

**2021-2022 Executive Council Minutes**  
**Wednesday, July 7, 2021**

**Present:** Ammons, Carroll, Clinkinbeard, Circo, Jenkins, Jones, Nero, Ostler, Shaw, Siy

**Absent:** Gandhi, Wessling

**I. Official Call to Order** at 2:03 p.m. by Vice-President Shaw

**II. Approval of the Minutes** of the May 12<sup>th</sup> Faculty Senate meeting and June 2, 2021  
Executive Council meeting were approved as submitted.

**III. Officers' Reports**

**A. President's Report:** Senator Wessling

1. Academic Affairs is proposing 3 summer sessions for Summer 2022 instead of our current 5 summer sessions. Forwarded her message to all faculty to help her gather input no later than July 1. A few faculty members emailed me and had all been in favor of proposed summer session schedule

*A question was raised about whether or not custom and/or special sessions will be allowed with the new summer schedule. Senator Shaw recommended that the council follow-up with SVC Kopp for an answer.*

2. Received a faculty email concerned about the change in adjunct pay schedule beginning Fall 2021 which goes from 5 payments to 4 payments that begin in September instead of August. Since faculty member was looking for reason behind pay schedule changes, the questions were forward to SVC Kopp
3. Sarah Kole has requested to speak at a Faculty Senate meeting in the fall about the Collegiate Recovery Community. Here is her email message:

I started in March as the coordinator for the Collegiate Recovery Community (CRC) here at UNO. Formerly, I have worked in Housing and Residence Life and University Communications.

Part of my role now is to spread awareness to campus partners about the CRC to expand our community and make sure students in recovery are not isolated. You all have such strong connections to students across campus and are best suited to refer them to resources they may want or need. The CRC is designed to support all metro area students who are in or seeking recovery from alcohol or drug addiction. We have a dedicated safe space in University Village, #417 for students to attend meetings, study, and connect with other students in recovery or with recovery allies. The CRC is literally changing lives and giving students the support they need to achieve their personal and academic goals.

I am wondering if I could join the faculty senate for 10-15 minutes at one of your meetings this fall? I can share a little bit more about what the CRC offers, touch on recovery allyship, and detail the best way to get students connected to our community

4. If there are any objections or concerns about extending an invite to her, please let me know; otherwise, I will extend her an invite to be a guest speaker prior to the

start of our regular FS meetings later this fall

5. Matt Hale is still trying to get the cHarmony app off his personal server onto a UNO server and his most recent IT ticket went unresolved. I sent him an email to ask if he needs our assistance or if he has a solution. Waiting for his response
6. Student Government is having discussions with administration, staff, and faculty about making Election Day an administrative holiday asking, “How can we explore the possibility of a campus push to increase civic engagement by identifying election days as campus holidays or codifying what flexibilities campus can be afforded to take time to vote/volunteer/etc... on Election day.” (Maeve Hemmer) As I have more details from these discussions, I will pass them along
7. Charley Steed/Kirsten Case shared that the NU system has issued a new policy for employee pay on inclement weather days when the physical campus would be closed. This will impact how information will need to be shared ahead of severe winter weather days. Link to NU System policy: <https://nebraska.edu/-/media/unca/docs/offices-and-policies/policies/policies/hr-04-inclement-weather-closure-pay-policy.pdf>. NOTE: Charley is currently working, as winter weather committee co-chair, with committee members on reviewing our existing policies and guidance and how to adapt to account for this new policy
8. Board of Regents June 25<sup>th</sup> meeting Regents approved the following:
  - a. **NU:**
    - a. Authorization for the Vice President for Business and Finance to approve the amended University of Nebraska Group Health, General Risk-Loss, and Reimbursement Trust Fund
    - b. Agreements between the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska and Wells Fargo Bank
    - c. Approve the establishment of RP-3.3.15 of the *Policies of the Board of Regents* related to the University-wide Consensual Relationships Policy
    - d. Approval to amend the University of Nebraska Four-Year Graduation Guarantee
    - e. Approve the FY 2021-22 Operating Budget and 2021-22 and 2021-22 tuition rates for the University of Nebraska
  - b. **UNO:**
    - a. Request to continue the Bachelor of Science (BS) in Black Studies at the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) and to forward the associated review report and monitoring plan to the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education (NCCPE)
    - b. Approval to create a Master of Arts (MA) in History and Government in the Department of History and Department of Political Science in the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO)
    - c. Extend the Scott Campus at the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) to include all UNO’s property south of Pacific Street
    - d. Approve the Program Statement for Kayser Hall Renovation for the Samuel Bak Museum and Academic Learning Center at UNO

