March 1, 2007
Ockinga Conference Room

I) Call to order: President Darveau called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

II) Roll Call
Absent: Albrecht, Davis, Elder, Fredrickson, Kelley, Snider, Strawhecker, Tidwell, Unruh, Wysocki
Guests: Jeanne Butler, Director of Assessment; Brandon Bohn, Student Senate; Shauna Fisher, Carli Oberg, Erica Hardessen, Amber Kramer, Jeann Hubl, Social Work Student Observers

III) Approval of Agenda:
Senator Brown (Lewis) moved for the approval of the agenda. Motion passed. President Darveau welcomed our guest student observers.

IV) Action on Faculty Senate Minutes of February 1, 2007:
Senator Brown (Kuskie) moved for approval of the February 1, 2007 minutes. No comments or changes were made. Motion passed.

V) Guest Speaker: Vice Chancellor Curt Carlson—Postponed until the April meeting.

VI) Reports of Faculty Senate Standing Committees
A) Oversight Committee: Senator Frickel reported that Dr. Stan Lightner has resigned from the Senate. Senator Frickel (Trewin) nominated Dr Rich Meznarich to fill the position for the remainder of this academic year. Motion passed. Former Senator Bridges place on the Academic Affairs Committee is open. Senator Frickel (Jackowiak) nominated Tami Moore. Motion passed. Senator Frickel announced that Senator-at-large nominations have been distributed and are due tomorrow, March 2. President Darveau said that there is also an open position on the Student Affairs Committee (faculty member from CBT) that needs to be filled soon, so they can begin work on the American Democracy Project. Please forward nominations to the Executive Committee. They will make the appointment.

B) Executive Committee: Minutes of Feb 21, 2007—Received without comment
C) President's Report: February 2007 Report—President Darveau also included a letter in response to the Student Affairs Committee minutes which indicated that they were not going to accept work that was assigned to them by the Senate. President Darveau indicated in his letter that the refusal was not acceptable. The Chair of the Committee has resigned but the remainder of the committee seems willing to take on the task.

D) Academic Affairs: Minutes of Jan 18 and Feb 15, 2007—Senator Brown asked about the “6 hour overlap rule” discussed at the January meeting. Senator Jackowiak said that a student earning a BA or a BS may only have 6 credit hours count toward both their major and their minor. Senator Miller added that this restriction causes problems for some major-minor combinations that have extensive prerequisite courses from another department. Biology, for example, has numerous prerequisite requirements (more than 6 hours) in Chemistry, but six of those hours can count for a Chemistry minor. President Darveau said the purpose of the rule is to prevent students from claiming a major and minor without performing significant additional work.

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
J) Faculty Welfare Committee: no report submitted
K) Grievance Committee: Minutes of Jan 30 and Feb 15, 2007—Received without comment.
L) Library Committee: no report submitted
M) Professional Conduct Committee: no report submitted
N) Student Affairs Committee: Minutes of Feb 26, 2007—Received without comment.

VII) Reports of Faculty Senate Special (ad hoc) Committees
A) Writing Intensive / Cultural Diversity Committee: Minutes of Feb 21, 2007—President Darveau asked the Senate split the business into first addressing the minutes, then addressing the two governance proposals. The minutes were received without comment.
B) General Studies Roundtable: Notes of Feb 2 and Feb 9, 2007—Received without comment.

VIII) Reports from Academic Councils
A) Graduate Council: no report submitted
B) General Studies Council: Minutes of Dec 7, 2006. Minutes received without comment—President Darveau pointed out that the document clarifies how changes to the General Studies Program are to be made—which “meshes well” with the discussions for change in the General Studies Roundtables. Senator Wozniak noted that the procedure for the nomination of new members is left to the individual colleges. Wozniak (Hartman) moved that the Faculty Senate recommends that Colleges hold elections to determine their nominees to the General Studies Council. Senator Wozniak added that to his knowledge only the College of Fine Arts and Humanities holds elections, whereas the rest of the nominees are appointed by the College Deans. Motion passed.
C) Council on Undergraduate Education: Minutes of January 29, 2007—President Darveau noted that it was good to see that 2 students are in the Ethnic Studies Program.

