UNK FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES
October 4, 2012
Ockinga
Faculty Senate Website: http://www.unk.edu/committees/facultysenate/

I. Call to order

II. Roll Call 04OCT2012

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

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

COE Senators: Present: Kracl, Kritzer, McKelvey, Mollenkopf, Moore, J.
Absent: Fredrickson, Lewis

CFAH Senators: Present: Chavez, Dimock, Kruse, Flood, Rogoff
Absent: Hartman, Fronczak, White

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

Library Senator: Present: Mueller

III. Approval of Agenda

Senator Davis (Miller) moves approval of agenda
Agenda Approved

IV. Action on Faculty Senate Minutes: 06SEPT2012

Senator McKelvey (Mueller) move minutes approved as amended.
Minutes Approved

V. Special Presentation

• Dr. Krista Forrest, Center for Teaching Excellence, discussed the UNK Faculty Mentoring Program. The program is voluntary and is designed for faculty members arriving within the last 3 years. Faculty members are matched with colleagues from the same college, but from different departments. The orientation program featured presentations by faculty members on campus and shared information on resources. The evaluations were positive.

Dr. Forrest expressed concerns about faculty not having e-mail addresses or access to myBlue soon enough to get classes and Blackboard sites set up prior to the fall semester. Also, she is concerned about how soon some new faculty members are being asked to advise students. In addition, Dr. Forrest expressed concern about major changes being made to online systems (i.e., Blackboard, etc.) right before the beginning of the semester and the challenges associated with training new faculty when the technology is not available.
Dr. Jeanne Butler discussed UNK’s assessment efforts as they pertain to the NCA accreditation process. Dr. Butler reviewed the history of assessment in relation to NCA standards and the progress that has been made since 2004 when significant issues were identified by the review team. Dr. Butler mentioned all of the new assessment pieces that have been put in place in relation to the GS program and noted that the only piece not being assessed presently are the distribution courses. Efforts are currently underway to complete those as well as to find ways to assess the global perceptions objective in the GS program. Dr. Butler also noted that she will be retiring in December and that her replacement has not been named.

Dr. Daren Snider also visited the FS meeting and discussed the current efforts of the GS Council (GSC) to build assessment for the global perceptions outcome and also for the distribution courses. He noted that the GSC is on track to meet the established timelines.

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

A. Oversight Committee: Senator Darveau discussed the difficulties with finding enough committee members from CFAH to fill various posts, which has caused elections to get off schedule. They will be done by the middle of next week. Darveau also noted that an election in NSS needed to be re-run for the Faculty Welfare Committee in order to place a tenured faculty member on the committee. Darveau also noted a very positive response from the Student Senate in allocating members to various committees.

Senator Darveau handed out ballots for replacements on the FS Athletic, Academic Freedom and Tenure, eCampus, and Academic Information Technology committees.

Athletic Committee (2 open spots)

Kritzer, Bierman, and Chavez were nominated to serve on the Athletic Committee. Bierman and Chavez were elected by the Faculty Senate; however, it was later discovered that Bierman’s existing term had not expired. As a result, Kritzer was elected to the Athletic Committee.

Academic Freedom and Tenure committee (2 open spots).

Senators Davis and Moore were nominated and elected to serve.

eCampus (1 spot)

Senator Davis was nominated and elected to serve.

Academic Information Technology (2 spots)

Senators Freeman and Chavez were nominated and elected to serve.

B. Executive Committee: **12SEPT2012**

President Mollenkopf reviewed the Executive Committee report. Mollenkopf noted that a memo on the WI/CD changes would be read during unfinished business. Mollenkopf also clarified the UNK Connections situation, which is not closing as earlier discussed. Rather, UNK Connections is still open for individual use, but is no longer open for department level purchases. Such purchases will go through eShop. Mollenkopf also noted that eShop is still being built so UNK vendors have not all been entered, but will be, which should have a positive effect on prices.

Senator Wozniak asks for clarification on multi-disciplinary teams as defined by Dean Oravecz.

Senator Davis inquired about FERPA, regarding students in crisis. Seeking information from the Registrar on information about students, the Registrar generally says no, but is this a
misunderstanding, should we (faculty) be able to get this information? How do we define “student in crisis”?

Pres. Mollenkopf noted that she understood “students in crisis” to refer to CARE team issues.

Senator Darveau noted that if there is a legitimate academic interest then faculty members can receive that information. Darveau noted that there may be a misunderstanding with the Registrar that should be resolved.

Senator Amundson inquired as to whether or not advisors have to protect data from other instructors.

Senator Rogoff inquired about fraternity/sorority grade checks and whether or not these are impacted by FERPA?

Senator Darveau noted that students are allowed to disclose whatever they’d like, so if they ask for a grade check and share that with the fraternity it is allowable. If an inquiry comes straight from a fraternity then the information should not be disclosed.

Senator Frickel suggested that students not show all of their grades to their various instructors on the organization grade check sheets.

Senator Wozniak suggested that we should consider issuing midterm grades through the registrar’s office.

Senator Neal noted individual students fill out cards that are reported to the Greek organizations, but that they should not be asking for overall GPAs.

