
Excused: J. Anderson, Bernstein, Dick, Kealey, Ni, Nordman, Peterson, Prisbell, Tiller,

Absent: Nordness, Robins, Rowe,

Guest: Student Government President/Regent Patrick Davlin

Before the meeting began Senator Woody welcomed Student Government President/Regent Patrick Davlin.

I. The meeting was called to order by President Woody at 2:06 p.m.

II. The Minutes of December 14, 2016, were approved as submitted.

III. Officers’ Reports

A. President’s Report: Senator Woody wrote in his January 2017 letter to all faculty:

Welcome to the 2017 New Year and the beginning of our Spring Semester. I am sure that we faculty members are “rarin’ to go.”

In the Faculty Senate, the “big event” was the election of Laura W. Grams to serve as President of the UNO Faculty Senate, starting in May, 2017 (when my term ends), and continuing until May, 2018. As I have said before, I encourage every faculty member to consider seeking membership on the Faculty Senate. For whatever reason, I have been told that the election process varies with the College, so please check with your Dean’s office for details. Congratulations to President-Elect Grams.

By invitation from the American Council of Education, UNO has affiliated with the Internationalization Laboratory, which will assist in developing goals and strategies for curriculum and engagement issues and partnerships. A plan for comprehensive internationalization will be developed. A finalized “Lab Deliverable” is targeted for April-July, 2018.

The search committee for advising President Bounds on the hiring of a UNO Chancellor has had several communications and meetings. Any questions about the search or search committee should be directed to Melissa Lee (melissalee@nebraska.edu), Director of Communications for the NU System.

President Bounds has formed “working groups,” under the guidance of a “steering committee,” composed of staff, faculty, and others with expertise in key nonacademic topics. A “professional planner” will assist. To date, the working group areas are:

1. Information Technology
2. Facilities Management
3. Financial Operations/Accounting
4. Human Resources/Payroll
5. PR/Communications/Marketing
6. Procurement
7. Printing/Copying/Postage
8. Energy
9. Digital Education
10. Travel

Appointments to these working groups will likely be made soon (nominations have been received). Other working groups may be added. Additional information about the working groups is presumably available from President Bounds’ assistant, Phil Bakken (pbakken@nebraska.edu).

At its December meeting, the UNO Faculty Senate endorsed the following resolution:

“THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate recommends to the UNO administration that the faculty members on the Academic Freedom & Tenure Committee, the Faculty Grievance Committee, and the Professional Conduct Committee all be compensated at an hourly rate comparable with what the University pays the other participants in the hearings when service on these committees extends beyond the 9 month academic year.” It is expected that the administration will consider this resolution in the near future. I will keep the faculty posted on the status of this resolution.

In the Spring Semester, it is expected that there will be about 51 faculty members and about 1,500 students making use of Canvas. The evaluation of its possibly replacing Blackboard continues.

The Task Force on Adjuncts et al. continues its monthly meeting. No decisions have yet been made, but hopefully in January or February suggestions for policies will be submitted to the Senior Vice Chancellor and Faculty Senate for consideration and potential action.

The concern about the State budget has great priority. The possible dollar amounts necessary to achieve a viable budget vary, and it seems best at this time to say simply that needs and options are under consideration. As mentioned in my previous reports, I have no doubt that the NU administration is highly capable of promoting optimal financial benefits for all of the campuses.

B. Secretary/Treasurer Report: Senator Eesley

1. EC&A: December 21, 2016
   Senators: Dale Eesley, Laura Grams, Robert Nash, Elliot Ostler, Robert Woody
   Administrators: Chancellor John Christensen, SVC BJ Reed, VC William Conley
   SVC Reed:
   Budget Discussion:
   • President Bounds is looking for areas to save money.
   • The process may be different than in the past. There will be more input from Varner Hall, and perhaps more strategically.
   • Hiring Freeze and non-faculty pay freeze
   • Will protect the academic enterprise
   • Wants to look at budget cuts, where they happen, not in a proportional way.
   • Woody feels the tension regarding the budget is fairly low.
Regents:
- Approved Biomechanics program
- Approved Extra $500K for Maverick Landing. All privately funded.
- Approved Rick Yoder to be on the OPPD board

Adjunct Task Force:
- SVC BJ Reed sees the progress of the task force positively. Is supportive of hiring more instructors.
- Professors of Practice raises issues that should be discussed with AAUP. FS may want to contact Joe Brown.
- Data Retention Issue:
  - FS President President Woody is in touch with Matt Morton regarding data retention and regulated data.
  - Woody also noted that adjuncts are favored by some colleges, they are not going away, and faculty have to shoulder their service burden.
- Avalon server has been terminated.

Grievance committee and Summer Pay
SVC Reed says they may need more information. It is a workload issue as much as a compensation issue. Let’s have further discussion.

Anonymous Reporting:
BJ says there is anonymous reporting to ombudsmen. The Collective Bargaining Agreement may control reporting on faculty.

