The Faculty Senate was called to order by President Wozniak at 7:03 p.m.

Members present


Absent:

Burlingame, Seshadri, Curry, Hof, Briner, Tracy, Zikmund

Guests: Heidi Lammers, Student Body Vice President, Christi Erickson, Mike Herbison, Director of the Library, Elizabeth Peck, Director of the Center for Teaching Excellence

The minutes were approved (Bridges/Davis).

Christi Erickson, an organizer of the College Relay for Life, made a brief presentation about the relay. She said that this year the First Annual Tri-City College Relay for Life will be held February 8 at the Tri-City Arena. She is seeking faculty teams for the event. Student teams have already been organized. Faculty who are interested can contact Christi at 1-877-532-7099. The group is also seeking survivors to be honored that night as well.

Mike Herbison spoke to Senate about the overcrowded shelves at Calvin T. Ryan Library and the upcoming "weeding" of titles. Library personnel will be pulling titles from the Library’s collection to make space for new titles. The process was clearly described in the Fall, 2001, edition of the library’s newsletter. If faculty have any questions, they can refer to the article or call the library and talk to Mike.

The agenda was suspended (Brown/Eshleman) so that Heidi Lammers, Vice President of the Student Body could briefly discuss students’ concerns. Heidi said that as the end of the semester approaches, students are becoming increasingly concerned about the new grading system. The students have always been told that the catalog that they came into UNK on was their contract for their college experience and grading was specified in the catalog. Now, students believe that UNK has backed out on its end of the contract and changed the grading. The students are concerned because they had no voice in the decision. Additionally, there is quite a lot of inconsistency in the way the minuses are being applied as the process varies from professor to professor.
The minutes of the Graduate Council were discussed. Roger Jones spoke to the Graduate Council and said that there is more money for student scholarships at UNK than in the past. The Foundation has a publication on these scholarships and it is available by calling the Foundation.

The minutes of the General Studies Committee were available for the Senate's perusal.

President Wozniak indicated that he would no longer be asking Senate Representatives to the various non-Senate committees for a report during the Senate meetings. If something important happens that Senate should know about, the Senate Reps are asked to e-mail Bill regarding the matter and he will see that the information gets into the packet.

Senator Davis asked if Richard Light was coming to campus. Liz Peck, Director of the Center for Teaching Excellence said that bringing Light to campus was impossible. He is simply too expensive.

The Oversight Committee Chair Fredrickson reported that there will be elections at the February meeting.

The Executive Committee’s reports were included in the packets. Budget cuts for this year at UNK will amount to $288,000. The bulk of this will come out of the Academic Affairs budget and faculty will probably see no visible effects. Next year $600,000 will be permanently eliminated from the budget. Roark believes he can do this with minimal pain to the faculty and the institution. He doesn’t want to impact course offerings and faculty support. The details of this reduction are still in the air, but Dr. Roark seems fairly positive that the impact will be relatively painless.

Senator Lewis asked about the section where the committee reported "UNK has refrained from the temptation to award high school students college credit for courses that are taught by high school teachers. We may want to consider the opportunity of providing quality courses by UNK faculty to selected high school students." Who will offer classes to these quality students? Senator Unruh asked if there could be dialog between the university and the high school so that students could benefit from advanced coursework that many are prepared for.

President Wozniak asked that Senators remember that the standing committees are now organized and issues should be sent through the proper channels. He also reported that the Faculty Forum was a success and there was lively discussion. Tenure was one of the issues and many believe that "If it isn’t broken, don’t fix it." Tenure seems to work well on UNK’s campus as it is. Wozniak also said that he thought it important that Senators communicate better with the faculty in their college. Information needs to get to faculty.
President Wozniak said that he is on the Academic Affairs Space Committee which will assign open and unused space on campus that becomes available after the Education Building opens. There are two departments badly in need of permanent homes—Social Work and Mathematics. After those needs are met, who knows what space will be assigned to whom. If you have concerns, please contact Senator Wozniak.

President Wozniak also reported that we needed to elect a person to fill a three-year slot on the Pratt-Heins Committee. Vern Volpe was nominated (Davis/Becker) and unanimously elected (Bridges/Mena-Werth) to the position. **Motion passed.**

Various senators voiced appreciation for the forum. More are being planned.

Minutes from Professional Conduct and Academic Affairs were provided in the packets. Minutes from Artists and Lecturers were provided. Roger Davis commended the Committee on its minutes and wished that there was more information regarding the programs, like who is speaking, what is the program? He thought this would be a good first advertisement for the programs. Minutes from the Athletic Committee and Library Committee were received without comment. Minutes from the Student Life Committee were in the packets and Senator Wozniak commented that he believes that this committee has some real opportunities in light of the new Vice Chancellor of Student Life and some her concerns and needs. The minutes of Continuing Education were received.

President Wozniak reported that the Academic Information Technology Committee is trying to establish its agenda based on the Teaching/Learning Roundtable.

Dr. Peck asked that the secretary please change the name of her committee from North Central Accreditation Assessment Committee to Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Assessment Committee.

Under unfinished business, President Wozniak brought up the two resolutions (the Dart resolution/December and the Wozniak resolution/February) that were both voted on and approved by Senate but are contradictory. Davis/Lillis moved that the service issue be referred to the Faculty Welfare Committee so that committee can prepare a general resolution on faculty service in the context of shared governance. **The motion passed.**

Senator Craig/Becker moved that the difference between the B.A. and the B.S. be discussed by the Academic Affairs Committee to determine specific distinctions between the two. **Motion passed.**

Lillis/Bridges moved adjournment.
Respectfully submitted,
Kay Hodge
Secretary Pro Tem