The meeting was called to order by President Miller at 7:02 pm.


Absent: Broekemier, Davis, Emal, Hyatte, Luscher, Peck, Seshadri

Guests: Chris Triebsch and Sarah Schulz (press); Interim SVCAA James Roark, AVCAA David Anderson, John Kundel (vide infra); several members of the faculty.

1. President Miller asked permission of the assembled group to suspend the agenda and bring to the meeting a problem with the recent election of senators conducted in the College of Education. The Parliamentarian recommended that the current senators from the College of Education be seated for the present meeting and that the election be reconducted within two weeks of the present date. Discussion of the issue centered on the lack of a process for dealing with such a contingency as this one. The president appointed the Senators-at-large to be a committee to write some language that will take care of this kind of situation in the future. It was the consensus of the senate that such should be done.

2. Minutes of the meeting of 2 October 1997 were moved for approval. Discussion concerned a correction to the minutes to clarify the report of the Strategic Planning Committee. Senator Young(R) gave a brilliant exegesis of what had happened at the committee meeting and of what should have been written in the minutes about the meeting and what action was or was not taken as a result of the committee's deliberations. As a result it was agreed to strike the last sentence of the report of the meeting of the Strategic Planning Committee. Other corrections noted were to make M=22% (not 212%) on page one and 4/4 on the report of the University Calendar Committee on page two. With corrections and clarifications noted the minutes were approved by voice vote.

3. President Miller introduced Interim Senior Vice-Chancellor Jim Roark to the senate. SVCAA Roark gave a short presentation to the senate on his view of the campus and his expectations for the future. He remarked initially that when he was senate president he filled the Mary Morse Lecture Hall with a discussion with State Senator Jerome Warner about KSC coming into the University system. He went on to describe his new views of the campus since he took over his position as SVCAA. He noted how much he sees students and faculty around campus in the evening and at night and on weekends and how this caused him to realize that what he was seeing was a UNIVERSITY!
He pointed out how the Chemistry Department mission statement that has recently been completed has changed from the one written about 7 or 8 years ago. He also noted how these changes and similar ones in the mission statements of other departments show how we are now a university - the best undergraduate teaching university in the state, hopefully in the region. He went on to say that our emphasis must be on leveraging our existing resources and making the best utilization of faculty and students; he cited the accreditation of the Business College as an example - we are putting in internal resources and working to get external sources to assist in the process. He also stated that he hopes to place more emphasis on getting faculty participation in recruiting efforts. He feels strongly that if we all work together we can get to be the best teaching university anywhere.

4. President Miller introduced John Kundel, Director of Admissions. John started out by describing his background and how he arrived at UNK. He agreed with the SVCAA's philosophy that this can be the best teaching university. He stated that many of our constituents want their children to attend a teaching university and they want their children to be taught by full-time faculty members. He also reported that discussion is on-going about what should be the optimum enrollment for UNK - that each program is being reviewed and a decision being sought as to what numbers of majors for it would be optimal.

He then went on to discuss the admissions criteria that went into effect this year. This year the average ACT for incoming freshmen is 23, which is up about a point and a half. It appears that the increase is due to the new admissions criteria. He then went on to state that UNK is not an open enrollment institution but is the next thing to one. Even with the new admissions criteria, up to 25% of the incoming class can be admitted on the basis of a special talent - which is defined as some indication that the student can succeed at UNK even if she/he does not meet the criteria. He also noted that UNK does not come anywhere near the 25% limit.

Next he talked about the Honors Program and how he and the other members of the admissions staff are promoting it in Nebraska and the surrounding states. We had about a 20% increase this year in the honors program students and will try for the same level of increase next year.

He then went on to talk about this year's enrollment numbers. Total applications received this year were 3413 as compared to 3407 last year. The number of degree-seeking freshmen was up; international students and readmits were about the same as last year; non-degree freshmen were down a small amount. Total freshmen enrollment is down about 100 from last year (80 F-T and 20 P-T) as is transfers (80); in-state and out-state enrollment numbers are down about the same. The hypothesis is that the new admissions requirements caused more students to
go to community college or one of the state colleges rather than come to UNK. But the reasons are still being investigated.

