I. Call to order  The meeting was called to order by President Clark at 7:02 p.m.

II. Roll Call  the Secretary called the roll.

Present: Anderson, Benz, Boeckl, Cafferty, Clark, Davis, Elder, Emal, Emrys, Eshleman, Fredrickson, German, Hartman, Hodge, Kelley, Mena-Werth, Miller, Moorman, Ramage, Smith, Terry, Young (R), Ziebarth, Zikmund (D), Zikmund (A)

Absent: Fleming, Kuskie, Luscher, Markes, Peck, Powell, Young (A)

Guests: Assistant VCAA Anderson, Sr. VCAA Roark, VCBF Haack, Dean Ken Nikels

III. Action on Minutes of April 1, 1999 meeting. Senator Zikmund (Davis) moved approval. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Presentations

Sr. VCAA Roark discussed budget issues with the Senate. He reported that President L. Dennis Smith mandated each campus reallocate 3% of its funding. For UNK this amounts to $1,200,000. This is a four-year process at 3% for each year. Approximately $430,000 of the $1.2 million will flow back to Central Administration and this money will be used for priorities across the University. The remaining amount will be distributed to units on campus. Faculty need to be aware that there could be a revenue shortfall if enrollments decrease and this would cause a gap of dollars available for reallocation.

Between now and June 1 the amount to be reallocated from each unit will be determined. SVCAA Roark is meeting with the Deans to determine the amount each will contribute.

As enrollment has declined, UNK has reduced FTE faculty from 350 to 325 through attrition and retirements rather than termination. Administration has been discussing budget issues for a year. They have discussed implementing 12 hour teaching loads if needed since this is preferable to dropping classes.

UNK will move toward high priority areas with the money we have. We have basically been doing this and priorities have already been established.

Senator D. Zikmund asked SVCAA Roark, "While we have been cutting 25 faculty, how many administrators have not been replaced?" SVCAA Roark responded that the faculty that have been cut are part time and adjunct.

Senator Davis queried about the role of the Foundation. Has it made efforts to help with the cuts?

SVCAA Roark responded that that is not the job of the Foundation. Most of its money has a definite destination.

Senator B. Young asked if the UNK’s Strategic Plan has been modified? SVCAA Roark responded that the major goals of the original plan are important and appropriate.
Dean Ken Nikels, Dean of Graduate Studies gave the Senate an update of issues in the Graduate College. He said that the Graduate Council has revisited admission requirements, which were:

1) Baccalaureate degree

2) 2.75 minimum undergraduate GPA

3) an entrance evaluation, i.e. GRE or GMAT

A number of departments have submitted different proposals and some of these are being implemented in lieu of the GRE. These moves should increase our competitiveness.

Senator B. Young asked if this move is similar to UNL. Dean Nikels replied that he was not totally aware of what UNL did but it is consistent with UNO.

Dean Nikels also said that the Graduate Council has a new procedure relative to Graduate Assistants. An Advisory Council reviews applications and places students to primarily benefit the students and secondarily to benefit the departments. UNK has very limited resources—56 graduate assistants.

The OutReach program through Continuing Education offers one-hour credit courses and the graduate office is not satisfied that these courses meet graduate criteria so there has been no graduate credit issued in the past years. However, now the Graduate Office and Continuing Education are working to resolve the problem.

The Graduate Office is also looking at special topic courses—these are courses which are offered over a 2 year period then a decision must be made on whether to make the course a regular catalog course offering. This too is being reviewed to best benefit the students.

Graduate Assistant stipends are slightly higher, but still low. The stipends have increased slightly over the last three years. UNK also has about ½ the number of Graduate Assistants as our peers; however, there is a lot of variation among the peer institutions.

If faculty have any ideas to help the Graduate Office with impending budget cuts, please e-mail those suggestions to Dr. Nikels.

