



## 2020-2021 Executive Council Minutes Wednesday, May 5, 2021

**Present:** Anderson, Blackman, Carroll, Fritz, Haugerud, Hewitt, Jenkins, Lindburg, Ostler, Pottorff, Qureshi, Rech, Schulz, Wessling  
**Absent:** Garcia, Vnuk

**I. Official Call to Order** at 2:34 p.m. by Vice President Qureshi

**II. The Minutes** of April 7, 2021 were approved as submitted.

### **III. Officers' Reports**

#### **A. President's Report:** Senator Ostler

1. **Chancellor Confirmed:** On Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup>, Dr. Joanne Li from Florida International University was confirmed as Chancellor of UNO. She will be considered "chancellor elect" beginning June 1 and will formally begin her role as Chancellor on July 1. If you did not get a chance to see her in person or see any of the sessions she hosted, you might want to take a quick look at the following YouTube video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MjMJZmPsEeY>
2. **J-term (now called 3-week January Session):** You will continue to hear about the J-term over the summer (three week January session) but I wanted to give you this one last reminder under my watch to stay ahead of it. I've gotten several questions over the past month from students and parents about it and I believe it will be helpful for returning and first time students to UNO to get the same answers from everyone they ask. Please review the facts of the J-session and consider teaching. It may seem like next January is far away but new classes will need to be developed and approved sooner rather than later. For logistical reasons, students will be enrolling in the Spring Semester and the J-session at the same time but remember that they are two different sessions. Full time enrollment does NOT require enrollment in the J-session so for some students, it may extend the winter break and allow them to work a few more weeks prior to coming back for the Spring Semester. I've heard some students are really happy about this. Many details are still being worked out, but as far as teaching is concerned, we want to make sure that we have attractive offerings that will help recruit and retain students. Experiential course offerings are especially encouraged. We are already on somewhat of a short timeline. The deadlines will most likely be established within your colleges but if you are considering developing a course for J-session, May is an excellent time to get moving.
3. **Faculty Senate and Holidays Observances:** Faculty Senate has met traditionally on Wednesdays at 2:00p.m. While this established meeting time is likely unknown to new, incoming Senators, it is important to acknowledge that the meetings may coincide with important religious holidays and/or customs for a number of groups. Given that there are so many different expectations, it is not reasonable to expect Faculty Senate meetings to move away from this longstanding meeting time; however, it is also unreasonable to assume that a faculty member observing religious holidays or events should be pressured or in any other way be made to choose between a Senate obligation and a religious observation. Over this past year, we have witnessed racial, ethnic, and political

tensions, and worse. I want to remind everyone that one of our tasks this year was the participation in developing an Observation of Religious Holidays Policy. In the spirit of that policy, whenever possible, I would ask that Standing Committee Chairs and Executive Committee Members be particularly cognizant of need of our colleagues to be respected for the unique diversity they provide in the University milieu, count their absences as “excused” for such reasons, and get them “caught up” if they miss a Senate meeting.

4. **NU President’s Faculty Excellence Awards:** Please send notes of Congratulations to our University of Nebraska system wide Faculty Excellence Awards Winners. Dr. Nicholas Stergiou (Research/Creative Activity), our own Faculty Senator Dr. Ramazan Kilinc (Teaching), and Dr. Christine Cutucache (Engagement). These are highly competitive awards where competition crosses the four main campuses and UNO is represented in every category.
5. **Fall Campus Operations:** Please check in throughout the summer to get information about fall campus occupation. For now, the pandemic related news is good, and we hope to have a much greater On-Campus presence in the Fall Semester. However, we are still in somewhat uncertain times and will need to be aware of potentially rapid changes. Throughout the summer I would ask that you stay up to date on UNO’s continuing attention and response to the safety of our Students, Staff, Faculty, and community by checking our Covid-19 updates.
6. **Thank You for the Opportunity to Serve:** While I will be serving another year on Faculty Senate in the role of Past President, this is my last meeting in my current role. Given that, I wanted to say that it has been my pleasure to serve UNO’s Faculty this year. The time has been challenging for all of us and I am happy and proud to say how much I have been able to brag about you all this year. So many of you have been so helpful and never was there a time when I did not feel encouraged to ask if I needed something from any of you. A service commitment, such as the one you have all made to FS, is a generous gift of time to your colleagues, and in service to our students and university community. I appreciate it, and all of you who have been so supportive this year. Thank you. I especially want to thank Katrina Jenkins, our FS Coordinator, who has consumed about 3 years of experience and information in the last 6 months. She has been outstanding and really helped me through this year.