C. President’s Report: 28SEPT2012

President Mollenkopf reviewed the President’s Report. She noted that each campus presented on Programs of Excellence at the recent meeting of the Board of Regents. UNK presented on the undergraduate research program. President Mollenkopf also noted that UNK enrollment is strong and that the renovation budgets have been approved.

D. Academic Affairs: 20SEPT2012

Reviewed without 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 (Mueller, Wozniak): 10SEPT2012
Senator Dimock inquired as to whether or not there has been any discussion of replacement/transition for Dr. Butler as the Director of Assessment?

Senator Miller noted that no transition plan has been put in place.

B. Center for Teaching Excellence Advisory Committee:

C. Ethnic Studies Advisory Committee (Mollenkopf): **04SEPT2012**

Pres. Mollenkopf, notes that the committee is reviewing its mission statement and comparing it to similar committees at other institutions.

D. Fees Committee (Trantham):

E. Gender Equity Committee:

F. Honors Council (Frickel):

G. International Studies Advisory Council (Amundson): **19APR2012, 30AUG2012**

Reviewed without comment

H. Parking (Wozniak):

I. Safety Committee:

J. Women & Gender Studies Advisory Committee (Kracl, Campbell): **12SEPT2012**

Reviewed without comment

K. WI/CD Committee (Amundson):

VIII. Reports from Academic Councils

A. Graduate Council:

B. General Studies Council: **06SEPT2012**

Reviewed without comment

C. Council on Undergraduate Education:

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

IX. Old Business

A. WI/CD committee update

President Mollenkopf read a draft of a memorandum from Dr. Bicak. The memo reviewed the history of the WI/CD ad-hoc committee and noted that it is no longer needed at UNK. The requirement will be removed immediately and the committee will be dissolved. UNK will continue to focus on writing and cultural diversity at the departmental level (each department has a writing plan), but will not be managed or assessed via the WI/CD committee. Dr. Bicak noted that work is currently being done to remove the administrative details with the Registrar and myBlue regarding these requirements.

Senator Amundson, noted that it would be nice to have this memo made public prior to advising beginning in mid-October.

Pres. Mollenkopf said memo would be coming prior to October 17th.

Senator Carlson clarified that WI/CD is no longer a requirement and it is being applied retroactively.
Senator Darveau reminded everyone that we are still teaching writing and revision, it is still part of the culture, just removed the bureaucracy regulating the requirement.

Senator Amundson, noted that WI been used as a means to manage class size and cautioned that we may see increases now that the requirement is gone.

B. Student Affairs update on Academic Dishonesty progress and any information on a policy/contract for incompletes

Pres. Mollenkopf noted that Student Affairs has agreed to take up the issue and to report soon.

C. Discussion of Policy for Post-tenure Review –
President Mollenkopf opened discussion of the Post-tenure review policy.

General discussion from senators noted the lack of clarity in the current post-tenure review policy (Carlson, Darveau, Davis, Dimock, Miller, Mollenkopf) and the problems this causes for both faculty and administration. A general consensus was formed suggesting that this process needs to be clarified.

**Senator Miller (Carlson) moves that that the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee be charged with reviewing the policy and investigating what can be done to bring clarity to this issue.**

**Motion passes.**

X. New Business

A. 4 year degree completion contract

Senator Trantham discussed model to guarantee a 4 year degree if students enter into a contract, if for scheduling or advising reasons, then the university pays for remaining credits past 4 years. Trantham noted that this was a voluntary program and that students must follow the advising plan.

Senator J. Moore mentioned that Iowa did have a similar program. Senator Mueller mentioned that the University of Montana also offers this program and noted that students in the program get first choice of classes each semester.

Senator Kruse noted that she has been asked to serve on a Graduation Strategy Taskforce by Dr. Bicak, which will have a function to facilitate such a model. The taskforce is still being formed.

Senator Davis noted that such a taskforce should be the work of the Faculty Senate, not an administrative committee, as this is a core academic function. He inquired how the committee was formed.

Senator Trewin noted that Deans nominated faculty members for the taskforce.

Pres. Mollenkopf will seek information on how the taskforce was formed.

Senator Miller requests that Senator Kruse present the idea of the 4 year graduation guarantee to the Graduation Strategy Taskforce
B. Senator T. Moore noted that student leaders from the Student Senate will likely be asking to present to the Faculty Senate to encourage the development of a policy requiring faculty to use Blackboard and to use it well.

XI. General Faculty Comments

Senator Davis moves that FS Exec committee ask administration for a breakdown of tenured/tenure track faculty and full-time/non tenure or tenure track and part-time and the credit hour production of each group (Kritzer)

The motion was discussed with the intent being to get an overall view of the faculty at UNK and the percentage of credit hours being taught by various faculty groups (i.e., tenured/tenure track, full time non-tenure track, and part time faculty). Senator Davis argued that this is an important thing to understand to get a sense of who we are as a faculty.

Senators opposed to the notion mentioned that this would be an administrative burden, that it would be unlikely that the administration would provide results, that any results would need a great deal of clarification, and that this request would likely not be perceived as a simple request for information from the administration.

The motion fails.

XII. Adjournment

Darveau (Carlson) move adjournment. Motion passes.