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

II. Roll Call:


Absent: Aviles and Lightner

Guests: VCBF John Lakey, Architect Kevin Clark, Director of Assessment Jeanne Butler, Director Of Ethnic Studies Kurt Siedschlaw, VCUR Curtis Carlson, and Student Government VP Kevin Wait

III. Kelley/Kuskie moved approval of the minutes for the Faculty Senate meeting of April 27, 2006. Minutes were approved with emendations.

IV. Special Report on Campus Infrastructure and Residence Hall Construction by VCBF John Lakey and Architect Kevin Clark. Lakey highlighted projects completed, such as the construction of the College of Education building, and not initiated under the 1997 Campus Infrastructure Master Plan. Update of the Master Plan is currently underway and will cover the next 10 years. Input from the campus community will be a central feature of the new strategy. A question was raised regarding how the new facilities plan will address automobile traffic and pedestrians crossing Nebraska State Highway 30 and 9th Avenue in front of Founders Hall. Lakey indicated that the administration is exploring possible solutions with the City of Kearney and state highway officials.

Kevin Clark highlighted the design and construction schedule for the three new residence halls. He indicated that construction had begun and will be done in two phases. Building C, the resident hall located immediately north of Copeland Hall, will be completed in fall 2007. Phase 2 will involve the construction of Buildings A and B. These structures will be located north of Founders Hall and will open to students at the start of the fall 2008 semester. Clark noted that Chancellor Christensen will be initiating a public process for the naming of the buildings.

V. Special report on Assessment by Jeanne Butler, Director of Assessment. Butler highlighted the ongoing assessment process and indicated that she is in the process
of hiring an assessment coordination who will be responsible for receive all departmental assessment report, analyzing the reports and providing feedback to each department. These data will be used as part of the accreditation process and the NCNA follow-up visits scheduled for October 2007 and April 2008. The office of assessment is also interested in compiling data on student experiences in-and out of the classroom. The Office of Assessment will host an awards luncheon in January 2007 and will again host the Platte Valley Assessment Conference in March 2007. Butler distributed the raw data from student assessment of advising. This data will be entered into a statistical package and analyzed. The findings will be shared with the UNK community. Butler also announced that the office of Assessment has invited a speaker from Purdue University to campus to speak about the relationship between advising and teaching. This forum will be held in November 2006. Senator Fredrickson asked about plans to assess distance learning program.

VI. Special report on International Education and Exchange programs by Jerry Fox, Director of international Education. Fox reported that there are currently 426 international students at UNK. 20 of these students are from China and 280 are Japanese. Fox highlighted the various programs that his office participated in to bring international students to UNK. He explained how the new initiative with several Chinese Universities will work. Senator Miller asked how we are going to deal with the issue of curriculum, especially UNK’s general studies requirements. Fox indicated that the Chinese students will be working towards degrees in business and computer science, and that he was working with the registrar and the two departments to address curriculum issues. Senator Younes asked about the job prospects for the Japanese students after they graduate. Fox indicated Japanese students who graduate form UNK have a 100% placement rate.

VII. Miller/Bridges moved to suspend rule to allow Kurt Siedschlaw to make a presentation on Ethnic Studies Program. Siedschlaw reported that the three core courses had been approved and that six courses are cross-listed. Siedschlaw is writing a grant proposal that calls for possibly hiring two full-time faculty members for a three-year period. Ethnic Studies is also developing marketing materials with the assistance of the Art Department. Responding to a question from Senator Miller, Siedschlaw indicated that Ethnic studies currently has commitment of 18 hours; 24 hours are needed for the major.

VIII. Reports of Faculty Senate Standing Committees:
   A. Oversight Committee: Senator Frickle highlighted the minutes of the Oversight Committee. Standing committee will be conducting elections next week. She indicated that she is looking for Faculty Senate representative on the Athletic Committee. Discussion followed regarding conducting elections electronically using Opinio or Blackboard. Senator Kelly indicated that at one time all of the colleges had a meeting at which elections were held. Senator Miller indicated that a new program recently made available to department chairs might be a workable format to conduct elections electronically. Senator Wozniak asked if VCUR Carlson’s faculty/staff newsletter might
be used. Carlson stated that the inaugural issue of the newsletter is about to be released but that subsequent issues can be used.

