Present: Gershovich, Grams, Holley, Nash, Nordness, Sollars, Woody

Excused: Kreiling

Absent: Eesley

I. Official Call to Order by Vice President Grams was at 2 p.m.

II. The minutes of December 2, 2015, were approved as written.

III. Officers’ Reports

A. President’s Report: Senator Woody reported

1. January 5, 2016, President’s Report to Faculty:

   Yes, it is the advent of the 2016 Spring Semester. On behalf of the UNO Faculty Senate, I want to convey our commitment to strengthening the faculty, administration, staff, students, and others. Given the problems around the globe, it seems appropriate to suggest that we all should seek to use the “faculty voice” to make contributions well beyond the campus, namely throughout our beloved State of Nebraska and, indeed, globally.

   On January 6th, the Nebraska Unicameral resumes its work, with the term lasting until April 20th. In this short legislative period, it is, of course, highly important that UNO in general and the faculty in specific seek to clarify and advocate advances that are needed to benefit all constituencies. For some folks, it may be a challenge to balance overall public good with personal preferences. Certainly as a faculty rooted in scholarship, it is necessary to craft messages that reflect academic objectivity and authority. In practical terms, all of us, individually and collectively, should consider communicating ideas to relevant sources. Said simply, it is a time for teamwork.

   There are clear-cut signs that the bond between the UNO faculty and administration is strong. Assuredly, this unity will provide critical information and guidance to the Board of Regents and the Nebraska Legislature and will garner public support for our mission.

   The Faculty Senate continues to deal with numerous ongoing issues, including: alcohol and illicit drug policies, emeritus status, F and FW grading, background checks, the Office of the Ombudsperson, best practices with adjuncts, safety and well-being, disabilities, parking, salary compression, inadequate classroom space (and related scheduling problems), and free expression on campus. The ever-increasing number of administrative staff has introduced the need to assure that everyone understands the shared governance between the faculty and the administration, as set forth in the Bylaws of the Board of Regents.
Finally, I was honored that the Faculty Senate, at its December 9th meeting, elected me to continue to serve as President until May, 2017. In the meantime, I pledge to pursue effectiveness within the Faculty Senate and keep you informed. I always welcome feedback from faculty, administrators, staff, students, and the community.

B. Secretary-Treasurer’s Report: Senator Eesley

1. EC&A Report: No Meeting/No Report

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<td>4235</td>
<td>12/9/15</td>
<td>Temporary CPACS Replacement Senator</td>
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<td>4234</td>
<td>11/11/15</td>
<td>Global Risk Management Task Force</td>
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<td>• Chancellor supports &amp; will write a response • Chanc. sent to VC Conley who sent back to Faculty Senate President.</td>
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<td>4185</td>
<td>2/11/15</td>
<td>Regarding Establishing Clear and Communicable Policies for Emeritus Status</td>
<td>2/18/15</td>
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<td>• Acknowledged • Sent to James McCarty, Asst to SVC</td>
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CARRIED FORWARD

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<td>4074</td>
<td>2/13/13</td>
<td>Criminal Background Checks at UNO</td>
<td></td>
<td>2/18/13</td>
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<td>Not supported. As with Resolution 4073, which I opposed, in part, because of its reference to all NU campuses, I also believe this to be a safety issue for which we have legal and fiduciary responsibility.</td>
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In summary, the absence of some form of background checks for persons employed on campus seems in opposition to best practices.

**4054**

Determine Contractual Implications of Background Check Policy (w/participation of bargaining unit and Central Admin.)

9/6/12

The chancellor acknowledges receipt of the resolution and has provided the legal opinion requested.*

(UNO Faculty Senate is not satisfied with this response.)

*4074 (From Chancellor Christensen via Nancy Castilow in an e-mail sent on 2/18/13: Not supported. As with Resolution 4073, which I opposed, in part, because of its reference to all NU campuses, I also believe this to be a safety issue for which we have legal and fiduciary responsibility. In summary, the absence of some form of background checks for persons employed on campus seems in opposition to best practices.)

