The next year then the 6% is to be added to the base. There will be no salary increase for non-AAUP faculty and staff. The funds for salary increases due to collective bargaining will be coming from internal reallocations on those campuses (UNO and UNK). Similarly the O&M costs of new buildings (UNO Mammel Hall) will also be obtained by internal reallocations. Limited numbers of one-time projects will be funded, such as for energy savings. Financial aid will increase 6% to balance the increase in tuition. In addition to the $8.5M in reallocations in 2009-10, and additional $10.1M will be required for 2010-11 university wide.

Chris Kabourek, Assistant VP and Director of Budget then made a detailed presentation on the “NU Budget FY 2010-11 2011-13 Biennium” The total University budget is $1.9 billion. The “State-Aided” portion is $749M (38% of the total $1.9B) pays for instruction and general university operations. State funding has been flat at ~$495M (26% of the total $1.9B) while tuition makes up the balance of the $749M (11% of the total $1.9B). The balance of the $1.9B is composed of auxiliaries (26%, including student lab fees, dormitories, etc.), Federal funds (17% includes Pell Grants and research funds), private funds (14%), and other (5%). Adjusted for inflation, state support is less than it was in 2000; thus placing pressure on tuition and existing budgets by reallocation. During the last period of significant state budget reduction in 2004 (a drop of 4.7% from the prior year), tuition was increased 15%. On average since 1997, tuition has increased 6%/year. There have been $58M in internal reallocations (cuts) the past decade. The overall budget is proposed to be increased by 1.1% for 2011; but based on the Higher Education Price Index (HEPI), the inflation adjusted purchasing power will drop. Salaries and benefits is 82% of the State -Aided budget. Not increasing salaries by 1.5% saves the University $8.5M. This preserve jobs, but is not sustainable; though many of our peers will not be granting salary increases (for UNO were listed Wichita State, NC-Charlotte, Missouri-St Louis, Northern Illinois, and Portland State). The goal of reaching the midpoint of our peers is therefore put back, but hopefully not too far given similar limits at the peer institutions. Costs due to collective bargaining at UNO and UNK will be borne by those campuses in the form of deeper reallocations next year. New expenses are expected due to the Student Information System, Health insurance (5% increase) utilities (4%), new building O&M, and a few others. Some strategic one time investments that will better position the university for the future, or reduce expenses will be done. The projected shortfall without a tuition increase was $22M. With a 6% tuition increase raising $12M, the shortfall is reduced to $10M. Charts were presenting showing how much lower UN tuition is compared to the peer average: UNL 25% below, UNO 12% below, UNK 21% below, and UNMC 11.5% below. In comparison to the proposed 6%, if tuition was raised to the midpoint of each peer group, that would raise at least $45M. In addition, peers were surveyed and on average are expected to increase tuition by 6% for 2010-11; and some state universities are reporting double digit increases. Sticker price increase of 6% at UNO amounts to $153/semester (15 credit hours), not including changes in financial aid. Pell grant students eligible for Collegebound Nebraska will not be impacted since they pay no tuition. The result is the largest increase in financial aid in the history of the university. They recognize that for some students there will be an impact. Regent Whitehouse pointed out that a 12% tuition increase would allow the university to break even, with no reallocations needed. There will be an increase in the total
budget, but most of that is due to an increase in Federal pass through funding (51%) to students in the federal direct student loan program. Kabourek summarized the four key variables in the tuition increase decision process: 1) predictable moderate tuition increases; 2) adequate financial air; 3) efficient and cost-effective administration; and 4) stable base support. Regent Hawks cautioned the savings of deferred maintenance. Another regent asked if there was any data on the number of students who did not return in 2002 to 2005 when there were tuition increases of 10 to 15%/year? Kabourek did not, however he knew that enrollment did decline in those years. Milliken noted that in those years there was significant growth in community colleges, and that since then there has been steady growth in university enrollments.

Kabourek continued with a discussion of the 2011-13 Biennial Budget Request. This is required to be submitted to the Coordinating Commission by August 15, then to the Governor by September 15. The current state budget includes Federal support from ARRA (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, [http://www.recovery.nebraska.gov/]) that then effectively underestimates current state spending. In the 2011-2013 Biennium, the state will experience at least a $670M shortfall over the two year period. Models have used a projected economic recovery at an aggressive 7% /year; not atypical, but higher than the recent averages, therefore the shortfall could be larger. NU’s share of the state budget has decreased from 21.3% in 1986 to 14.5% in 2011. The largest growth areas are Medicaid (776% increase since 1986) and K-12 (450%), both growing faster than the total state appropriations (319%). NU’s appropriation grew by 186% in the same period. Increased costs for the university in the next biennium include health insurance (10%/year), utilities (5%), new building O&M, 1% new building depreciation fund (suspended 2009-11) and 5% each increases for high priority Programs of Excellence and Need-based aid. Possible salary increases due to collective bargaining will be added to the budget later once known. Projected budget for 2012 is $506.4M and for 2013 $517.6M, increases of 2.9% and 2.2% respectively. If a salary increase of 2.5% is included, a number used by the Legislative Fiscal Office, then the budget request becomes $520.5M in 2012 and $546.1M in 2013 (increases of 5.8% and 4.9% respectively). Eighty percent of the budget is salaries. The only capital construction request is the College of Nursing building in Lincoln. Regent McClurg observed that the future of the university is the key to prosperity for the state, yet it is a low priority for investment based on the distribution of state allocations over the past 10 years. Those who care about the future of education in this state need to increase their articulation of the importance of higher education. Regent Ferlic observed that while May revenues appear up, he thinks that it is just people moving their long term capital gains to this year and corporations taking profits this year, in anticipation of increased taxes next year; and so the projected $670M shortfall may be optimistic. Regent Hawks noted that we are obligated to plan using the state’s numbers, but we should not limit our thinking and analysis to them. The projection of 7% growth may be too optimistic. Kabourek noted that if the growth is 4% per year, then the state deficit is over one billion dollars for the biennium. A change was proposed in one of the accountability measures of the strategic framework [http://nebraska.edu/strategic-framework.html] from “... sufficient state funding that will allow moderate & predictable tuition increases …” to “Attain sufficient state funding and manage the cost effectiveness of the University System so that tuition increases do not exceed 6%.” [http://nebraska.edu/docs/StrategicFramework.pdf]

