UNK FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES
Sept. 3. 2015

4:00 PM Ockinga Conference Room

Faculty Senate Website:
http://www.unk.edu/committees/faculty_senate/index.php

I. Call to order

II. Roll Call: 3SEPT15

At Large Senators: Present: Kelley
          Absent: Trantham

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

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

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

CNSS Senators: Present: Davis, Harms, Louishomme, Pattabiraman,
          Powell, Reichart, Sogar, Weiss, Wozniak, Wulf-Ludden
          Absent:

Library Senator: Present: Mueller

III. Approval of Agenda
President Kelley asked that the agenda be changed to reflect the
presentation by Pres. Bounds and that his presentation be allowed when
he arrives. Senator Taylor (Konecny) moved to adopt the agenda as
amended. The agenda was adopted as amended.

IV. Action on the Faculty Senate Minutes: 30APR15
Senator Davis (May) moved to approve the minutes. The minutes were
approved.
V. Presentations
President Bounds (Moved to when the President arrives)

VI. Reports of Faculty Senate Standing Committees

A. President’s Report: **August 24, 2015**
Pres. Kelley explained the additional pages in his report were those presented by VC Bicak at the retreat. He then asked if there were any questions. Hearing none he continued to the next committee report.

B. Academic Information and Technology Committee: **May 1, 2015**
Pres. Kelley asked for any questions. Hearing none he began to ask one, but realized his question was about the next committee report not this one. He then asked again for any comments or questions.

Sen. Wozniak then asked a question. He wanted to know more about the open access initiative and wondered why the document addressing it wasn’t attached. He also noted that mention was made about a presentation on the institutional repository and asked for more information on this in the minutes as well.

Sen. Davis brought up that he had talked with Jane Peterson about this and she provided a lot of information. He found this to be of interest and wondered why this had not been brought to the Faculty Senate from the beginning.

Sec. Mueller said librarians heard about this as information providers to the original task group. She also said a librarian provided the presentation on the Institutional Repository and would like to make a presentation to the Faculty Senate.

Sen. Louishomme said he was on the committee and provided a little more information. He was referring to the Open Access Textbook Initiative committee.

C. E-campus Committee: **April 16, 2015**
Pres. Kelley then posed his question concerning the eCampus committee report.
Pres. Kelley – I would like more information on the instructor’s certificate.

Sen. Davis said that Steve (McGahan) proposed that this certificate be provided for completing online program

Sen. Wozniak – Steve is not faculty and yet is proposing a certificate, but it’s not going through Academic Affairs. Academic Programs are presented by faculty and approved by faculty.

Sen. Reichart– this may be for developing an ecampus program, not a class.

Sen. Konecny – Not sure what it is for other than maybe an internal recognition.

Sen. Gaskill – Perhaps a new faculty training thing.

It was not clear what the certificate was for.

VII. Reports of Senate Representatives to Non-Senate Committees
NONE

VIII. Reports from Academic Councils
A. Graduate Council: July 24, 2015
Pres. Kelley asked for any questions on the Graduate council report. None were asked.

B. General Studies Council: April 30, 2015
Pres. Kelley asked for any questions on the General Studies council report. None were asked.

IX. Unfinished Business
NONE

X. New Business

Professor of Practice
Pres. Kelley felt there needed some discussion on this and asked Sen. Wozniak to start it off.

Sen. Wozniak – Biology wants to set up a new position for running the graduate online program and for teaching. It would not be tenurable.
because there is no time for research. It was brought forward to the union, UNKEA, last Feb. or March.

Sen. Davis has developed some questions. The department and the dean wanted it go forward quickly, but because of the various questions it wasn’t possible. Professor of Practice would be promotable but nontenurable. As this is a new type of position UNKEA needs to look at this. Negotiations on this are going forward, but it currently is back at the Administration. Sen. Davis said it sounds OK, but responsibilities need defined, criteria of promotion established, and length of contract determined and possibly a way for lecturers to move up into this position.

The union would prefer not to give carte blanche on this position as a whole but rather have the union approve each instance of its use. So, UNKEA is working through all of this.

Sen. Davis – One concern is that this may put in jeopardy the ability for lecturers to apply for tenure positions. Promotion brings up a lot questions also. It’s a complicated conversation.