### 2016-2017 Resolution Action Table
(Reaction Pending and Current Resolutions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Res. #</th>
<th>Date Senate Passed</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Admin Accept</th>
<th>Sent for Senate Action</th>
<th>Denied</th>
<th>Deferred</th>
<th>In Progress</th>
<th>Final Action/Resolved</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4279</td>
<td>12/14/16</td>
<td>Grievance Committees Summer Compensation</td>
<td>12/21/17</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4278</td>
<td>11/9/16</td>
<td>Replacement of A&amp;S Senator</td>
<td>12/21/17</td>
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**TO BE FOLLOWED UP**

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<tr>
<td>4200</td>
<td>5/13/16</td>
<td>Development of Task Force to Examine the Role of Part-time Faculty in the University of Nebraska at Omaha’s Strategic Mission</td>
<td>5/20/15</td>
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**CARRIED FORWARD**

2. **Treasurer’s Report:** Senator Eesley submitted the December 2016 Budget Report

IV. **Executive Committee:** Senator Grams reported the following 4 issues were discussed by the EC&C at the 1/4/17 meeting:
A. **Adjunct Task Force**
   President Woody asked if there any suggestions or comments from Faculty Senators to forward to Task Force? There were none.

B. **(to EC&C 1/4/16 Pending) Student Government LMS Resolution, 12/1/16:**
   **Learning Management System Requirement** This issue was discussed and the EC&C are working on a response. President Woody will write a brief response, quoting Board of Regents Policies, acknowledging the Student Government Resolution. It will be discussed more in February.

C. **(to ER&S 1/4/17 Pending) Disability Designation Process/Testing Center Capabilities** (from Gary Krause)
   Senator Grams will make the first reply to Prof. Krause. This issue was sent to the ER&S Committee to look at, to the extent that these issues overlap with other ER&S Pending items.

D. **Participation in UNO Faculty Senate (Fall 2016 to EC&C Pending)**
   1. Need to encourage and strengthen participation on UNO Faculty Senate.
   2. One possibility might be to change the FS Constitution
   3. Discussions with Colleges
   4. Go to Chairperson mentor(s)?
   5. Go to Board of Chairs

**PENDING**

A. **Grading Policy Change for “F” “FW” Grades** (Policy draft 11/02/15 by Financial Support and Scholarships Office, updated 11/15/15.) (Another issue to note is verification of attendance.) *(Fall 2016 w/ Senator Grams and Executive Committee)*

B. **Regulated Data** *(to EC&A agenda 10/2016)*
   And **Retain Data** on Blackboard, etc., for at least 3 years. *(EC&A agenda 12/21/16)*

C. **Summer Work:** The EC&C saw that the matter of service in summer months was added to the September 2016 EC&A agenda to start discussion with administration. Most faculty have 9-month/academic year contract, so on-going service on university committees, task forces, etc. which meet during the summer months is, as yet, unpaid. *(See also standing committees working on aspects: A&CA, FP&W 8/17/16.)*

D. **UNO Public Safety Document** *(Director, Charlotte Evans (12/7/16 Senator Elder volunteered to work on this.)*

V. **Standing Committee Reports**

A. **Committee on Educational Resources & Services:** Senator Eesley (No Meeting/No Report)

**PENDING:**

1. **Class Scheduling/Classroom Space** *(to ER&S, 10/14/15)*
2. **Blackboard/Canvas** *(to ER&S 8/17/16)* There were questions about a possible move to Canvas from Blackboard, and the testing process of Canvas. Karen Hein will be invited to discuss FCE/API and matters related to the discussion of adopting Canvas vs. Blackboard. ER&S will also invite a Canvas expert from UNL, such as the UNL Faculty Senate President, and Bret Blackman, Chief Information Office, Information Services to discuss the topic further.
   - **Request for Blackboard Information to be Retained:** *(to ER&S 11/2/16)*
Email Received 11/1/16:
I suggest we consider asking that “gradebook” information be retained on Blackboard (and Canvas if we switch) for 3 years. It is currently saved for 2 years (6 semesters including summer semesters). Faculty are “strongly encouraged” to save grade information for 3 years. The online gradebook included in Blackboard is a convenient and secure location to have the information stored. Yes, we can download the information and save it, but then we need to worry about keeping it secure to comply with privacy laws and policies, whereas it is already secure on Blackboard.

3. **Disability Letters, etc.** (to ER&S 8/17/16) To reorganize how disability letters are sent out. Rather than one letter per student have one letter listing students for each faculty member. There should be a follow-up with information/instructions so faculty know how to apply accommodations.

4. **Digital Measures Update w/Candice Batton:** (to ER&S 11/3/16)

5. **Speaker for International Programs:** On 12/14/16 or 1/11/17 Faculty Senate Mtg.? Sent to Educational Resources & Services Committee to decide if a presentation is necessary or if this information can be put in writing and sent to the Senators (sent to ER&S 11/2/16).

**B. Committee on Faculty Personnel and Welfare:** Senator Elder (No Meeting/No Report)

**PENDING:**

1. **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:

   a. Student Safety Website—very impressive but would like to see a Faculty and Staff Safety website

   b. Confusion on resources for faculty staff (Ombudsmen, EAP person, counseling, Behavioral Review Team, etc.). What information is confidential? What is not? Where to go?

   c. 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)?