Kabourek presented three models. Held constant is an annual salary increase of 2.5%, and annual tuition increase of 6%. The first model assumed a 2.7% three year average increase in the HEPI (Higher Education Price Index) as a measure of the
actual annual increase in state funds support which shows a deficit of $3.0M over two years. If the State funds provided are flat or no increase, then the university deficit is $30M. If the state funds are cut by 2.5% each year, then the deficit is $54M. He noted that some state agencies have already seen cuts of 5-7%.

Regent Ferlic noted that “our shared governance presents us with some opportunities, and some pitfalls”, but the dialogs at the BoR meetings are about capital expenditures and administrative activities. “I think that we need a better dialog with the Academy about how we are going to manage these things because that is where the vast amount of our resources go to”. He continued “I don’t think we have a meaningful dialog with the Academy. To have them participate or to tell us all of the impact on curriculum, and what part of the curriculum can be altered. We have 14,000 some courses in the University, and about 70% of our regular funds go to that endeavor. So I think that while we sit here contemplating these other things and cuts, I think we need more engagement by the Academy, to have a meaningful dialog as to how they are going to help us solve this problem. That is not a criticism of the Academy.” “… the message “reaches the chancellor and the administration but it really doesn’t reach where it should be” … “where individuals are working from the bottom up to find out if what they are doing really warrants the type of support they’ve got. Now I don’t want to design the curriculum or anything like that.” … [looking at the Faculty Senate Presidents] “That’s your job. But I think you really need to start dialoging amongst yourselves and with us, because otherwise we’re going to face big problems.”

Regent Phares stated that there is no greater priority than for their two major committees, Academic Affairs and Business Affairs Committees, to manage the cost effectiveness of the University system. Regent Hassebrook noted several areas that should be looked at:

1) “look at cases where we have low enrollment courses and how we can find ways to work on line” … “a professor in a course with five students is one of the inefficiencies that we could find a way to tackle.” 2) some decades ago we looked at “professors going from teaching 9 credit hours to 6, and it is a legitimate question to ask if that should be the goal in every department, if every department has to be a research oriented department, or whether some departments could have teaching be their priority.” … “Because what’s really happening is we have tenured faculty now who teach six hours, but we fill it in by hiring a lot of adjuncts. It may make more sense to look at whether that six hour requirement really fits every department.”

Regent Hawks stated “As we all know, we’ve been beating on the cost effectiveness drum for several years, and I know under cost pressures the university campuses have had to make some progress; we’ve never been able to discern the kind of progress at the regents level that we have sought. Part of that may be communication, part of that may be we’re not getting as much done as we would plan to expect. So I would urge us as a board to have some specific processes going on, at least in Business Affairs and in Academic Affairs as well”… “so we have an intense focus on this over the next two years.

The afternoon session [http://www.nebraska.edu/docs/board/minutes/Min6-11-10.pdf] began at 1:00 pm, [and went into closed session shortly thereafter for a Strategy session regarding UNL conference membership and related legal advice. After
reconvening, Chancellor Perlman and Athletic Director Osborn made a presentation. After discussion they affirmed the change of conference unanimously. Following a short press conference, the main business was undertaken around 2:50 pm. Kudos were presented to a representative of each campus, for UNO Kathy Krause assistant to the Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs in the budget area. The new Faculty Senate representatives were introduced. In other actions related to UNO the Regents approved under Academic Affairs: renaming of the UNO Small Business Institute to “Center for Innovation, Entrepreneurship, & Franchising;” and the naming the “Grace Abbott School of Social Work” Regent Hassebrook said “The naming of the School of Social work after Grace Abbott at UNO is very noteworthy. She was one of the founders of the field of social work in America, in President Roosevelt’s cabinet in 1939, and a great advocate for the poor and social justice. It is a great thing for the University of Nebraska to have our School of Social Work named after Grace Abbott.” Under Business Affairs, they approved the naming of the new Student Housing Complex at UNO “Scott Court”. Three UNO Undergraduate Certificates were approved: Data Management, Systems Development, and Technical Communication.

Regent McClurg noted having seen over the past 1½ years the emergence of Certificates as something the University Awards. On the surface they seem to make sense, and may facilitate hiring upon reading a resume. What he does not understand is the global view of what certificates mean, versus degrees, how we decide, who makes sure a certificate means something; we have invested a lot in making sure a B.S. means something. Is this something somebody stamps for showing up or what, though he was sure that is not the case. He would like Academic Affairs to convene and decide what this new tier of academic recognition means, and where it is going in the future. The Academic Affairs subcommittee chair agreed to take up the topic. The Provost and the Vice Chancellors for Academic Affairs on each campus will also be working on this topic.