**4054** (Legal Opinion):  **From:** John C. Hewitt [mailto:jhewitt@clinewilliams.com]  **Sent:** Tuesday, July 17, 2012 9:11 PM;  
  **To:** Ed Wimes;  **Subject:** Background Checks.

Ed,

In a response to my email of July 14, you have indicated that at this time you anticipate that the “background check” at the University of Nebraska at Omaha will consist of the University reviewing public records (i.e., sex offender registry, criminal convictions, etc.) for applicants for employment. Based on the foregoing you have inquired whether such an approach would constitute a mandatory subject of bargaining.

The simple answer is that the University could, in my opinion, proceed to implement such an approach for applicants without any discussions. The obligation to bargain in good faith concerning mandatory subjects is generally limited to the current employees of an employer. There is generally no obligation to negotiate concerning prospective employees. Star Tribun. 295 NLRB 543 (1989).

If there remains any discussion about expanding such an approach to current employees, then the answer becomes more complicated. Nevertheless, I do not believe that the University would be required to bargain over the decision to review public records at its own cost and expense. As I indicated previously, this decision would likely be within the employer’s managerial discretion. However, I also believe that the University would be required to bargain over the “effects” of such a decision; such as (a) whether any information in a person’s criminal record would remain confidential; (b) whether certain employees would be exempted based upon length of exemplary work records; (c) the appeal rights of employees who claim that they have been incorrectly identified of having been convicted of a particular crime or who believe there are extenuating circumstances that would exclude their disqualification; and (d) the categories of offenses that would result in automatically exclusion from employment.

If you would like to discuss further, please do not hesitate to call.

John C. Hewitt: jhewitt@clinewilliams.com; CLINE WILLIAMS WRIGHT JOHNSON & OLDFATHER, L.L.P.; 1125 S.103rd Street, Suite 600; Omaha, Nebraska 68154; Phone 402.397.1700/Fax 402.397.1806

2. Treasurer’s Report: The December 2015 Budget Report was submitted.

IV. Standing Committee Reports

A. Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs: Senator Grams reported the committee will be working on the PhD in Gerontology proposal and the Statement Affirming Free Expression on Campus issue.
B. Committee on Faculty Personnel and Welfare: Senator Elder reported
The committee met December 16, 2015.
Present: Senators Brennan. Chao, Chen, Elder, Gershovich (Chair), McGrath
Excused: None
Guest: Dr. Shereen Bingham, UNO Ombudsperson

In its meeting of December 16, the FP&W committee met with Dr. Shereen Bingham, who serves as a UNO Ombudsperson. Dr. Bingham presented her proposed Ombuds Charter, which attempts to professionalize and modify the Ombuds Office, in line with the standards set by the International Ombudsman Association (IOA). Dr. Bingham explained the functioning of her office and outlined two models for its restructuring. Her presentation was followed by a vivid discussion on the merits and potential issues associated with her proposal.

A second issue discussed by the committee concerns a revised version to the proposed “Guns on Campus” resolution. Senator Elder circulated a draft, which the committee discussed and modified. The proposed version (see below) was approved by the committee and is now submitted to the EC&C for further consideration.

Finally, the FP&W committee continued its on-going exploration of ways to reduce costs associated with Campus Recreation and Wellness in order to encourage more faculty (and staff) to use HPER facilities. We discussed a report (see below) by Senator McGrath who (along with Senator Elder) met earlier this month with SAC President, Michael Perdunn. In conclusion of that discussion, we decided to invite SVC B.J. Reed to our next meeting (scheduled for January 27, 2016) in order to explore the possibility of support from the UNO Administration to subsidize those costs.

Senator Elder moved that the following resolution be passed to the full Senate next week. The motion passed.

