Rosson called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. Minutes from the April 14 meeting were approved with one correction.

**Issues from the Vice Chancellors**
Brinkerhoff said the Senior Vice Chancellor search was in the final stages. He said he was glad to work with APC again during his service as Interim Senior Vice Chancellor. Lee asked him about the funding and Programs of Excellence status of the J D Edwards Program. Brinkerhoff said the program had received PoE funds as part of the Undergraduate Experience Enhancement and on its own merits. He said he was meeting with the program’s administrators to work out a different funding model. The program appears to be paying too much for instruction by other units’ faculty and lower fees need to be negotiated.

Paul said the recent Research Fair was a success in spite of having no keynote speaker. There was very good participation in the two forums and displays of research by undergraduate and graduate students. Two goals of the Research Fair were to acquaint students with the opportunities to do research and to network with program officers who can steer funding in UNL’s direction. Paul said the Research Office is working with the Undergraduate Office, Mathematics and the Academy of Distinguished Teachers on a “C” grant from the federal government. It is a very promising area that could lead to other federal grants. Brinkerhoff noted that the UCARE office was having a celebration later in the day to recognize some 400 students whose research will be funded by UCARE next year.
Brinkerhoff said an outside consultant will be holding a retreat with 80 faculty and working on instructional development. The retreat is part of a plan to fill the void in faculty support left by the closing of the Teaching and Learning Center.

Paul thanked APC for acting quickly on the Project Initiation Request for the modular BSL-3 laboratory on East Campus. APC endorsed the PIR at the April 14 meeting.

Baquet had no issues to bring to APC for IANR other than to note that Owens was glad the search for a Senior Vice Chancellor was almost concluded. Owens is chair of the search committee.

Dual credit for college-level work in high school
Brinkerhoff said he met with Rita Kean, Undergraduate Dean, and Arnold Bateman, Associate Vice Chancellor for Extended Education and Outreach, and charged them to come up with a statement of the issues related to dual credit. They are working on fact-finding for concurrent credit (the preferred term). Rosson asked if the Regents were involved with the concurrent credit question at present. Brinkerhoff said it was not on the Regents agenda. Rosson said APC is concerned that courses taught in high schools and awarded college credit are not up to UNL’s standards. Brinkerhoff said Bateman and Kean are working on safeguards for quality of instruction. A more intriguing issue is that a student can get credit through another college for a course taken in high school, and UNL will accept the credit when the student transfers to UNL. He said that issue needs to be addressed by the Regents. Lee asked if UNL was partnering with high schools to teach college-level courses. Brinkerhoff said a little of that is being done now. He said the bigger issue is transfer credit agreements through which high school concurrent credit is accepted by UNL.

Project Initiation Request for the Virology Research Center
Nunez handed out site plans for the proposed Virology Research Center. He said it is proposed to be located near the Veterinary Diagnostic Center on East Campus. Finished space of 32,500 square feet and unfinished shell space of 32,500 square feet is planned. The Nebraska Center for Virology was formed in 2000 and presently has six Principal Investigators working on projects in the Beadle Center and on East Campus. The Beadle Center is filled and does not have a BSL-3 lab and other important research facilities. Researchers are scattered. The proposed Virology Research Center would address those needs. [Milligan arrived.]

Nunez said the proposal fits into the Campus Strategic and Master Plans with its emphasis on research expansion and capacity. Paul said the biggest challenge to research at UNL is the lack of appropriate and adequate space. Facilities are needed in order to get funding. He said the Virology Center would not solve the whole problem but would certainly help. The state is not able to contribute much to construction projects. Paul said the plan is to build the entire building for the Virology Research Center then find funding to finish approximately one-half the space. Having the basic space available would be conducive to obtaining NIH grants in the biological sciences.

Rosson asked why the location on East Campus was chosen rather than one adjacent to the Beadle Center. Paul said the Beadle Center is in the 100-year flood plain until the Antelope Valley Project is completed so it cannot be built upon. He said proximity to the Veterinary Diagnostic Center would be conducive to virologists’ work with animals, the location would be close to waste
treatment and sterilization facilities, and it is more secluded which would help with security. [Beals arrived.]

Kostelnik said she endorses the project. The University has been talking about it for years. It is more plausible to donors to have an actual plan to look at. She said that it would also promote cooperation between researchers on East and City Campuses.

Motion
The subcommittee composed of Mitchell, Nunez and Weiss moved that the PIR be recommended for approval. APC passed the motion without dissent. [Jones and Beals left.]

Proposal for a Major in Ethnic Studies
Raffaelli was present to answer questions. Mitchell, head of the subcommittee considering the proposal, reminded the members that a preliminary proposal for the major was brought before APC in February. The final proposal addresses questions that were raised at that time.