B. Executive Committee:
President Darveau highlighted minutes from the Faculty Senate Executive Committee’s meeting with the Administration. The executive committee was asked to obtain further clarification on UNK membership on the University-Wide Gender Equity Committee and Diversity committees.

C. President’s Report:
President Darveau highlighted the University of Nebraska Board of Regents meeting minutes and reports. Discussion ensued about the new directive encouraging faculty to obtain written authorization from students requesting letters of recommendation before releasing any information on student performance to potential employers, graduate or professional schools. Wozniak/Lewis moved that a standard form be developed, that such form be drafted by the Faculty Senate Student Affairs Committee, and that it be made available to the faculty. Brown/Craig offered a friendly amendment to request that the form be developed by the Board of regents. Motion was approved unanimously.

President Darveau also highlighted the Faculty Senate/Administration August Retreat. Elder indicated that the honors Program Director reported student who decided not to attend UNK indicated that “bad attitude of faculty” was the most frequent reason given for their decision. Discussion ensued on student recruiting. Bridges/Fredrickson moved that FS Executive Committee ask the administration for evidence that current student recruitment strategy is working and to take active role calling for an assessment of student recruitment. VCUR Carlson reported that a Marketing Advisory Committee is going to be created and will help develop a new marketing plan. Carlson also indicated that he had many discussions with Director of the Admissions about a new strategies. Unruh moved that the motion include the following language: “are we achieving stated goals?”

Discussion continued. It was stated that currently recruitment is composed of many pieces with no integrating theme or strategy, a recruiting plan should state specific goals such as a target number of first-year students who reside on campus, and that the slogan “you’ll never forget Kearney” needs to be abandoned. Motion was approved unanimously.

It was pointed out that the Regents’ Report on Women and Minority does not indicate the status of faculty. Not indication is given of the number of tenured, tenure tract, and non-tenure faculty. The report also does not discuss the retention of women and minority faculty.

D. Academic Affairs: report was accepted without discussion.
E. Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee: no report was submitted.
F. Academic Information and Technology Committee: no report was submitted
G. Artists and Lecturers Committee: no report was submitted
H. Athletic Committee: no report was submitted
I. Continuing Education Committee: no report was submitted
J. Faculty Welfare Committee: no report was submitted
K. Grievance Committee: no report was submitted
L. Library Committee: no report was submitted
M. Professional Conduct Committee: no report was submitted
N. Student Affairs Committee: no report was submitted

IX. Reports of Faculty Senate Special (Ad Hoc) Committees
A. First Year Experience Committee: no report submitted
B. Encouragement of Study of Modern Languages: no report submitted
C. WI/CD Committee: it was indicated that a new committee member is needed from the College of Education. It was also pointed out that the committee is also charge with developing recommendation on governance report was accepted without discussion.

X. Reports from Academic Councils
A) Graduate Council: no report submitted
B) General Studies Council: Minutes were approved with no comments
C) Council on Undergraduate Education: no report submitted

XI. Reports of Senate Representatives to Non-Senate Committees:
A. Assessment Committee: report was accepted without discussion.
   1. Student Assessment Committee: no report submitted
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: discussed above
F. Fees Committee: no report submitted
G. First Year Experience Committee: no report was submitted
H. Gender Equity Committee: no report submitted
I. Honors Council: report was accepted without discussion.
J. International Education: discussed above
K. Parking: no report submitted
L. Student Retention Committee: no report submitted
M. Safety Committee: no report was submitted
N. Strategic Planning: no report submitted.
O. Student Support Services Advisory Committee: no report submitted
P. Technology Advisory Committee: no report was submitted
Q. Women’s Studies Advisory Committee: no report submitted
R. Writing Center Advisory Committee: no report submitted

XIII. Unfinished Business: no old business discussed

XIV. New Business: no new business discussed
XV. General Faculty Comments:
Wozniak stated that Phased II of General Studies Roundtable will be starting on September 15, 2006. It hoped that this phase will be completed by the end of the fall semester. Kuskie indicated that the members of the General Studies Council will take the recommendations of the GS Roundtable. Clarification is needed form the Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs on the GS process. Elder noted that each college has control over its GS courses. Snider stated that SVCA Murray is committed to keeping one GS program.

Bridges/Brown moved adjournment at 8:38 pm. Motion carried.