Proposed Revised Draft Resolution on “Guns on Campus”

WHEREAS the University of Nebraska at Omaha and university campuses across Nebraska stand as exemplars in their engagement with the larger community, where new ideas and alternative perspectives can be weighed, explored, and openly discussed;

WHEREAS the open discussion of new ideas and alternative perspectives leads to innovations and discoveries that socially strengthen, artistically benefit, and economically enrich our state;

WHEREAS the University of Nebraska at Omaha Faculty Senate maintains that the presence of firearms on campus, except in the hands of authorized law enforcement personnel, erodes the foundation upon which the free exchange of ideas exists;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate at the University of Nebraska at Omaha is steadfast in its position supporting the continued restriction of firearms on campus, and the authority of University Administration and the Board of Regents to restrict firearm possession on campus, excepting authorized law enforcement personnel.

FURTHERMORE the University of Nebraska at Omaha Faculty Senate stands in
opposition to legislation that would curtail the independent decisions of Nebraska universities and colleges to maintain firearm-free campuses.

Report by Senator McGrath of a meeting with SAC President Perdunn regarding Campus wellness:

Senator Griff Elder and I met with Michael Perdunn, the current SAC president. He wanted to get a sense of where we (FP&W committee) were in regards to this issue, and to ensure that we continued to make some forward progress towards some solution. It seems that SAC is also invested in this particular issue, and Michael indicated in our conversation that he has further discussions with Cecil Hicks, and Cecil also supports us in our effort to encourage greater wellness on campus.

We discussed several items, particularly on the barriers that have emerged towards funding some sort of HR benefit that would help reduce HPER membership cost. Michael suggested that perhaps we “reframe” the conversation a bit, and rather than just focus on HPER cost, we try and encourage a greater Wellness Program on campus that would engage all faculty/staff (not just those using HPER), but that might also lead to a cost adjustment for HPER (again, something from HR/Benefits). His suggestion was to work with Joe Kaminsky, Cecil Hicks, and the Wellness Committee to develop a larger, more comprehensive Wellness program for staff, faculty, and students. Currently the budget for the existing Wellness programming is only $5000. He suggested working with these groups to expand the program, and then meet with the Chancellor to formally request a larger budget for Wellness on campus. If more money is provided to Wellness, and if more people participate, we may be able to justify benefits that would include reducing health club memberships, like HPER.

Senator Elder and I brought up some potential barriers, including whether Wellness really has the time to develop a comprehensive plan at this stage. However, we all agreed that this seemed like a logical step, given the conversations thus far. At the end of the meeting, we felt that the following ‘next steps’ were appropriate:

1) At the December FP&W meeting, discuss our current progress on reducing HPER cost, and perhaps discussing our progress with the Sr. VC (VC Bill Conley or AVC Dan Shipp), to see if there is any support from the administration on pursuing a benefits-related option.

2) Also at the December FP&W meeting, discuss whether we wish to encourage a larger Wellness programming for faculty and staff, and, if so, discuss whether to invite Michael Perdunn, Cecil Hicks, and Joe Kaminski, back to our January meeting for another brainstorming session.

At this point it seems like we have a Plan A (our current project of developing some method to reduce HPER cost for faculty and staff), and a Plan B (working with others to develop a more comprehensive wellness program that might also, eventually, lead to reduced HPER cost).

C. Committee on Rules: Senator Nash reported that there is no Rules Committee report for EC&C, except to note that the Chancellor has appointed Karen Weber and Hugh Reilly to the Student Publications Board:

RESOLUTION 4233, 10/14/15: Student Publications Board

BE IT RESOLVED, that the following names constitute the Faculty Senate approved list of nominees to the Student Publications Board, Position A, to
replace Karen Weber, from which the Chancellor is to select one for a three-year appointment (01/01/16 - 12/31/18) as specified in the By-Laws of the Board of Regents:

Victoria Lentfer  
Karen Weber (appointed)

And, that the following names constitute the Faculty Senate approved list of nominees to the Student Publications Board, Position B, to complete the term of Tammie Kennedy (07/01/13 – 06/30/16), from which the Chancellor is to select one as specified in the By-Laws of the Board of Regents:

Hugh Reilly (appointed)  
Kerry Ward.