Pres. Kelley – Want to open for discussion about this. I would add that this reflects that biology can’t keep up with academic lines with the online courses, this will be the case for possibly other programs as they grow.

Sen. Konecny – Just want to make sure this isn’t confused with CBT position called Practice Academic. This is a position that is academically qualified for years and has more involvement in the community. It’s not even a title, just a classification for accreditation.

Pres. Elect Rogoff - Some of this might be behind the name, Professor of Practice, but it really sounds like a lecturer position. Perhaps we need to look at the name itself.

Sen. J. Moore - this is what is being used in UNL. There is a clinical position there that is a 12 month position. We would like to have a position like this here. Is this a 9 month or 12 month position?

Sen. Reichart – The name is what UNL has set up. Just what Sen. J. Moore said, this would probably be a 12 month position.
Sen. Powell – The concern for some folks that this could be used as a back door to replace tenure track positions. Perhaps a lecturer model would be better or a time limited position.

Pres. Kelley – Isn’t this going to be an admin position?

Sen. Reichart – If we set it up as tenure position we are setting up the person to fail.

Secretary Mueller – We are 12 month faculty and we do research as well

Sen. Harms – Will the constitution be changed?

Pres. Kelley – Yes, this will have to be addressed.

Sen. Hoehner – In EdAd we use adjuncts, may be interested in using Professors of Practice.

Pres. Kelley – We pride ourselves on having few adjuncts, but how do we serve our students in growth areas?

Sen. Konecny – Looked up this position on UNL website. Why not hire an administrator and an adjunct for teaching classes.

Sen. Reichart – We don’t have the power to do this. We don’t have the administrative support you have.

Sen. J. Moore – We use lecturers to teach graduate courses even though we really shouldn’t.

Pres. Kelley – Is anyone adamantly opposed to this proposal?

Pres. Elect Rogoff – Yes I with this level of information.

Sen. Konecny – If the Professor of Practice is a line item than getting an Admin position is a line item, so you could do this.

Sen. Wozniak – Is this an erosion for more temporary faculty positions? Is this a door for deans to hire more temporary positions? On the flip side temporary faculty could be appointed on a more long term basis.

Pres. Kelley – Thank you for your comments.
Nominations for Strategic Planning subcommittees

Pres. Kelley – The following people have agreed to serve and be placed in nomination:

1. Academic Quality – Carol Lilly
2. Access and Success – Sandra Loughrin, Dawn Mollenkopf, Tami Moore
3. Quality Faculty and Staff – Linda Van Ingen, David Palmer
4. Stewardship of Resources – Valerie Cisler, Susan Mueller
5. Outreach and Engagement – Noah Rogoff, Gerry Stirtz, Dan May

We would like to set forward at least 3 names for each subcommittee, any other nominees?

Matt Mims for Outreach and engagement. Sen. May agreed to move to Academic Quality to even that out. Sen. Gaskill volunteered for Academic Quality also.

Sen. Louishomme asked about the commitment for these committees. Pres. Kelley explained they are ad hoc groups with a plan to be done by the end of the semester.

Sen. Chavez agreed to volunteer for Stewardship of Resources.

Final Nomination List

1. Academic Quality – Carol Lilly, Dan May, Martonia Gaskill
2. Access and Success – Sandra Loughrin, Dawn Mollenkopf, Tami Moore
3. Quality Faculty and Staff – Linda Van Ingen, David Palmer
4. Stewardship of Resources – Valerie Cisler, Susan Mueller, Xavier Chavez
5. Outreach and Engagement – Noah Rogoff, Gerry Stirtz, Matt Mims
XI. 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.

Pres. Kelley invited the senate to attend the Faculty/Staff club the following night. It is sponsored by the Faculty Senate.

Sen. Harms asked about any update on the response of the administration to the Morale Survey.

Pres. Kelley – Talked about it at the retreat. In previous discussion, questions were raised and it was difficult to answer due to problems with context. As a result the Executive Committee has proposed a series of focus groups this semester to get to the details of the responses.

Past Pres. Taylor – There was a question as to what courses were involved with the Open Access Textbook Initiative. They are Bio 103, TE100/Poli110, and English 102.

