Rosson called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. The minutes for November 19 were approved as submitted.

Proposed Six-Year Capital Plan
Nunez distributed a draft of anticipated facilities projects for 2004 to 2010. He said all possible facilities projects appear on the on-deck list. This is required before they can be moved to the priority queue sometime during the next six years.

Unprioritized Projects advanced from the 2003-2009 Capital Plan are the Central Library Facility, the Virology Research Facility, the Computer Science and Engineering Research Facility, the Athletic Department Complex, the Science Research Facility and the Physics Research Facility. New Unprioritized Projects are the Greater Nebraska Projects (Phase I), Seaton Hall Second and Third Floor Renovation, and Keim Hall Renovation.

On-Deck Projects include the Culture Center Facility, Greater Nebraska Projects (Phase II), High-Priority Academic Enhancement Projects, the International Quilt Study Center, the Sheldon Art Gallery Expansion, the Westbrook Music Building Expansion and Renovation, the Animal Science Complex Renovation, the Sheldon Renovation, and the East Campus Recreation Center. Nunez explained the projects and showed the proposed locations on the City Campus and East Campus Master Plan maps.

There was discussion of the Campus Master Plans. Nunez said the Master Plan was approved in 1998-99, and Central Administration is considering system-wide Master Plan revisions in 2004. The APC and campus constituencies will be involved in the process.

Kostelnik said there is a need for creative ideas to connect the two campuses. Nunez reviewed recent discussions regarding the “delta” created by the new Antelope Valley Roadway at the southeast corner of campus, the uses of R Street and Vine Street, and UNL parking. Keown, Lee and Rosson raised concerns and suggested that parking policies and the long-term parking plan be communicated to APC. Nunez will follow up with Tad McDowell, Director of Parking.
Proposal for the Nebraska Center on Research for Children, Youth, Families and Schools
Paul, Edwards and Sheridan arrived. The order of business was changed to consider the Nebraska Center on Research for Children, Youth, Families and Schools next. Paul introduced the proposal. He said UNL has the expertise and has made investments in the disciplines that the Center seeks to expand. He expects the Center to be only the beginning of a significant national presence at UNL in this area.

Edwards said the establishment of a center is an outgrowth of activities already occurring on campus. A Programs of Excellence planning grant of $25,000 was awarded last year. The grant was used to create connections around the country and to apply for more grants. Kostelnik said collaborators in the College of Education and Human Sciences and the College of Arts and Sciences wish to elevate current work in the area of children and families from a project to a center. Center status is expected to improve lines, strengthen connections, and move beyond traditional boundaries to create a critical mass of researchers.

Sheridan said research for children and families has been ongoing under the Nebraska Research Alliance. Interdisciplinary efforts such as this are strongly encouraged by the federal government. Besides the two UNL colleges, UNO and UNMC are involved. Four research teams are presently at work across the University of Nebraska system and will be included in the Center. Sheridan said she visited similar centers across the U.S. with the initial planning grant, and this is the only one that considers all the links between families and schools.

Keown asked about the composition of the external advisory board. Mitchell asked about physical space and related initiatives on campus. Kostelnik said the Center would be located in Mabel Lee Hall near several departments that are an integral part of the Center. Faculty in Children, Families and the Law and in the Center for At-Risk Children’s Services program have helped develop the proposal. Weiss asked about staffing. Kostelnik said the permanent core will be the Director and support staff. Most faculty will be adjuncts working on research projects for a specific term. The influx of new projects is to be the lifeblood of the Center. The administration is looking for ways to credit departments for their faculty’s work in the Center, providing an incentive for departments to participate.

Rosson asked how soon the Center will be self-supporting and how much money will be needed to get it going. Edwards said $250,000 annually for five years would be a good start. Sheridan said she anticipates more and larger grants whose F & A will fully support the Center. Paul said the Center is an entrepreneurial project that leverages PoE money, builds on present success and holds the promise of future infrastructure grants. Edwards said the funding concept for the Center is a new one for UNL. The Center will rely on outside money rather than on institutional money for its day-to-day functions. The grant application process will be continuous so that new grants will overlap mature ones and keep the infrastructure going.