**B. Secretary’s Report on EO&A Meeting:** Senator Surface

1. Members present: Doug Ewald, Sacha Kopp, Amy Anderson, Candice Batton, Deb Smith- Howell, Liz Wessling, Sajda Quershi, Elliott Ostler, and Jeanne Surface
2. Dr. Gold is leaving for NU System and we will miss his regular communication with the Faculty Senate regarding Covid. Going forward, we will rely on Jane Meza’s leadership. She is happy to report that to date, there have been zero submissions passed between faculty and students.
3. Senator Anderson – programs split between Lincoln and Omaha programs need to have consistency in all areas of campus work and, in particular, the calendar.
4. Doug Ewald reported that the Legislature approved our budget unanimously. Our targets have been met for the next three years. Tracking financials very close and based solely upon data for the budget this year. Summer enrollment may push us

ahead of the budget from last year. -All Data-driven including corporate currency dollars, J-term, return to campus rate. He indicated that we are putting together pluses and minuses—retention loss from Fall to Spring. Typically the retention loss is from Spring to Fall. Financial, mental health crises are causing significant differences.

**5. Sacha Kopp:**

- a.** Indicated that we have already “front-loaded cuts across the College. Adding to the complexity is the lowered tuition rate. We will need new enrollment to meet the makeup for the lowered tuition rate. We need to grow our way to new revenues. We have had success. Deans have the power to flex funds around the colleges as needed. The number of hires is a testament to the growth. We had to hit our enrollment numbers before we were able to release funds.
- b.** Communication regarding student fees. 2-2.5 M in the Fall and a similar amount in Spring. Fall will be lower because of in-person instruction. Hopefully, these concerns have been resolved, and much more clarity will exist. The administration is very sensitive to this concern.
- c.** For building momentum, SVC Kopp suggested one on one meeting with students for re-enrollment. Teaching will take place on a wider variety of spaces. The university has invested in more AV investments expanding technology. Faculty are encouraged to visit the spaces where faculty will be teaching to see what is available and become familiar with it.
- d.** J- Term is a pilot. They are planning to put together J-term and spring session registration at the same time. Having the J-term and Spring semester will help students making decisions at the same time.
- e.** Summer enrollment is likely a record in enrollment, and it is believed to be connected to the flexibility of courses.
- f.** Updates on Administrative leave were approved at the last BOR meeting.
- g.** Lab classes- The faculty who hold laboratory courses are concerned that there will too few dates are available to complete labs. A resolution may come to Faculty Senate that will work with the Administration come up with a creative solution for days to completing labs. Sacha Kopp emphasized that labs cannot take away study days from students. All solutions other than study days will be considered. Some faculty expressed that fewer days would not be an option. Senator Anderson asked a question about study days concern with UNO majors with classes on the UNL campus. SVC Kopp explained that this is why Dr. Carter is adamant that the University System coordinates the calendar.
- h.** A discussion was held about the best ways to support Part-time faculty for the significant contribution made by them. The part-time faculty should have access and training to tech, better training with the faculty excellence department, parking relief, possible representation on the Faculty Senate. Deb-Smith Howell suggested a systemized representation from Part-time faculty by College. Sacha, Deb, and Candice will begin this program.
- i.** Faculty Senate will report on the progress of this systemized representation.

Res.#	Date Senate Passed	Title	Admin Accept	Sent for Senate Action	Denied/Deferred/In Progress	Final Action/Resolved
4426	4/14/21	OER Materials				Resolved
4427	4/14/21	Chancellor Gold Resolution				Resolved
4428	4/14/21	PD Maternity Leave				Resolved

### C. Treasurer's Report: Senator Surface (April 2021) (agenda attachment – pg.)

Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha Operating Budget April 2021													
Expenses Paid: By Month	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	YTD
521100 Postage	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
521200 Communications	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	22.00	0.00	0.00	220.00
521500 Print & Copies	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.42	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.42
521800 Dues/Subscriptions/Fees	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
521700 Engraving	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
524200/900 Rent Conf Fac	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>520000 (Op. Exp./Serv.) Total</b>	<b>22.00</b>	<b>22.00</b>	<b>22.00</b>	<b>22.00</b>	<b>22.00</b>	<b>22.00</b>	<b>22.00</b>	<b>26.42</b>	<b>22.00</b>	<b>22.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>224.42</b>
5311/5314/531900 Office Supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	258.59	131.00	0.00	0.00	389.59
531300 Catering	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>530000 (Op. Supplies) Total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>139.00</b>	<b>1,959.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>313.81</b>	<b>80.00</b>	<b>258.59</b>	<b>131.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>2,881.40</b>
541100/500 Lodging/Fees	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
541400 Mileage:	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>540000 (Travel Expense) Total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Total Non-Personnel Services</b>	<b>22.00</b>	<b>22.00</b>	<b>161.00</b>	<b>1,981.00</b>	<b>22.00</b>	<b>22.00</b>	<b>335.81</b>	<b>106.42</b>	<b>280.59</b>	<b>153.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>3,105.82</b>