V. Other Faculty Senate Committee Reports

A. Faculty Senate Budget Advisory Committee Report:  Prof. E. Johnson, Maher, Ward
   The committee is working on:
   • Distribution of Funds
   • Salary Compression

B. Ad Hoc Survey Group (both Faculty & Student) - Ongoing:

C. Ad Hoc Faculty Senate Strategic Plan Writing Group:  Senator Holley

VI. Non-Senate Committee Reports

A. AAUP:  Senator Elder reported the AAUP Executive Committee met on Friday December 18 at 9am.
   The UNO AAUP and the UNO Administration have agreed on a new faculty workload policy, and will sign an agreement to this effect as soon as possible. Faculty had an opportunity to provide feedback on the draft policy beginning in August, and the UNO AAUP received many helpful comments between August and October. Senator Elder will ask for a copy of the draft policy for the full Senate meeting next week.

B. Alumni Association:  Prof. Vlasek wrote the Board of Directors met December 1, 2015.
   Board Members in Attendance: Sarah Waldman, Scott Durbin, Al Hansen, Randy Stevenson, Laurie Ruge, David Craft, Andy Rikli, Traci Harrison, Adam Marek, Penny Parker, Todd Rynaski, Tina Scott-Mordhorst, Brian Allison, Tami Williams, Chris Denney, Steve Schmitz, Viv Ewing, Matt Kardell, Enid Schonewise, Chancellor John Christensen, Gary Seitz, Scott Vlasek, Brock Lewis, Lee Denker
   Guests: Brian Hastings, Mike Bird
   Others: Anthony Flott, Elizabeth Kraemer, Maria Malnack, Steven Summers, Meri Kennedy
   The minutes of the August 2015 meeting were reviewed.  Viv Ewing motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Matt Kardell seconded and the motion carried.

President's Report:
Lee Denker reported that phase 1 of the renovations for the Thompson Alumni Center is underway. Denker also mentioned that the Maverick Monument donor wall is officially full and complete. Denker reminded the board to submit their board engagement information to Meri Kennedy throughout the year.

Anthony Flott reported that UNO Magazine S.T.E.M edition was published in October with very innovative cover art. The spring issue theme is “body.” Flott also stated that the spring 2015 UNO Magazine’s pull out map earned a gold award from AIGA (American Institute for Graphic Artists) and is on display at Kaneko Library downtown.

Elizabeth Kraemer gave a recap of recent events including Homecoming Office Decorating Contest, Golden Circle Luncheons, Young Alumni Academy, Alumni Open House at Baxter Arena and Alumni Night of Honor. Kraemer stated that she will attend the CASE VI Conference in January along with Lee Denker and Anthony Flott. Future programs include outreach events in Arizona and Colorado, and upcoming Golden Circle Luncheons.

Updates:

Brock Lewis reported that the Baxter Arena has been a huge success and has helped with student involvement. Lewis updated the board regarding the campus smoking ban and stated that there has been little push back from students. Student Government is working with the Office of Inclusion on campus to help students understand how Student Government works, how to better utilize their resources and how to become leaders.

New Business:

Quarterly Financials- Scott Durbin reviewed the quarterly UNOAA financials.

14-15 Audit- Durbin reported that the Operations Committee recently met with the Auditors from Hancock & Dana to review the 2014-15 audit and a clean opinion was received.

Excused to Executive Session at 4:47 p.m.

Old Business:

Advancement Strategic Integration- The board entered executive session to discuss Strategic Integration. Chancellor Christensen, Brian Hastings and Mike Bird were invited to remain in closed session. The “University of Nebraska at Omaha, University of Nebraska Foundation and University of Nebraska at Omaha Alumni Association Strategic Integration” Terms Document was reviewed. Randy Stevenson and Sarah Waldman described the process for finalizing to the terms sheet. A question and answer session followed before the three invited guests were excused. Following additional discussion, the board agreed to formalize the terms. The following motion was made by Scott Durbin. A motion to (a) accept the proposed terms set forth in the “University of Nebraska at Omaha, University of Nebraska Foundation and University of Nebraska at Omaha Alumni Association Strategic Integration” document, and (b) authorize the UNOAA Executive Committee to enter into a strategic integration agreement with UNO and UNF which contains those terms, as well as any other terms necessary to finalize strategic integration. Second by Andy Rilki. Motion carried.

