
Excused: Nordman, Smith, Haworth,

Absent: Anderson, Bonsell, Lomneth, O’Connell

Presentation: AVC Student Affairs, Thomas Wallace

I. The meeting began at 2:43 p.m.

II. The December 8, 2010, minutes were approved as written.

III. Officers’ Reports

A. President’s Report: Senator Laquer reported

1. Executive Committee and Administration (EC&Admin.) met December 15, 2010. (The administration invitation list was expanded to include AVC for Research and Creative Activity Scott Snyder because of the topic, which was selected by consensus of the Senators)

a. Chancellor

i. Faculty Breakfast: Chancellor Christensen asked what the group thought about reinstating the annual Faculty Breakfast, held during Chancellor Del Weber’s time in office. This will be scheduled, probably, at the beginning of the school year and will include comments from the chancellor, Faculty Senate president, and deans, about what the coming year holds for their areas. It will also be a good place to introduce full time and part time newcomers.

ii. Enrollment: the Chancellor said that faculty may be, and probably will be, solicited for help in the recruitment of students. Student/faculty connections are important in the recruitment of students.

iii. Chancellor’s Medal: Jim Freeman, Director, Multicultural Affairs, has been recognized with this year’s Chancellor’s Medal. A faculty member has not received the Medal for a while. The Chancellor suggested that an effort should be made to nominate more faculty members.

iv. Dodge Street Saga (Water main break, etc.): This is now in the District Court by process. The State of Nebraska already denied the City of
Omaha’s claim. Community people are speaking out and sending both the State and city a message that this should be dropped. It is in the hands of the attorneys now.

v. Allwine Hall Fire: VC Conley announced that Saturday night (2010 December 11) the transformer switch blew. Electrical power was lost to that building. Power was taken down to the entire east side of campus. Animals were not at risk. The building is now powered by a generator, which is noisy, but that cannot be helped. This will be covered by University insurance, except that it is below the $200,000 which is when the insurance kicks in. But under $200,000 goes to the Shared Risk Pool, so we’ll be reimbursed by Central. The cost could be close to $100,000 by the time we are done. This was one of five transformers slated to eventually be replaced. Campus people responded quickly and appropriately.

b. Resolutions 3068-3072, passed at the December 8, 2010, Faculty Senate meeting were accepted, on December 10, 2010, by the Chancellor for purposes of information.

c. Other
i. Research at UNO.
1. Chancellor Christensen suggested a goal of doubling external grant funding to $24 million by 2020. For a long time the Deans felt a completely dedicated person as AVC for Research was absolutely necessary. Recently, Scott Snyder was hired for that position. Defining Goal 2 of the Strategic Plan (Excellence), comes into play in a larger way. Research contributes to excellence. It is also time to re-look at the role and distribution or re-distribution of Graduate Assistants that are state supported.

   AVC Scott Snyder thinks that $24 million by 2020 is perfectly reasonable for UNO. Goals for him, in the next six months, are to start to compare and get exact numbers for things like actual research productivity and how much investment is made by similar institutions in the research effort. He feels about $200,000 in seed money is the amount that should be invested into the research enterprise.

Fund for Investing in the Research Enterprise (F.I.R.E.): AVC Snyder has $100,000 for this program and will ask faculty to submit proposals (up to $20,000 for single investigative proposals; up to $35,000 for multi [two or more] investigative proposals). Any proposal eligible for funding must show evidence of the strong possibility of receiving external funding (at least $250,000 over term of grant which would then also bring in $100,000 in F&A funds). There seem to be two reasons why proposals are not funded: (1) poorly written, and (2) a need for proof of concept.

Fund for Undergraduate Scholarly Experience (F.U.S.E.): There is about $75,000 to fund this program to institutionalize an undergraduate research experience. This is to help undergraduates working with faculty mentors doing research and creative activity. This will help a shift in the culture on campus and spur additional research. Members of the Student Senate are working on putting through a proposal to support this fund in the long term through Student Fees.
There is another $25,000 in UCRCA funding for Spring semester which will allow another five or six faculty proposals to be funded. Eight proposals were funded this past Fall.

In the longer term, AVC Snyder wants to institutionalize this bigger seed grant through the context of some strategic research plans that we develop on campus in conjunction with faculty, and start to develop a strategic plan for where research is going at UNO. Since beginning the job 3 months ago, he has looked at faculty proposals which have not been funded by various federal agencies. There are some structural themes that run through those proposals. He plans to work on that through the collective. He will have Brown Bag Seminars in the spring. He also hopes, in the future, to bring a professional grant writer on board to assist in the implementation of some good ideas.

It is thought that undergraduate research grants will provide stipends to help support expenses. Student fees at the University of Nebraska at Kearney already fund this. Senator Benjamin-Alvarado was excited at the thought of having a dedicated undergraduate scholar program, like the University of Georgia.