  

Year To Date:	Budget	Spent	Pending	Balance	Bal. %	Comments	
520000 Operations	2,000	224	0	1,776	89%		
530000 Supplies	3,785	2,881	0	904	24%		
52000 & 530000	5,785	3,106	0	2,679	46%		
540000 Travel	775	0	0	775	100%		
<b>Total Non-Pers. Services</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>3,106</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8,894</b>	<b>74%</b>		

## IV. Standing Committee Reports

### A. Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs: Senator Wessling

1. All members in attendance
2. **Revised Academic Integrity Policy**
  - a. Trent Fredericksen (Office of Student Conduct & Community Standards or SCCS), replied to emails about faculty, departments, or colleges retaining records of students who violate the academic integrity policy. He advised against starting a system of tracking violations and encourages reporting of all violations to the SCCS. He referred us to the General Council Office and Matt Schill (Registrar's Office) for privacy law questions. He said FERPA provides the best guidelines to insure individuals are handling data responsibly while avoiding putting themselves or UNO at risk. Educational Need to Know must be considered. If someone cheats in your course he doesn't feel the department has an educational need to know which could pose some risk. And finally, a database of information would be considered part of student's educational record that he student would be able to request access to as well as the right to seek amending the record if necessary.

- b. Email sent during policy review period was never answered. Revised policy was approved by Chancellor's Cabinet April 6, 2021. Mandatory reporting of violations remains the same as previous version. Record retention information is provided in the revised policy as links to other documents; University of Nebraska Omaha Procedures Concerning Student Records and the University of Nebraska Records Retention Schedule for Student Records.
- c. Currently we are working with Trent Frederickson to fix links, add the incident report form, add Trent Frederickson's information to the revised academic policy and replacing old version of academic integrity policy with revised policy on the SCCS webpage. Once incident report form and links are fixed the reporting process for faculty should be easier and faculty should be highly encouraged to report all incidents to SCCS regardless of sanction given to student(s) involved.

### **3. Hate and Bias Statement Update**

- a. Group meet on April 19, 2021 with guest Dr. Cathy Pettid, UNO's Dean of Students. She advised using a language of care and providing wrap around services was a good bridge for students. If the statement does not get into the master syllabus, she suggested a way to use a Canvas page that could include a statement from her. No update to master syllabi can happen until at least August 1st, the meeting provided more possibilities for student government to consider. Work on this is on-going and will likely continue in the fall.

### **B. Committee on Educational Resources & Services: Senator Vnuk**

- 1. No meeting; no report**

### **C. Faculty Personnel & Welfare Committee: Senator Garcia**

- 1. No meeting; no report**

### **D. Committee on Goals and Directions: Senator Schulz**

- 1. Members present: King, Bragg, Schulz  
Member absent: Logsdon, Maher, Gift
- 2. Propose a new resolution for Part-Time Faculty**

WHEREAS: Part-Time Instructors provide critical support for teaching at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

WHEREAS: Part-Time Instructors do not have a centralized location to obtain information within colleges/departments about policies and procedures.

WHEREAS: Part-Time Instructors are unusually liable to retaliation because they teach on one-semester contracts, and departments can end their employment permanently just by not rehiring them. Thus, they cannot effectively make complaints about their conditions of service.

WHEREAS: Part-Time Instructors do not have a formalized mediation process in place if there is a complaint.

WHEREAS: There is no centralized oversight of professional development for Part-Time Instructors.

WHEREAS: There is no centralized location to oversee rewards and recognition for Part-Time Instructors.

WHEREAS: Part-Time Instructors do not have access to membership with the AAUP at the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

BE IT RESOLVED: We recommend the University of Nebraska at Omaha Office of Academic Affairs create a specific Liaison to Part-Time Instructors, which would serve as an intermediary to the UNO's many Part-Time Instructors. This liaison may be accomplished through the position of the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Faculty Affairs, supported by an Advisory Committee of Part-Time Instructors. The liaison would be available to hear complaints and concerns from Part-Time Instructors confidentially.

