University of Nebraska at Kearney
Faculty Senate
Minutes of the Meeting of 3 September, 1998

I. Call to Order.
The meeting was called to order by President Zikmund at 7:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call.

Absent: Benz, Broekemier, Kaye, Powell, Umland

Guests: Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs (ASVCAA) David Anderson, Director of General Studies (DoGS) Allan Jenkins, Jane Roseland for the Antelope (press), Scott Vorhees for KLPR (press)

III. Minutes of the meeting of April 30, 1998.
Zikmund D (Clark) moved approval. Senator Sluti indicated that under item VI-H the minutes should read "President Zikmund reported that she will speak to Chair Sluti" rather than "...had spoken..." Senator Young A said that a word is missing under item V.-A. It should read "Senator Young B said that he abstained from the vote for approval of the statement because he did receive the document in time to carefully review it..." The word "not" was omitted. Motion to approve amended minutes passed unanimously by voice vote.

IV. Special Presentations.

A. Employee Health and Wellness Program. Ms. Kate Snyder and Mr. John Lakey addressed the Senate on behalf of the UNK Employee Health and Wellness Program. Ms. Snyder is the coordinator of the program. The program will sponsor a HealthFest on Thursday, September 24 from noon until 3:30 at the Cushing Coliseum. Over 40 booths will be sponsored by various health-related organizations. A variety of free tests will be available for UNK employees. Ms. Snyder asked for the Senate's help in promoting the activity. Also Kearney is preparing an application to be awarded a "Well City" classification by the Wellness Council of America. In preparation for the 300+ page application, UNK employees will be surveyed concerning their health and wellness habits. Finally, Ms. Snyder asked if any faculty are directing or coordinating any activities that directly benefit the health and wellness (including other forms of wellness, such as intellectual and spiritual wellness) of its participants, she would like to be informed of the program. Senator Young B said that raffling off a guaranteed good parking spot would certainly benefit a person's well being. Ms. Snyder said that they will raffle off a mountain bike at the HealthFest. Senator Boeckl said that it is unfortunate that she cannot get into the exercise area when there are machines available. Ms. Snyder said
that the Wellness program really wasn't directly involved with the exercise area policies and that probably the usage was reserved for those participating in formal program in the human performance lab. Senator Boeckl wanted her complaint voiced anyway. Mr. Lakey added that supervisors should allow their employees to participate in the HealthFest.

B. Dual Career Program. Ms. Michelle Fleig-Palmer, the coordinator of the Dual Career Program, gave a presentation on the nature of the program and described its current initiatives. The program was created because there have been problems in the recruitment of employees because the candidates' partners were in need of appropriate employment. The program has a Web page on which spouses or partners can post their resumes. The page is posted under University Departments/Affirmative Action. Senator Miller asked how employers will know about this Web information. Ms. Fleig-Palmer said that she will spread the word among potential employers. Ms. Fleig-Palmer said that she will be available for one-on-one employment counseling for the spouses and partners of new employees. This service will be limited to newly-hired faculty. On September 15, the Dual Career Programs office will host a reception for accompanying partners with members of the administration and potential employers from the community. This will provide an opportunity for them to "network" and develop professional contacts. The reception is from 5 to 6 p.m. at the Alumni House. Ms. Fleig-Palmer will also offer a series of workshops on job search skills. These workshops will also provide the opportunity for accompanying partners to "network." Ms. Fleig-Palmer will also be available as a resource for candidates who are being interviewed for positions at UNK. She asked faculty to make candidates aware of the availability of this program for accompanying partners. She asked that faculty remember that the program is available for all new hires and not only for new faculty. She reemphasized that all parts of the program are open to all spouses or partners, with the exception of the one-on-one counseling being limited to new hires. She also emphasized that the program is not a placement service and does not guarantee placement. Senator Young A asked if persons hired 2-3 years ago are considered "new hires"? Ms. Fleig-Palmer said that only persons hired in the last year are considered new hires. However, that it is only the one-on-one counseling that is limited to new hires. Senator Davis said that the Chamber of Commerce has a mailing list of employers that the program could utilize for a nominal fee. Senator Wozniak asked if there were data concerning the clientele. How many significant others actually are in need of this service? And how many "older" faculty partners could or would use the program. He suggested that the data collected so far have sampled those who are upset about not finding employment. Wozniak further said that his spouse could potentially use the program but she is not upset enough about finding employment to contact the program. Ms. Fleig-Palmer said that the office is trying to get data and needs the help of the faculty and others at UNK to develop the database.
V. Reports from Academic Councils

A. Graduate Council. Minutes of April 30, 1998 and July 23, 1998 were received without comment.

B. General Studies Council. DoGS Jenkins said that the GS Council met today. Besides approving a number of courses, the Council discussed how they could better plan for the timing of course approvals. The schedule will probably be driven by the publication dates for the catalog.

