I. Call to order. The meeting was called to order by President Clark at 7:01 p.m.

II. Roll Call. The secretary called the roll.

Present: Anderson, Benz, Boeckl, Cafferty, Clark, Comer, Davis, Elder, Emal, Emrys, Falconer, Fredrickson, Hartman, Hodge, Hoehner, Kelley, Markes, Moorman, Peck, Sluti, Tassi, Terry, Wozniak, Young (A), Young (B), Ziebarth, Zikmund (A), Zikmund (D)
Absent: Eshleman, Fleming, Mena-Werth, Miller

Guests: Director of General Studies, Richard Jussel; Assistant Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs, David Anderson; Mrs. Don Blank

III. Action on the minutes of previous meeting.

Senator D. Zikmund (B. Young) moved approval. The motion passed.

IV. Presentation by Regent Don Blank.

Regent Blank gave the Senate a little background about the Board of Regents. The University is a public university so the Board is elected by the public to run the institution. Regent Blank has served with 14 other Regents who were dedicated to the University and to making it better. They are not experts in higher education and they are willing to listen to their constituency. They are there to make policy decisions—they try to hire the best people possible to run the University. He believes it is important that the Regents stay out of managing the institution. The Regents have three constituencies: the people who elected them, the people of the state, and the University. Regent Blank said that he believes that the University has an outstanding President and Chancellors running the system.

Being a Regent is a challenging because there are so many different decisions that need to be made. The Regents need to know the priorities of the University and see that these are carried out since it is necessary to have the best University possible.

Being a Regent is time consuming and it requires a great deal of travel and numerous meetings. Regent Blank said that one of the big questions is: Should Regents be elected or appointed. He believes that election is good because the Regents don’t have to worry about answering to the person who appointed him/her. With elections, once every six years the candidates have to go out and talk to the people who will elect them.

Regent Blank talked a bit about the state college system and the Board of Regents, specifically: Should the state colleges be taken into the University system. Regent Blank said that the Regents are willing to talk. It is most important to do what is best for the
state. He believes that the issue must be addressed, however. This is a challenging issue.

Funding is always a problem and the University of Nebraska has generally faired pretty well in funding. There is a lot of pride in the University of Nebraska across the state. But we are always competing for state dollars as these are our only source of funding.

The long-range outlook requires a strong University system for Nebraska to be strong.

Regent Blank is a strong proponent of distance education especially to remote areas, but he does not believe that distance education will replace the campus experience.

Senator B. Young asked Regent Blank to summarize the three constituencies and how this has evolved.

Regent Blank said that he believes that most of McCook’s students come to UNK. Kearney kind of shook up the system when we entered it. Kearney brought an enthusiasm to the University that was embraced by UNO and to some degree UNL. UNK gave the university a strong presence in the western part of the state.

Senator Emrys asked if there was something that could be done about the pay for the graduate assistants at UNK. She believes that this is a serious problem at UNK.

Regent Blank said that she had a good point.

Senator Falconer interjected that most of them have a second job—not by choice, but by necessity.

Senator Benz asked about the Masters of Psychology (see attachment).

Regent Blank pled guilty and could not remember what had happened. He will get an answer for the Psychology department.

Senator Ziebarth asked Mrs. Blank what it was like to be the spouse of a Regent.

Mrs. Blank responded that it was just more of the same. Regent Blank has always been involved in politics in some way. She said that she would have to give the answer that Regent Blank gives when he says that when he dies and goes to heaven, he wants to come back as the spouse of Regent because they have the best of all worlds.

Senator Ziebarth also asked Regent Blank have the Regents work with the legislature.

Regent Blank said that the Regents work with state senators in certain instances, but the University wants to speak with a unified voice so they do not communicate on a day-to-day basis.

Senator D. Zikmund asked how does the Board look at Curtis?
Regent Blank said that Curtis is a two-year school and UN is not in a position to have a two-year school. That decision left Curtis hanging, but it did survive. Currently, UN managers Curtis and the legislature funds it. It takes no dollars away from the University. He thinks that Curtis is a tremendous school and it attracts students from all over the state.