2. The potential shut-down of Federal Earmark funds will impact that process (OWH Nov 30). If the government does not do an omnibus spending bill which has 5.2 million pending. If they do a continuing resolution at 2010 levels that money is gone. Earmarks for 2012 are $10 million. There will be fewer earmarks from now on. Senator Nelson’s office said his priority is the new Tech Campus on the old Nebraska State Fairgrounds. Senator Nelson is passionate about Agriculture and Defense.

3. Undergraduate vs. Graduate research priorities. SVC Snyder will be focusing on undergraduate research first. They will be looking at the distribution of Graduate Assistants, which has not been re-evaluated in over 20 years, but which might have a negative impact on faculty morale. Outside funding may play a role in allocation. It was noted that any changes in the distribution of Graduate Assistants must be transparent.

ii. Round table
VC Conley had three items to bring to the groups’ attention:
1. Omaha’s Commuter Wheel Tax, starting in 2011. The tax will be collected by each business from those employees who live at least 3 miles outside Omaha. Those affected must provide their employer with their Social Security numbers and their vehicle VIN. These will be sent to the City of Omaha with the tax collected. A four percent administration fee will be returned to the business. For example: UNO expects that 400 of its employees may be required to pay this tax. About $20,000 would be collected. Only $800 will be returned to UNO to pay for the extra time and work involved. It costs much more to implement than the 4% returned.

2. There is a new Parking Permit system in place. The next time parking permits are renewed it may be done online.

3. The UNO Bookstore will start renting textbooks next week, both new and used. Many, but not all, books are involved.
2. The Faculty Senate President met with the Chancellor on December 21, 2010.

FS President’s topics

I brought up that some faculty are upset with recent changes in the Summer Schedule that appear to have been made without faculty input. I noted that the decision appears to have been made at the Dean’s Forum or the Chancellor’s Cabinet, neither of which have faculty representation. The Chancellor noted that the 13 week schedule has been in effect before since a grade cannot be assigned before the project is finished. These have then started in the first regular 5 or 6 week session. This may just be making official (session 5) what before was done ad hoc. I also noted that concerns were also raised about a class 3 hours and 45 minutes long as being a long time to lecture. The Chancellor suggested that I check with Academic or Student Affairs. (See SVC Hynes’ e-mail in New Business)

Chancellor’s topic

Chancellor wants to reestablish the annual Fall Faculty Breakfast. He has had discussions on this with Del Weber and Ron Roskens; Weber noted that people like less formal occasions. This year the Fall Faculty Breakfast has been scheduled for Friday August 19, from 8:00 – 9:30 am (tentative time). The purpose is forward looking, what is coming up in the next year, and not a question and answer forum. His thoughts for the agenda are: a. Brief Hello/ welcome; b. the Deans introduce their new faculty; c. eat breakfast; d. Beginning at about 8:50 am he would speak on 3-5 items on the Chancellor’s “radar”; e. President of the Faculty Senate then has 3-5 minutes for Senate topics and issues; f. College Deans have a couple of minutes to address issues in their colleges. I suggested that the FS president should also ask senators to stand so that Faculty in attendance can see who represents them, and the Chancellor agreed. The timing seems reasonable. For him the first President’s Council has occurred (earlier in August). Faculty-Staff picnic is the previous Monday or Tuesday, Aug 15 or 16. Faculty Senate Retreat is Wednesday, Aug 17. Classes have not begun so there is no teaching schedule conflict. Most faculty should be back on campus. He would like to see a good turnout. He asked for feedback from the Senate.

1. Is there any reason that this is not a good day for this event?

2. He is concerned about the cost. Should this only be for full-time faculty, or should part-time faculty be invited / included. If the budget is bad it may not be possible to include the part-time faculty.

3. Should emeritus faculty be invited? What would be the purpose of including them?

4. Location – MBSC Ballroom, or the Field House as an alternative if the numbers are too large, i.e. if include all three groups there could be 600 people attending.

See also item in New Business.

3. Chancellor & Faculty Senate President also met January 11, 2011.

President Laquer’s topics:

Fall Breakfast. Cabinet meeting response to this proposed event was positive. Follow up on Summer 2011 Schedule and SVC response. The Chancellor noted that there is an emerging national discussion including the Lumina Foundation looking at definitions of Contact Hours for classes, especially for some of the for-profits’ on-line offerings. Accreditation also has an interest.
I notified him that the Employee Plus 1 resolution was pending.

Chancellor topics:

He was going to Lincoln that morning to meet with Milliken and the President’s council.

He noted that Thursday will tell us the worst case scenario with the Governor’s address on the Budget.

The UNO Budget Advisory group will be meeting on Friday in response. The legislators have seen no point in any discussion until the Governor presents his budget.

Next summer there will be a special study by the legislative Education Committee (Senator Adams is Chair) on higher education governance in Nebraska, from University, to state colleges to community colleges.

