UNK FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES
October 1, 2009
Approved 11/05/09
Ockinga
Faculty Senate Website: http://www.unk.edu/committees/facultysenate/

I. Call to order

II. Roll Call

At Large Senators: Present: Davis, Wozniak, Hansen;
CBT Senators: Present: Agrawal, Amundson, Moore, Trewin, Meznarich; Absent: Hall, Smith
COE Senators: Present: Mollenkopf, Unruh, Fredrickson, Lewis, Kritzer, Bostic-Frederick; Absent: Summar,
CFAH Senators: Present: Nuss, Dimock, Snider, Kruse, Hartman, Flood; Absent: Wellington, White
CNSS Senators: Present: Miller, Kelley, Rohrer, Combs, Darveau, Biggs, Benz; Absent: Lilly, Stevens
Library Senator: Lillis;

III. Approval of Agenda

Move to Accept – with addition of adjournment Miller (Amundson) – Passed.

IV. Action on Faculty Senate Minutes of September 3, 2009

Motion to Accept – Kelley (Fredrickson)
Approved as amended.

V. Special Presentation

A. No presentations were given.

VI. Reports of Faculty Senate Standing Committees

A. Oversight Committee: Minutes of September 9, 2009

Motion: The Oversight Committee recommended a slate of candidates.
Call for nominations from the floor. None.
Motion: Nominations end Miller (Biggs)
Slate approved.
Information – see handout

B. Executive Committee: Minutes of September 15, 2009

Re: Dean’s Searches. What firm will be used for external searches? – EC will ask
Re: Wellness Center. What is happening with that?  
There was a Challenge Grant from the Kiewit Foundation – the remainder of the cost would be covered by student fees, perhaps bond monies.

Re: Online Worldwide. The monthly newsletter needs to be attached
Re: Campus Opening and Office foci. Clarified.

All minutes should be signed.

All minutes should be headed with UNK.

Re: online worldwide – specifically in UNO Minutes

There are a number of issues raised in their minutes, specifically, the offering of undergraduate courses, $200,000 for course development, and a packet that would be coming to class.

Clarification (Benz): The driving force behind the Online Worldwide initiative is for a desire for a unified front (brand name recognition).

Lewis: Efficiency is also an issue. That raises the issue of duplication, which they want to limit (course and program duplication), and differential in graduate and undergraduate tuition.

Davis: We should be as informed on this. The Senate should be addressed directly

Benz: We can ask Dean Taylor or Gloria Vavrika to come to Senate to inform us.

Fredrickson: Re: Money issue. Each campus was assessed a fee to support online worldwide. Some of the money will be returned to campuses in the form of grants for program development.

Lewis: We need Gloria Vavrika and Dean Taylor here, to talk about the effects this will have on program development and existing programs.

Discussion: Differential Money has been kept in revolving accounts. That money is to be moved into state aided accounts (thus we lost the funds). Small monies have been able to be grown in order to be used effectively. Instead of department money, then it is Varner Hall money, and we can request it.

There is a lot of concern that the money will be lost from campus and that would have significantly detrimental effect on our programs.

We need to monitor these developments through the eCampus committee. We should know the Post-secondary Coordinating Commission’s position on this. People who teach and develop online programs need to be “at the table” to discuss these issues with administration.
Miller: The steering committee does have faculty representation. We need ongoing information from eCampus on these issues.

Benz: There is talk about the need to equalize tuition. This raises the issue of differential salaries as well.

Lewis: Maybe President Benz should be in the eCampus Network. The roll of adjuncts in the online teaching also needs to be addressed. We have to be concerned about the quality of teaching online.

Davis: Online Worldwide should have a continual place in unfinished business.

Re: Deans Search (Fredrickson): We aren’t filling positions, but we seem to have money to duplicate what search committees have already done. How much is this costing? Benz: The NSS search failed, and that is why they are turning to a firm to get more qualified candidates. We can check on the cost.

C. President’s Report:
D. Academic Affairs: Minutes of September 17, 2009
   No Comment.

E. Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee:
F. Academic Information and Technology Committee:
G. Artists and Lecturers Committee:
H. Athletic Committee:
I. e-campus Committee:
J. Faculty Welfare Committee:
K. Grievance Committee:
L. Library Committee:
M. Professional Conduct Committee:
N. Student Affairs Committee:

VII. Reports of Senate Representatives to Non-Senate Committees
   A. Assessment Committee: Minutes of September 10, 2009
      No Comment
   B. Affirmative Action Commission:
   C. Center for Teaching Excellence Advisory Committee: Minutes of September 8, 2009
      No comment on the minutes.
      Clarification: The search for CTE Chair should be completed Spring 2010.
      Kritzer: Are there any guidelines for Online v. Face to Face Portal courses?
      Snider: The same as any course – any course can be offered online at the department’s discretion.
Programs for 2009 – Pari Ford (check with Mark) will be on the 10/15 panel

D. Council of Chairs:

E. Ethnic Studies Advisory Committee: **Minutes of September 10, 2009**
   No Comment.

F. Fees Committee:

G. First Year Advisory Council:

H. Gender Equity Committee:

I. Honors Council:

J. International Studies Advisory Council: **Minutes of August 26, 2009**
   No Comment

K. Parking:
   Re: Bruner Parking. 5 Handicapped, 12 metered, 12 faculty. Do we need 12 metered slots there? They will become de facto student slots, and no visitor places.