Senator Benz asked if the Board of Regents had a position or feeling on increased funding for K-12 teachers.

Regent Blank responded that they do not and he doubts that they will.

Senator Fredrickson thanked Regent Blank and the Board for the stance they took on fetal cell research.

Regent Blank said that he believes that it was the right thing to do. This is valuable research and it has to be done.

The Senate thanked Regent Blank for coming to our meeting.

V. Reports from Academic Councils

A. Graduate Council—no comment on the minutes from 12-14-99.

Senator B. Young (Fredrickson) moved that the order of the agenda be changed. The Senate should give priority to those items where action needs to be taken and address the other items, which are information only, later—if we have energy. The election brought a division of the house. Motion passed.

B. General Studies. The minutes from the 10-7-99, 11-4-99, 12-2-99 were included in the packet.

Regarding the minutes of 10-7-99, Senator B. Young asked what was with the capstone? He noticed that the General Studies Committee rejected the proposal in October and then the second proposal that included a grant was passed. Senator Boeckl: Will the capstone would be mandatory?

DoG Jussel: Yes.

Senator Davis: What are the major problems with the October proposal verses the Cutler proposal?

DoG Jussel: The council did nothing with #2 (the Cutler proposal). There was no vote or motion on #2, so the proposal went forward.

Senator Tassi: The people on the committee did not want to take a negative stance on #2. #1 Problems were mostly logistical problems and problems with coordinating faculty salaries.

DoG Jussel: The 1-hour of capstone credit should be part of the six hours of electives that are included in the General Studies requirements.
Senator Fredrickson: He sees major problems like faculty loads and remuneration. Would the pay be like pay for overloads?
Senator Sluti: This is 1 hour of WI and CD credit, so are we adding an hour to WI and CD?
DoG Jussel: Not necessarily.
Senator B. Young: There are some problems. UNK cannot keep expecting faculty to do more. In addition, the GAs are probably not broad enough to have the ability to do this.
DoG Jussel: The faculty who teach the capstone will receive a stipend.
Senator Emrys: The GAs probably do not have the ability to do the work. Additionally, she is troubled that faculty get a stipend and the director gets a salary. What are the numbers of students involved?
Senator Sluti: Have the minutes from GS had gone through Academic Affairs? If so, it is not reflected in the Academic Affairs minutes.
Senator Boeckl: All through the GS discussions, nothing was ever said about the capstone being mandatory.
DoG Jussel: There is no indication that it is.
Senator D. Zikmund: What about the reduced hours of WI and CD for Allied Health students.
DoG Jussel: This is a moot point since the proposal was rejected by Sr. VCAA Roark.
Assistant VCAA Anderson: The capstone course would be helpful. We have a North Central evaluation coming up and the capstone would make a good assessment tool.
Senator D. Zikmund asked DoG Jussel: What is your sense was that the capstone could be implemented?
Senator Comer: He is troubled by the idea that the capstone could be an on-line course with no human contact.
Senator B. Young: He would like to have all of this pulled together in one document.
DoG Jussel: It has been. The Senate will get this at the next meeting.
Senator Davis: He had serious concerns about the proposal. If we want a quality program then this is a faculty issue. He hoped that members of the council do not back away from the issue.
Senator Hoehner: There is a page missing from the December 16 Academic Affairs minutes.
Senator A. Young: There is no comment in the Academic Affairs Committee minutes regarding this issue. Was there any discussion? Academic Affairs should give us some indication of the nature of their discussions.
Senator B. Young: Perhaps we could close discussion for this meeting and look forward to the information next month. We have a problem with WI and CD requirements. He noted that Senator Smith, who was unable to be at the meeting tonight, pointed out that CD and WI coursework is a problem for transfer students as well and at some point we have to address this problem.
Senator Markes: We need to look at the courses. Is it really a problem with the recent changes in the number of courses that have been changed to WI?
President Clark: It is a problem in the science area. Physics is the only department with WI courses at lower levels. There are very few choices in sciences.
Senator Boeckl: We all have the same problem. It is up to the chemistry department to come up with some WI courses. It is up to us to accommodate the students’ needs.
Senator Fredrickson: Referring to the grant proposal, said that he is thinking about not taking a vote so the lack of a vote can let the proposal go forward for lack of a negative vote.