   - On 10/12/16 this topic will be postponed until March 2017.

2. **Green Card**

   - We have decided to postpone this issue until January when Joy Chao comes off of FDF and returns to the committee. We need her experience to help us understand this topic.

3. **Wellness Initiative** concerning HPER fees and possible consultant. (8/17/16 goal of FP&W)

4. **Bias Assessment Response Team**

   Sent to the Faculty Personnel & Welfare Committee to decide if a presentation is necessary or if this information can be put in writing and sent to the Senators. (Sent to FP&W 11/2/16).

**C. Committee on Goals and Directions:** Senator Ostler (No Meeting/No Report)
Pending:

1. **Facilities Planning & Faculty Representation** *(Sent to G&D 2/10/16)*
   As important and continuous decisions are made regarding facilities and facilities planning on campus, we would like to see more faculty involvement in these plans, and be allowed frequent opportunities to engage in discussion with administration about facilities planning. The one committee the Faculty Senate is aware of is the University Committee on Facilities Planning, which meets once a year. The University Committee on Technology Resources, Services & Planning meets more frequently, but its primary focus is on the technology needs of the campus.

2. **Ad-Hoc Faculty Senate Strategic Plan Writing Group:** *Sent to G&D on 5/4/16.*

3. **Unit Based Recruiting.** Units/faculty being involved in recruiting at unit level. *(Sent to G&D 8/17/16)*

4. **How to Encourage Faculty to Serve on Faculty Senate** *(12/7/16 sent to G&D)*

D. **Committee on Professional Development:** Senator Adams (No Meeting/No Report)

**PENDING:**

1. **10/2016:** We are interested to learn more about the newly formed Nebraska Applied Research Institute and how the institute supports faculty research across disciplines (or if it is particularly focused on select disciplines/lines of inquiry) *(PD 10/2016)*

2. **10/2016:** Given a growing number of questions and concerns about Faculty Professional Development Leave policies/procedures, our committee will be gathering information (policies/procedures) at all levels (regents, university, colleges, departments) and comparing those documents in order to explore questions, including:
   a. Can faculty get a full year of leave if waiting until 12 years of service instead of at 6 years?
   b. What are the earning restrictions while on leave (sabbatical)?
   c. What documents govern how leave is prioritized/awarded?
   d. What are the criteria for leave across colleges/departments? How consistent are these?
   e. Who all reviews and/or weighs in on these decisions?
   f. What language does the AAUP contract have regarding leave/sabbatical?

3. **10/2016:** Concerns have been raised about the ownership of research/creative activity/intellectual property, particularly with regard to software, but we are exploring this issue broadly, with the following questions:
   a. What policies/practices describe intellectual property?
   b. How does ownership of intellectual property work with “new” technologies, like the Digital Commons?
   c. How or to what extend are royalties/fees received from books, research, or creative activities impacted?
   [Because Victor Winter raised this issue but was not at our meeting, we are asking him to speak more about this at our next meeting. Depending on where this goes, we may need to talk with administrators from a range of offices as well as the Dean of the Library]
E. Committee on Rules: Senator Nash (No Meeting/No Report)

F. Committee on Academic & Curricular Affairs: Senator Miller (No Meeting/No Report)

**PENDING:**
1. Request for Faculty Working Committee for Definition/Discussion of Student Academic Integrity (from Candice Batton) (to AC&A 1/6/16)
2. Review of Center for Human Rights (to A&CA 11/1/16)

VI. Old Business

A. Parking on Dodge Campus for Scott Campus Senators for Meetings
   This issue will be put on the EC& Administration meeting.

VII. New Business

A. Faculty Senate Membership Changes were announced:
   1. **CFAM Senator** Chin Chung (Joy) Chao returning from Fall 2016 Paid Professional Leave. Barry Ford replaced her for Fall 2016 only.
   2. **External Senator** Dale Tiller returning from Fall 2016 Paid Professional Leave. Bing Chen replaced him for Fall 2016 only.

VIII. The meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m. with announcements.

IX. Announcements

A. **EC&A Mtg:** Wednesday, January 18, 2017, 2 p.m., EAB 200
B. **EC&C Mtg:** Wednesday, February 1, 2017, 2 p.m., ASH 196
C. **Faculty Senate Mtg:** Wednesday, February 8, 2017, 2 p.m., CEC 230/231

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Schedule for 2016-2017</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>EC&amp;C Meetings</strong>  (Usually 1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; Wednesday of month)</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>*July 6  (July 4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; is on Monday)</td>
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| *August 10 | August 17, 2016 (Retreat) (3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday)  
Classes begin 8/22/16 |
| September 7 | September 14 |
| October 5 | October 12 |
| November 2 | November 9 |
| December 7 (Prep Week 12/5-10/2016) | December 14 (Finals 12/12-15/16)  
Commencement 12/16/16 |
| January 4<sup>th</sup>  (Semester begins 1/9/17) | January 11 |
| February 1 | February 8 |
| March 1 | March 8  (Spring Break 3/19-26/17) |
| April 5 | April 12 |
| May 3  (Finals Week 5/1-4/17)  
Commencement 5/5/17 | May 10 |