C. UCAT (University Committee for the Advancement of Teaching): Nancy Meyer wrote the committee met December 4, 2015.

Members present: Robert Ottemann, Shelby VanNordstrand, Claudia Rauter, Jim Shaw, David Peterson

Members absent: Leah Pietron, Michael Messerole, JooHo Lee
Guests present: Candice Batton

Candice Batton informed the committee that the budget allotment for UCAT for 2015-2016 academic year was $45,000 versus the $40,000 as previously noted. She suggested applying a portion of these funds toward the cost of the speaker for the Designated Conference.

Following discussion, it was decided to award 20 - $100 stipends to individuals to attend the UCAT Designated Conference in February. Additionally, 20 - $200 stipends to individuals who attend the Designated Conference as well as one other designated event (Pre-Conference Workshop on February 1, 2016 and/or Post-Conference Workshop in Mid-April). It should be noted that first year faculty and pre-tenure faculty will be given first priority for the stipends.

**Travel Applications**

- Saltamacchia – approved for $666.50
- Delkamiller – approved for $800
- Kearney – approved for $800
- Cooper – approved for $752

**Curriculum Development/Materials Applications**

- Greiner – not approved
- Toscano – approved for $1000
- Qureshi – approved for $1000
- Schuetzler – approved for $324
- Tocamiaza-Hatch – approved for $1000
- Chalecki – approved for $1000
- Guerra – approved for $1000
- DeSanti – approved for $1000
- Walls – approved for $1000
- Boca – not approved

**VII. Old Business**

The EC&C decided that, in the future, the items that have been listed under Old Business will be listed at the end of each committee listed on the agendas that each has been charged to, under the title, “Pending.” If an item has not been assigned to a committee, then it will be listed, in the full Senate agenda, at the end of the Executive Committee report, also under “Pending.”

A. **Revise and Separate Alcohol and Illicit Drugs Policies** (See Resolution Log for Resolution 4188 under “To Be Followed Up”) (in Faculty Personnel & Welfare, also in Central Administration) (11/2015 to EC&A agenda for follow up)

B. **Regarding Establishing Clear and Communicable Policies for Emeritus Status** (See Resolution Log for Resolution 4185 under “To Be Followed Up”) (from 4/15 EC&A Minutes: Update on Professor Emeritus Progress – Arts and Sciences have a draft policy. James McCarty is making sure there is at least a policy at the college level. Follow up in the fall 2015.) (e-mail 11/5/15 to James McCarty asking for status w/a follow-up call from President Woody.) (1/6/16 to EC&A)

C. **Adjunct Instructor Issues:** (in Professional Development Committee 3/15)

   Actions to Date: Professional Development Committee led by Senator Sollars is conducted a survey of adjunct instructors. Faculty Survey indicated a top 10 concern
regarding adjunct instructor issues

The Student Senate survey also indicated several concerns about adjunct instructors

Next Steps? How to integrate this information and work with administration to address all these adjunct issues. (1/20/16 to EC&A agenda for follow up)

D. UNO Constituency Safety & Well-being: (in Faculty Personnel & Welfare, 5/15)

Senator Scherer reported better education, coordination and communication of information to all constituencies on how to facilitate the health, safety and well-being of ALL of its constituents:

1. Student Safety Website—very impressive but would like to see a Faculty and Staff Safety website
2. Confusion on resources for faculty staff (Ombudsmen, EAP person, Counseling, Behavioral Review Team, etc.). What information is confidential? What is not? Where to go?
3. BRT: Student Concerns—Student is the focal person or person of concern and faculty, staff and students can report here? If is the person of concern is a faculty or student, where does a faculty or staff person report? What are the mechanisms for dealing with the issue(s)?