V. Reports from Academic Councils

A. Graduate Council. The minutes of April 11, 1999 were included in the packets. There were no questions.

B. General Studies Council. President Clark noted the absence of Director of General Studies Jenkins. Minutes of February 4 and April 1 were included in the packets.

VI. Reports of Senate Representatives to Non-Senate Committees

A. Strategic Planning Committee. No meeting.

B. Budget Committee. No meeting. Last meeting was in January, 1999.

C. Honor’s Council. No meeting.
VII. Reports of Faculty Senate Standing Committees.

A. Election Committee. Election Committee Chair German announced the elections that needed to take place due to resignations and excessive absenteeism. Stan Kaye’s seat on Senate is open and needs to be filled until April elections. Nominations for the seat were Jim Hullinger and Jeff Green. Jeff Green won the ballot election.

Former Senator Kaye’s position on the Faculty Senate Student Life Committee also needed to be filled. Nominations for this position included Gary Davis and Akbar Javidi. Gary Davis won the ballot election.

Jim German’s Senate seat needed to be filled for the upcoming year as well. Nominated for that position was Bill Wozniak. Senator Miller (Davis) moved that nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast for Wozniak. Motion carried unanimously.

In addition, Senator German’s seat as Chair of the Election Committee will be open beginning the end of August. Senator Rick Miller was nominated and a unanimous ballot was cast for Miller.

Finally, Senator German’s seat on the Academic Affairs Committee will be open. James Scott was nominated and a unanimous ballot was cast for Scott.

President Clark noted that the first order of business for the Election Committee in the fall was filling the Senate seats of Senators Kuskie, Powell, and Luscher who have missed the maximum number of meetings.

B. Executive Committee. It was noted that the Executive Committee met with the Vice Chancellors was on April 28 not March 30 as listed on the minutes.

Questions were raised about the Budget Committee. Members of this committee as it currently stands are James Roark, Randy Haack, Rudy Lewis, Barbara Snyder, Barbara Audley, Galen Hadley, John Osseth, David Clark, Brian Hill (presumably that will now be Elsie Cafferty), Mike Bohnhoff, Kathy Livingston, Jean Mattson, Bonnie Mumm, Jen Kruse (presumably that will now be Holly Hatt).

C. Presidents Report. President Clark reported that the Regents will meet Friday, April 30 in Omaha for the campus visit and on Saturday in Lincoln at Varner Hall. Of importance to UNK is the wiring bid for the residence halls.

President Clark also noted that the Student Senate had a long discussion at a recent meeting regarding Fite Nite and exploring ways to bring the event back to campus. Senator Davis noted that Fite Nite is student operated. He attended this year and noted that it was an orderly and impressive event. There are few opportunities for students to show that type of control. He said he thought that it was well run and well organized.

Senator Anderson agreed, but he noted that there were problems outside that were difficult to control.

President Clark also noted that the students would like to have fees itemized for them so that they know where their money is going. He also said that all votes in the Student Senate are roll call.
votes. Senator Fredrickson (B. Young) moved that the Faculty Senate supports the students’ desire to have an itemized fee billing available to them. **Motion passed.**

**D. Academic Freedom and Tenure.** No report.

**E. Grievance Committee.** No report.

**F. Professional Conduct Committee.** No report.

**G. Academic Computing Committee.** Minutes from the April 15 meeting were included in the packets. Senator Fredrickson (D. Zikmund) moved to endorse the motion from the committee’s meeting which said “the Faculty Senate Executive Committee discuss the makeup of the Technology Advisory Committee and address the need to have the Director of the Library, Dean of Continuing Education, and the Chair of the Academic Computing Committee on the committee.” **The motion passed,** and the Executive Committee will follow up on this.

Senator Benz noted how misleading the report regarding Y2K compliance is. The issue is that the Chairs are not getting what is needed for compliance. They filled out the forms and Computer Services still wants more information but exactly what is not specified. What do they want/need????