- e. Approve the University of Nebraska at Omaha Department of Public Safety (UNODPS) joining the Interlocal Agreement allowing cooperating law enforcement agencies within Douglas and Sarpy counties in Nebraska to provide assistance in time of emergency or other time of need
- f. Approve the naming of selected spaces within the Rod Rhoden Business Innovation Center at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, pursuant to *Board of Regents Policy* RP- 6.2.7.3.b

**B. Secretary's Report on EO&A Meeting: Senator Siy**

- 1. Attendees: Li, Kopp, Smith-Howell, Bayles, Batton, Ewald, Pettid, Steed, Shaw, Siy, Nero
- 2. FS Vice President Shaw led the meeting.
- 3. Calendar of religious holidays. AVC Batton is leading the development of a calendar of religious holidays. This will pay particular attention to those days that typically require individuals to not be at work or in school, so that administrators and organizers of events to be mindful to try to avoid those holidays. This calendar complements the recent religious observance policy for classes
- 4. Tours of upgraded teaching spaces. Digital Learning is offering tours through some of the teaching spaces upgraded during the past year to get faculty acquainted with the new classroom technology.
- 5. Commencement ceremonies on Aug 14. There will be two ceremonies at Baxter Arena at the end of summer. The first one (at 9:00am) is a commencement ceremony for students graduating in Summer 2021. The second one (at 1:00pm) is a celebration for the students who graduated last year (Spring, Summer, Fall 2020) since their degrees were conferred virtually. Faculty are invited to participate in both ceremonies
- 6. Welcome event for new faculty on Aug 16. It is an opportunity for new faculty from this year and last to connect with each other in person. This event will be held in the afternoon at the Thompson Alumni Center and end with a barbeque. All faculty are invited to the event. SVC Kopp stated that there are around 90 full-time faculty recruited this year, in addition to 60 from last year. Chancellor Li added that families are also invited
- 7. Strategic Planning Forum on Aug 17. This will review and update plans for Fall semester, accounting for whatever guidelines will be in place at that time regarding local and statewide health and safety measures. This will be Chancellor Li's first strategic planning forum.
- 8. Review of International Programs office. A committee from across the campus just finished a review of the International Programs office, assessing opportunities and challenges. SVC Kopp will share the report
- 9. Summer onboarding program for new faculty, July-August. The pandemic provided an opportunity for Academic Affairs to reimagine what new faculty onboarding might look like. In place of the traditional new faculty orientation that usually took place in August the week before classes start, this program will be one day a week for six weeks, starting from early July. It focuses on getting new faculty ready to teach when Fall semester starts, helping them have a good start at developing peer networks beyond their departments, and getting them

acquainted with university support services. The program is organized by Center for Faculty Excellence in collaboration with Office of Digital Learning. Additional monthly onboarding sessions will be offered throughout the semester to help new faculty continue connecting with colleagues and exploring additional resources as appropriate for the time in the semester.

10. New F&A policy under development. AVC Bayles reported that ORCA has developed a new F&A policy document. This policy will clarify many of the questions faculty have about F&A. The policy is currently under review by Compliance and will be posted upon approval. SVC Kopp reiterated that majority of F&A goes back to the PIs' colleges, and how it is distributed depends on the respective deans. The FS can encourage faculty to talk to their deans about this.
11. Student bereavement policy. A group of students inquired if there is a written student bereavement policy. UNO does not have one and AVC Pettid will investigate creating one and work with an appropriate FS standing committee. SVC Kopp suggested that it be rolled into the medical leave policy.
12. Ongoing summer roadwork. VC Ewald reported that there will be ongoing roadwork around campus all summer long. This will start with the access road in front of Criss Library, then the road by the East Parking garage. It is unlikely that all the planned roadwork will be finished by August as contractors are limited by the number of concrete trucks available per day due to the nationwide driver shortage. VC Ewald also noted that the intersection with Elmwood Park is in dire need of a roundabout or other solutions to ease the traffic flow and will be working with the city to come up with a proposed solution.
13. Focus on student retention. Chancellor Li would like the FS to remind faculty that they are most influential in student retention, to reach out to disengaged students, and to partner with administration and professional staff to make sure students come back and graduate in a timely manner.
14. NU System capital campaign. Chancellor Li informed us to get ready for a new capital campaign that will kick off in October 2022. This is an opportunity for UNO to tell its story and advertise what it stands for, to the community and the state. Chancellor Li reminded that each one of us is a fundraiser and to put in a good word about UNO at every opportunity.
15. American Rescue Plan. Many agencies are bidding for funding from the Whitehouse's American Rescue Plan, including the NU System. UNO is working on a pitch to get a share of the funding. NU President Carter will have a President's Council retreat in July where we will pitch our ideas.
16. People are Everything. The new tool for employee recognition (People Are Everything) is rolling out. This will enable UNO employees to celebrate and recognize coworkers for the good work they do. The administration saw a demonstration at the most recent Chancellor's Cabinet. AVC Aileen Warren will provide an overview in the Maverick Minute episode on June 17.
17. Prep Week policy update. Faculty Senate expressed their appreciation to Academic Affairs for allowing exceptions to the Study Days policy for lab courses that need 15 weeks. SVC Kopp felt it was a good move to give everyone a year to work out the lab issue.