E. Mental Health Related Issue: A senator asked the Faculty Senate to follow up on what specific resources are available to report students needing help (from harming self or others) and how the process works. (in Professional Development Committee, 10/14/15)

What is the structure of reporting an issue, and how is this being advertised to faculty?

F. Parking Issues:

(The Senate thought fees for Adjunct parking were still too expensive and asked that this be put on the next EC&A agenda.) (12/16/2015 to EC&A agenda for follow up)

G. University of Nebraska Awards (IDEA, ORCA, OTICA, UDTA) (back to Rules Committee, 10/7/15) (1/20/2016 EC&A agenda for follow up)

H. Distribution of Funds AND Salary Compression (to Faculty Senate Budget Advisory Committee, 10/7/15)

I. MavCard Bus Pass for Faculty (Resolution 4224, then to Faculty Personnel & Welfare Committee, 10/7/14 & 1/14/15) Resolved and advertised: All may use MavCard to ride Metro buses free.

Received 11/23/15:

From: Brock Lewis <blewis@unomaha.edu>
Sent: Monday, November 23, 2015 8:59 PM
To: Robert Woody; Teonne Wright
Subject: MavRide Future
Hello,

I wanted to reach out with an update to the MavRide program. Patrick Wheeler has taken the lead on discussions that would make MavRide a university wide sustainability initiative. Starting this spring MavRide will be supported by the Office of Business and Finance along with Student Government, and will be open to all of UNO 24/7 365 days a year. As far as I am aware of anyone with a
MavCard will be able to use the Metro buses whenever they want. Due to these changes we will not be moving forward with switching faculty and staff over to using passes. This is due to students no longer needing a pass so there is no need for anyone to switch over to a pass. Please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns.

Brock Lewis
UNO Student Body President/Regent

J. UNO Ombudsman Charter/Confidentiality (The EC&C sent this to the Faculty Personnel & Welfare Committee 11/11/15 to collect and collate suggestions to send feedback back to Shereen Bingham in December 2015.) (1/6/2016 to EC&A agenda for follow up)

K. Class Scheduling/Classroom Space (in Educational Resources & Services Committee, 10/14/15)

L. Grading Policy Change for “F” “FW” Grades (Policy draft 11/02/15 by Financial Support and Scholarships Office, updated 11/15/15.) Senator Grams

To: All UNO Faculty
From: B.J. Reed, Senior Vice Chancellor
Subject: F/FW Grading Policy Announcement
Date: November 24, 2015

Effective for Fall 2015, all faculty will be required to distinguish between two types of failing grades when issuing an F as a course grade in MavLink. As an overview, a grade of F will be entered for students who attempt the majority or all course requirements, but fail to meet expectations regarding performance levels. A grade of FW will be entered for students who fail the course as a result of failing to attempt a significant portion of course requirements because they stopped attending; for the FW, the instructor will need to enter the last date of academic activity participation. Both the F and FW will appear as F on the student’s transcript. The purpose of the F/FW distinction is linked with federal financial aid regulations that require the institution to determine if students who fail receive F grades because of stopped attendance. Please see attached for more specific information and common questions about this policy. The Registrar’s Office will be sending an email to all faculty on December 4th with a reminder about this policy and other grading announcements.

M. Statement Affirming Free Expression on Campus? Senator Eesley (12/9/15 in Academic & Curricular Affairs Committee)

The university of Chicago is leading the way in responding proactively to this campus issue:  https://provost.uchicago.edu/FOECommitteeReport.pdf
Their committee was appointed by the provost in July of 2014.

This has been joined by other schools:
Princeton:  http://www.princeton.edu/pub/rrr/part1/index.xml#comp113
Purdue:  https://d28htnjz2elwuj.cloudfront.net/wp-content/uploads/2003/02/04160100/Purdue-BoT-resolution.pdf
John Hopkins:
American University: [link]
(As a faculty senate resolution)

And other schools like Faculty Senate of Winston-Salem State University.

### N. Joint Resolution Concerning Guns on Campus?

See FP&W committee report.