The final offers on the AAUP contract were due Monday at 5 pm. Now deferred to Wednesday. (Not unusual.)

The Chancellor also mentioned odd phone calls he receives about closing or not closing the university for weather. We had a brief discussion about security on campus. Paul Kosel takes potential threats seriously. We have good relations with Omaha Police Department and the FBI.

4. Enrollment Management Steering Committee: Canceled for the third month in a row.

http://www.unomaha.edu/aandsaffairs/leftcolumn/inside/facultystaff/deansforum/deansforum.php

6. Written Acknowledgements of Resolutions (& Table):
On December 10, 2010, Nancy Castilow, Asst. to the Chancellor, wrote in an e-mail:

The chancellor accepts resolutions 3068-3072 for the purpose of information.

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<td>Faculty Senate Secretary/Treasurer Replacement</td>
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<td>Resignation/Replacement of Jonathan Benjamin-Alvarado (A&amp;S)</td>
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<td>Senate President-elect Nominations &amp; Election</td>
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<td>5/12/10</td>
<td>Instruction on the Ethical Use of Print and Online Sources in Academic Papers</td>
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Academic Affairs issue and has asked Vice Chancellor Hynes to respond as appropriate.

- 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.

*3033 (From Chancellor Christensen via Nancy Castilow in an e-mail sent on 5/27/10: “While he is supportive of Res. 3033, he acknowledges that the subject matter is primarily an Academic Affairs issue and has asked Vice Chancellor Hynes to respond as appropriate.”) *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.)

*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.”)
*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 years of budgetary problems.)

(From 10/15/2008 EC & Admin Mtg: Chancellor Christensen said he would bring up Senate Resolution 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.)

*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.)

(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 procedure.”)

(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.”)

*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.”)

(From Chancellor Christensen via Nancy Castilow in an e-mail sent on 2/20/09: Acknowledge receipt of resolution and list of faculty educators to Assoc. VC Wade Robinson. Robinson reports that presentations to large campus groups is essentially completed with no further presentations scheduled. No additional action required.)

(From Wade Robinson via e-mail on 2/24/09: “Based on the information you gave me I have contacted a person at NASP to learn more about their PREPaRE program and learn about the program structure and costs. I have also contacted De. Scott Pollard to get program and cost information as well and hope to hear from both in the near future. I will also be communicating the UNO faculty you provided as well.”)

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.

*2928 (From 10/15/2008 EC & Admin 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 in 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

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*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: The December 2010 was accepted as submitted.

I. Budget Advisory Committee: Senator Bartle reported Profs. Bartle, Ebdon and Kriz met to discuss the budget issues facing the University. One of the challenges is the process of consideration, as the University's budget is not determined until about two weeks before it is implemented. This makes planning and prioritization difficult, and as a result the NU budget does not reflect a strong planning or performance orientation. This is a particular concern this year in the face of potential major changes. In advising the Senate, the Committee believes that Resolution 3020, passed April 14, 2010 was a good statement of the issues and the priorities. While there are a few elements that are now dated, the Committee suggests to the Senate that it review this resolution to see if they are still comfortable with it as a policy statement. If so, it should be the working policy of the Senate. If not, it should be amended as appropriate. The resolution is given below. (Note: It will be added to the EC&A agenda for reiteration, for continued consideration in the current budget climate.)

RESOLUTION 3020, 4/14/10: UNO/NU Budget Considerations/Suggestions

WHEREAS, "The University of Nebraska at Omaha . . . is a comprehensive university sited in Nebraska's largest metropolitan area. Its distinguished faculty is drawn from the nation's leading graduate institutions. UNO exists for the purpose of providing appropriate educational opportunities, discovering and disseminating knowledge through research and teaching, and offering public service to the citizens of the State, particularly the residents of the Omaha metropolitan area. Through these traditional, interdependent, and mutually-reinforcing functions, the faculty of the University of Nebraska at Omaha enrich the lives of students; advance the frontiers of knowledge; and contribute to the social, cultural, international and economic development of the community, State, and region"; and,

[UNO Mission Statement, Approved by the Board of Regents 05-10-91.]
http://nebraska.edu/history-and-mission/mission-statements.html

WHEREAS, "The University of Nebraska at Omaha is committed to the following broad priorities in fulfilling its mission:

1. Undergraduate instructional programs based on a strong liberal arts foundation;
2. Graduate programs, research, and creative activity;
3. Public service"; and,

[UNO Mission Statement, Approved by the Board of Regents 05-10-91.]
WHEREAS, the UNO Strategic Plan articulates the following mission: "As Nebraska's metropolitan University, UNO is characterized by its strong academic foundations and creative community relationships that transform and improve the lives of constituents, the region, and the nation"; and,


