University of Nebraska at Kearney  
Faculty Senate  
Minutes of the Meeting of November 7, 2002  

I. President Kelley called the meeting to order at 7:02.  
Absent: Obermier, Tracy,  
Guests: Former Sr. VCAA James Roark, Chancellor Doug Kristensen, Asst. to Sr. VCAA Glenn Powell, Student Body Vice President Abranda Schwensen.  

I. Bridges/Young moved to suspend the agenda. **Motion passed.**  

III. The Senate presented a formal commendation to Prof. James Roark, Chemistry, for his service to the faculty as Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. Prof. Roark spoke about the value of the position of SVCAA in developing a cross-departmental view of UNK, adding to his experience as faculty member and department chair.  

IV. Chancellor Kristensen addressed the Senate, focusing on the budget projections, current initiatives, and the ideas of bonds for capitalizing construction projects, especially dorms, and discussed plans for the Fine Arts Building’s cooling system. He then opened discussion to questions from the floor.  

Sen. Craig inquired about timing for the SVCAA search. Chan. Kristensen indicated that an ad had been created and was being revised, and that he was currently thinking about whom he might name as chair of the Search Committee.  

Sen. Brown expressed concerns about prioritization of projects. Chan. Kristensen indicated that his highest priorities included bonds for capital construction projects, the search for a permanent SVCAA, with plans for reorganization delayed for about six months, since larger decisions require time and depend in part on the new SVCAA.  

Sen. Fredrickson asked about the Continuing Education Committee recently established, especially its being weighted toward administration membership. Given the impact decisions in this area will have on academics, he wondered if faculty should not have been included. Chan. Kristensen replied that the cuts proposed for the Continuing Education area are part of shared usage of the Learning Centers in North Platte and Grand Island, and indicated that this three-person committee will report directly to the SVCAA, with proposals presented to him also being run by the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate.  


V. Returning to the regular agenda, Hodge/Fredrickson moved approval of the minutes of the meeting of 10/3. **Minutes were approved with minor corrections.**
V1. Reports from Academic Councils:
**Graduate Council** – minutes of 10/10 meeting were presented without discussion.

VII. Reports from Non-Senate Committees:
**Center for Teaching Excellence Advisory Committee** – minutes of 10/14 were presented without discussion.

IX. Reports of Faculty Senate Standing Committees:

A. Oversight Committee presented the minutes of their meeting of 10/28. They nominated, as a replacement for the position on CBT vacated by Sen. Burlingame, Stan Lightner from the Department of Industrial Technology. This replacement position will be until April ’03. Davis/Lillis moved that the nominations cease and that a unanimous ballot be cast for Prof. Lightner. *Motion passed.*

The Oversight Committee also nominated Sen. Lightner to the vacancy in the Student Life Committee. Davis/Wozniak moved that the nominations cease and that a unanimous ballot be cast for Sen. Lightner. *Motion passed.*

Oversight nominated Prof. Jane Strawhecker of TE to the opening on the Athletic Committee. Hodge/Terry moved that the nominations cease and that a unanimous ballot be cast for Prof. Strawhecker. *Motion passed.*

Sen. Hodge wondered why copies of the constitution materials had not been included in the senators’ packets. Sec. Damon apologized for the oversight. The matter was referred to the meeting of 12/5.

B. The **Executive Committee** minutes of meeting 10/23 and 10/24 were corrected in regard to members absent and present.

Sen. Lewis asked what the Executive Committee meant concerning guidelines for numbers of distance education and web-based courses. The concern is that some programs feel compelled to offer such courses, despite incompatibility with course content. Sen. Hof pointed out that some programs – Counseling, for example – would not be have many (if any) appropriate classes.

Sen. Scott questioned why the Strategic Planning Committee was not involved in budget planning. Discussion ensued. Sen. Miller indicated that the Chancellor seems not to have formulated a strong position on that subject yet, and Sen. Scott indicated that the same holds true for the SVCAA. Sen. Young presented concerns about the Mission Statement, whether it should be reformulated regarding vertical cuts and distance education, and stated that the Strategic Planning Committee should be involved in that process. The current Mission was written with Faculty Senate participation but recent tweaking of the document was never approved by the Senate. The Mission Statement is crucial to making vertical cuts, since it should guide what the university will become. Can the same Mission be met as well as it has been with less money? Strategic Planning Committee
(StrPIC) needs to consider this problem. Sen. Scott said that the StrPIC should and
historically has been involved in more than just NCAA. The Faculty Senate should press
for the StrPIC to be fully engaged in university planning processes. Sen. Miller
concurred, reminding senators that we are not finished with budget cuts for '03, and we
need to be talking about this. Sen. Wozniak spoke about the time needed for the StrPIC to
revise the Strategic Plan. Reformulating the Strategic Plan in the midst of cutting is not
healthy. Scott/Miller presented the following motion:

The Executive Committee should pursue with the Chancellor the reconstitution of
the Strategic Planning Committee, that it should meet regularly and engage fully
with the wide range of issues with which it has traditionally been concerned, in light
of our Mission Statement and particularly in regard to budget cuts. Motion passed.

