UNK FACULTY SENATE MEETING
October 7, 2010
Ockinga
Faculty Senate Website: http://www.unk.edu/committees/facultysenate/

I. Call to order

II. Roll Call
  At Large Senators: Present: Davis, Wozniak, Frickel;
  CBT Senators: Present: Agrawal, Moore, Trewin, Taylor; Absent: Meznarich, Amundson
  COE Senators: Present: Fredrickson, Lewis, Mollenkopf, Moore, Unruh; Absent: Kritzer, Montgomery;
  CFAH Senators: Present: Fronczak, Kruse, Flood, Dimock, Burbal; Absent: Hartman, Chavez, White;
  CNSS Senators: Present: Benz, Stevens, Biggs, Lilly, Carlson; Absent: Combs, Darveau, Miller, Ericson, Trantham;
  Library Senator: Present: Mueller

III. Approval of Agenda
  Fredrickson (Lewis). Moved approval. Passed.

IV. Action on Faculty Senate Minutes of September 2, 2010
  Wozniak (Davis). Moved approval. Passed.

V. Special Presentation
  A. Cheryl Bressington: Benefits and implications for domestic partner benefits.
     New ADA regulations and reviews should make us more aware and careful regarding
     how we follow ADA policy.

     FMLA (Family Medical Leave Act) allows 12 weeks unpaid leave for care givers of a
     new child.

     Nuflex - can add dependent children back on up to age 26.

     There is no longer a lifetime maximum (was $3,000,000).

     Health and wellness Fair - October 25. Take the health risk assessment. Benefit of the
     health risk assessment - extra coverage for preventative checks, free generics through
     Caremark. Health risk assessment needs to be done every year and people need to print
     out the completion form.

     Update your Emergency Contact Information in ESS - recently has a situation where
     there was no information for an unresponsive employee.

     Comment. Firefly should have at least 2 contact numbers and currently uses only
     one.

     Health Insurance. There are some changes. There will be a dependent audit to make sure
     your dependents are dependents that can be insured.
Motion Wozniak (Lilly) - suspend the agenda to address domestic partner benefits. Passed.

In 1999 there was a discussion of domestic partner benefits. The BOR and NE Constitution would not support domestic partner benefits. It was also discussed in 2005 between the FS Presidents and the NU President.

There is new pressure due to elections, the move to the Big 10 (all other Big 10 schools have domestic partner benefits), and the proximity to Iowa.

As part of the Union’s plan for the negotiated contract, there is a plan to expand marriage to domestic partnership.

Bressington: There are some other issues at play. DOMA is an issue. There needs to be careful consideration of the definition of Domestic Partner, which needs to be carefully considered.

Discussion:
The Senate has the right to take a stance on this, and leave the legal ramifications to the University Administration.

This could be interpreted by the public as an increase in cost when there is already a strain on the economy.

Kruse (Wozniak) - Motion: that UNK Faculty Senate should support the UNO resolution provided.
Support for this resolution is merely a voice of support for the right of UNO to act as they have.

Motion withdrawn.

A resolution would have to be in the packet before the next meeting would then be addressed at the next meeting.

Can we get cost estimates regarding the financial implications of extending coverage? The President can request those estimates.

It is important to consider the definition of domestic partner, because that can have implications for who is covered (common law marriage, same sex).

The issue in terms of economics does not deny the broader moral issue.

Those parties interested in constructing a resolution should do so.

VI. Reports of Faculty Senate Standing Committees
A. Oversight Committee: Minutes of the 9/3 Meeting
A list of nominations for each seat was made available.

Motion Frickel (Unruh). Divide the slate and vote on the Athletic Committee separately. Passed.
No additional nominees were made for the other positions.

**Wozniak (Benz) - nomination cease and cast unanimous ballot - passed. Slate accepted.**

Athletic Committee: Nominations from the floor.  
Female term: Unruh (Benz) nominate Terresse Sheridan -Hper - COE  
Messersmith elected  
One year Male - Jeff Kritzer, Teacher Ed, COE  
Beerman elected  
Two year - Muller (Fronczak) nominations cease  
Luthians elected  
Clark elected

B. Executive Committee: **Minutes of the 9/15 Meeting with Administration**
College Store issue. They were at Blue and Gold day, but according to the contract for bookstore, they are not to be on campus.

Question: what are the contract restrictions (and are they legal?) EC can ask VCBF to address.

C. President’s Report:  
There is a president’s page now on the UNK FS site.

The SVCAA Presentation from CTE and other important documents are posted there.

Admin Retreat - EC did discuss changing the retreat schedule and those items that were not on the agenda can be requested by the Senate. Feedback from the Senate regarding the timing and content would be welcome.

There was some consensus that meeting prior to the start of term is a better time. Faculty could be consulted more generally.

CBT has met regularly at the start of term to talk strategy and collaborate across departments.

The budget presentation was useful.

BOR Meeting. Mostly about the budget.

Midwest Higher Education Campus Compact. Higher Ed Consortium - Bicak was invited to attend a meeting, attended, we have been invited to join. No decisions have been made.

UNK Administration seems to have neglected to keep us in the loop on this.

The “Faculty Development Program” has been asked about. No progress was made on this proposal which came at the end of Snider’s Presidential term.

Senate should offer a resolution recognizing the efforts of the SIS implementation team.
Committees have been filled and the President will be calling them to order. If there are questions or issues that those committees need to address, please pass that on to the president.

D. Academic Affairs: Minutes of the 9/16 Meeting
   No comments.
E. Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee:
F. Academic Information and Technology Committee: Minutes of the 3/5 Meeting
   The TEA award was given.
   Can AIT address the problem of getting help from HelpDesk?
   Yes they should address that.
   The resolution regarding Peer-to-Peer file sharing says it is revised. It needs clarification prior to being addressed.

G. Artists and Lecturers Committee: Minutes of the 9/17 Meeting
   No comments.

H. Athletic Committee:
I. e-campus Committee:
J. Faculty Welfare Committee:
K. Grievance Committee:
L. Library Committee: No meeting last month.
M. Professional Conduct Committee:
N. Student Affairs Committee:
O. Faculty Senate/General Studies Joint Committee: Minutes of the 5/18 & 9/17 Meetings
   No comments.

VII. Reports of Senate Representatives to Non-Senate Committees
   A. Assessment Committee: Minutes of the 9/13 Meeting
   B. Affirmative Action Commission:
   C. Center for Teaching Excellence Advisory Committee: Minutes of the 9/21 Meeting
   D. Council of Chairs:
   E. Ethnic Studies Advisory Committee:
   F. Fees Committee:
   G. First Year Advisory Council:
   H. Gender Equity Committee:
   I. Honors Council: Minutes of 9/22 Meeting.
   J. International Studies Advisory Council:
   K. Parking:
   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: Minutes of the 9/8 Meeting
   R. WI/CD Committee:
   S. Writing Center Advisory Committee:

VIII. Reports from Academic Councils
   A. Graduate Council:
   B. General Studies Council:
C. Council on Undergraduate Education:

IX. Unfinished Business

X. New Business

A. Domestic Partner Resolution (addressed above)

XI. General Faculty Comments

Given the unfinished issues and the need for history, we need a president’s report from last year.

XII. Adjournment
    Lilly (Carlson) 8:30

Respectfully Submitted. Dimock (acting Sec.)