He then moved on to the question, "what are we doing to promote UNK in the future?" The institution will continue to promote quality (further pursuit of the honors program) and diversity (more work to recruit students of color.) He said that we have relatively few Afro-American students but that the potential for Hispanic students is great; he cited the developing relationship with Palo Alto Community College in San Antonio. He also noted the desire to involve more faculty in the recruiting process, especially in visits to high schools and communities. He wants to involve faculty in calling student prospects - starting in January if all goes according to plan. He would also like to involve faculty in an alumni ambassador program and in transfer recruitment - for example, taking faculty along to advise and enroll students at the community college visits.

More attention will be paid to international students - we have a web site that is already getting hits. He will be making more connections with institutions in Japan.

Senator Sluti raised the question of tuition reciprocity. No such reciprocity exists but there is a non-resident tuition waiver for students who meet a GPA and class percentile requirement.

Senator Mena-Werth asked about scholarships that are available to high ACT students; an outline of the Regents and Chancellors Scholarships was provided.

Senator Katsiyannis asked if the effort to recruit more out-of-state students was going to hurt our Nebraska recruitment. The answer was a solid NO. John particularly noted that all the admissions staff have taken on additional responsibilities to allow for a wider range of recruitment activities.

Senator Wozniak asked about how important faculty are to the recruitment effort. John responded that faculty are the best recruitment tool but he realizes that faculty are already very busy. Another very important role for faculty is retention; we need to bring our attrition rate of 30% (freshmen to sophomore) down to about 23% (a typical norm.)

5. Reports of Councils.
   A. Graduate Council.
      Minutes are in the packet. No comments.
   B. General Studies Council.
      Minutes are in the packet. No comments.

A. Strategic Planning Committee.
   Senator Young(R) gave a very brief report on the very brief meeting that
took place last week.

B. Budget Committee.
   Nothing to report.

C. Honors Council.
   Nothing to report. Has not met.

D. Marketing Plan.
   Nothing to report. Has not met.

E. Pew Round Table.
   No progress yet.

F. University Calendar Committee.
   Senator Wozniak reported that UNL had voted not to have a MLK
   holiday. Senator Young(R) asked why there had been a discussion of a
   MLK holiday when the issue was a Fall Break. Senator Wozniak
   explained that Regents policy requires equal numbers of class days in both
   semesters and so the problem is one of symmetry.

7. Election Committee.

A. Election of Officers was conducted by Senator Young(A) in the absence
   (in spirit, not in flesh) of Senator Falconer who is no longer a senator
   because she chose not to run again.
   i. President-Elect:
      David Clark was nominated by the election committee;
nominations were closed and a unanimous ballot cast by acclamation. (Such a deal.)

ii. Secretary:
Senator Wozniak was nominated by the election committee;
Senator Fredrickson was nominated from the floor. Senator Wozniak was elected by secret ballot.

iii. Faculty Representative:
Senator Young(R) was nominated by the election committee;
nominations were closed and a unanimous ballot cast by acclamation.

B. Election Committee:
 a. B&T: Kay Hodge elected by acclamation.
b. FAH: Christine Boeckl elected by acclamation.
c. Ed: postponed until next month due to the re-election to be conducted
d. NSS: Daryl Kelley elected by acclamation.

8. Executive Committee Report.

Questions were raised about when the Post-Tenure Review Committee will meet again. (Deja vu all over again.) Senate was assured it would be "soon."

Senator Young(R) inquired about the inclusion of a reference to service in the mission statement. Senator Young(R) also noted that he is still awaiting information from several of the Vice-Chancellors for his master list of committees.

Senator Fredrickson asked for clarification of the procedure for the uniform evaluation of department chairs.

Senator Zikmund(D) asked for clarification of the profiles of excellence list and what they will be expected to do. President Miller said that he will send a listing of the names to all senators.