VI. Reports of Senate Representatives to Non-Senate Committees

1. Other. No other reports were offered.

VII. Reports of Faculty Senate Standing Committees

A. Election Committee. Senator Young B reported that election process has begun. Nomination forms for Senator-At-Large have been sent out and should be returned to him by next Wednesday. Senator Young B said that an up-to-date list of faculty was not available from the HR Office. He had to go to each Dean to get corrections to the HR listing. However, ASVCAA Anderson's office did have an accurate list. He also reported that if the Senate follows the constitution regarding the allocation of Senators, the number of Senators from the Colleges of Fine Arts and Humanities and Business and Technology might decline. ASVCAA Anderson suggested that perhaps the numbers are affected by which personnel are considered "faculty." For example, should those in the lecturer position be counted? Also he felt that the constitution revision should include a better definition of "faculty member," because the current definition has some problems when implementing constitutional provisions. He also offered accurate faculty lists printed on mailing labels! Senator Young B also said that the election for a replacement for Senator Katsiyannis (who is on leave) will take place during the normal College elections. Senator Zeibarth commended Senator Young B for his extensive and diligent work. The Senate affirmed the commendation by applauding.

A. Executive Committee. No written report was available. President Zikmund reconstructed the meeting with the vice-chancellors. She began the report by saying that the Research Mentoring Award is moving forward. The award will be administered by the individual Deans and will be given in the spring. Senator Miller asked "Huh?" He had just attended a Graduate Council meeting where it was announced that the Research Mentoring Awards would involve members of the Research Services Council. Senator Davis, who sits on the Research Services Council, affirmed the statement that the RSC would have a significant role in the process. Someone will clarify the process. President Zikmund pressed on and announced that bids will be taken for the renovation of the west end of West Center. Work continues on UNK's new front porch. The project will
result in the loss of 52 student parking spaces, but 25 of these will be reassigned to the Nebraskan lot. SVCAA Roark also informed the executive committee that $20,000 has been allocated for writing across the curriculum workshops for next summer (1999). Senator German asked why the Writing Center has not been moved out of the jurisdiction of Fine Arts and Humanities. President Zikmund could not recall why, but that the assignment of the Writing Center to FAH was only for one year. Senator German also asked to whom does the Writing Center Advisory Committee report? President Zikmund said "to the Dean of Fine Arts and Humanities."

B. President's Report. President Zikmund reported that one Kudos Award was given over the summer to a UNK person, Dave Peterson. She also reported that $500,000 was reserved by the Board of Regents for scholarships for needy students. She asked ASVCAA Anderson if the UNK administration has heard anything about these scholarships, and if UNK would receive any. ASVCAA Anderson had no knowledge of the project. Other Board of Regents news. Regents are asking the Legislature for 6% salary increases for the faculty. New funding for new academic initiatives will be done internally by the reallocation process. Ms. Kim Robak was selected to be a University Vice-President of External Affairs. The search was done internally, i.e., an "opportunity search." The Regents approved the position of Senior Lecturer, whose contract could be for a length of up to 3 years, 5 years in special cases. The Education Building was approved. Approval by the Coordinating Commission remains.

President Zikmund said that in a meeting with President Smith, he reported that the University will continue to look for ways to save money. Cooperative initiatives, such as group purchases, are a desirable means to accomplish this. Cooperative programs would include academic ones, especially where there is duplication of offerings. President Zikmund said that Smith used the example of the UNK MBA program as one that duplicates offerings. Senator Sluti corrected the record to say that the MBA program is a University of Nebraska program not a UNK program. President Zikmund acknowledged the technicality but Smith was referring to the program that is offered in Kearney regardless of its title. In President Smith words, there are three ways that greater coordination will occur, the faculty will do it, Smith will do it, or someone else will do it. ASVCAA Anderson suggested that central administration sees the Kearney MBA program as expensive because it will cost extra dollars to get it accredited and getting it accredited is essential. President Zikmund announced that a faculty senate web page is now on line at www.unk.edu/catalog/faculty_senate. The proposed Master of Science degree program in Psychology was tabled. The Board will consider changes in the Department of Speech and Theater at its next meeting. The Speech faculty will join the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, with a change in name to the Department of
Communication. The Theater faculty will join the current Music Department, its name will be changed to the Department of Music and Performance Arts.

C. Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee. No report.

D. Grievance committee. No report.

E. Professional Conduct Committee. Several sets of minutes were received without comment.

F. Academic Computing Committee. The minutes on the hot pink sheets were discussed. Senator Terry commented on the proposed position of Vice-Chancellor of Information Technology and suggested that more limits be placed on the administrative domain of this position, which is proposed to include the telephone system, the post office, the library, the computer network, among other areas. Senator Hill agreed with the statement in the minutes that faculty would not like the proposal. Senator Young A asked what happened to the idea of splitting the position into a Director of Academic Computing and a Director of Computer Services. Senator Wozniak said that the Senate is on the record for supporting a separate Director of Academic Computing. President-Elect Clark said that it is not easy to clearly separate the responsibilities of these two positions, academic computing and computer services. Senator Sluti asked if the May 12 meeting occurred? President-Elect Clark did not know. Senator Wozniak observed that the proposal for faculty consultants is alive again. He commented on how this proposal has been on life support and near death (or presumed dead) for several years now. He asked that Computer Services either "Kill it outright" or "Do it." Senator Young B asked why all of these issues concerning information technology have become such a bandwagon. Senator Wozniak suggested that the availability of almost a million dollars a year for computers certainly has made the issue hot. Unfortunately, administrative and faculty bickering may prevent student from seeing their money used in a reasonable amount of time. Senator German asked if a new Vice-Chancellor level position will benefit students.

G. Academic Affairs Committee. No report. However, Senator Sluti, Chair of Academic Affairs, asked which specific general studies courses would the Senate like to have the committee discuss. The proposal is to require certain general studies courses be completed before the junior year. Senator Miller said the courses were ENG 101 and 102 and the basic Math requirement.
H. Artists and Lecturers Committee. No report. It was also reported that no one knew who the Chair of this committee is.

I. Athletic Committee. No report.

J. Library Committee. No report.

K. Student Life Committee. The minutes of April 13 and 20 were discussed. Several Senators commented on the Hub articles that appeared earlier in the day.

L. Continuing Education Committee. No report.

VIII. Reports of Faculty Senate Special (Ad Hoc) Committees

0. Committee on the Evaluation and Encouragement of Teaching (CEET). Senator Anderson presented two sets of minutes to the Senate. He and Senator Wozniak apologized for not having these in the packets. In sum, the committee is beginning its work and is seeking input from faculty. Please respond to Senator Anderson’s request for suggestions. Senator Miller suggested that an article which was distributed by Professor Karl Borden certainly provided a useful point of view concerning student evaluations. He will bring the article to the committee.

1. Committee on the General Studies Capstone Course.

IX. Unfinished Business.

X. Proposed Constitutional Revisions. Senator Young B then reported on the progress of the Constitutional revisions. He said that most of the work is done. The Committee has prepared a revision that addresses some specific questions from the executive committee, but has another unfinished revision with major wording changes that the committee feels will clarify the Constitution and Bylaws. However, he was unsure how the Board of Regents would react to major changes. President Zikmund reported that SVCAA Roark advised us to move forward with the changes.

XI. New Business.

XII. Senator Miller presented a proposal for a forum hosted by the Senate for purpose of interviewing the two candidates for Regent. Several possible questions were discussed and additional questions were considered. The added questions concerned the offering college credit for courses taught in the high school and additional specific questions concerning merit pay and reasons countering the faculty arguments against it. Senator Hill suggested that the campus cable channel could carry the forum. It was also suggested that the local cable company could carry the debate as part of its public service requirement. Senator Miller asked for suggestions of persons who could develop rules of protocol for the forum and
possibly host it. Senator Sluti suggested Dr. Longo from Political Science. Senator Zeibarth volunteered. Senator Hill (Hodge) moved to endorse the concept of a forum. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

XIII. General Faculty Comments.

Senator Young B suggested that given the length of the Senate meetings that perhaps a Faculty Senate Residential College would be a good idea. Others suggested a new Vice-Chancellor position to run it.

