UNO FACULTY SENATE

The Bylaws of the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska state that the faculties of each major administrative unit (UNL, UNK, UNO, UNMC) shall establish a governing agency for dealing with matters of interest to more than one college. Such agencies shall be democratic in structure and operation.

At UNO: This agency is the Faculty Senate.

In order to establish a means whereby matters of faculty interest and concern may be presented to the administration and the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska, to formulate policies and procedures which are of university interest and concern, and to provide a responsible and representative faculty voice in the recommendation of these policies, the faculty designates the Faculty Senate to serve as its representative agency. This also provides for a free dialogue between the faculty and the administration.

The apportionment of seats for senators from each college at UNO shall be based on the UNO faculty roster each academic year. The faculty shall determine the eligibility of its own faculty members to stand for election and to vote in senate elections. There are 37 senators on the UNO Faculty Senate. Terms of elected senators shall be three years. The officers of the senate shall consist of the president, the vice-president, and the secretary-treasurer, and are elected by senators each year.

The senate holds at least one regular meeting at a stated time each month during the academic year. Minutes are taken and copies of the minutes are distributed to appropriate members of the university. Minutes are also public documents and, once approved by the Faculty Senate, shall be available in the senate office for consultation by any senator or any interested faculty member and elsewhere as provided in the bylaws. They are also posted on the Faculty Senate web site.

The senate keeps the faculty and administrative staff informed of its recommendations and actions through its system of regular monthly meetings, its published agendas and minutes, periodic memos by e-mail, postings to the faculty senate web site, and the president’s annual report to the chancellor.

Each member of the Faculty Senate sits on one of six Standing Committees to work within the Faculty Senate:

A. Committee on Academic and Curricular Affairs;
B. Committee on Educational Resources and Services
C. Committee on Faculty Personnel and Welfare
D. Committee on Goals and Directions:
E. Committee on Professional Development:
F. Committee on Rules:

The Board of Regents has also charged each campus Faculty Senate with providing for the protection of academic freedom, establishing a code of academic rights and responsibilities, and establishing suggested penalties and sanctions for failure to adhere to the standards.
At UNO those committees are the:

- Academic Freedom & Tenure Committee
- Faculty Grievance Committee
- Professional Conduct Committee

Many campus and university committees, with faculty representation, send reports to the Faculty Senate, such as:

A. Academic Freedom Coalition of Nebraska (AFCON):
B. Academic Planning Council (APC):
C. Board of Directors of the Alumni Association,
D. American Association of University Professors (AAUP):
E. Graduate Council:
F. Parking Advisory Committee
G. Strategic Planning Steering Committee:
H. U-Wide Fringe Benefits Committee

You can find all this information and more at the Faculty Senate web site: http://www.unomaha.edu/facsen/