Senator Kelley asked about the survey on child care; Senator Mena-Werth reported that the committee has met once so far.

Senator Wozniak inquired about the SVCAA Advisory Committee. Senator Kaye responded that he too had asked that question of the SVCAA and had received a long answer that he will forward to anyone who is interested. President Miller said that it was his opinion that the group was intended to be an idea group for the University. Senator Young(R) responded that there seems to be a tremendous
proliferation of committees that has occurred in the past year.


There was no separate report from the President of the Senate.

10. Standing Committees.

i. Academic Freedom and Tenure.
   Nothing to report.

ii. Grievance Committee.
   Nothing to report.

iii. Professional Conduct Committee.
    Professor Stan Dart has been elected chair; otherwise nothing to report.

    Minutes are in the packet. Senator Benz inquired about how to get the McAfee Virus Checker. He was informed that the procedure is to send or take a suitable blank floppy to Computer Services; one person from each department should be designated as the Virus Checker Handler.

v. Academic Affairs Committee.
    Senator Wozniak explained about items relating to the writing center report. He said that the committee felt that the Writing Center should be more than just a Fine Arts and Humanities item - that it should be a campus-wide function. Senator Umland said that she agreed with the committee. AVCAA Anderson gave a short review of how the center got to be what it is and what resources might be needed in the future if the report were to be implemented. The Academic Affairs Committee was asked to look at what would need to
be accomplished to make the report a reality. Senator Wozniak explained about the division of the Writing Center into two functions - Writing and Skills. It was agreed that the report would be sent to all senators in preparation for a full discussion at the next senate meeting. Senator Terry gave a short exposition on the new multimedia major that was reported in the Academic Affairs Committee minutes.

vi. Artists and Lectures.
   No minutes.

vii. Athletic Committee.
   No minutes.

viii. Library Committee.
   No minutes.

ix. Student Life.
   Nothing to report.

11. Ad hoc committees.
   Nothing to report from the ad hoc committees.

   Moved by Zikmund(D) (second by Young(R)) to amend the constitution in accord with the amendment that was presented at the October meeting. The amendment reads as follows:

   III.A. If the term of the President-Elect, President, or Past President should expire while they are in office, their term is extended until the end of that person's term as Past President. At this time their term will expire and the position will be filled at the next regular election.
13. Motion approved on a voice vote.
14. Senator Young(A) gave an update report on the Gender Equity Committee (report is in the packet.) She asked that any comments on the report and its recommendations be sent to her (paper mail or e-mail). President Miller asked senators to carefully read the report so that the senate can have a discussion in the future.

15. New Business.
Senator Terry gave a brief overview of the Advisory Committee for the Antelope; he outlined the proposed make-up of the committee and its function. The primary need for the committee arises because research has shown that the faculty advisor is liable if she/he does any reading of the material prior to publication and so as of this year the Antelope is strictly a student effort in publication. Senator Zikmund(A) asked that nominations for the advisory committee be sent to her; nominations must be tenured faculty who are not senators nor who have just been defeated in a senate election and one must be a member of the JMC department but not the chair.

17. General Faculty Comments.
Senator Wozniak (Zikmund(D)) presented a resolution commending Dr. Gene Wubbels for his service as Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. Resolution passed on a voice vote.

Senator Zikmund(A) announced that John Lakey has asked for a Senate nomination to the ADA Committee. Senator Kaye volunteered (spontaneous round of applause).

Senator Terry reminded Senate that softball was still being played on Friday afternoons (he doesn't give up, does he.)

Senator Young(R) offered a motion of thanks to President Miller and the Executive Committee for their heroic work this past year. Motion passed with a large round of applause.

President Miller pointed out the Role and Mission Statement information that is in the packets and reminded the Senate that the Board of Regents will be reviewing our new mission statement in the future.

President Miller then welcomed the newly elected senators (which he should have done at the beginning of the session) and then passed the gavel to President Zikmund.
And on that note there was a massive consensus for adjournment. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

R. David Clark, Secretary