UNK FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES
April 25, 2013
Ockinga

Faculty Senate Website: http://www.unk.edu/committees/facultysenate/

I. Call to order

II. Roll Call 25APR2013

At Large Senators: Present: Davis, Kelley, Wozniak
Absent: none

CBT Senators: Present: Amundson, Messersmith, Moore, T., Taylor, Trewin
Absent: Barry

COE Senators: Present: Brown, Gaskill, Hoehner, Kritzer, McKelvey, Mollenkopf, Siegal
Absent: none

CFAH Senators: Present: Flood, Rogoff, White
Absent: Burbal, Chavez, VanRenen

CNSS Senators: Present: Biggs, Campbell, Darveau, Freeman, Miller, Trantham
Absent: Carlson, Moser, Neal

Library Senator: Present: Mueller

III. Approval of Agenda

Senator Miller (Biggs) moves to approve the agenda.

Motion passes - Agenda Approved.

IV. Action on Faculty Senate Minutes: 04APR2013

Senator Biggs (McKelvey) moves to approve the Faculty Senate Minutes from April 4th.

Senator Davis called attention to a change that needed to be made in the February Minutes regarding fees associated with distance education classes.

Senator Messersmith noted that the changes will be made and the new document will be posted to the Faculty Senate web page.

Minutes Approved

V. Special Presentation

• None

VI. Reports of Faculty Senate Standing Committees (Date included in bold for each committee that submitted minutes)
A. Oversight Committee:

The Oversight Committee put forth the following slate for the 2013-2014 Executive Committee.

- President – Ken Trantham, CNSS
- President-Elect – Ross Taylor, CBT
- Secretary – Kim Carlson, CNSS
- Representative At-Large – Noah Rogoff, CFAH

Senator Miller (Biggs) moves that nominations cease and moves to approve the slate as provided.

The slate is approved.

The Oversight Committee put forth the following slate for the 2013-2014 Oversight Committee:

- Library – Senator Mueller
- CNSS – Senator Miller
- COE – Senator McKelvey
- CFAH – Senator Flood
- CBT – Senator Messersmith

Senator Brown (Moore) moves to approve the slate as presented.

The slate is approved.

Senator Darveau (Biggs) moves to elect Martonia Gaskill to replace Joan Lewis from COE

Motion Approved, Martonia Gaskill elected to Senate to replace Joan Lewis.

Senator Darveau also noted that CFAH still has at least two vacant seats. Please encourage people from this college to serve.

B. Executive Committee: 24APR2013 – will be distributed separately

Reviewed without comment.

C. President’s Report:

D. Academic Affairs: 18APR2013

Reviewed without comment.

E. Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee:

F. Academic Information and Technology Committee: 05APR2013

Senator Wozniak – is the IT plan available to read somewhere, if so where?

President Mollenkopf indicated that we will need to inquire about this to see what the status of the plan is and where it will be posted.

Senator Kritzer – are they going to have wireless in the wellness center?
President Mollenkopf – my guess is that this issue is on the radar and they will get it corrected.

Senator Darveau observes in regard to item 8 that ITS is adjusting staff salaries, but others on campus do not have this opportunity.

G. Artists and Lecturers Committee:

H. Athletic Committee: **2NOV2012, 05MAR2013**

Senator Darveau noted that it would probably be better if minutes were submitted closer to their actual meetings. Senator Miller added that it would also be nice if all minutes from all meetings were submitted (i.e., what happened to the December 7th minutes?).

I. e-campus Committee:

J. Faculty Welfare Committee:

K. Grievance Committee:

L. Library Committee:

M. Professional Conduct Committee:

N. Student Affairs Committee: **12APR2013**

Senator Miller – can we get clarification on the issue with advising transfer students?

Senator Dimock noted that these are issues to follow-up on in discussion. The committee’s goal is to establish a set of recommendations for advising, but we essentially ran out of time. A lot of groups on campus are looking at advising, so my recommendation is for the committee to take up the issue next year depending upon what the executive committee deems necessary. The issues listed here are things that should be explored in more detail next year.

VII. Reports of Senate Representatives to Non-Senate Committees

A. Assessment Committee (Mueller, Wozniak): **01APR2013**

Reviewed without comment.

B. Center for Teaching Excellence Advisory Committee:

C. Ethnic Studies Advisory Committee (Mollenkopf):

D. Fees Committee (Trantham):

E. Gender Equity Committee:

F. Honors Council (Frickel):

G. International Studies Advisory Council (Amundson): **04APR2013**

Reviewed without comment

H. OIE Faculty Advisory Board: **04APR2013**

Senator Davis – has there been any follow-up on immigration documentation issues?

President-Elect Trantham – I will follow-up on this issue.
Senator Flood noted that there was one person in charge of all federal documentations and this person has been ill and out of the office, but has been working from home.

Senator Miller – Dallas has concern about how well this situation is working and the potential that the university may be out of sync with federal laws. He wants to make sure that this issue gets the visibility it deserves on campus, because the potential risks are significant.