The 2010-11 University budget which included a 6% tuition increase was approved, with only Regent Ferlic dissenting. Items from the discussion separate from the morning presentation, and relevant to UNO follow. Regent Clare recognized the challenges and wanted efficiencies and quarterly reports – no stone left unturned. Regent Ferlic explained his opposition to the increase expressing concern about student debt. He also did not believe that the economy would grow at 7%. Ferlic also “wants to send a message, particularly to the Faculty.” Student Regent Klutman (UNMC) expressed concerns that increasing student debt would impact post graduation decisions of jobs to take, for example working in Kansas City instead of North Platte since the pay would be greater, or not becoming a primary care physician for the same reason. Regent Whitehouse was troubled about a budget with no salary increase for the employees, and that there would still need to be reallocations and cuts. He was pleased with the increases in financial aid. Regent Hassebrook recalled the “bad old days” when tuition had to be raised in double digits, and again stated that we need to look at efficiencies in how we teach. Student Regent Solomon (UNL) expressed concerns that increasing student debt would impact post graduation decisions of jobs to take, for example working in Kansas City instead of North Platte since the pay would be greater, or not becoming a primary care physician for the same reason. Regent Whitehouse was troubled about a budget with no salary increase for the employees, and that there would still need to be reallocations and cuts. He was pleased with the increases in financial aid. Regent Hassebrook recalled the “bad old days” when tuition had to be raised in double digits, and again stated that we need to look at efficiencies in how we teach. Student Regent Solomon (UNL) expressed concern on the increases in student fees, often not covered by scholarships. Student Regent Crabb (UNO) supported the increase, stated that even with the tuition increase the cost of education especially at UNO was extremely affordable for what you get. Regent Hawks again pushed for looking hard for efficiencies at the campus level and between the campuses.

President Milliken made a few closing comments, noting that the afternoon meeting was live streamed, but the morning committee hearings had not been. 1) The
University of Nebraska on each of its campuses remains a great value, significantly priced lower than its peers. 2) Well over half of our students receive some financial aid. 3) There are four elements critical to the future of the University: a) affordable access to higher education (which includes the tuition rate with moderate and predictable increases); b) availability of financial aid, c) cost effectiveness of the institution; and d) the lynchpin, which is a stable base of state support, we are a public university and provide great benefit to the state. “For the University of Nebraska to continue to provide a very high quality education, at a reasonable tuition rate, requires an investment by the State of Nebraska.”

Regent Hawks cautioned that with K-12 and post secondary education being $2.2B of the $3.4B state budget, or 67% of the state budget, given the size of the shortfall, there will be an impact.

The meeting ended with a closed session to discuss (a) Collective Bargaining strategy session; and (b) Proposed private gifts to the University of Nebraska Foundation for the benefit of the University.

4. FS Operating budget [Attached]
The 2010-2011 Faculty Senate operating budget was submitted to SVC Hynes, who forwarded to Kathy Krause for processing. [Document attached.] We have not received any specific response.

5. Alumni Association: [http://unoalumni.org] June 14. Met with Elizabeth Kramer and Kent Levine (SAC). She wants to see offices and lobby areas decorated for Homecoming, Sept 27 to Oct 2. Some departments have booths or tailgate parties on game day morning (Oct 2). Mailing list records of alumni are now managed by the NU Foundation. In order to have departmentally specific activities involving alumni, adequate lead time is required.

Golden Circle http://unoalumni.org/goldencircle is a group of alumni who graduated more than 45 years ago. 45-50 meet monthly to hear campus speakers on a variety of topics. Prior speakers/topics have been Trev Alberts (Director of Athletics), George Englemann (Geology) Fossils, Alan Kolok (Biology) Water pollution. Attendees are engaged and ask questions.

6. Executive Committee and Administration (EC&Admin.) Meeting: June 16, 2010

Thomas Wallace, new Assoc. V.C. for Student Affairs, was introduced.

There were no issues with the recent Faculty Senate resolutions. There was a question about the impact at UNO with UNL moving to the “Big 10.” Chancellor Christensen said that, in terms of funding, it is a moot point. UNO athletics receives no State dollars; they operate privately. It is neutral, in most cases, for UNO, but there is some potential for additional partnerships, which would be positive. One example of an urban university similar to ours in a larger system is Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

There will be an NU-wide tuition increase of 6%, with a caveat to limit spending to only 4% this coming year. It might be spent on some energy related projects, but that would have to be approved by the NU President. A portion of the Excellence Fund will be used in this coming fiscal year to reduce the impact on the colleges. In the two most recent bienniums, in the NU system, UNO Academic & Student Affairs reductions were approximately $3.9 million in cuts on a base amount. During that same time span, UNO OA&SA, has attracted Distance Education money.
The Chancellor noted that the NU Chancellors and President Milliken provided the Board of Regents a snapshot of the last 10 years. We have been in the process of reducing and reallocating for the past 7 of 10 years. The Board is looking for more efficiencies, but there comes a time when we cannot become more streamlined. It was suggested that the BoR view these efficiencies through a business model prism, as opposed to the efficiencies we would derive through the actual process of educating individuals; i.e., the BoR struggles with reality versus perception as it relates to cuts, reallocation, etc. (As a side note, John Bartle said that revenue sources are forecasting a strong recovery, but there is no certain gain in the revenue stream.)

