UNK FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES
April 24, 2014
Ockinga

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

I. Call to order

II. Roll Call 24APR2014

At Large Senators: Present: Biggs, Kelley
Absent:

CBT Senators: Present: Moore, Taylor, Tenkorang, Trewin
Absent: Konecny, Porter

COE Senators: Present: Brown, Hoehner, Moore
Absent: Gaskill

CFAH Senators: Present: Jiang, Rogoff, Van Renen
Absent: Burbul, Chavez

CNSS Senators: Present: Davis, Harms, Jhi, Louishomme, Pattabiraman, Reichart, Sogar, Trantham
Absent: Hossain, Wozniak

Library Senator: Present: Mueller

III. Approval of Agenda (Consent Agenda As Distributed)

Senator Trewin (Kelley) moved to approve the agenda.
Senator Davis requested that the minutes of the AIT Committee be moved to the Discussion Agenda. The agenda was approved as amended.

IV. Action on the Faculty Senate Minutes 03APR2014

It was noted that Senator Kelley was erroneously marked absent on the roll call for the March meeting.
Senator Davis (Trewin) moved to approve the minutes with the modifications/corrections above. The minutes were approved.

V. Special Presentations

Chancellor Doug Kristensen

Chancellor Kristensen – It has been a joy this year to work with the Senate Executive Committee. President Trantham has been great, and it was very fruitful.
The Campaign for Nebraska $50 million goal for the capital campaign begun in 2008 was surpassed in October 2013. As of last week the total raised for UNK was over $52 million with the opportunity for another $5 million before the end of 2014. The average size of a
gift is now almost $1600, a tremendous increase from an earlier average of $400. The amount of student scholarship support has doubled in the last seven years.

In the NU President search, uncertainty and change abound. There is great representation of the campus in the search process and many opportunities for input. Over the summer, a list of potential candidates will be honed down to under ten names. Nothing public will happen before early September. Three or four finalists will have campus interviews. During October, negotiations and offers will be made. By November 1, the selection will be made. You want them in place by January 1. Linder is very good and safe as an interim.

He knows the system and that is a big help to us. The legislature has many new members and there is a new governor. This presents a lot of challenges. Linder needs to be present at the legislature and develop relationships. Hopefully this will occur. We need your help providing input in the search.

Chancellor Kristensen is very proud of Dawn Mollenkopf and the Department of Chemistry for winning campus-wide teaching awards, although many other faculty and units are doing great work as well.

The Wellness Center will be essentially complete in May. A fee schedule for faculty and staff has not yet been determined.

The groundbreaking has taken place at the new Health Sciences Building. We are fortunate that several optional “extras” are being included in the building.

Strategic Planning begins in the fall and we are looking for assistance and guidance. NCA said we need community input. We are putting in groundwork with them. That input will be helpful.

University Village is moving ahead. The anchor, to be complete in the next two years, is a replacement for University Heights. We are investigating models of daycare/educare. Housing is the first priority.

We are looking at a new wave of buildings to suggest for legislative consideration. Otto Olsen is the first priority. Fine Arts is looking at a renovation. Martin Hall would be gutted to make it into a center for “front door” activities and admissions.

The highlight is NCA. It is impressive, but you want to be cautious. Decline in student populations will have some impact. Enrollment of 6700 – 7200 is about the right size for UNK. The faculty workload is high and the faculty work extremely hard. We will look more private than public. In 1990, funding came 28% from the state. Now it is 14%.

Senator Davis – Regarding negotiations with the Board of Regents, we have run into a bit of avoidance or lack of engagement relative to who our peers will be. It is important to anchor
the peer group. Data is important as well: use of adjuncts, credit hour production, percentage of faculty who are tenured/tenure-track. We are in this together and we need to get busy but it seems things are holding it up.

Chancellor Kristensen – That is my attitude: we are in this together. We have a new president and a new president is coming. There will be new ways to approach it.

Senator Taylor – Shared governance is important. Faculty must have a role in the curriculum. Things are moving quickly, but academia is not known for moving quickly. There are more directives coming from Varner Hall. Can you share ideas on a shared governance model where faculty have an important advisory role yet things are still able to move quickly?

Chancellor Kristensen – We need a deliberative process on everything, but this is sometimes not possible. We are all interested in the campus being successful, but some may not see this bigger picture. Dialogue is the best approach. I am thrilled I don’t need to talk about the budget. That’s frustrating to me when I have a week to come up with $1 million in cuts. I hope shared governance can be done through reasonable dialogue. I cannot give you fair warning of everything. I don’t receive that. Personnel changes will happen. These are private matters. We have to respect these rights, and I know this can cause upheaval.