Senator Darveau added that somebody is trying to fill in for the absent individual, but the bigger concern is that this campus has tried to place responsibility for not only student visas and immigration, but also faculty immigration and visas issues, in a student office. With our faculty becoming more international this could become a significant problem. If we lose our status, we could have 0 international students.

Senator Miller notes that the Exec. Committee should see what Dr. Bicak plans to do with this issue based upon his noted awareness of the current and potential problems that exist.

I. Parking (Wozniak):

J. Safety Committee:

K. Women & Gender Studies Advisory Committee (Kracl, Campbell):

L. World Affairs Committee Minutes: 14FEB2013, 03MAR2013, 11APR2013

Senator Amundson noted that the WAC elected to share minutes with the senate as a way to highlight what is happening in that committee. This is a university-wide committee, so the span of information should be at the university level. He added that the committee is still looking for more faculty and student participation for the upcoming conference on the 24th and 25th of September.

VIII. Reports from Academic Councils

A. Graduate Council:

B. General Studies Council: 07FEB2013, 07MAR2013

Senator Miller inquired about the pilot assessment update, the minutes note that GSC wants to assess remaining distribution areas in the fall, has any info been given to faculty about this?

President-Elect Trantham indicated that he thought that faculty in these areas have been asked to volunteer to participate in the assessment pilot.

C. Council on Undergraduate Education:

D. Student Success Council (Moore, T.):

IX. Old Business

A. Updates to the Faculty Senate Constitution – Public Hearing Minutes included at the end of the packet.
Senator Darveau (Dimock) moves to amend the Constitution changes to indicate that the second April meeting of the Faculty Senate would be exempt from the 10 day/7 day rule. Rather, minutes would need to be provided to the secretary by the Friday prior to the last April meeting and the packet would need to be made available the Monday prior to the final April meeting.

Senator Biggs inquired are these days or business days?

Senator Darveau indicated that this is days and not business days, as business days would create too much of a lag.

**Motion passes**

Senator Darveau (Miller) moves to change current language to indicate that the Faculty Senate President would receive a release equivalent to 3 workload hours and not 1 course release.

President Mollenkopf indicated that this is necessary to make sure that the president receives a full release and is not just released from a 1 hour or .5 hour course if they teach such courses in their discipline.

**Motion passes**

Senator Miller (Trantham) moves to accept all of the changes proposed by the Oversight Committee to the Faculty Senate Constitution.

Senator Amundson inquired what is the implementation plan for these amendments?

Senator Darveau indicated that once these changes get approved by Dr. Bicak, Varner Hall, and the Board of Regents, then most of the changes would go into effect immediately. The new representation model would go into effect next year (i.e., the 2014-2015 academic year), so the transition plan will need to be formalized and put into place by the Oversight Committee next year. The original proposal contains some thoughts about how this will begin, but the specifics will need to be fleshed out next year

*President Mollenkopf calls the question and moves to a hand vote.*

**Motion Fails 16 – 7 with 3 abstentions.**

*Senator Miller calls for a recount*  
**Motion Passes 18 – 7 with 1 abstention.**

X. New Business

A. 2013-2014 Plan of Action
President Trantham shared his plan of action to try to instill a larger sense of purpose of accomplishment in the Faculty Senate. Trantham also shared some ideas to try to make meetings shorter by utilizing Blackboard to post minutes and hold discussions prior to meetings, incorporating consent agendas, replacing the roll call with sign-in sheets and limiting the amount of time that special presenters would be allocated. In addition Trantham discussed some potential items to address next year, which are included in the attached PowerPoint presentation.

Senator Kelley noted that the award for service to the Faculty Senate may need to be renamed in an effort to help improve the perception of the work that is done by the senate. Currently, the award carries the “Hamster Wheel” title, which carries a negative connotation and the time may have come to change the name.

Senator White noted that in our recent discussions around the proposals to change the constitution there were a lot of comments about the FS being ineffectual and perhaps the name of the award contributes to that perception.

Senator Darveau (Flood) moves to rename the Hamster Wheel Award to be the Faculty Senate Distinguished Service and to carry forward all past winners as winners of this award.

Senator Taylor indicated that he did not have strong feelings about the name of the award, but some faculty may have strong opinions about this, so should we postpone a vote on this until we have a chance to seek faculty opinions on the issue?

Senator Davis noted that he did not feel that it would be a disservice to David to rename the award, but that it might be a good idea to put this on the agenda and allow people the opportunity to talk about it before we make such a change.

Senator Darveau agrees in general with giving faculty time to comment on such decisions, but in this case this is our last chance to rename the award prior to its next awarding at the Fall 2013 Convocation ceremony.

Senator Rogoff calls the question (Messersmith)

Motion passes.

XI. General Faculty Comments

Senator Taylor expressed his excitement about the change to the departmental representation model and the opportunity that it affords departments to have a representative to discuss pertinent issues with prior to Faculty Senate meetings.

Senator Miller volunteered to make a list of past senate presidents and award recipients and a summary of the major issues and accomplishments of the senate to be placed on the web page. He also asks somebody to investigate what happened to the plaque of past senate presidents that used to be displayed in Founders Hall?

XII. Adjournment

Senator Miller (Biggs) move adjournment.

Meeting is adjourned.