President Laquer mentioned LR 542 [http://www.nebraskalegislature.gov/bills/search_past.php] and SVC Hynes added LB 935.7 which have to do with requirements for the NU system and to promote economic efficiencies in the operation of state enterprises. All campuses will be working on this, but have only just begun meeting and setting guideline.

To continue the subject of budget, the Chancellor noted that for the first time in his memory, the Appropriations Committee is asking for consultation from other committees in the Nebraska Legislature. It will be very interesting to see how this works.

At the BoR meeting one of the Board members raised a question about Certificates. The Chancellor said there is no problem, just curiosity about how they work and what purpose the Certificates serve. A response for the entire board is likely from the whole university. The need for certificates is usually business or agency driven.

Changes to the Budget Advisory Task Force and merging with the Strategic Planning Steering Committee were discussed. SVC Hynes and VC Conley are co-chairing the change. All constituencies will be contacted, so everyone will have representation on the outcome. President Laquer had submitted a draft recommendation of the proposed membership.

[From the Agenda, not discussed in detail during the meeting]
BATF membership is here:
http://www.unomaha.edu/budgetadvisorytf/tabs/members/members.php
and Strategic Planning Steering Committee is here

Size no more than 10, needs to be a manageable size.

Suggested Membership (1st draft):
1. Faculty (3) Selected as follows:
   a. Senior Professor with long UNO experience (of Meredith Bacon’s stature; she is currently a member of both committees and is willing to continue.)
   b. Executive committee of Faculty Senate representative (John Bartle is acceptable).
   c. Associate level or higher Professor with 10 + years at UNO, prior broad committee service or exposure to multiple colleges.
      - The final Faculty representation should be broad, and include one from A&S and the other two from other colleges (Education, Business). (See strategic framework for insight as to who and why).

2. Deans (2).
   The A&S Dean (largest college) and a second academic Dean, not from a college with a Faculty representative so as to increase College diversity and keep the committee size manageable.

3. Administration (3);
   Academic, Business, and someone with long tenure at UNO (10 years) and broad knowledge of the history of UNO and the strategic plan.
4. Staff (1)
   From SAC.
5. Student (1)
   Student Regent or active junior.
6. Community (1)
   From the Campaign for Nebraska coordinating committee.
7. Ex-officio recording secretary to generate minutes so process is transparent, and constituencies are kept informed as criteria are developed and decisions made.

The status on the Community Engagement Program Statement process is ongoing. The thought is to bring the Statement to the BoR in September/October, so completion of the Statement would probably be the end of July/early August. Fund raising will not move along until the Statement is completed. The majority of donors will need to see the Program Statement before moving forward. When asked about new curricula being designed, both Chancellor Christensen and SVC Hynes indicated that they knew of no curricular issues; but that this was to be a place to bring together people who do like things.

The Faculty Senate operating budget and the effort to encumber a certain amount each year in order to have enough funds to purchase a new computer for the Faculty Senate office every four years is being looked at.

Business practices on campus were discussed. The Colleges of Education, Business and IS&T, and some other areas, do have professional Business Managers. The other colleges seem to make do with secretaries, chairpersons, etc., who do their best, but are not professional accountants and there are worries that some things will fall through the cracks. A good business manager can not only prevent problems, but may also generate new opportunities. V.C. Conley agreed that business practices on campus need to be strengthened.

Department Credit Card/Purchasing card accounting are changing. Only those persons issued a credit card are authorized to use it. New cards will be issued this summer, because the State Treasurer required us to use a different bank.

President Laquer observed that new concrete is being poured on campus, but there is already a crack in the new concrete west of the Bell Tower. The deterioration is being researched. There is progress in the upkeep of the appearance of the physical plant.

President Laquer is working on Strategic Communications. He had a good conversation with Tim Kaldahl, and those conversations will continue.

The group was reminded of the BoR policy regarding Outside Employment (BoR Bylaws 3.4.5 http://nebraska.edu/docs/board/bylaws.pdf) for UNO employees/faculty with a printed copy. All respective constituency groups (Deans, etc) also have received a copy of the pertinent section. SVC Hynes also reminded the group that there is a campus policy regarding Conflicts of Interest. [ Possible document referenced: http://www.unomaha.edu/policies/docs/conflictofinterest.pdf ] Discussion centered on review of procedures, etc. Harmon Maher and Scott Snyder will work on the revision of UNO’s Conflict of Interest Policy, especially regarding research, development, intellectual property, etc.

Jonathan Benjamin-Alvarado noted that he is currently attending a summit on the Gallup Campus on Energy Innovation. One of the academics involved in the conference said that universities are extremely astute at stifling innovation because of issues related to patents, and conflicts of interest; and that one of the challenges that higher education faces, collectively, is the way to be able to balance both the legal
requirements that universities are constrained with, and, at the very same time, trying
to initiate and promote introduction of new technologies and innovations to the extent
that they can be beneficial in lots of different ways. SVC Hynes noted that Harmon
Maher, Interim Associate Vice Chancellor for Research, was looking at resources to
help faculty develop patents, and that she too wants to see success in that arena.
UNO works with UNeMed at UNMC. [http://www.unemed.com/]
The Chancellor noted that he had just received an announcement that the BoR has
decided that it does not have enough business to have a July 2010 meeting. The next
regular BoR meeting will be September 10, 2010.
The Chancellor announced that the CCPE is going to visit the UNO campus within
the next month, June/July. It is a facilities visit that they do periodically. They will
determine the agenda. At this point we know they want to visit Mammel Hall. We
will probably recommend that they visit the Welcome Center, HPER, new housing,
etc. They will be visiting UNMC on the same day.
The Chancellor also expressed his appreciation for adding a “Head’s Up” section to
the EC&A agendas.