Senators Griff Elder and Paul Landow have submitted the following resolution to the Faculty Senate Faculty Personnel & Welfare Committee:

**Resolution Concerning Guns on Campus**

Whereas the classrooms, laboratories, libraries and residence halls of a university are places for reflection, discussion, study and learning, and

Whereas the presence of firearms, except those in the direct possession of law-enforcement personnel, in the university environment detracts from and interferes with the ability of students to learn, and the ability of faculty to teach and perform research;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska-Omaha supports the ability of University authorities to restrict the carrying of firearms on campus, and opposes any legislation that would curtail this ability.

Rec. from UNL Faculty Senate President 11/17/15:

*From: John Bender <jbender1@unl.edu>*
*Sent: Tuesday, November 17, 2015 7:53 PM*
*To: Robert Woody*
*Subject: RE: Faculty Senate Resolution*

Bob,

I passed President Bounds’ comments on to the Executive Committee, and they seemed to want to continue with the resolution. They think it would be wise to be on the record in opposition to anything that would alter the present situation regarding guns on campus. Even though the bill would only allow the Regents to change the policy, not require it, the effect would be to create political pressure on the Regents to allow the carrying of concealed weapons. Making clear that we oppose it will help deter that development. Also, if passage seemed to be likely, having the faculty on record opposing the measure could make a difference.

John

Reply from UNO Faculty Senate President 11/18/15:

*John: Thank you for your feedback. Two of our Faculty Senators have submitted a brief resolution similar to your resolution, and it has been referred to a committee. By copy of this letter, I am asking our FacSen Administrative Assistant, Sue Bishop, to send the information below to the Committee and our Executive Committee. I am also requesting that Sue keep you and the other two FacSen Presidents informed of what transpires on this matter at UNO.*
I would welcome you letting me know any further decisions. Bob

N. No Smoking on Campus: (1/6/16 to next EC&A mtg.)
   • Progress?
   • Who heads the Task Force?
   • Is there a Faculty liaison, if so, who?

VIII. New Business

A. Request for Faculty Advisors to Student Organizations:
   From: Martha Spangler
   Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2015 3:43 PM
   To: Robert Woody
   Subject: Faculty Senate Meeting
   Hello Dr. Woody,
   I advise student organizations registered with the Office of Student
   Activities. One of the policies that was just placed was requiring organizations to
   have a UNO faculty or staff advisor. Unfortunately, many of the students that
   come into our office wanting to start an organization find it difficult to secure an
   advisor.
   I’m hoping to identify faculty members that would be interested in serving
   as advisors, so that I may compile a waiting list of sorts. I’d love an opportunity to
   come speak to faculty senate about student organizations and an advisor’s role.
   Please let me know if this would be possible for your upcoming meetings next
   semester.
   If I don’t hear from you beforehand, enjoy the break!

   Martha Spangler
   Student Activities Coordinator
   Office of Student Activities | MBSC 302
   University of Nebraska at Omaha | www.unomaha.edu
   402.554.2368
   mspangler@unomaha.edu

   The EC&C decided to not put this request on the full Senate agenda. They felt that
   all that was necessary was to request Ms. Spangler send us the relevant information
   necessary to be a faculty advisor and we would distribute this to the Senators, etc.

B. Request for Faculty Working Committee for Definition/Discussion of Student
   Academic Integrity (Candice Batton)

   (e-mail to President Woody received 12/21/15)
   As you know, UNO approved a revised Student Code of Conduct last summer.
   Discussions about the new policy coupled with institutional accreditation
   requirements have given rise to a few questions about the institutional processes in
   place for responding to academic integrity concerns and for tracking/monitoring
   “repeat offenders” (i.e., students who violate academic integrity codes multiple
   times). The Asst/Assoc Deans/VCs group with whom I meet regularly has identified
   some ideas for moving forward as well as questions/concerns that they and their
   faculty colleagues have. Phil and I thought it would be valuable to gather input from
   Faculty Senate, and thus, are requesting the opportunity to meet with your executive
committee or a different committee if you think it appropriate. (A meeting with the entire Faculty Senate is premature at this point.) Generally speaking, it seems as if there may be faculty support for the idea of the institution reviewing and possibly responding to situations where a student repeatedly violates the academic integrity policy, but the development of a process to facilitate this needs to protect and preserve existing faculty rights/responsibilities and due process rights for students.