WHEREAS, the Strategic Plan Vision asserts: "The University of Nebraska at Omaha will be among the nation's premier metropolitan universities – a university of high distinction with strong academic and scholarly values distinguished by creative relationships with the communities we serve"; and,


WHEREAS, the economic and cultural vitality of the City of Omaha and the State of Nebraska depend upon its college educated public; and,

WHEREAS, the University of Nebraska at Omaha should preserve and, where appropriate, even expand the educational opportunities it provides to the citizenry of the City of Omaha and the State of Nebraska; and,

WHEREAS, state spending on higher education, as a percentage of the state budget, has been falling for more than 20 years, and has recently fallen further due to the current recession; and,

[http://webapp.nebraska.edu/public-factbook/4.%20Budget%20&%20Funding%20Sources/State%20General%20Fund%20History.pdf]

WHEREAS, the university has an obligation to meet the educational dreams of our young people; and,

WHEREAS, what is said of Texas and its push for national leadership can be said of Nebraska: it "will not have the state and economy they need if they don't get a lot more people prepared and through college."

[From http://chronicle.com/article/Lone-Star-Rising-Texas-Looks/64761/]

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha recommends the Administration for the University of Nebraska at Omaha and the Central Administration for the University of Nebraska consider the following:

1. **REVENUES.** There are two sides to a budget: revenues and expenditures. Before major expenditure reductions are made, increased revenue opportunities should be fully explored. Specifically, we call attention to these opportunities for increased resources:

   a. **Increased enrollments.** To do so UNO will need to make more funds available for recruiting.
b. **Tuition differentials for professional programs.** These are now allowed. We should seriously consider this option.

c. **Tuition remissions.** Where practical, reduce tuition remissions from 100% to 90%, as federal tax incentives are likely to offset this reduction.

d. **Enrollments and tuition increases.** A careful examination of the sensitivity of enrollments to tuition increases is needed. If enrollment is not that sensitive, then revenues can be increased by tuition increases. Programs such as the Goodrich Scholarship program and the Thompson Learning Community go a long way to meeting the needs of low income students. This analysis needs to break down the following categories of enrollments:

   i. Upper-division/lower-division

   ii. Graduate/undergraduate

   iii. Professional graduate/academic graduate

   The analysis should also include a comparison of the tuition level of competitor universities by program.

e. **Scholarships and other tuition remissions.** These could be used more strategically to subsidize those students who are more price-sensitive.

f. **Increased graduate tuition.** UNO should consider raising these tuitions to the level of UNL.

g. **Increased use of revenue sources.** Increase revenue sources that stay on campus (e.g., dual enrollment and online courses) and allow greater flexibility in the use of these funds so they can fund permanent expenditures.

h. **Use of revolving funds.** Such funds may replace state funds where appropriate.

i. **Faculty research release time.** UNO can provide additional incentives for faculty to apply for external funding by creating faculty research release time as seed funding.

j. **Seed funding.** UNO should encourage seed funding on a contract basis for grant writing assistance.

k. **Credit Card Fees.** UNO should consider renegotiating the credit card fees paid on tuition. Moreover, we might also consider offering a cash discount for tuition.

2. **SYSTEM LEVEL Reductions.** Reductions at the system level can cushion the cuts at the campus level. While these reductions are not without pain,
these offices should be as lean as campus operations. We suggest a careful examination of the return on investment of these programs:

a. **International Affairs.**

b. **Online Worldwide.**

c. **Programs of Excellence.**

d. **Nebraska Research Initiative.**

e. **Priorities and Staffing.** There are other personnel costs where economies are possible. Specifically, an examination of the priorities and staffing at the system level should be done regularly.

3. **CAMPUS REDUCTIONS.** As reductions on campus are necessary, we suggest that careful attention be given to these issues. Careful examination of:

a. **Disparities in operating budgets.**

b. **Direct and indirect subsidies in service and outreach activities.** Is the university confident these subsidies are merited?

c. **Savings in shared operational expenses with UNMC.**

d. **Re-negotiating utility rates with OPPD.**

e. **Use of salary savings created by turnover.**

f. **Vacant lines.** These should be filled as guided by the UNO Strategic Plan.

**THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** more generally, the UNO Faculty Senate is keenly aware of recent discussions concerning faculty workloads. Such discussions raise broader issues such as what sort of university we at UNO desire to be? Increases in teaching loads will naturally put pressure on service and research productivity. Reaching the Chancellor’s goals on funded research and doctoral program growth will be all the more difficult if faculty do not have the time to devote to these growth activities. We in the UNO Faculty Senate believe that careful, thoughtful actions can be taken that would improve the incentives in place and ultimately make UNO even stronger.