18. 30-day policy review. Vice President Shaw shared the discussions in the FS executive committee about maximizing the 30-day review period by publishing a Maverick Daily article the first day a policy is placed on website for a review. UComm would appreciate knowing if some policy is in the works in order to prepare the article in advance.
19. In-person classes in the Fall. At the NU System level, there is an expectation that campuses will develop consistent policies to welcome students back. Vaccination disclosure is not required. UNO is working on guidelines for the health and safety of unvaccinated students, such as mandatory testing while also being mindful to show compassion and understanding. The guidelines will be finalized by the end of summer, based on the prevailing conditions at that time.
20. This is Chancellor Li's first meeting with EO&A. She expressed appreciation for the hard work and commitment to students the faculty has shown and is looking forward to work together and partner with the Senate.

Res.#	Date Senate Passed	Title	Admin Accept	Sent for Senate Action	Denied/Deferred/In Progress	Final Action/Resolved
4439		Faculty Senate Presidential Appointments (a-e)			In progress (appts a&e resolved)	
4434		Standing Committee Chairs			In progress (PD Chair still needs to be elected)	

### C. Treasurer's Report: Senator (June 2021)

#### Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha Operating Budget June 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	22.00	22.00	264.00
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>22.00</b>	<b>22.00</b>	<b>268.42</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	420.06	0.00	809.65
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>420.06</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>3,301.46</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>442.06</b>	<b>22.00</b>	<b>3,569.88</b>

Year To Date:	Budget	Spent	Pending	Balance	Bal. %	Comments
520000 Operations	2,000	268	0	1,732	87%	
530000 Supplies	3,785	3,301	0	484	13%	
52000 & 530000	5,785	3,570	0	2,215	38%	
540000 Travel	775	0	0	775	100%	
<b>Total Non-Pers. Services</b>	<b>12,000</b>	<b>3,570</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8,430</b>	<b>70%</b>	

*A deficit was found during the end of year budget review. Academic Affairs has been contacted and are investigating where the funds went. The deficit will also be brought up during the Administration meeting later on in the month.*

#### **IV. Standing Committee Reports**

##### **A. Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs: Senator Circo**

1. No meeting, brief report
2. Update of the issue of Study Days in the revised Prep Week policy
  - a. The Chancellor's Cabinet met and discussed the Prep Week policy, with amendments following some of the discussion from Faculty Senate (meeting with Dr. Sarah Edwards held on May 24<sup>th</sup> - included in May committee report)
  - b. The new policy is now posted at <https://www.unomaha.edu/campus-policies/prep-week.php>
  - c. The new policy is as follows:
    1. **Policy Statement**

The last week of regularly scheduled classes during the fall and spring semesters is designated as Prep Week. Except for makeup examinations, tests in self-paced courses, or laboratory exams, no major examination accounting for more than 20% of a student's grade may be given during this period. Papers, projects, or presentations assigned at least two weeks in advance of Prep Week may be due during this period.

No final exams are to be given during this period as final exams must be offered during Final Exam week at the time assigned by the Registrar.

The final two days of Prep Week are designated as Study Days, during which organized classes do not meet and no new content can be assigned. For the 2021-22 academic year, laboratories may require attendance during Study Days and will state expectations for Study Days on the course syllabus. Office hours and optional review sessions may be offered during Study Days.

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

1. No meeting; no report

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

1. No meeting; no report

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

1. No meeting; no report

##### **E. Professional Development: Senator Ammons**

1. No meeting; no report

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

**1. No meeting; no report**

**VI. Unfinished Business**

**A. Finalize FS Retreat Schedule (Attachment 3)**

**VII. Adjourn at 3:44 p.m.**