IX) Reports of Senate Representatives to Non-Senate Committees
A) Assessment Committee: Minutes of Feb 8, 2007—Received without comment.
B) Affirmative Action Commission: no report submitted
C) Center for Teaching Excellence Advisory Committee: no report submitted
D) Council of Chairs: no report submitted
E) Ethnic Studies Advisory Committee: no report submitted
F) Gender Equity Committee: no report submitted
G) Fees Committee: no report submitted
H) First Year Experience Committee: no report submitted
I) Honors Advisory Council: Minutes of Jan 17, 2007—Received without significant comment.
J) International Education: no report submitted
K) Parking: no report submitted
L) Student Retention Committee: no report submitted
M) Safety Committee: no report submitted
N) Strategic Planning: no report submitted
O) Student Support Services Advisory Committee: no report submitted
P) Technology Advisory Committee: no report submitted
Q) Women’s Studies Advisory Committee: Minutes of Dec 6, 2006 Minutes—Received without comment
R) Writing Center Advisory Committee: no report submitted

X) Unfinished Business:
A) WI/CD Governance Proposals—President Darveau described the two proposals: Proposal 1 creates a new faculty senate standing committee to approve new courses and monitor the WI/CD programs—This would necessitate a change to the Bylaws, this would take 2 meetings to complete; Proposal 2 creates a similar, but non-Faculty Senate Committee, reporting directly to the SVCAA. In this case, the Committee operates in a similar fashion as the General Studies Council. In both cases, the work of assessment of WI and CD courses becomes the responsibility of the departments offering the courses and thus would become part of the annual assessment report sent to the Assessment committee. Senator Miller spoke in favor of Proposal 2 saying that the changes could take effect immediately because it would not require changes to the Bylaws which could ultimately take years to complete. He further stated that the second proposal seems to give the committee more clout. President Darveau indicated that the current WI/CD Committee is more in favor of Option 2. Senator Wozniak asked what the relationship is between the Faculty Senate Academic Affairs Committee and this new SVCAA Committee? If a new course is going forward as a WI or CD course, what is the process? President Darveau said that the course would need to be approved as a course first, then as a WI and/or CD course. Miller (McCarty) moved for adoption of Proposal 2. Senator Craig asked who authored the first proposal. President Darveau said that he wrote the first proposal in consultation with the WI/CD Committee. Under this proposal, committee members would be appointed by the SVCAA. Senator Lewis pointed that the Senate just went on record as in support of election of nominees to the General
Studies Council. As a compromise, Senator Lewis suggested a friendly amendment that the SVCAA seek nominations from the Faculty Senate. President Darveau also said that he would like to see the appointments to this committee be staggered so that approximately half the committee is new. This is important given the current workload of this committee. Senator Craig asked why we would have a different policy than the one used to elect members to the General Studies Council. Senator Miller said that there is no reason why the process would work essentially the same, except that the Senate would solicit the nominations from the Colleges. Motion passed. The complete proposal follows the minutes.

XI) New Business:

A) WI/CD Bylaw Amendment—Not needed in light of previous action

B) WI/CD Resolution—President Darveau (Miller) moved for approval of the following resolution:

Whereas, in November 2004, the Faculty Senate created an ad hoc committee whose purpose was to coordinate, reform, and improve the Writing Intensive and Cultural Diversity Programs on campus, and

Whereas, since that time, the committee has changed the Writing Intensive program with an emphasis on writing within the disciplines for the betterment of the campus, and

Whereas, the committee has engaged in a culture of assessment to ensure that the new program succeeds in educating our students in writing, and

Whereas, the volume of work required to succeed in this undertaking has required a commitment of monumental proportion, and

Whereas, the committee has agreed to continue its work beyond its original mandate in order to guarantee the success of the disciplinary writing approach,

Be it Resolved that the Faculty Senate of the University of Nebraska at Kearney commends the Writing Intensive / Culturally Diverse ad hoc committee for its work over the past two years and thanks its members Pradeep Barua, Debbie Bridges, Jeanne Butler, Karin Covalt, Barbara Emrys, Nanette Hogg, Trecia Markes, Tami Moore, Kim Schipporteit, Trudy de Goede, Glen Powell and especially its chair Kate Heelan for their dedication to the cause and for the passion they have shown in their work.

Motion passed.

C) Tenure and Promotion Guidelines—President Darveau suggested that postponing discussion until the next meeting would give the Senators more time to study the document and discuss it. Senator Frickel (Lewis) move to postpone discussion of the Guidelines until next meeting. Senator Foradori pointed out that she and Senator Kuskie are on the committee and can serve as facilitators for the discussions that follow. Other committee members are Assoc SVC Nikels, Dean Harrold, and faculty members Joe Benz, Allan Jenkins, Mary Barton, and Tuff Hilton. The committee is an ad hoc committee of the SVC. Motion passed.

XII) General Faculty Comments:

Senator Frickel expressed concern over a plan to disband the Department of Economics, to reassign those faculty to other departments, and to eliminate or alter some of the CBT degree programs. The plan has been sent to the SVCAA from the Dean. The department was not consulted as a group, although individual faculty members were contacted. She is concerned that the proper channels for such changes may not have been used which means that little faculty input has been sought. Since it seems that faculty have not been consulted in any meaningful way so far, she asked if would it be appropriate for the Senate to take some action in the spirit of shared faculty governance? In particular, she suggested that the Faculty Welfare Committee and the Academic Affairs Committees investigate whether appropriate procedures were followed in this matter. In response to several questions from Senators Craig, Maughan, and Foradori, the following information was provided: The exit of Dr Bridges left the Department without a Chair. There are six faculty members in Economics not including 2 or 3 lecturers. The faculty members are evenly divided between traditional economics and Ag-economics and the reassignment would correspond to that split. The CBT Educational Policy Committee has not been consulted nor any of the other departments affected. Many of the other consequences of this change have not been publicly discussed, so many CBT faculty have no idea how to answer specific questions. Senator Foradori pointed out the similarity of this proposed reorganization to one that occurred in CFAH a few years back. In other Colleges, reorganizations have occurred with seeming little faculty input. Senator Craig pointed out that such reorganization has occurred in CNSS last year. Senator Miller indicated that the faculty province rests largely on the degree programs not on the administrative structure. For the administrative structure that offers the degrees, it is less clear whose province that falls into. If the changes involve programs, such as Business Education, then the proposal would need to be reviewed by the Faculty Senate. Senator Foradori asked if there is a bigger hidden reason for such a drastic change—perhaps the lack of a Chair is a major reason. President Darveau indicated that the issues the proposal raises certainly are appropriate concerns for at least the Faculty Senate
Academic Affairs Committee and the Faculty Welfare Committee, not only with regard to this specific proposal but also to clarify what policies apply to such reorganization proposals. Senator Frickel (Foradori) moved that the Faculty Senate Academic Affairs Committee and Faculty Welfare Committee investigate what policies exist (e.g., College, University, Regents) that apply to CBT reorganization proposal. Senator Miller pointed that the committees will need the document that the CBT Dean has prepared. President Darveau pointed out that the proposal creates a department of Accounting, Finance, and Economics, which would absorb the traditional Economists. The applied Economists (Ag Economy) would be absorbed into the Management Department. Many other questions are unanswered concerning all of the changes. Senator Lewis was concerned about the suggestion that Business Education would be moved to COE, it would be atypical and unprecedented on this campus. **Motion passed.**

President Darveau pointed out that the budget information in the packet was provided by the Chancellor. It is important that faculty stay informed of the budget development process. It appears that tuition increases, budget cuts, or both are possible.

XIII) Adjournment. **Senator Jackowiak (Wozniak) moved for adjournment. Motion passed at 7:55 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Wozniak
Secretary
UNK Faculty Senate

**Proposal for the Continued Governance of Writing Intensive and Culturally Diverse Courses at UNK**

**Approved by Faculty Senate, March 1, 2007**

The following proposal addresses the ongoing governance of the Writing Intensive and Culturally Diverse Programs and assessment of the WI and CD programs.

1. The Faculty Senate recommends the creation of a new committee: Writing Intensive / Culturally Diverse Program Committee that reports to the Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.
   a. **Membership:** The committee shall consist of two faculty representatives from each College, one faculty representative from the Library, and a representative from the Administration Committee on Ethnic Diversity. *Ex Officio* members could include, but not be limited to, the Director of the Writing Center, the Director of Composition, the Director of General Studies, the Director or Coordinator of Assessment, and the Registrar, the Faculty Assistant to the Senior Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs and Student Life.
   b. Each representative shall serve a two year term on the committee.
   c. One representative from each undergraduate college will continue their terms until replaced by new members appointed by the SVCAA in October 2008.
   d. By September 15, 2007, the committee will inform the SVCAA of the members (one from each undergraduate college and the representative from the library) whose terms will end September 31, 2007. Those positions will be filled by new members appointed in October 2007.
   e. The Faculty Senate requests that the SVCAA seek nominees through the Faculty Senate or the Faculty Senate Executive Committee.

2. The authority to review and rule on student petitions concerning WI and CD exceptions will remain with the WI/CD Program Committee. A change in the person designated responsible for hearing students petitions will be approved by the Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Student Life with advice from Faculty Senate the WI/CD Program committee and.

3. **Mandates.** The Writing Intensive and Culturally Diverse Program committee shall:
a. Assume the governance of Writing Intensive and Cultural Diversity courses and instructors with respect to the approval of WI and CD courses and departmental issues concerning scheduling of WI and CD courses,
b. Promote writing as an important skill for all UNK students to possess, and to promote writing as a core pedagogical tool in all programs at UNK,
c. Promote multiculturalism and international experience as core values for all UNK students and faculty and to encourage programmatic activities supporting these values in all programs at UNK,
d. With the assistance of the Director of Assessment, review assessment data, including student outcome data, concerning WI and CD courses and make appropriate recommendations for structural changes in the WI or CD programs,

4. Programs and departments must assess the progress of students toward meeting the requirements within each programs or departments writing plan. As part of their annual assessment report, departments will be required to include an analysis in accordance with their individual program writing assessment plans that were submitted in Fall 2006.

5. The campus Assessment Committee will be responsible (as part of their normal duties) to monitor departmental compliance with their writing assessment plans. Additionally, the Assessment Committee will be responsible for coordinating with the departments for the assessment of Culturally Diverse courses.