Wednesday, April 14, 2004, MBSC Dodge Rooms


Excused: Helm, Ritter,

Absent: Adkins, Mitenko, Ortman, Pedersen

Guests: Gayle Roberts, President, Staff Advisory Council; Steve Massara, Student Senate/Faculty Senate Liaison; Tim Kahdahl, Asst. Director, Media Relations

Presentations began at 2 p.m.

A. Esther Scarpello, Benefits Manager, gave information about the April 20, 2004, Benefit Fair for Employees, Faculty and Retirees.


I. The meeting was called to order at 2:20 p.m.

I. The March 10, 2004 minutes were approved as written.

II. Officers’ Reports

A. President’s Report: Senator Sadlek

1. Executive Committee and Administration Meeting was held March 17, 2004. The administration received Resolutions 2719-2723 and was also given a list of the newly elected faculty senators for AY 2004-2005. The Senate leadership conveyed our support of the recently held open house for prospective African American students, but also suggested that an additional open house be held for Latino and Native American prospects. We were told that an open house for Latino students is already being planned. We also reported on my recent open letter to the faculty promoting Pathways to Harmony as well as the recent focus group held to improve the Faculty Handbook. John Bartle reviewed his findings (presented to the Senate at the March meeting) that UNO’s share of state appropriations has been dropping during the period 1999 to the present, while the other campuses’ shares of state
appropriations have been increasing. It is the position of VC Jim Buck, however, that these figures do not present a fair picture of UNO fiscal growth, and that, if one considers total dollars allocated from Central Administration, UNO has in fact been getting its fair share of revenue vis-à-vis other NU campuses. All participants gave the others a respectful hearing, but in the end no clear common understanding of the figures emerged. VC Christensen passed out a large packet of materials on plans for assessing the dual-enrollment program in the Millard Public Schools and these materials are available in the Faculty Senate offices.

2. Chancellor’s Council: The meeting was held on March 25, 2004. The main item of business for this meeting of the Chancellor’s Council was a presentation by ITS on its services to various departments at UNO. VC Jim Buck gave an up-date on the budget situation in the legislature. Julie Totten gave a report on the draft estimate of needs for UNO for the years 2005-06 and 2006-07. These increases do not take into account any increase in faculty salaries to be negotiated next year by the AAUP and the Board. She also reported on a proposed 10% increase in parking fees for next year. Other topics covered were a discussion of possible grants from the Nebraska Foundation, the Regental campaign policy for administrators, and a call for papers from the Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities. The conference will take place on October 2-5, 2004, in New York City. The theme of the conference will be: Urban America—The New Realities. A copy of the call for papers is available in the Faculty Senate offices.

3. President Sadlek also asked that if any Senators have thoughts about how to encourage more faculty members to attend the Faculty Honors function, whether changing the time or program, they should contact Sheri Rogers. The Faculty Handbook Focus Group meeting went well, and, after a Dreamweaver workshop in May and more work on the site this summer, the Faculty Handbook website would probably be “unveiled” in the fall.

4. Chancellor’s Written Response to Resolutions: Regarding the resolutions passed by the Faculty Senate on Wednesday, March 10, Chancellor Belck accepts Resolutions 2722 and 2723, and acknowledges Resolution 2720. . . . (Nancy Castilow, 3/16/04)


IV Executive Committee Report: Senator Bacon moved the following two resolutions which passed:

A. Resolution 2724, 4/14/04: Regarding Website workshop

   Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate contribute $50 towards expenses for a DreamWeaver workshop at UNO which Sue Bishop, the Faculty Senate coordinator, will attend in May with other UNO staff using DreamWeaver for their websites.

B. Resolution 2725, 4/14/04: Regarding SAC Spirit Committee

   Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate appoint a representative to the SAC Spirit
V Standing Committee Reports

A. Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs: Senator Neathery-Castro reported the committee met on Wednesday, March 31, 2004. Those present were Jim Akers, Joan Latchaw, Jody Neathery-Castro, John Thorp, Ethel Williams. The committee decided to ask Institutional Research to update its 2001 report on grade distribution by college and department. They also examined UNO Academic Affairs office’s preliminary assessment plans for the dual enrollment pilot.

A. Committee on Educational Resources and Services: Senator Dickson reported that no Committee meeting was held in March. There are about 20 completed applications for the Paul Beck Scholarship. The Chancellor’s Commission on Multicultural Affairs has asked the committee to look into having the Faculty Senate encourage all faculty to include the following in their syllabi:

1. A list of general academic support services available on campus;
2. A notice about support for students with disabilities through Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD);
3. A list of any special support services available for the individual faculty member’s subject/course.

A. Committee on Faculty Personnel and Welfare: Senator D’Souza reported the committee met on March 31, 2004. Members Present: Natalie Bennett, Henry D’Souza, David Helm, Graham Mitenko, Wai-ning Mei, and Pamela Jean Owens. Guests: Dr. William Wakefield, Faculty Academic Representative to the NCAA and Robert Danenhauer, Athletic Director, UNO.

1. Robert Danenhauer briefed the Committee on the history of Hockey at UNO.
2. After a brief discussion, Dr. Pamela Owens pointed out that information provided by the Athletic Director will be useful information to the new faculty. Mr. Danenhauer said that he will meet with the new faculty during their orientation in the Fall.
3. Under new business two issues were brought up. 1. Computer privacy issues on the UNO campus. 2. The Blue Cross and Blue Shield health cards have one’s name, social security number and date of birth on them. Is there a way to resolve this problem?