[CONSENT AGENDA]

VI. Reports of Faculty Senate Standing Committees (Date in bold for each committee that submitted minutes)
   C. President’s Report: APR14
   D. Academic Affairs: 17APR14
   I. E-Campus Committee: 19MAR14
   N. Student Affairs Committee: 12MAR14

VII. Reports of Senate Representatives to Non-Senate Committees
   K. Women & Gender Studies Advisory Committee: 22JAN14, 19FEB14, 16APR14
   L. World Affairs Committee: 4APR14

VIII. Reports from Academic Councils
   A. Graduate Council: 13MAR14, 10APR14
   B. General Studies Council: 6MAR14
VI. A. Oversight Committee: Nomination of Executive Committee Slate (Seconded Motion)  
No further nominations were made. The Executive Committee Slate was approved.  
It then became necessary to fill Senator Wozniak’s at-large seat. Doug Biggs has volunteered. No further nominations were made. Senator Biggs was approved for this position.  

VI. F. Academic Information Technology Committee: **4APR14**  
Senator Davis – Is there some probability of Blackboard being replaced?  
President Trantham – The contract is up for Blackboard. It was discussed at an administration/Executive Committee meeting. There is definitely a probability that Blackboard would be replaced.  

VI. K. Grievance Committee: Revision to Section to 17(c)  
It was suggested that following the “Statement of Principles” document developed by Senator Wozniak will alleviate the issue of an unreported/unofficial committee member resignation.  

IX. Old Business  
A. Morale Survey  
It was reported that administration would like to look at the survey and may have some input. It would get launched in the fall after SVCASA Bicak brings it to the cabinet.  

B. Statement of Principles for Faculty Senate Committees  
Senator Davis noted that the number of absences be changed to three. Senator Biggs moved to accept the statement as written with the correction noted (Trewin).  
Senator Kelley – There seems to be confusion regarding quorum when meetings occur and votes are done later over email. If you don’t have quorum you should adjourn. Should committees meet when they don’t have a quorum? Some business is timely and must be completed. Where do you draw the line in these matters?  
The Statement of Principles document was approved.  

C. ADA Resolution  
It was noted that the document went back to Student Affairs for revisions and now has softer language. Senator Biggs (Rogoff) moved for approval.  
Senator Davis - What are the particulars here? What is actually mandatory?
Senator Biggs – Our support on this doesn’t commit us to anything beyond what the Federal government will mandate. The syllabus statement, for example, was previously voluntary and is now mandatory.

Senator Davis – I am uncomfortable voting on something we don’t have.

President Trantham – It is similar to the resolution on smoke-free/tobacco-free. We support the general idea. We weren’t drafting policy. We are supporting the notion. The details will happen later.

Senator Jan Moore – Aren’t we controlled by Kristi Horn in Lincoln? I thought that was all coming from Lincoln.

Senator Mollenkopf – We sign resolutions adopting an idea. ADA must be followed if we have training or not. We are not defining the training here. It leaves flexibility.

The resolution was approved.

D. Post-Tenure Review Policy Revision

President Trantham – It was now been revised and carried forward. The cabinet suggested some minor tweaks.

E. MOOC Ad-hoc Committee

Senator Davis will be chair pro tempore. President Trantham will be serve as Executive Committee representative.

X. New Business

A. Miller Resolution

Senator Davis moved approval of the resolution (Moore, Jan). The resolution was approved.

B. Constitution

The amendment (II.B.2.a.1 & II.B.2.a.2) now goes into effect to address equal representation.

C. Pass the Gavel

President Trantham – At this time I turn over the gavel. I appreciate the Executive Committee. I couldn’t have asked for a better group. If anything was done right, it was because of them.

D. President Taylor: Plan of Action

President Taylor – Meetings of the Executive Committee and the administration this year have been very good, with Exec being polite but forceful. Faculty Senate does a lot and gets a lot done. I am proud to be President for the coming year. We have many issues to deal with, and I appreciate your service here. Please apprise your department of the
important things happening here. Boost the awareness of the hard and good work done at Senate. Past-President Trantham has been awesome. He has streamlined Senate and made it fun with initiatives such as the consent agenda.

General Faculty Comments

This period is allotted for faculty members to bring matters of importance before the Senate. Speakers are asked to limit their remarks to five minutes or less. Senate meetings are open to all members of the academic community. All faculty members are specifically invited to attend Faculty Senate meetings.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:19.