If this is not a matter that you think appropriate for Faculty Senate to consider, please let me know. I spoke with Sue this morning about it, thus, she may have more information for you. I hope that you enjoy the holidays!

Candice

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Candice Batton, Ph.D.
Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
(e-mail received 1/4/16)

Bob/Sue,

Greetings and happy new year! As you know, Phil Covington and I have been looking into the university’s policy on academic integrity and trying to insure that there is clear, consistent, and accurate information about academic integrity on the UNO website. I found several Faculty Senate resolutions related to the policy, but had a few questions.

The following highlighted portions seem to make provisions for a few things that do NOT appear in the Undergraduate Catalog:

http://www.unomaha.edu/facsen/minutes/2002_2003/03_3_ms.php

Resolution 2664, 03/12/03: Maintaining a Record of Students Who Violate the Academic Integrity Policy

WHEREAS the faculty of the University of Nebraska at Omaha places a high value on academic integrity,
WHEREAS violations of the policy on academic integrity warrant meaningful sanctions,
WHEREAS the sanctions should be appropriate to the offense, with progressive discipline for repeat offenders,
THEREFORE be it resolved that

• The Office of Student Affairs shall maintain a record of students who violate the policy on academic integrity;
• After the faculty member has taken the appropriate action as outlined in the Academic Integrity policies, he or she is encouraged to report violations to the Office of Student Affairs;
• Reports should be made by the faculty member in whose class the violation occurs;
• On a first offense, Student Affairs will take no action unless the faculty member specifically requests their intervention;
• On subsequent offenses, students will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion, as deemed appropriate by the judicial officer in Student Affairs;
• The judicial officer will inform students of their right to appeal;
• A student's record of offenses will be confidential and will be destroyed when he or she graduates.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the section on academic integrity in the undergrad catalog be revised to inform students of this policy.
QUESTIONS
1. I do not see that faculty are “encouraged” to report the incident to Student Affairs – only that they “may” report.
2. I do not see in the policy that a first offense will result in no action by Student Affairs unless requested by the faculty member. Should this be explicitly stated in the policy?
3. The policy indicates that repeat offenders may be disciplined but does not specifically say anything about expulsion. Should it?
4. The policy does not say anything about being destroyed upon graduation or how the student can access it.

I did not see anything on the FacSen site that would negate these resolutions, but it is possible that I missed something. If so please let me know. Ultimately, we would like to determine if the Academic Integrity policy in the Ugrad Catalog needs to be revised/edited to reflect FacSen decisions. If you prefer that we hold off with these questions until you have decided which FacSen body might be best for us to talk with, that is fine. To be clear, I know that there are other resolutions related to the policy, but this seems to be one where questions came up. Also, as always, if it is easier to discuss this over the phone, please feel free to call!

Thanks!

Candice

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Candice Batton, Ph.D.
Assistant Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

The EC&C sent this to the Academic & Curricular Affairs Committee, as that committee wrote the above resolution. With their workload, they will probably invite Dr. Batton to speak at their February meeting.

IX. The meeting adjourned at 4:02 p.m. with announcements.

X. Announcements

A. Faculty Senate Mtg: Wednesday, January 13, 2016, CEC 231
2 p.m. Presentation: Deb Denbeck (Partnership4kids).
B. EC&A Mtg: Wednesday, January 20, 2016, 2 p.m., EAB 200
C. EC&C Mtg.: Wednesday, February 3, 2016, 2 p.m., ASH 196
D. Faculty/Staff Awards Banquet: Wednesday, April 27, 2016, MBSC Ballroom, 6:30 p.m. Social, 7:15 p.m. Dinner

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