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I "Revolving revenue is generated from activities incidental to instruction, research and public service. Examples include class and library fees, … clinics and workshop proceeds, testing services fees, and revenue from music/theatre productions.” University of Nebraska, *General Operating Budget, Fiscal Year 2009-10*, p. 1, [http://nebraska.edu/docs/budget/GOB_FINAL.pdf](http://nebraska.edu/docs/budget/GOB_FINAL.pdf)

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**IV. Standing Committee Reports**

A. **Committee on Faculty Personnel and Welfare:** Senator Erickson reported the committee met December 15, 2010, 2:00pm ASH 301. Those present: Erickson, Melanson, Nordman, Proulx, and Srithongrung.
Items discussed:
The entire meeting was consumed drafting the domestic partnership resolution which we submit to the UNO Faculty Senate for vote on January 12, 2011. We will take up other items in January. Senator Erickson moved the following motion for the committee. It passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION 3073, 1/12/11: Employee Plus One Benefits

WHEREAS, Nebraska Revised Statute 85-106 gives the NU Board of Regents the power “to equalize and provide uniform benefits for all present and future employees. . . .”, each employee should be eligible to receive an equal share of University financed benefits, and

WHEREAS, access to affordable healthcare is essential to all, and many employees might prefer to use their fair share of the university benefits to cover a parent, sibling, other family member, or friend, who might or might not reside at the same location with the employee, and

WHEREAS, expanding the scope of those covered by health insurance policies is seen to be in the national interest, especially given the aging population of the nation, and

WHEREAS, expansion of benefits to any designated adult would be an attractive draw for recruiting and retaining faculty and staff in order to remain competitive in both university and private industry markets, and

WHEREAS, at least 83% of Fortune 100 companies and at least 59% of Fortune 500 companies offer some form of employee plus 1 health care benefits (as of 2009; Human Rights Campaign),

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE UNO FACULTY SENATE:
Requests that the NU Board of Regents create a “Plus One” category of beneficiary and incorporate this into the benefits package for all NU employees.

1 Each employee will be able to designate one and only one Plus One beneficiary during the coverage period. A Plus One beneficiary is an individual over 18 whom the primary beneficiary chooses to designate prior to or during the coverage period.

The meeting ended at approximately 3:00pm.
Next meeting: 1-26-2011

V. Non-Senate Committee Reports

A. Academic Freedom Coalition of Nebraska (AFCON): Senator Mitchell reported that as of January 4, 2011
   • Annual Meeting was held in November 6, 2010 where William Ayers spoke.
   • The Kurz Foundation awarded AFCON $2000
- There has been an increase in memberships which has given a boost to the treasury funds.
- The officers for 2011 presented by the nominating committee of Ball and Edler are:
  President-elect – Laurie Thomas Lee
  Secretary – Peggy Adair
  Treasurer – Cathi McMurtry
  (Ballots will be sent out in the next edition of the Sentinel.)
- Commendations were given to the following for their services to AFCON.
  Linda Parker – exceptional year of service as President of AFCON
  Rod Wagner – great 2010 Conference
  Cathi McMurtry – Treasure for Life
  Peggy Adair – work as Secretary

B. **Academic Planning Council (APC):** Senators Bartle and Lewis reported the APC met on December 9, 2010 and discussed the recently completed site visits of Chemistry, Physics and Geography/Geology. In the spring reviews will be conducted of Foreign Languages and Language Teaching, Music, English, and CBA.

  The committee also discussed some proposed structural changes that would alter the calendar of the process. Specifically, the self-study would be due in August, with all reviews and reports completed by fall. Then departments would respond to reports by middle of spring with follow-up meetings with Academic Affairs in spring. The Committee also discussed possible changes in the self-study guidelines to be more closely aligned with the AQIP review process.

C. **Alumni Association, Board of Directors:** Professor Hugh Reilly wrote the meeting was held November 23, 2010.

  **President’s Report:** Lee Denker presented the new pilot program, UNO Young Alumni Academy. The program began with the first meeting on Thursday, November 11, with the main topic of the meeting on UNO’s metropolitan mission, Denker said.

  Denker stated that he will be contacting all UNO Alumni Association board members who have not yet contributed to the UNO Annual Fund in effort to boost the donations for December and January.

  **New Business:** Laura Kapustka said that the UNO Alumni Association Strategic Planning Session is in place for January 21-22, 2011, with facilitator Scott Focht.

  Kapustka referred to the two-page handout reflecting the agenda and session goals.

  Kapustka said that the session outcome will produce a vision statement and statement of values which will give more direction to the board committees, as well as develop long-term goals and objectives for the UNO Alumni Association. Kapustka added that all board members are invited to attend, but need to plan to be in attendance for both sessions. Kevin Munro said that all board members will be given the information relating to the sessions and are encouraged to edit the information and provide input.