Paul and Edwards said center faculty are not tenured. Kostelnik said soft money cannot be used to hire tenured people. Sheridan said the program had recently hired a high-level research faculty member who did not request tenure, and research faculty, in general, do not expect tenure. Kettler said the entire University benefits from the presence of research professors and graduate students even though they are not instructional faculty. Rosson thanked Sheridan for contributing to the discussion. She and Baquet left the meeting.
Motion
Keown moved to recommend acceptance of the Nebraska Center on Research for Children, Youth, Families and Schools. Mitchell seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

College Credit for High School Students
Edwards distributed two handouts (attached to the permanent record). He said the issue of dual credit had grown over the past year. UNL requires high Advanced Placement (AP) test scores as evidence that a course in high school was rigorous enough for college credit. Some community colleges and colleges outside the NU system grant credit to students for high school honors or AP courses without requiring standardized tests. Students who transfer to UNL from those institutions expect all their credits to count here.

The Regents gave one-year approval for UNO to grant credit for high school courses. The results of that pilot project will be discussed at the next Regents meeting. A few courses at UNL are already administered to high school students whose schools do not offer the curriculum. There has been discussion of restricting courses to non-Nebraska students, or charging a fee for granting college credit. Edwards said the University is collecting data on the performance of its students who have received credit for courses taken in high school. Lee asked whether high school or college teachers are teaching the courses. Edwards said standards have not been developed. Nebraska Wesleyan University has oversight of high school teachers whose courses earn credit at NWU. Kostelnik said some states set standards for AP course content and AP instructor qualifications. Mitchell asked about college credit for deficiency courses taught at UNL. Edwards said college credit was not given for those courses. Keown said colleges usually have better science labs than high schools, so science courses in particular are more rigorous at the college level. He said instructors quickly discover whether students taking higher-level courses are adequately prepared.

Edwards said aside from the question of rigor, the University is a land-grant institution and should try to serve the citizens of the state by smoothing transitions between colleges and between high school and college. He asked for APC’s assistance in deciding how to evaluate a course for credit. Kettler said it might be difficult to determine from a student’s transcript what courses were taken in high school. Rosson said achievement in higher-level college courses might be required in order to receive credit for a course taken in high school. Ambrosius asked whether UNL could require its own test before granting credit in a questionable course. Kostelnik said the term “dual credit” is problematic. She suggested a requirement that the student fulfill high school graduation requirements before taking a course for college credit. She said the age of the student should not be a determining factor. If the student is able to take a course that is offered at college and is above and beyond the high school requirements, he or she should get credit for it. [Keown left and Martin arrived.]

Rosson asked the committee if they would like to have a discussion about this issue with Rita Kean, Dean of Undergraduate Studies, and Arnold Bateman, Associate Vice Chancellor for Extended Education. Edwards said Kean and Bateman wrote the draft of policy hoping for input from APC. He said a decision on dual credit would be made at some point with or without APC’s input. The Regents’ decision on whether to continue approval of credits at UNO may set a precedent for UNL. National legislation is also a possibility. Consumer advocates are demanding that college credit granted at one institution be honored at others. APC will invite Kean and Bateman to a meeting in January to continue the discussion.
**Academic Program Review Subcommittee Report**

Martin said academic program reviews of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication and the College of Human Resources and Family Sciences were complete. He moved that APC approve them. Rosson said APC needs a written report from the subcommittee summarizing all APRs submitted to it. He said the subcommittee will set the standard for future APR subcommittees. The individual APR reports do not need to be presented to APC, he said, but any glaring issues or weaknesses they mention should be included in the subcommittee report. Rosson asked the subcommittee to report back to APC in January.

**Issues from the Vice Chancellors**

Edwards said he appreciated APC’s input on the PoE funding proposals. He forwarded some of APC’s comments to the proposers. Programs to receive PoE funding for 2004 are the Water Resources Initiative, Visiting Scholar Program in Law and Psychology, and the Center for Digital Research in the Humanities. Proposals to receive 2005 funding are the Water Resources Initiative, Visual Literacy, and the School of Architectural Engineering and Construction. A determination on PoE funding for the J D Edwards Program is pending.

Paul said there is to be a brown bag luncheon on December 15 to inform the campus of research initiatives and funding during the next semester.

**Other Business**

Rosson said that Richard Edwards is returning to the faculty and this will be his last meeting as the Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. On behalf of the APC, he thanked Edwards for his service to the university and to the committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lona Kramer, APC Coordinator