Senator Clark: He understands the grant being sought is a FIPSE grant, and it has a snowball’s chance of being funded.

Senator A. Zikmund: Where did the impetus for this proposal come from?

DoG Jussel: It came from both Jeanne Cutler and himself.

VII. Reports of Faculty Senate Standing Committees

A. Election Committee. Senator B. Young said that the agenda was incorrect—the revised Constitution is not being presented tonight. Instead, he presented the election process (see attachment).

F. Professional Conduct Committee. Minutes of 11-23-99 were received. No action was required.

G. Academic Computing Committee. The minutes of 12-16-99 and 1-19-00 were included in the packet to the Senators. Senator Fredrickson noted one motion in the minutes of 1-19-00 which reads as follows: “A motion was made by Willis (Seshadri) to recommend that the issue of information literacy in Initiative 5 be addressed by the General Studies or Academic Affairs Committee.” This motion was passed on to Senate. The Initiative is as follows:

Initiative 5: Establish minimum graduation standards with respect to information literacy, where information literacy is defined as “the ability to locate, evaluate and use information to become independent lifelong learners.” (Commission of Colleges, Southern Association of colleges and Schools Criteria for Accreditation.)

a. UNK will hold forums to define information literacy expectations.

b. UNK will develop a plan to infuse basic information literacy into the general and discipline-specific academic requirements.

Suggested Action Priority
The faculty will be charged to initiate a discussion to establish information literacy goals and expectations (SVCAA, Faculty Senate, and Senate Committees).

Senator Davis (Sluti) moved that Initiative 5 be sent to the Academic Affairs Committee so that they can investigate the Initiative and report back to the Senate by the first April Senate meeting.

Senator Wozniak noted that Academic Affairs has only two meetings to get the task done.

He said that it probably would not be well done. Senator Davis said he just wanted something by April.

The motion passed.

Senator Sluti asked what is being done about CourseInfo to correct the problems? He
says that he feels as if he is not on the leading edge but on the bleeding edge.

Senator Fredrickson said that he has no problems with CourseInfo and suggested that Senator Slutii report his problem to Computer Services.

Senator B. Young asked what is the problem with subscriber e-mail?

Senator Fredrickson said that it doesn’t seem that UNK can handle large graphic files. In addition, there are problems with the student server and Lotus Notes.

Senator Davis asked if some faculty are being upgraded to Lotus V?

Senator Anderson reported that the Library has been.

Senator Benz asked what is a “for sale” database?

Senator Fredrickson said that it would be a place to go to buy/sell items, like a list server.

Senator Benz asked what is the Campus Pipeline? Are we offering a captive audience for them? Is it free because of the advertising?

Senator Fredrickson said that it is a portal. This is a pilot project.

Senator Comer said that he thought before we add on additional stuff, perhaps we should get what we have in working order.

Senator Anderson reported that Lotus V is a large program and it slows things down a lot.

Senator B. Young said that before jumping on every piece of new technology, we need to get current stuff working first.

Senator Ziebarth asked if Student Senate ever brings up these issues of programs not working?

President Clark said that he did not know.

H. Academic Affairs Committee.

The minutes from 11-28-99, 12-16-99, and 1-20-00 were included in the Senate packets. The Senators expressed concern about the Late Registration Policy included in the minutes of 1-20-00. The policy reads as follows: “Initial registration after the first week of the semester (Fall or Spring) or after the first class day (Summer) is considered late and a $15 late fee will be charged. In order to process a late registration, students must have written permission from the instructor of each course for which they wish to register. Tuition and all fees are due at the time of registration.