  **Old Business:** College Rep Reports –UNO college alumni meet with the Dean of the college as a representative of the UNO Alumni Association Board of Directors. The goal is to expand communications between the college and the alumni association to develop ways to work collaboratively to benefit UNO and UNO alumni. Joan Lukas reported that she has met with Dr. Gail Baker, Dean of the College of Communication, Fine Arts & Media. Lukas said that CFAM has three goals:

  Continue to serve students, serve UNO and serve the community. Lukas added that
the College is promoting the fact that it is unique in the nation for having fine arts & media under one roof. The College would like to raise awareness in the community, get students out in the community and invite businesses to host fine arts shows, Lukas said. Lukas stated that she has joined the CFAM fundraising cabinet for the NU Campaign.

Susie Melliger reported that the College of Education recently hosted an event for Phi Delta Kappa, which is primarily for educational administrators. Melliger said that the event featured presentations from doctoral students. Melliger stated that the College will be seeking applications for distinguished alumni awards in the Spring. Tom Warren reported that the College of Public Affairs and Community Service will be reviewing student scholarships, conduct an open house for parents and students to promote the College, hosted a lecture series, and recently had a visit from Senator Hagel.

**Committee Assignments/Reports**

**Communicate Committee:** Blake Edwards reported that the committee follows progress on the magazine, the web site, and social media sites. Edwards said that the committee is helping with the need to increase magazine advertising and asked board members present for their help. There are ad restrictions to carry ads from the travel, banking and insurance industries due to the ability to continue mailing at the nonprofit rate, Edwards added. Edwards said that the magazine is getting good feedback from readers and that the next themed issue will be crime, safety and justice. Edwards referred to the communicate section of the scorecard, saying that the numbers are on task to reach the goals, or exceed them.

**Connect Committee:** Brandon Steenson reported for Bob Hearron that the focus of the connect committee has been to involve alumni in events and activities. Steenson said the alumni involvement at homecoming, UNO Young Alumni Academy, and recent outreaches to Chicago, Kansas City, and Minnesota have successfully involved alumni.

**Operations Committee:** Dan Koraleski reported that the eighteen month audit has been completed without adjustment and presented to the Operations Committee on November 12. Koraleski commended Maria Malnack, UNO Alumni Association Business Manager, for her efforts in the audit. A motion to approve the audit report was made and seconded. Koraleski presented the financial summary ending September 30, 2010 referring to the total revenue less than last year due to the decrease in UNO Annual Fund income.

**Chancellor’s Scholarship Swing:** Blake Edwards referred to the golf tournament handout stating that the 2010 Chancellor’s Scholarship Swing provided a net profit of nearly $44,000.00. Edwards said that the primary focus of this year’s tournament was to encourage scholarship donations. Edwards said that current scholarship recipients were present at the tournament to provide incentive for the donations. Tax forms mailed to course sponsors and donors will include a save the date tri-fold brochure to encourage early sign-up for the tournament in 2011 on September 12.

**AFROTC Alumni:** Chuck Holderness reported that the AFROTC Alumni group also had a golf tournament that provided income for the scholarship fund for cadets. Holderness said that the AFROTC Alumni group held a brunch and raffle in conjunction with UNO Homecoming which also provided income for scholarships and cadet activities. AFROTC alumni plan to visit cadets on December 14, serving desserts to cadets at the Offutt dorms.

**Updates**
**UNO Annual Fund:** Lori Byrne, Vice President & UNO Campus Director of Development reported that the UNO Annual Fund has two-hundred thirteen Century Club donors that have donated a total of $125,401 in 2010. Byrne said that a phonathon directed to past donors will be conducted by current UNO students. A follow-up mailing to the phonathon, as well as an end of the year email to entire UNO Alumni database will be conducted to complete the 2010 campaign, Byrne stated. Byrne said that the total income at this time last year for the UNO Annual Fund was at $196,000 and that this year the campaign has a total income of $211,000, which includes pledges. Byrne stated that the bigger giving months of December and January are coming soon and remains optimistic that the campaign will reach its goal.

**Students:** Michael Crabb reported that student government has accomplished new bylaws and committee structure and changed the elections to March. Crabb said that student government has also been involved in a pilot program with UNO and the Metro transit called "MavRide Program", to provide free bus rides for students as follows: 400 students will get free bus passes to be used to go back and forth from campus, Student Government is paying $20,000, MAT is paying $20,000, and the rides run out when the money does (est. 6-9 school months), Still working out application details and security measures, but planning to begin offering passes in the Spring. Crabb stated that the program has cost approximately $40,000 and will probably last for about six months. Crabb said that student government is participating in a lecture series called, “unorthodox” collaboration as follows: Interdisciplinary lecture series in cooperation with the SOLP office, modeled after the TED talks, Student nominated faculty will get 27 minutes to discuss whatever they want (topic pre-approved) 11 minute moderated Q&A discussion, The goal is to stimulate discussions about contemporary issues between students of different backgrounds and experiences to lead to unique solutions and ideas. Crabb also highlighted the F.U.S.E. - Fund for the Undergraduate Student Experience - program as follows: Working with the Vice Chancellor for Research and Creative Activity Dr. Snyder to find ways to encourage and support undergraduate research/creative activity. Proposed fund pool, where students can apply for funding and go through a peer review process, Where all the money comes from is still being discussed; still hope to begin program next fall.