David Ciccotello, Director of Enrollment Services, gave an update on enrollment. As
of June 15, 2010, UNO is 1.5% behind last year at that time. Orientation is booked
up until July 16th. They are following up on new admits who have not made an
orientation reservation. There is an increase in part time undergraduates. There was
a big late surge in transfers in 2009, and they are hoping to see similar numbers for
2010.
There are increasing opportunities for students via the growth of scholarship
programs across the board, including Thompson scholars, and Collegebound
Nebraska. To reach the population that might think college is too expensive, so they
never even apply, you have to go to them. Those prospective students must be told,
“if you can get in, we can get you through!” There are even tax breaks for college
students or their parents. It was suggested that a flow chart of
grants/scholarships/etc., be posted, showing that a college education is available to all
incomes.
John Bartle said they are talking to folks in Fire Protection Safety at UNL and the
Associate’s Degree Program about moving it into CPACS. They are thinking of
creating a B.S. in Public Safety or Homeland Security to work with CPACS’ Public
Administration/Criminal Justice/Aviation. Also being thought about is Information
Assurance/Cyber Security. This is all in the early stages, but seems to be very
encouraging.
SVC Hynes noted that there is a planning group for a collaboration of UNO IS&T
and UNK to allow UNK students to get a degree in information assurance. UNK
would never be able to have enough professors on their own for that degree. Most
class work for the UNK students would be on their campus, with the information
assurance piece provided by distance education from UNO.
The Chancellor noted that Dr. Rebecca Pasco in the College of Education has done
something similar with the Masters in Library Science. [http://www.unomaha.edu/libraryed/mls/]
Jonathan Benjamin-Alvarado noted that he is just finishing the first pilot project with
the Great Plains Intelligence Consortium, a course on National Security and
Intelligence. His students will be presenting their findings next week at the end of the
course. The undergraduate students are working on a challenge problem, given to them by the National Security Administration, on Board Security Issues. His graduate students are doing one on Infectious Disease Outbreak in Afghanistan. It is an intense seven week program and they are finishing up next week. They are solving problems already, while everyone else is still in course development. One of the benefits of having a proximity to Offutt AFB is having three military intelligence officers attending the course. It has been an interesting experience for everyone involved.

The meeting adjourned with Chancellor Christensen reminding everyone that they are UNO’s best recruiters; and to please share any new ideas that we may have on the topic.

7. Chancellor’s Council: June 24, 2010

Chancellor Christensen Announced Shakespeare on the Green. Reported the Board of Regents approved a 6% tuition increase. He will be preparing a campus communication for next week.

A new policy is pending. [See attached FT_Equivalency_Handout_Draft_June_21, 2010.pdf] Employees (but not those covered by contract e.g. faculty, may voluntarily reduce their working time to as low as 0.80 FTE and still receive full benefits. The employee initiates the request; the supervisor (or hiring authority) must then agree that the work load may be covered. The decision is not reversible, i.e. the employee cannot do it for a few years, and then switch back to full time. This is so that budget savings are predictable. The BoR sees these as permanent assignments. The time is attached to a position, so when vacant it would be filled at the previous level. An employee would have to change positions to return to a 1.0 FTE. This would allow 4 day work weeks, shortened days where the work load is concentrated (9am -3pm as in food services and cashiering) and 11 month positions. Ten month positions in food services are also possible. The payroll deductions for benefits during months when an employee did not receive a paycheck would still need to be resolved. A Letter of Understanding to be signed by both employee and supervisor is in draft form. It is best to consider reducing the time for the position when it is vacant. Overtime for a 0.8 FTE position is still more than 40 hours/week, not any time over 32 hours.

A budget advisory subset of the Strategic Planning Committee is being developed by SVC Hynes and VC Conley. The Chancellor acknowledged the proposal of the FS on the makeup of that committee presented at the June 16 EC&A meeting. This subcommittee will be similar to others that exist within that group such as Engagement, and next year a new one for Academic Excellence.

A new MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) between the University (UNO), the UNO Alumni Association, and the UN Foundation was completed. The last one was 40 years old. This increases the interactions between the Alumni Board and the college deans which had not occurred before.


The Scott Court housing on the south campus with 480 beds is expected to open fall 2011. The Hayden House Welcome Center and Mammel Hall are on track.

IAVC Cicotello reported Fall 2010 enrollment is ~1% behind last year’s; summer is 0.3% behind. Summer census is July 15. Parent Orientation has been maxed out. Visitors are impressed with HPER. Capacity has been increased for transfer sessions
to meet the demand. Direct contact (email and phone) continues with recently enrolled students not yet registered, and with those with incomplete files. Chancellor Christensen noted that Faculty are great recruiters, and are received better than are the deans.