*Senator Qureshi made a motion to move this resolution to the Faculty Senate meeting agenda and the motion was unanimously passed. Senator Rech recommends that the committee recommends a liaison position be created to assist with this issue.*

**E. Professional Development: Senator Rech**

**1. No meeting; no report**

**F. Committee on Committees: Senator Anderson**

**1. Present:** Senators Anderson and Qureshi; present but left early: Senators Nero, Park and Fox

**Absent:** Senator Sample

**2. RESOLUTION: Membership of 2021-2022 Faculty Senate Standing Committees**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the following be appointed to the 2020-2021 Faculty Senate standing committees as designated:

Committee on Academic & Curricular Affairs (6)

Harvey Siy, IS&T (2022)  
Todd Robinson, CFAM (2023)  
Jennifer Harbour, A&S (2023)  
Jodi Benenson, CFAM (2023)  
Chris Moore, A&S (2024)  
Deborah Circo, CPACS (2024)

Committee on Educational Resources & Services (6)

James Shaw, LIB (2022)  
Richard Stacy (DEBORA WISNESKI), ED (2023)  
James Vnuk, A&S (2023)  
Chungwook Sim, EXT (2022)  
Beth Chalecki, A&S (2024)

Zhigang Feng, CBA (2024)

Committee on Faculty Personnel & Welfare (6)

David Helm, CFAM (2022)  
Gary Krause, EXT (2023)  
Robin Gandhi, IS&T (2023)  
Samantha Clinkinbeard, CPACS (2024)  
Gwyneth Cliver, A&S (2024)  
Thomas Bragg, A&S (2023)

Committee on Goals & Direction (6)

Charles King, A&S (2022)  
Harmon Maher A&S (2022)  
Steven Schulz, CBA (2023)  
Alan Gift, A&S (2023)  
Elliott Ostler, CEHHS (2022)  
Peggy Jones, CFAM (2024)

Committee on Professional Development (6)

Janice Rech, A&S (2022)  
David Volkman, CBA (2022)  
Samantha Ammon, A&S (2023)  
Mary Perkinson, CFAM (2024)  
Sofia Jawed-Wessel, CEHHS (2024)  
William Melanson, A&S (2024)

Committee on Committees (6)

Derrick Fox, CFAM (2022)  
Lisa Sample, CAPCS (2023)  
Song Young-Park, ED (2023)  
Derrik Nero, ED (2022)  
Rose Strasser, A&S (2024)  
Matt Germonprez, IS&T (2024)

**3. RESOLUTION: Faculty Senate appointments to Campus Committees (a-f)**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the following be appointed to Campus Committees as designated:

**(TO BE ADDED AS FINALIZED)**

**4. RESOLUTION: Faculty Senate appointments to University Committees (a-g)**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the following be appointed to University Committees as designated:

**(TO BE ADDED AS FINALIZED)**

*A motion was made and approved to move all resolutions to the Faculty Senate meeting agenda and that additional committee appointments can be added to the agenda as the committee finalizes them.*

**V. Other Faculty Senate Committees**

**A. Bylaws Committee Revision for Electronic Meetings Resolution**

Whereas, Neither our adopted parliamentary authority nor Nebraska law permits public meetings to be held by electronic means without explicit bylaw provisions for them; and Whereas, Recent bylaw revisions made provision for electronic meetings of its standing committees, but not of the Faculty Senate itself; and Whereas, The Faculty Senate, meeting electronically during a recent period allowed by the Governor's Executive Order Allowing Limited Virtual Meeting Attendance, demonstrated its ability to conduct open meetings and deliberate effectively using electronic means providing both visual and auditory communication;

The Faculty Senate amends its bylaws by insertion at the head of Article VI, paragraph G. Electronic Meeting of:

1. Faculty Senate. The Executive Council, at its regular monthly meeting, may approve that the month's regular Faculty Senate meeting be conducted by electronic means. When the Executive Council decides to conduct the full senate meeting electronically, a link to the communication service to be used for conducting the meeting will be distributed with the agenda. The selected communication service must be simultaneously accessible by all members and enrolled guests, allow for the display of text for all pending motions, and facilitate expeditious and anonymous voting (either through its service offering, or through the display/enabling of additional services), as needed. Mixed meetings, where some members participate remotely while others participate in person, are not allowed.
2. Executive. The president may arrange that any Executive Council meeting be conducted electronically if the vice-president or secretary-treasurer agree, and members are given notice at least twenty-four hours in advance. Communication service requirements include all those for faculty senate plus legible display of extended reports. Executive officers may meet electronically, as mutually agreed, with administration.

*A motion was made to move this resolution to the Faculty Senate agenda and unanimously approved.*

**VI. Adjourn at 3:35 p.m.**