L. Student Retention Committee:

M. Safety Committee:

N. Strategic Planning:

O. Student Support Services Advisory Committee:

P. Technology Advisory Committee:

Q. Women’s Studies Advisory Committee:

R. WI/CD Committee: **Minutes of January 6 through August 17, 2009**
   No Comment.

S. Writing Center Advisory Committee:

VIII. Reports from Academic Councils

A. Graduate Council:

B. General Studies Council: **Minutes of September 3, 2009**
   Re: Grants. Priority to Modes, then Portals, then Capstones
   
   Darveau: There is a grant to encourage interdisciplinary courses. The course leader would get $1000, and team members would get $500

   Portal – Common courses that developed by multidisciplinary pair and then taught as 2 sections (team or independent)

   Snider: There have been about 130 course proposals, about 20 portals and about 25 are needed. There are more coming from CFAH. There will be plenty of courses for the program.
C. Council on Undergraduate Education:

IX. Unfinished Business

None

X. New Business

A. Davis – 4 items:

1) UNO – asked for input for Milliken’s 5 year evaluation
   Snider – there was a firm contracted to do the evaluation. Snider forgot to
   ask the faculty, globally, for input. Several faculty were asked.

2) Ombudsperson – when did this staff change occur?
   Bylaws indicate that the Chancellor should consult those segments of the
   population effected by the ombudsperson’s office. Shouldn’t there be
   some consultation.

3) The Antelope has a site so that students can determine what books they need –
   the bookstore site suggests items that are defaulted for purchase. Can Barbara
   Johnson check the contract to see that this is not allowed?

Motion Miller (Fredrickson) – The Faculty Senate requests that VCBF Johnson
   direct the Antelope bookstore to only list books and materials required or
   recommended by the faculty on their website. Passed

Kritzer: Are we obligated to list our books with the on campus bookstore?

Mollenkopf – Students often want to get all their books at once.

There are a number of practical considerations to having a bookstore and
order our books through them.

EC – please ask VCBF about faculty obligations to list their books with
the Antelope Bookstore.

Unruh: We require certain athletic wear, but the bookstore has a contract with the
University for Loper Apparel. Unruh will look into it.

B. UNMC Faculty Senate Resolution

Motion Fredrickson (Miller) – We move to support the UNMC resolution. Passed

Davis: 4) The EC should investigate the MHEC process and the potential policy
implications. This request is so that the inquiry is in an official capacity.

Woznaik: RE: Bookstore and Contracts. The Student Affairs Committee should look into
that.

“Barchart additions” should be examined.

XI. General Faculty Comments

Woznaik: Barbara Johnson has done an excellent job with tree planting.
Darveau: dedication at Bruner tomorrow for the dedication

Snider: Response from the GS Council.

GSC always invites input. The council invites input to the council for the program. Please submit by Thursday 10/29.

Unruh: This should be circulated to the campus generally.

Trewin – Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee – no volunteers. “Regrets only” is not helpful.

XI. Adjournment.

Unruh (collective) - Adjourn

Respectfully submitted

Aaron Dimock, Secretary.
University of Nebraska Medical Center Faculty Senate
Resolution 1, 2009-2010

WHEREAS, the discovery of human embryonic stem cells and subsequent research showing their tremendous potential to understand and treat devastating human diseases or injuries has been widely considered one of the most important biomedical scientific breakthroughs of the past several decades, and;

WHEREAS, in July of 2009 the National Institutes of Health established stringent guidelines for the ethical conduct of stem cell research and regenerative medicine, and;

WHEREAS, the vast majority of scientists, including Nobel Laureates, and all major professional scientific and clinical associations, as well as the general public support the continued or expanded use of embryonic stem cells, and;

WHEREAS, the US House and Senate [H.R. 810 (2005-6); S.5, (2007)] have voted in a clear, bi-partisan, majority to support such research, and;

WHEREAS, the Nebraska Legislature, after careful and thoughtful deliberation, reached a compromise permitting embryonic stem cell research in the Stem Cell Research Act (LB606, 2008) which had the acceptance by both the supporters and opponents of such research, and was signed by Nebraska’s governor, and;

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2009 President Obama removed the restrictions on embryonic stem cell research put in place by President Bush, resulting in potential access to several hundred additional cell lines for researchers using federal funds, and;

WHEREAS, neither Federal nor Nebraska law [P.L. 111-8, Title V §509 (2009); Neb. Rev. Stat. §71-8806 (2008)] permit state nor federal funds to be used for the destruction or creation of embryos or for any type of cloning, and;

WHEREAS, the current policy of the Board of Regents, resulting from the recommendations in the carefully and thoughtfully written Report of the President’s Bioethics Advisory Committee representing diverse viewpoints in 2001, is compatible with both State and Federal law and policies, and;

WHEREAS, the faculty of the University of Nebraska Medical Center support free and open scientific inquiry that is scientifically responsible and in keeping with all applicable laws, and;

WHEREAS, the citizens of Nebraska should have access to the latest advances in medical treatment, and;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate, representing all of the academic units of the University of Nebraska Medical Center, believes that the current systems of federal and state derived laws and regulations provide adequate guidance and oversight for embryonic stem cell research, and;
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the UNMC Faculty Senate requests that the Board of Regents continue its current policy supporting embryonic stem cell research, which already complies with federal and state laws, guidelines, and regulations.