Senator Zikmund (Miller) moved for adjournment. Motion passed by a voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Wozniak, Faculty Senate Secretary


UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT KEARNEY
Faculty Senate Executive Committee Report

Meeting with the Vice-Chancellors: August 28, 1998

Present: Annabell Zikmund, Rick Miller, David Clark, Bill Wozniak, VCSA Barbara Snyder, SVCAA Jim Roark, and VCBF Randy Haack

Vice-Chancellor Haack reviewed the status of the remodelling and renovation of the West Center. Bids are in preparation and it is hoped to have them out for review soon. It is hoped to be in the asbestos abatement and demolition phase by late October/early November. A small food court is planned for the NE wing area. Discussions are on-going with the Post-Secondary Coordinating Commission and the 309 Commission about moving the air conditioning chiller away from the main building to cut down on the noise factor; also to make it large enough to serve the whole of the West Center to provide a better system of climate control and to be more cost-effective.

The Post-Secondary Coordinating Commission will review the proposed new Education building at their next meeting; they have expressed concerns about the maintenance and management costs associated with the proposed facility and with the actual cost per sq. ft that UNK is projecting for it. Construction of the Education building will, hopefully, also include a tunnel to link its utilities to those of the West Center.
Meetings are scheduled and underway for departments in Bruner Hall of Science to become involved in the planning for the renovation of that facility. The "Front Door" project is coming along but the weather has not been cooperative; about 15 parking places in the front door area in the vicinity of Case Hall will be available for visitors (including some handicapped stalls) and 25 parking slots in the residence hall parking area have been redesignated as commuter parking. Eventually the front door area will have an electronic kiosk, sprinklers, and an emergency phone.

The process for establishing a procedure for the distribution of the funds generated by the technology fee is moving along. Some reallocation of budget funds is expected because we have to pay back money that was used to cover last year's shortfall and it is not clear that this year's targets for enrollment and budget will be met suggesting additional reallocation of some kind.

Senior Vice-Chancellor Roark was asked about the status of Post-Tenure Review and replied that he thought that all that remained was for the UNKEA to vote on the matter. The Pew Roundtable process has been completed and some good ideas and positive aspects are emerging from the process. A grant application to the Pew Charitable Foundation seems like a reasonable next move. The deans are working on the Student Research Mentoring Award - Ken Nikels will organize a spring recognition event with a keynote speaker. Based upon the applications that were processed this past year SVCAA Roark opined that he thought the Rank Promotion and Tenure process worked well despite the fact that not all colleges and departments have an approved set of guidelines on file - following the institutional guidelines seems to have been a pathway that worked for us.

A reorganizational plan for the Speech/Theatre Department is underway and will be going to the Board of Regents for their concurrence. Speech faculty will be moved to become part of a new Department of Communication with the present faculty of Journalism and Mass Communication and the Theatre faculty will join with the Department of Music and Dance to become the Department of Music and Performing Arts. The new Multimedia degree is on the agenda for the September meeting of the Post-Secondary Coordinating Commission. Retention efforts seem to be working - in particular, it seems that the increased admission standards are having a positive impact on students' progress through the curriculum.

Writing Across the Curriculum workshops next summer (1999) will be supported by the SVCAA to the tune of $20,000. The Writing Center recommendations made by the ad hoc faculty senate committee have been accepted; funds for the Writing Center have been in the budget of the College of Fine Arts and Humanities for a number of years; for this year at least the administration of the Writing Center will stay with the Dean of FAH (SVCAA Roark's decision.)

Vice-Chancellor Snyder reviewed the orientation weekend and noted that it appears to have been very successful; approximately 120 businesses participated in the events of the weekend and about 2700 were served at the picnic. Next year it is planned to expand the
orientation further and to have academic and administrative offices staffed on the Saturday of orientation weekend so that students can pay fees, register for classes, meet with an academic advisor or conduct any other business related to getting settled into UNK on that weekend.

The Omaha World Herald Scholarship dinner will be on November 13th this year and will be similar to last year's event. Residence hall occupancy may be a little down from last year's rate but is still in good shape.

Due to the Chancellor's absence there was no scheduled meeting with the Chancellor.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Wozniak, Faculty Senate
Secretary