**Legislative Session:** Guests Julie Totten and Ron Withem presented the concern of State budget cuts and encouraged board members to become an advocate for UNO through lobbying. Withem asked that board members call their legislator, contact through email, or send a postcard to volunteer to contact State Senators about issues facing the UNO.

**D. American Association of University Professors (AAUP):** Senator Mitchell reported as of January 4, 2011:

- **Biennial Collective Bargaining**
  
  Bargaining team is pulling together a considerable amount of data and information from peer institutions to help justify our offers.

- **The Chapter has filed a law suit in the Walker case that has been going on for over a year.** To see the documents related to this case prior to the lawsuit visit the AAUP website. The Chapter leaders believe that this case is very important and must be pursued with vigor.

- **There are many concerns from faculty regarding pregnancy benefits and the**
possibility of delaying the tenure clock when on pregnancy/disability leave. To see the document that Jim Shaw, president-elect of AAUP, wrote, please go to the AAUP website. (http://www.unoaaup.org/)

- If there are any faculty members interested in joining AAUP, please refer them to John Noble, the membership chair.
- Please visit the AAUP website for updates and to view the President’s blog.

E. Commencement Committee: Professor Bill Corcoran wrote that a meeting was held in December 2010: The Commencement Committee has decided to not move the Spring 2011 Commencement from the Civic Center, too many issues, too little time. The commencement may be moved from the Civic starting with the Winter 2011 Commencement or the following spring.

At the January meeting factors involved with the next winter move will be considered. Also on the agenda is whether to have a commencement ceremony for the summer graduation.

F. Graduate Council: Professor Jeanette Harder wrote in an e-mail on December 16, 2010, “The Graduate Council heard an academic appeal at its monthly meeting on December 13. No other business was conducted.”

VI. New Business

A. Memo for 2011-2012 Faculty Senate Representatives, sent to all colleges for their elections of Faculty Senators, was attached to the agenda for information purposes.

B. On-line Worldwide: Senator Bartle reported that on January 3, 2011, the following e-mail was sent to some NU faculty members, including, at UNO, John Bartle, Becky Pasco, Lynn Harland, Peter Wolcott, and Lou Pol:

On behalf of President Milliken and Provost Pratt, I am writing to invite and encourage your participation in the interviews with the finalists for the position of Executive Director of University of Nebraska Online Worldwide.

We are asking key faculty members from throughout the university to join several deans to participate in interviews with the candidates on the following dates and times:

Candidate #1 Wednesday, January 12 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Candidate #2 Monday, January 24 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
Candidate #3 Thursday, January 27 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.

We recognize that you have very busy schedules that are planned well in advance and that we are asking you possibly to make some changes in order to accommodate these interviews. So let me say a special word of thanks for making an extra effort to participate on such short notice. The President and Provost are very interested in your assessment of the finalists for this important position at the University of Nebraska, and we greatly appreciate your accommodation of this interview schedule.

The interviews will be held at Varner Hall, 3835 Holdrege Street in Lincoln. But we will also make arrangements for you to participate by telephone. Please confirm via email your intent to participate in the interviews and let me know if you will join in person or by phone.

I will send the candidate resumes and conference call instructions by the end of the week.
If you have any questions in the meantime, please let me know. Thanks.

_________________________
Dara L. Troutman, APR
Senior Associate to the President
University of Nebraska

C. Topics for UNO Faculty Senate Executive Comm. & UNO Administration Mtg.,
to be held January 19, 2011, were discussed. They were also discussed at last week’s
EC&C meeting. It was decided to put the first and second topic on the EC&A agenda.
there money for the plan? At the moment units do their own recruiting. Is there
or should there be a plan for a more coordinated effort at the Administration
Level? What is the “market driven” data (for Recruiting/Enrollment) mentioned
by Dr. Wallace at the January 12 Senate meeting? Graduate or Undergraduate?
2. How to increase the communication and visibility of Faculty Research and
Creative Activity productivity? How to display prominently to the general books
& manuscripts published by UNO faculty?
3. The outcome of Gail Baker’s Strategic Communications committee.

D. Suggestions for topics for a Fall Faculty Breakfast
1. The Friday before classes begin, August 18, 2011 this year, is fine for this event.
2. Full-time faculty, part-time faculty, and emeritus faculty should be invited /
included.
3. Emeritus faculty should be invited, because they are possible/probable donors,
they should be appreciated as ambassadors, and they can give an historical
perspective of UNO, especially in the current budget situation.
4. There were no other topics or ideas for this event to share with the Chancellor.