NeSIS / Mavlink development continues. [https://mavlink.nebraska.edu](https://mavlink.nebraska.edu) A survey as to faculty needs had been sent out to all faculty earlier this year, and those responses are being used to develop the Faculty portal; that layout has been changed. Degree Works is due on-line August 1, for students by August 16; it is expected that most students will be able to use it without any help. Access to CCMS (Course Catalog Maintenance System) will be provided. There is also an option to be able to view what students see. If additional access is needed there will be a button to submit that request. Tutorial documents (pdf format) are under preparation, and should be available by the end of July. Faculty had expressed a preference for documents over scheduled training. Faculty will be informed of chances by email in a few weeks. Access for part-time and adjunct faculty has been facilitated and will be generated automatically as they are added to SAP. A faculty workload module is being generated by Linda Mannering. On July 1, the first student bills will be generated. How to pay if student is on multiple campuses is a challenge. On the schedule, being able to view all sessions has been an issue. Cannot search for honors or FYE courses yet. Gen Education requirement attributes will be added later. With the strong IT staff here at UNO and their involvement in the project, we have the knowledge base to implement new components. UNO is the first school in the nation to integrate Degree Works with Peoplesoft. In progress is recruitment, room scheduling and others.

SVC Hynes introduced Thomas Wallace, the new AVC for Student Affairs. The campus policy on conflict of interest is being revised to be consistent with system and Federal guidelines. There are four new projects to bring intellectual property to market in progress (Maher and Snyder).

International studies has many students in for summer Illuno English language programs; many stay in on-campus housing, are impressed, love HPER, and want to stay on.

Lee Denker announced the alumni picnic for July 8. They will then have reserved seating for Shakespeare on the Green. At the Sept. 3 Golden Circle luncheon, James Temme ('84) will be their speaker. In August the event has CAPOW, and in July Otis XII.

The College of Education hosted 75 Lewis & Clark middle school students at UNO for a week. It was noted that there are 60 native languages of students in OPS. A bulk purchase of computers is underway, with an expected savings of $135,000 or $100/workstation. The monthly Omaha chief information officer’s executives meeting will be on campus July 15.

Dean Baker (CFAM) reported that the student cultural enrichment fee ($5) has been used for new lighting in the Art Gallery, and seating and sound for the theater. Dean Ali (IS&T) reported on “Road to Omaha” which brings Norwegian and Indian students to UNO for a summer immersion program. Key people at Omaha businesses were made available to students to answer their questions. UNO students are also involved with the program. [http://www.ist.unomaha.edu/index.php?p=news&newsID=116](http://www.ist.unomaha.edu/index.php?p=news&newsID=116)

The NU Foundation Director’s Cup Golf event is August 2.

Mammel Hall is expected to receive a certificate of occupancy one month early.
Dean B.J. Reed (CPACS) announced that Dr. Regina Toman (Dean of Students, Nebraska Methodist College) has been hired to replace Kathy Menke who has retired. Sara Woods has been promoted to Associate Dean.

VC Conley distributed a Business and Finance update. [see Attached B&F_Update CC 6-24-2020.pdf]

FS President Laquer asked who monitors the Federal Register for actions with possible impact on the University. The Department of Education (FR 75(117),34805, 2010 June 18; http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-14107.pdf) is soliciting comments by August 2 on policies that primarily have an impact on private for profit colleges, but also on a wide range of policies that could impact the university are included.

8. Chancellor & FS President Meeting: June 29, 2010

We discussed our invitation of Kabourek and Stephan to the Retreat. Tentatively he will meet with us in September.

Laquer communicated his goals for the year:
1. To be a strong advocate for our Faculty and their input as to the direction of the University.
2. To maintain and improve Shared Governance. The reputation of the efficacy of the Faculty Senate is not as positive as I would like. Faculty are not interested in serving; see it as a chore. Some do not see the Senate as effective. Some of that is the perception that the faculty do not have much of a voice.

Shared Governance is more than Faculty serving on a committee and who are presented with some action fait accompli. Minutes of these committees should be publically available without needing to ask. Examples: University Committee on Facilities Planning, University Committee on Athletics (membership unknown other than the Faculty Senate Appointees, Parking, Dean’s Forum (out of date) (U-Wide Fringe Benefits – not just UNO)

3. To improve the image of the University and its Faculty to the greater Nebraska Community.

Chancellor Christensen’s topics included legislative activities, topics to be discussed at the Presidents Council July 2, future growth of UNO student population, and his possible agenda for the Faculty Staff Picnic August 17 (recommended none since the occasion has people attending at staggered times, and it is generally an informal occasion.). The fall convocation may be a more appropriate occasion for discussion of serious issues.

9. Deans Forum Summary: No update since March 4, 2010
http://www.unomaha.edu/aandsaffairs/insidepages/deansforum.php

10. Standards of Communication Mtg: No meeting, no report

11. Written Acknowledgements of Resolutions (& Table): Note: Sue Bishop, Administrative Assistant is on medical leave, so this table has not been updated since the previous meeting.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Res.#</th>
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<th>Title</th>
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<th>Deferred</th>
<th>In Progress</th>
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<td>3051</td>
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<td>Strategic Planning Steering Comm.</td>
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2010-2011 Resolution Action Table
(Action Pending and Current Year Resolutions)
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<th>ID</th>
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<td>5/12/10</td>
<td>Graduate Council Rep.</td>
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<td>5/12/10</td>
<td>Fac Sen Budget Advisory Comm.</td>
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<td>Academic Planning Council (APC)</td>
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<td>5/12/10</td>
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<td>5/12/10</td>
<td>AFCON</td>
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<td>3045</td>
<td>5/12/10</td>
<td>AAUP Executive Committee</td>
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<td>3044</td>
<td>5/12/10</td>
<td>Standing Committees Vice Chairs</td>
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<tr>
<td>3043</td>
<td>5/12/10</td>
<td>Appointment of Chair of Cabinet</td>
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<tr>
<td>3042</td>
<td>5/12/10</td>
<td>Chair of Rules Committee</td>
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<td>3041</td>
<td>5/12/10</td>
<td>Election of Secretary/Treasurer</td>
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<td>3040</td>
<td>5/12/10</td>
<td>Election of Fac Sen Vice President</td>
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<td>Appointment of Parliamentanian</td>
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<td>Campus Committees (a-h)</td>
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<td>3034</td>
<td>5/12/10</td>
<td>Strategic Plan – Goal #2</td>
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<td>Instruction on the Ethical Use of Print and Online Sources in Academic Papers</td>
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<td>Appreciation for Admin Tech Sue Bishop</td>
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<td>Appreciation for Secretary-Treasurer Frederic Laquer</td>
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<td>Appreciation for Chairs of Standing Committees &amp; Chair of Cabinet</td>
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<td>5/12/10</td>
<td>Resignation of Senator Johanningsmeier</td>
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<tr>
<td>3022</td>
<td>5/12/10</td>
<td>Congratulating Fac. On Rec. Continuous Appt (Tenure and/or Being Promoted)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**CARRIED FORWARD**