D. Committee on Goals and Directions: Senator Allen reported the Goals and Directions Committee met on March 31, 2004. Present: Allen, Benjamin-Alvarado, Garver, Kosloski, Ortman. Senator Benjamin-Alvarado gave a report on his meeting with Ms. Sharon Ulmer during which they discussed issues relating to minority recruitment and the recent event to host African American students who have been admitted to UNO. Senator Benjamin-Alvarado expressed his concern that no other minorities were invited. Ms. Ulmer responded that they will be included in subsequent events. Ms. Ulmer is now charged with coordinating recruitment of minorities, and said there will be coordination between Wade Robinson and Multicultural Affairs. The university is searching for a new Multicultural Affairs Officer who will have a larger role in
recruitment than in the past. The committee feels there should be Faculty Senate representation on the search committee if there is not already. The committee also feels the Senate should be prepared to make a strong statement about minority recruitment when the new NU system president takes office. Senator Benjamin-Alvarado presented the latest Admission Statistics by Ethnic Group for New Freshman Applications as of 3/22/04:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ethnic Group</th>
<th>Applications Received</th>
<th>Applicants Admitted</th>
<th>Percentage Admitted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White/Caucasian</td>
<td>2,871</td>
<td>2,502</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African American/Black</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian/Pacific Island</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian/Alaskan</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The committee feels it still lacks information and will ask Ms. Linda Mannering for information about how many are admitted and how many end up enrolling. It will also ask Ms. Sharon Ulmer to research the minority recruitment at UNO’s peer institutions.

E. Committee on Professional Development: Senator Nazem reported the committee met on Wednesday, March 26 at 2:00 PM. Unfortunately, they did not have a quorum, with only Bob Smith and himself in attendance. They reviewed the "Conflict of Interests" document. They have since learned that the administration has withdrawn the document.

F. Committee on Rules: Senator M. Carroll reported approximately eighty Committee Surveys have been returned to the Faculty Senate coordinator.

VI Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Committee Reports

A. Senior Scholars Academy Committee: Senator Metal-Corbin reported that the breakfast went very well with 52 participants and there is enthusiasm for the organization. The library space for the Academy will be ready the beginning of May. There are meetings planned for next week and May.

B. Prioritization Committee: Professor J. Carroll reported the committee meeting was canceled at the request of V.C. Christensen due to President Smith’s retirement, with no one yet named to take his place. There will be a final report in May.

VII Non-Senate Committee Reports

A. Alumni Association, Board of Directors: Professor Fruhling reported Bill Swanson, the Assistant to the Vice Chancellor for University Affairs gave a presentation on Corporate Outreach and Mentoring especially as it applies to alumni assistance with the process. The College of Education Distinguished Alumni Luncheon is scheduled for April 7. Lastly, the association will be presenting a proposal to the Deans Council regarding the possibility of incorporating several college newsletters within the UNO Alum magazine.
B. American Association of University Professors (AAUP): Senator D’Souza reported that the chapter meeting will be on April 15, 2004. Nominations for officers will be accepted at the meeting. The AAUP dinner will be held on May 7, 2004. The AAUP is working on two major cases dealing with contract issues. The computer privacy forums were well received and well attended. The AAUP president thanks the Faculty Senate for their co-sponsorship. The next academic year is a negotiating year so the AAUP will be preparing for that.

C. Strategic Planning Steering Committee: Senator Garver reported the Strategic Planning Steering Committee met on March 24, 2004. Reports from SPSC "Task Forces" included the Task Force for External Communications, reporting that it discussed satisfactory ongoing cooperation between UNO's recruiters and K-12 guidance counselors in public and private schools. The Task Force for Implementation/Integration reporting that chairs and directors are making use of Power Point 101 in meetings of faculty members from departments or schools. John Fiene has asked SPSC to link its website with that of UNO's Institutional Portfolio website in order to express with greater clarity "the importance of (UNO's) Strategic Plan." The next UNO Strategic Advance will have as its theme "Stewardship of Place" and is scheduled to be held on Monday, May 10, 2004 at the MBSC. Chancellor Nancy Beleck and Vice-Chancellor John Christensen next gave presentations of forthcoming UNO activities and ongoing projects and objectives. She also reported that the Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities (CUMU) will hold its International Conference in New York City in October 2004 and encouraged attendance by interested UNO faculty and staff members.

VIII New Business

A. Senator Sadlek charged the Goals & Direction Committee to get a revision of the policy by which operators will only give directory information, but not connect those calling from an on-campus phone, to communicate the sense of the Senate that information desk/main telephone operators need to be more courteous to callers of either sex, and to suggest those stationed in the Eppley lobby wear some sort of uniform appropriate to their public role.

B. Senator Sadlek charged the Faculty Personnel & Welfare Committee to get a revision of the procedures followed by security and custodial staff when about to enter an office that the first action be knocking and requesting permission to enter, and to investigate other changes which might prevent frightening faculty or intruding on confidential advising.

C. Senator Sadlek charged the Educational Resources and Services Committee to meet with the Office of Multicultural Affairs on its monitoring of students, to communicate the concern of Senators that monitored students must know of this and consent to it, and to revise selection of students considered candidates for monitoring, which currently appears based on surname.
The meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.