E. 2011 Summer Schedule.
In response to Faculty Concerns about changes to the Summer 2011 Class
Schedule from historical patterns, President Laquer was advised by the EC&C to
contact Senior Vice Chancellor Hynes. That correspondence and the response from
the Senior Vice Chancellor follows.

From: Frederic Laquer/FACSTAFF/UNO/UNEBR
To: Terry Hynes/FACSTAFF/UNO/UNEBR@University of Nebraska,
Thomas D Wallace/FACSTAFF/UNO/UNEBR@University of Nebraska
Cc: John Christensen/FACSTAFF/UNO/UNEBR@University of Nebraska
Date: 01/06/2011 05:47 PM
Subject: 2011 Summer Schedule

Senior Vice Chancellor Hynes and Associate Vice Chancellor Wallace;

We recently were informed as to changes in the Summer 2011 Schedule. These changes
appear to have been made with insufficient faculty input. As an example, a 7 week evening class
that met in prior summers twice per week for 3 hours and 5 minutes is now scheduled for 3 hours
and 45 minutes twice a week. This change is not seen as what is best for the students. A class
taught in 14 sessions (almost a normal 15 week type term equivalent) is now taught in 12. The
faculty who had planned to teach these courses, have already made plans based on prior summer
experience) that need to be modified if they are to teach these classes.

The curriculum is the responsibility of the faculty. The schedule and timing of the delivery of
the content of that curriculum is also the responsibility of the faculty.

The coordination of the schedule to use standard times and semester offerings is something
that both the faculty and administration should work on together since that presumably does lead
to a more efficient utilization of resources.
The changes to the Summer 2011 Schedule appear to have been rushed through with its dissemination during finals week when faculty are otherwise engaged in completing the evaluation of their students. A major change in the schedule without faculty input is not shared governance.

The Faculty Senate would like to know the rationale for these changes, and why they have not been consulted. Thank you.

Frederic (Fritz) C. Laquer, Ph. D., Associate Professor
UNO Faculty Senate President 2010 – 2011

To: Frederic Laquer/FACSTAFF/UNO/UNEBR@University of Nebraska
From: Terry Hynes/FACSTAFF/UNO/UNEBR
Date: 01/06/2011 08:19PM
Cc: John Christensen/FACSTAFF/UNO/UNEBR@University of Nebraska, Thomas D Wallace/FACSTAFF/UNO/UNEBR@University of Nebraska
Subject: Re: 2011 Summer Schedule

Hi, Fritz,

I would be happy to talk with the Faculty Senate about the Summer 2011 schedule and hope you will invite me to attend a Senate meeting for this purpose.

All of us involved in the decision regarding the Summer 2011 schedule regretted very much that we did not have the time we would have liked to have fuller conversations with and more extended input from faculty in that decision process.

The pressing need to change the traditional summer sessions schedule arose from the implementation of the new Student Information System. In the legacy system, our campus Registrar's office had, over time, worked hard to accommodate almost-individualized session schedules for summer instruction, to the extent that in Summer 2010 we actually had 52 separate summer session schedules! Even the deans were not aware of this growth in the scheduling of summer sessions. The need to change was precipitated by the fact that, in the PeopleSoft SIS, we do not have as much flexibility to structure schedules.

After being made aware of the problem in November and after having conversations in November and early December with the deans, based on their recommendations, we moved ahead in December with a slightly modified version of the basic session schedule structure offered in the past. We had to do it then because the Registrar's office was already behind its normal schedule for programming summer classes (usually started, I think, in November), and we could not postpone that decision until later.

I am very empathetic about the impact this has on faculty and, again, regret we did not have more time to have conversations with faculty before making this change. I also have confidence in our faculty, however, that, when they understand the rationale for the change in the summer session schedule, they will be willing to help make it work in Summer 2011.

We will be happy to continue to work with faculty to see what refinements may be desirable and possible in the future also.

Best,

Terry
Terry Hynes, Ph. D., Senior Vice Chancellor
Academic and Student Affairs
202 Eppley Administration Bldg.
University of Nebraska at Omaha
6001 Dodge St.
Omaha, Nebraska 68182
402-554-2262

The following resolution was moved by Senator Rech, seconded by Senator Barone, and passed by the full Senate, with one dissenting vote:

**RESOLUTION 3074, 1/12/11: Summer Schedule**

WHEREAS, the University of Nebraska at Omaha is a student-centered
in institution; and,

WHEREAS, the proposed class schedule for the Summer 2011 has the potential to adversely affect student enrollment and the quality of teaching and learning; and,

WHEREAS, the Faculty Senate has concerns regarding the changes to the Summer 2011 Schedule without faculty consultation, which contradicts the spirit of shared governance, an integral part of the university;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the seven-week summer session be restored to the Summer 2011 Schedule; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any future proposed curricular changes be submitted to the Faculty Senate for approval.

VII. The meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m. with announcements.