C. President's Report: The only item in the report requiring action concerned the
screening committee for the UNK Department Teaching Award. Names should be given
to Sen. Miller of senior faculty willing and able to serve. All committees have now met at
least once for the 2002-2003 year.

D. Academic Affairs Committee minutes of 9/19 were presented without discussion.

E. Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee minutes of 10/15 generated discussion
of the revision of Fac. Sen. by-laws concerning hearings regarding dismissal of tenured
faculty.

F. Artists and Lecturers Committee minutes of 10/30 were presented without
discussion.

G. Continuing Education Committee minutes of 10/29 were presented. The following
motion was forwarded to the Senate:

Resolution:

Whereas, The Division of Continuing Education is extremely important for rural
Nebraska, UNK, and both graduate and undergraduate education;

Whereas, This fall semester there has been a 74.2% increase in graduate enrollment
and an 134% increase in undergraduate enrollment, in off-campus classes, due to
the efforts of Continuing Education;

Whereas, Without the off-campus enrollment UNK would have experienced a 3%
decrease in enrollment;

Whereas, “Summer Synergy” brought in over 8,000 students during the summer of
2002,

Whereas, The current administration of Continuing Education has dramatically
enhanced distance education opportunities for UNK students during the past 6 years;

Whereas, The main force behind satellite, fiber, and web course development has been the administration of the Division of Continuing Education; and

Whereas, Faculty involvement with Distance Education must have support from Continuing Education; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That we strongly support the current administrative structure of the Division of Continuing Education and request the Chancellor reconsider the decision to terminate the positions of the Dean of Continuing Education and related staff.

Sen. Young questioned whether attempts to prevent termination of positions makes sense, since if you save one position, a new one will have to be cut instead. He also questioned the statistics presented in the resolution, asking for numbers that are more concrete. Sen. Scott said that he also was unprepared to vote on the resolution as presented. Sen. Fredrickson indicated that the resolution is the actionable item and not the whereas, and pointed out that the resolution calls for a reconsideration not a reversal of the decision. The question was raised whether the Dean Audley and her staff had actually been cut or if the cuts were merely proposed. Sens. Brown and Clark affirmed that Dean Audley indicated she and her staff had been cut. Further concerns were raised. Darveau/Terry moved that the motion be tabled until such time as the facts are clarified. Motion to table passed.

Next under consideration was the second resolution brought forward by the Continuing Education Committee:

Motion: We request of the Chancellor that at least one faculty member from the Continuing Education Committee and at least one faculty member in general be appointed to the Chancellor’s Continuing Education Study Committee.

Sen. Clark pointed out that the committee as constructed contains only administrators appointed by the Chancellor. Sen. Craig reiterated that the concern had been expressed directly to the Chancellor by Sen. Fredrickson earlier in this meeting. The motion was defeated in a vote of 10 to 13, with a number of abstentions.

H. Library Committee minutes of 10/30 were presented. Sen. Miller stated that department chairs had received allocation cuts that day. Sen. Darveau stated that the cuts itemized represented 20% with 10% remaining to be discussed. Sen. Lewis stated that it was considered desirable to negotiate on some cuts in order to match departmental needs. Sen. Miller concurred, stating that some journals are shared by more than one department, so that renegotiation might be necessary if one department decided to drop a journal that another department considered essential.
I. **Student Life Committee** presented minutes of 10/28. They asked that discussion of their resolution be delayed. Sen. Hodge questioned the decision to have a student chair the committee. It was determined to be an unusual practice but not disallowed.

    X. There were no reports of Faculty Senate Special (Ad Hoc) Committees.

XI. Unfinished Business:

    **U. S. Patriot Act** materials were presented. The law is fixed but policies implementing the law are not yet in place. Compliance with the U. S. Patriot Act is a high concern of upper Administration. As the presented materials indicate, librarians continue to be concerned about how the Act will affect performance of their duties.

IX. New Business:

    **Gender Equity Report** was presented. Sen. Miller asked how different the “new” childcare facility is from the past. Sen. Curry responded that it is all-day, not part-day. It is staffed by paid professionals, not students. Sen. Miller asked about the enrollment numbers and whether student training is going on at the facility. Sen. Curry indicated that some levels are full, some are not, and that it is a child development facility, not a lab. Asked if a lab still exists on campus, Sen. Curry said that there is no lab now. Sen. Young questioned in general whether gender equity only concerned the status of women. Discussion ensued.

    A point of order was discussed concerning the tabling of motions. Sen. Terry asked if a marketing director had been appointed and was informed that Ann Tillery had added that responsibility to her job. Sen. Scott asked if the National Survey of Student Expectations results had been received and were they available. Executive Committee will inquire.

    Bridges/Korb made a motion of adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Damon, Secretary