Sen. Louishomme – Asked about any budget shortfall or possible cuts to colleges.

Pres. Kelley – This will be on top of the agenda for the Administration/Exec committee’s next meeting.

Sen. Louishomme – Why wasn’t it on the retreat’s agenda?

Pres. Kelley – At the time we weren’t aware of it.


Pres. Kelley – This is the second item on our agenda.

Sen. Harms – Are there other items on the agenda?

Pres. Kelley – Yes, there are five. Fine Arts and Humanities has heard about the conflict of Interest policy being changed. The last item is about FERPA and student email, but we may postpone that until the next Faculty Senate meeting and have Kim come and talk to us about that.
Sen. Sogar – Had a question about the OSP and change of reporting and change of culture on campus.

Pres. Kelley – Talked about meeting on Friday and that some faculty are meeting at that time and whether that email covered all the topics or not.

Presentation by President Bounds

Pres. – I have been averaging 3-4 weeks between visits now coming out here. I think it is important for me to do this as often as possible to get to know every campus as much as possible. I believe in one university on 5 campuses. We aren’t large enough to be competing with one another. I am looking at how we manage the business part. I would be the first to defend that a university is not a business, but part of it should work like a business. We should be efficient and effective. It will be harder to grow here than at the other places. So we must be thoughtful how we grow the campus.

Sen. Wozniak – You mentioned one university four campuses and one state, but enrollment based funding does put us in competition with one another. I see only disadvantages for having one CIO in Lincoln.

Pres. – I have experience working with different campuses and you can’t treat them the same. Equity and appropriate are not the same thing. What is important is the academic enterprise. We need to be smart so we can protect that enterprise.

Sen. Davis – Is performance based funding on the legislative agenda?

Pres. – I have not been here long enough to hear that or to make those kind of decisions or have those kinds of discussions. You need to know what you are rewarding and why.

Sen. Harms – Budgets here are tight, so it is important to maintain academic balance and shared governance. How do you balance the business side with the academic side?

Pres. – There is a need to move with some urgency, but we want to be nimble enough to back up if we make the wrong decision. We really don’t want to get into the academic side to make cuts. So we want to look under every rock for efficiencies to protect the academic enterprise first.
Sen. Pattabiraman – We are hearing about free community college. What do you think of that?

Pres. – Not really sure that is necessary unless there is a strong need for skilled labor.

Sen. Louishomme – two questions. What is your vision to attract more students? The second question. There is a large growth in salaries on the administrative side but not on the faculty side. How do we correct this?

Pres. – I will answer the first one first. We don’t do a very good job of telling our story. I didn’t know much about the University of Nebraska when I was first considered for this position. The more I learned the more interested I became. If we can get them here we can tell them our story. We need to ramp up our PR and tell our story. On the second question, I don’t know much about the salaries here yet. To get the students, you need to get the best teachers. But it’s hard to do it when you don’t have the budget.

Past Pres. Taylor – How do we keep students that really need to be at UNK, but get a better offer from UNL? We don’t have the budget to compete.

Pres. – It’s all about finding the sweet spot for allocations for each campus. We need to be smart about selling the right expectation at each campus. Not all campuses should have the same expectation for growth. This is an important campus for this state, especially this part of the state. We can’t allow one campus to be damaged by another campus’s growth.

Sen. Wozniak – Good place for people and we need to take care of faculty. We need to make sure we have good health benefits for all. New faculty’s health benefits don’t kick in right away. In fact new faculty aren’t paid until after they have been here for 6 weeks.

Pres. – Please send me an email about this. I haven’t heard of this kind of delay in receiving health benefits.

Sen. Porter – We are trying to find our niche, construction management. Are we considering our competition to be with community colleges? Should we be training electricians and welders?
Pres – We are already doing that at NCTA. I really haven't looked into this yet. Universities don’t tend to work in this environment, but I would be open to that here.

Thank you for inviting me here.

Pres. Kelley – Any comments?

Sen. Harms – I recommend we have him meet with us on a yearly basis.

XII. Adjournment

Davis (Taylor) moved to adjourn. Adjourned at 5:20 PM

Susan Mueller
Faculty Senate Secretary