Senator Kelley asked about anti-virus software. Our lease expires in May and the system is negotiating a new lease. It is ok for UNK to keep using the software until the new lease is finalized.

**H. Academic Affairs Committee.** The minutes of April 15 were included in the packets. Benz noted that Computer Science has a new minor and now people in that area can major in computer science and minor in the new area. Senator German said this is a college issue.

**I. Artists and Lecturers Committee.** No meeting.

**J. Athletic Committee.** No meeting

**K. Library Committee.** The library periodicals report on deletions and additions and associated costs was included in the packets. Senator Miller reported that departments identified the items to cancel and this list was sent to other areas to see if they wanted to pick up the periodical. If the new department wants to pick up the periodical, they may have to pick up the cost, but not necessarily because sometimes the library may fund the request. The exception has to do with usage.

**L. Student Life Committee.** No meeting. Peter Longo is the chair of that committee. President Clark said that that committee needed to be reestablished.

**M. Continuing Education Committee.** Minutes of March 10 were included in the packets. Dale Zikmund asked if his non-position on that committee had been taken care of. He refuses to attend any more meetings.

Regarding Course Information Training, Senator Davis reported that the training was good. He doesn’t believe that it will take long for faculty to be up and running.

**VIII. Reports of Faculty Senate Special (Ad Hoc) Committees**
A. CEET. Senator Anderson offered updates regarding people elected to the Advisory Committee from the colleges. They include Mike Moser from NSS, Annabell Zikmund from FAH, Janet Wilke from the Library and Kay Hodge from B&T.

Senator German pointed out that both Kathleen Smith and Peter Longo were on the Committee to evaluate teaching and service on each campus and advise the Regents about what needs to be done across campuses.

Senator Davis asked where the information in the report comes from and was told that the information comes from committee members.

B. Faculty Senate Orientation Committee. Minutes from March 31, 1999 were included in the packet. Senator Kelley reported that keeping the committee ad hoc was just fine. Senator Fredrickson (Benz) moved that the FS Ad-Hoc Orientation Committee continue on an ad hoc basis for another year under the auspices of the Faculty Senate. **Motion passed.**

Senator Elder expressed concern that summer orientation was over in June and so July and August had no student orientation going on. He believes that UNK may miss some people who decide late where they want to go to school and this is a big mistake especially in light of current declining enrollments.

Senator Miller (B. Young) moved that the Executive Committee discuss lack of summer orientation in July and August with the Administration and express the Senate’s concern. The **motion passed unanimously.**

Senator Davis reported he had a GREAT opportunity for faculty. He will accept all volunteers to participate in fall orientation Saturday, August 21, 1999. Contact Roger Davis if you can help.

VIII. Unfinished Business

A. Stevenson Award.

Senator German (Benz) moved that the name of the award should be the David Stevenson Faculty Senate Hamster Wheel Award, and that at the end of the second paragraph the phrase "exemplifies the honor and integrity of the Faculty Senate as did David Stevenson" should be changed to "regards Senate with all due seriousness, as did David Stevenson."

After much discussion, a friendly amendment was proposed by Senator Miller. This is as follows " . . . exemplifies the honor, integrity, and seriousness of Faculty Senate as did David Stevenson."

The **motion passed unanimously.**

Nominations should be sent to Kay Hodge by August 15, 1999. Senator Miller (D. Zikmund) moved that this award should be presented annually at the first convocation of the year.

The **motion passed unanimously.**

X. New Business
A. Domestic Partner Benefits. Senator German (Miller) moved that the Senate endorse supporting domestic partner benefits. Senator B. Young asked about the cost and answers varied from very costly to not significant. Senator Smith pointed out that it is important that domestic partner be specifically defined.

Senator Fredrickson (Boeckl) moved to table.

Motion passed unanimously.

B. Nominations for the Child Care Study. President Clark reported that the names of Robert Rycek and Richard Glotzer have been forwarded as Senate recommendations for members on this committee.

Respectfully submitted

Kay Hodge