UNK FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES  
Thursday, March 2, 2006  

**APPROVED April 6, 2006**

I. President Kruse called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call:

Present: Albrecht, Aviles, Barton, Bridges, Brown, Craig, Darveau, Dimock, Fredrickson, Frickel, Fronczak, Hartman, Jackowiak, Kelley, Kruse, Lewis, Miller, Moore, Nelson, Obermier, Snider, Strawhecker, Wozniak, Younes, Young

Absent: Davis, Elder, Kuskie, Lightner, Lilly, Merrick, Rieder, Scantling, Taylor, N. Unruh, S. Unruh

Guests: Kim Schipporeit, Kathy Smith

III. Kelley noted that under 9.C. in the minutes of the February 2, 2006, Faculty Senate, it says a “question was raised regarding the WI/CD committee’s decision to discontinue the International Education Experience policy,” so a review of this policy was to be put on the agenda for this Senate meeting but the policy was not in this month’s packet. Miller said he could get a copy of the policy. Kruse said it would be distributed in next month’s packet and would be put on the agenda for April 6. Jackowiak/Nelson moved approval of the minutes for the Faculty Senate meeting of February 2, 2006, which passed.

IV. Reports from Academic Councils:
   A. Graduate Council: Feb. 9, 2006, report was accepted.
   B. General Studies Council: Nov. 3 and Dec. 1, 2005, reports were accepted following discussion. Kelley raised a question regarding the Dec. 1 minutes in which Gloria Vavricka is reported as saying that target audiences for on-line courses are non-traditional, traditional, and high school seniors. The concern regarded targeting high school seniors. Mixed feelings were expressed about teaching on-line General Studies courses to high school students who then get dual credit (high school and college) for taking the class. Discussion centered on providing quality while staying competitive. Registrar Kim Schipporeit noted that about 30% of the freshmen now enter UNK with classes that they have taken, usually from Central Community College or Nebraska Wesleyan. There is no assurance of proficiency following successful completion of these classes, unlike Advanced Placement, which uses testing to assure proficiency. Senators were concerned about how to maintain both standards and enrollment. A UNK proficiency test was among ideas discussed whereby credit would be accepted if the incoming student shows proficiency. It was generally agreed that data needed to be
collected on who is successful, what background those students have and the like. Schipporeit said her office is collecting data such as overall g.p.a. and grades in specific classes. She asked that the Faculty Senate e-mail her and tell her what additional data they wanted collected. Miller made a motion to send the issue to the academic affairs committees of the colleges and ask them to show ways to ensure that if departments in those colleges are teaching General Studies classes to high school seniors, they maintain college level standards and that, based on their input, the Faculty Senate then appoint an ad hoc committee to study the issue and report back to the Senate. The motion was seconded by Fredrickson and passed unanimously.


V. Reports from Faculty Senate Standing Committees

A. Oversight Committee: January 23, 2006, report accepted after a summary presented by Young. He noted that Bill Wozniak won the election for senator-at-large. Scott Unruh has had three absences. The Oversight Committee nominated him to complete the year (one meeting), but his seat will be up for election to fill the last remaining year of his term. Miller/Darveau moved to cast a unanimous ballot, which passed.

B. Executive Committee: Feb. 22, 2006, report accepted following discussion. Miller asked why the results of the ROTC faculty survey were not available. Darveau said the survey was not authored on this campus so the results were not yet known here, but Finnie Murray had said he would check into getting the results. Young said he talked to an ROTC representative at the Career Fair who said that the results were favorable, although he did not know by how much. Kruse noted that there are still lots of questions about implementation of an ROTC program on campus including the issue of available space.

C. Presidents Report: March 2, 2006, report accepted following discussion. Kruse said that she is close to ironing out the procedure for Phase II of the General Studies Roundtable but the procedure will have to go through multiple approvals. She noted that the Roundtable will develop a skeleton for the General Studies curriculum. From the Roundtable, it will go to the Faculty Senate for approval, then to Finnie Murray, then to the General Studies Council, and then to the colleges for approval. Approval need only be given by three of the four colleges. Kruse said Murray does not want any minority to hold the plan hostage. Kruse hopes to have a campus forum after spring break to share the participant selection process and the program review processes. She said she will definitely get the Roundtable going this semester.

D. Academic Affairs: Feb. 16 report accepted.

E. Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee: no report submitted.

F. Academic Information and Technology Committee: no report submitted.

G. Artists and Lecturers Committee: no report submitted.

H. Athletic Committee: no report submitted.

I. Continuing Education Committee: no report submitted.

discussion. Kruse said it has been recommended that faculty keep a printed copy of their current class rosters some place other their offices in case of emergency evacuation. Also emphasized, she said, was the importance of filling out green sheets if the class is moved to another location. Young wanted senators to be aware and to share with colleagues that the process of locking up buildings starts at 10 p.m. on the main campus and moves to WSTC at about 10:45 p.m., which is later than some faculty may realize.

K. Grievance Committee: no report submitted.
L. Library Committee: no report submitted.
M. Professional Conduct Committee: no report submitted.
N. Student Affairs Committee: no report submitted.

VI. Reports of Senate Representatives to non-Senate Committees
A. Assessment Committee: Feb. 9, 2006, report accepted.
C. Center for Teaching Excellence Advisory Committee: no report submitted.
E. Ethnic Studies Advisory Committee: no report submitted.
F. Fees Committee: no report submitted.
G. First Year Experience: no report submitted.
H. Gender Equity Committee: no report submitted.
L. Student Retention Committee: no report submitted.
M. Safety Committee: no report submitted.
N. Strategic Planning Committee: Feb. 8, Feb. 15 and Feb. 22, 2006, reports accepted.
O. Student Support Services Advisory Committee: no report submitted.
P. Technology Advisory Committee: no report submitted.
Q. Women’s Studies Advisory Committee: no report submitted.
R. Writing Center Advisory Committee: no report submitted.

VII. Reports of Faculty Senate Special (Ad Hoc) Committees
B. Writing Intensive/Cultural Diversity Committee: It was noted that the new WI policy will take effect in the fall 2007 catalog, thus allowing departments time to create or designate WI classes. Frickle read a statement from Steve Hall, chair of accounting and finance, who said his faculty support the move to six hours of WI and support having one of the WI classes in the program of study but object to having it approved or disapproved by a campus-wide committee. They don’t think a campus-wide committee should approve or disapprove how specific skills are taught within individual colleges and disciplines. Rather, they recommend that the WI program be amended so that the class taken within a program of study be determined by the faculty teaching in that program and that no formal approval by a campus-wide committee be required. Further, they recommend that the
required plan to improve writing be part of the normal annual assessment process, “which would eliminate the need to have the plan approved by the WI committee (to which we strongly object) and will streamline the process.” Kruse said it is understood that writing looks different across the curriculum, and the committee will be mindful of that. She noted that the approval process will not be much different than that which is done by the Academic Affairs Committee. Kruse moved the discussion of the International Studies/CD issue to the April 6 meeting so that senators will have an opportunity to see the policy regarding awarding credit for international experience.

VIII. Unfinished Business: Miller moved to hold discussion of the Climate Survey at the April 6 meeting and to invite the stakeholders in the academic community to attend and hear that discussion. Obermier seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Kruse asked senators to let her know of stakeholders who should be invited.

IX. New Business: none.

X. General Faculty Comments: Wozniak reported getting feedback from someone who said that the Faculty Senate minutes have not been on the web since September. Darveau said to look again after spring break. Kruse noted that Dusty Newton will be at the next meeting so if senators have questions they want answered, let her know.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40.

Ruth Brown
Faculty Senate Secretary Pro Tem