| 3013 | 3/10/10 | Recommended Plagiarism Policy | 3/18/10 | X* |
|      |         |                              | 4/21/10 |     |

- Returned to Faculty Senate for additional language consideration as discussed at the 3/17 meeting with administration.
- Relative to the minor language changes on 3013 (Plagiarism), the chancellor indicates that he would like Academic Affairs to share the policy with the academic deans at an upcoming meeting.

| 3004 | 10/14/09 | Parking Issues (Events Calendar) | X* |
| 3003 | 10/14/09 | Regarding Stem Cell Research | X* |
| 2944 | 1/4/09 | UCRCA Funding | X* |
| 2931 | 11/12/08 | “Shots Fired: When Lightning Strikes” Video | X* |
| 2930 | 11/12/08 | Park-and-Ride/Park-and-Bike System of Transportation or Other Transportation Alternatives | Senate Working on | X* |
| 2928 | 10/8/08 | Electronic Communication | X* |
| 2909 | 5/14/08 | UNO Disaster Planning | Senate to Comm | X* |
| 2899 | 4/9/08 | UNO Child Care Center | Senate Deferred | 2009 Retreat Item |

*3013 (From Chancellor Christensen via Nancy Castilow in an e-mail sent on 3/11/10) “The chancellor said the first resolution” (3013) “needs to be considered by Terry” (Hynes) . . . ) (From Chancellor Christensen via Nancy Castilow in an e-mail sent on 4/21/10: Relative to the minor language changes on 3013 (Plagiarism), the chancellor indicates that he would like Academic Affairs to share the policy with the academic deans at an upcoming meeting.)
*3004* (From Chancellor Christensen via Nancy Castilow in an e-mail sent on 10/15/09: “The chancellor will discuss the resolution with Vice Chancellor Conley and Tim Kaldahl, University Relations.”)

*3003* (From Chancellor Christensen via Nancy Castilow in an e-mail sent on 10/15/09: “While the Chancellor has not taken a public position on this matter, he suggests that, should the Faculty Senate wish to do so, this resolution could be forwarded to Donal Burns, BOR Corporation Secretary, to document Senate support.” (This was done by the UNO Faculty Senate on 10/14/09)

*2961* (From Chancellor Christensen via Nancy Castilow in an e-mail sent on 4/0/09: “The chancellor acknowledges receipt of the resolutions, but suggests that the Senate may want to make a call to Central Administration to inquire about the existence of the U-Wide Benefits Committee, under whose auspices, this might normally fall. There may be no need to establish a separate task force if this committee, or a subgroup, is active, and would entertain an examination of the existing disability benefit procedures.” (The Faculty Senate Admin Tech notified the UNO rep to that committee, David Corbin, on 4/9/09. He replied on 4/12/09: “The NU Benefits Committee will be meeting on April 16. I will bring the two resolutions to their attention. It does seem that the Benefits Committee should be able to handle the issues without a new committee, but I’ll wait and see what kind of response I get.”)

*2944* (From the EC & Admin Mtg 1/21/09: The Chancellor supports the concept in Resolution 2944 on funding an UCRCA budget line but opined we wouldn’t get it during the years of budgetary problems.) (6/10/09 Nancy Castilow wrote for Chanc. Christensen: “One clarification related to Res. 2944, dealing with ongoing support of the UCRCA budget. I said that I was open to the concept and supportive of continued funding of the UCRCA budget, albeit we would need to review its funding during times of budget constraints, as we do with other such programs. The decision to fund and how much to fund remains the purview of the Office of Academic Affairs. I did not opine that the UCRCA budget line would automatically see no funding during years of budgetary problems.”)

*2931* (From the EC & Admin Mtg 1/21/09: Senator Sollars gave Wade Robinson a list of faculty willing and qualified to comment on “Shots Fired” While Robinson says all the feedback he has received has been positive, faculty senators reported that students who had viewed the video were not impressed.) (From Wade Robinson via e-mail on 2/16/09: “The Shots Fired issue is resolved based on the wording listed.”)

*2930* (At the EC & Admin Mtg 11/19/08: VC Conley said that there were a number of components of Resolution 2930, as written, that needed further consideration.) (At the EC & Admin Mtg 1/21/09: Vice Chancellor Conley reported that B. J. Reed was working with MAT and that there will be an integrated campus parking plan. The Regents will be asked to extend the contract with Crossroads. There was some discussion of providing bicycles for students to go between campuses.) (From Chancellor Christensen via Nancy Castilow in an e-mail sent on 2/20/09: Acknowledge receipt and forward to Vice Chancellor Conley for additional review and implementation as feasible.)