Beginning the third week of the semester or the third day of a summer class, students wishing to register must have permission from the course instructor, department chair, and the dean of the college for each class in which they plan to enroll. Students cannot register for full semester classes following the fourth week of the term.”

Senator Wozniak (Emrys) moved approval of the policy. Senator B. Young reported that this is a formalization of policy that was already in place.

The motion passed.

K. Library Committee.
Senator Anderson was asked to make comments. He said he knows nothing. Senator Davis said that #19 is Phi Alpha Theta which bought $1000 worth of books for the Library.

L. Faculty Senate Continuing Education Committee.

The minutes of 1-19-00 were included in the packets. Senator Davis noted that Sheryl Heidenreich was at the meeting.

Senator B. Young noted that the World Affairs Conference would be March 6-7. There will be a copywrite attorney there to discuss these issues with the faculty.

VI. Reports of Senate Representatives to Non-Senate Committees

A. Strategic Planning Committee. There will be a meeting next week.
B. Budget Committee. No meeting
C. Honor’s Council. No meeting
E. Center for Teaching Excellence Advisory Committee. A speaker is coming in February 11 for a workshop.
F. Gender Equity. No report

VII.

B. Executive Committee Report.

Senator B. Young asked who the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Computer Services would report to. The response is the Chancellor. Senator Fredrickson noted that it seemed a bit unusual that no one from Computer services is on the search committee. This would seem the same as no one from the College of Natural and Social Sciences being on the search committee for the dean of the college. Senator Young noted the move of the Registrar’s Office back to Academic Affairs. In 1988 that office was moved to Student Services and now it is going back to the original reporting line. “How quickly we forget!”

President Clark noted that the Committee had talked to a wide cross section of people who believed that Academic Affairs is where the Registrar’s Office belonged.

Senator B. Young congratulated David Anderson on a job well done in the position he occupies as Assistant VCAA and offered him good luck in his future endeavors.

C The President’s Report.

President Clark noted that there have been three KUDOS from UNK personnel at the last two Board meetings. These were awarded to Kathy Livingston,
Clark reported that there have not been a lot of contentious issues at Board meetings. The most problematic was the fetal tissue research. The Board OK’d the research, but suggested that the Medical Center try to find other sources of tissue also.

The January meeting presentation was regarding state prospects for tax and revenue income. Projections are not good. From 1984 to 1989, the percentage of the general fund appropriations that NU received was at 21%; from 1989 to 1999, it steadily decreased to 16.4%; and from 2000 to 2015 it is projected to decrease slowly to 14.7%. In 1984, the state total general fund appropriation was $746,282,879 of which NU received $158,189,804 as its general fund appropriation. In 1999, the state total general fund appropriation was $2,169,585,690 of which NU received $355,942,829 as its general fund appropriation. In 2015, the state total general fund appropriation is projected to be $3,584,908,164 of which NU is projected to receive $527,633,350. Also in January the University of Nebraska – Lincoln received a $17 million gift from the Lied Foundation for fine arts.

Parking at UNL is a big problem. The cost of parking is prorated. The highest rate is $80 per month. UNL would like to build a parking building on the corner of 19th and R. Financing is still an issue.

J. Athletic Committee.

Senator Elder reported that the committee is waiting for the assigned member of the Executive Committee to call the first meeting.

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

A. CEET.

Senator Anderson reported that CEET has finished its work and requested that it be disbanded. This was moved by Senator Elder (Davis). Motion passed.

B. Faculty Senate Orientation Committee.

Senator Kelley has minutes which will be included in next month’s packets.

IX. Unfinished Business. There was none.

X. New Business.

A senator asked to what academic areas was the money from the Pepsi contract going? Additionally, there is a resolution which will be included in next month’s packets.
Senator Elder (Benz) moved adjournment. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted

Kay Hodge, Secretary