*2928* (From 10/15/2008 EC & Admn Mtg: Chancellor Christensen said he would bring up Senate Resolution 2928, 10/08/08, concerning seeking alternatives to Lotus Notes, with the President’s Council. John Fiene is aware of the problems and supports the direction suggested in the resolution.) Follow-up by Sollars via e-mail: "Chancellor Christensen brought the matter to President Milliken who concurred with the Lotus Notes problem, but said the matter needed to be deferred until after SIS implementation.”

*2909* 6/20/08 EC&A Mtg: Associate Vice Chancellor Robinson discussed Emergency Planning and asked about the creation of a faculty committee that can assist the administration in planning for the continuation of academic programs in crisis situations. Senate will need to determine in there is a specific senate committee that could do this or if there is a need to develop a committee outside the senate. See Minutes of Exec Committee and Cabinet 7/9/2008 for further information: See Minutes of Exec Committee and Cabinet 7/9/2008 for further information: [http://www.unomaha.edu/facsen/minutes/2008_2009/08_7_minutes.php](http://www.unomaha.edu/facsen/minutes/2008_2009/08_7_minutes.php)

9/2/09: As a recently appointed member of the UNO Disaster Preparedness Committee, Past-President Suzanne Sollars will be sent to training to be certified, as are the other members of the committee, by the National Incident Management System (NIMS). It is affiliated with FEMA and provides a standardized structure for organizations to coordinate incident management.

*2899* EC&A Mtg 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.

B. Treasurer’s Report: Senator Benjamin-Alvarado (no attachment, administrative assistant out on medical leave.)


IV. Standing Committee Reports

A. Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs: Senator Bartle – No report.

B. Committee on Educational Resources and Services: Senator Siy– No report.

C. Committee on Faculty Personnel and Welfare: Senator Erickson – No report.

D. Committee on Goals and Directions: Senator Marx – No report.

E. Committee on Professional Development: Senator Benjamin-Alvarado– No report.

F. Committee on Rules: Senator Barone– No report.

V. Non-Senate Committee Reports

A. Academic Freedom Coalition of Nebraska (AFCON): Senator Mitchell– No report.


C. Alumni Association, Board of Directors: Professor Reilly – No report.


E. Graduate Council: Professor Harder– No report.

F. Strategic Planning Steering Committee: Senator O’Connell– No report.

VI. Old Business

A. Retreat Planning

1. Discussion topics for Chris Kabourek (Assistant VP and Director of Budget)
   a) State budget situation for the next biennium; current revenue and deficit projections, causes and potential impact.
   b) Likely impact to the University.
   c) Student demographic trends.
   d) Is there a plan to integrate strategic framework with the budget?
   e) Additional topics

2. Alternative speaker to Sharon Stephan, (Associate Vice President, Communications and Marketing) who has cancelled. Next choices a) Mark Goldsberry, Project Director,
NeSIS (Re: MavLink status); b) Deb Smith-Howell, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs (Re: Community Engagement); and the architect for the Community Engagement Center building; or c) other. *(Deb Smith-Howell, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, accepted and will speak at the Retreat on August 18. Presentation questions on:*)

- Gen Ed
- Doctorate Program
- Reallocate Grad Assistants
- Community Engagement
- Faculty Development.

3. UNO Faculty Senate Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats and how can the Faculty Senate engage them.

4. Other retreat discussion topics were discussed.

B. NU Wide Email Taskforce: President Laquer forwarded a survey created by Senator Hendricks to all current senators, last year’s retiring senators, and a few additional faculty for their voluntary response.


VII. New Business

A. Dell computer corporation ethics; if convicted should the University reconsider their purchasing policy. President Laquer will communicate with Fiene. ER&S might like to keep an eye on this.

B. Technology Committee decisions on site license software. Technology Committee might look into this.

C. Survey of Faculty on the importance / relevance of the Faculty Senate to them.

D. Invite Regent Ferlic to a FS meeting to explain his interest in a dialog on curriculum, and how Faculty can help with budget problems [see President’s report, comments from the June 11 BoR meeting]. President Laquer will see when he is available.

E. Certificate programs. (See Regent McClurg’s comments in President’s Report, and comments in EC&A) The three approved by the BoR in June, Data Management, Systems Development, and Technical Communication, had been approved by the Educational Policy Advisory Committee, which consists of only Faculty Senate appointees, but there was no full Senate action. Questions should be referred to Central Admin.

F. August 11 will be the next Executive Committee and Cabinet meeting.

G. Executive Committee & Administration (EC&Admin) Mtg: Originally scheduled Wednesday, July 21, 2010, 2 p.m., EAB 200. Chancellor and SVC to be absent. There is no August meeting scheduled.

H. Dana College closing and UNO response. Most of the students will be attending Midlands Lutheran College. UNO will get a few.

I. Part-time faculty hiring status. Some adjuncts are being hired on a semester by semester basis. A Staff Assistant in Gerontology is retiring and a request to replace her was denied. So there will be no one to answer phones in that department.

J. The EC&C thought there should be regular presentations to departments/colleges by their Faculty Senate Senator/representatives. Encourage senators at Retreat to do this.

K. Other discussion was about the State budget and a possible special legislative session.

VIII. The meeting adjourned at 2:31 p.m. with announcements.