Raffaelli said that Ethnic Studies has resources for four new faculty to be shared with other departments. Rosson asked if the major could be effectively managed, in terms of courses being taught in a timely and predictable manner, by faculty in so many different departments. Raffaelli said Ethnic Studies has very few stand-alone courses, but that it does have a large number of joint appointment faculty with Ethnic Studies who are committed to teaching the cross-listed courses. She said the procedure has worked well for the Ethnic Studies minor. She said majors in Individualized Program Studies have graduated with programs of study equivalent to the Ethnic Studies major. [Latta arrived.]

Lee asked whether a community of scholars could be formed at the first-year level of the program. Raffaelli said the current course acquaints students with a minority experience, but it depends upon the course that is being taught as to the perspective from psychology, literature, etc. There are presently 15 to 18 faculty members with joint appointments in Ethnic Studies, in addition to affiliated faculty who do not have joint appointments. A new 400-level capstone course will be added to the course list to address the concern that majors would lack a common experience. Lee asked about other community-building efforts. He observed that most of the students taking Ethnic Studies courses would be non-majors. Raffaelli said there is an ongoing ethnic film festival that is required for majors and minors and there are colloquium studies and exhibits to share and discuss. She said students in sub-areas such as Latin American Studies know each other. She asked whether APC believed it was crucial for majors to have a community experience. She noted that her own discipline, Psychology, has around 900 majors and few of them know each other. Lee said his department, Communication Studies, has a sense of sharing a common project. Raffaelli said a sense of community for Ethnic Studies is achieved through extracurricular activities.

Mitchell said APC expressed concern in February about people getting a second major in Ethnic Studies without taking many additional classes. The revised proposal addresses that concern. It limits the number of courses in one discipline to no more than half the number of courses submitted to fulfill the Ethnic Studies degree requirements.
Rosson asked whether there would be adequate advising. Raffaelli said there is funding for a graduate assistant who will help with advising. At present Raffaelli is the Ethnic Studies advisor.

**Motion**
Subcommittee members Keown and Mitchell submitted a positive recommendation on the proposal that served as a motion and second. The vote was unanimous to endorse the proposal. [Raffaelli left.]

**Academic Program Review Subcommittee**
Rosson noted that Martin, chair of the APR Subcommittee, was absent and had not submitted a report. Rosson said the APR subcommittee needed to meet and finalize the APR work. He reminded the subcommittee of their charge to report on May 12 on the format of APR reports; on how accreditation reviews should be reported by the APC representatives; and on how best to deal with getting information about the reviews of programs that do not go through the APR process.

**Other Business - Long Range Planning Subcommittee**
- **Graduate Assistant Data**
  Keown distributed a table comparing graduate student head count and the average stipend with the University’s peer institutions. He said Dean Weissinger told him Graduate Studies does not have recent data on stipends. Brinkerhoff said funding to produce the graduate report was lost in 2000. He said the data between institutions are not comparable. There are a variety of definitions of workload for graduate assistants and it is necessary to normalize the workload in order to make comparisons. Rosson said the data should be broken out by college and even by department if necessary. There are market-driven differences between disciplines for GTA and GRA support.

  Kostelnik said Education and Human Sciences is increasing the numbers of graduate assistants as well as the stipends. She said the college has 7-hour, 10-hour and 20-hour graduate assistants. Brinkerhoff said reviewers of some departments had criticized spreading out stipends to many graduate students. The stipends had become so small they were no longer attractive. Kostelnik said it is necessary to look at things in context. Some departments have many graduate students but few assistantships because most of their graduate students are fully employed outside the University. She suggested comparing UNL with a few similar institutions would be more helpful than comparing it to a larger number of disparate institutions.

  Milligan said the proposed budget for the University a few years ago included an increase in stipends for graduate students. That line item was cut before it could be implemented. She said she hopes that one day, as the University’s resources improve, an increase in graduate assistant stipends can be included in the University’s budget.

  Brinkerhoff suggested looking at graduate students per faculty FTE. Kostelnik said it would be good to look at the mix of teaching, research and outreach. Lee said there has been an increase in special faculty appointments and a decrease in graduate students. He thought it would be healthy to have more PhD students and fewer special appointments. Brinkerhoff said the hiring of faculty was limited during the budget shortfalls, and more temporary people were hired during that period. Now over 100 searches for permanent faculty are going on. Lee said more
graduate assistants are on soft money now. Brinkerhoff said research assistants are funded by research grants, which is soft money, and teaching assistants are hired on state-funded lines. Paul and Milligan agreed that more funding for graduate assistants is needed.

Nunez said Institutional Research and Planning could try to get answers to graduate assistant questions by using the same methodology across institutions. He said because of definitional differences among institutional data, 100 percent accuracy is generally not possible. Data definitions and reporting guidelines assist in comparability, but comparative data require critical analysis. In addition, the data would need to be departmentalized. Trends over a longer period might be helpful. Brinkerhoff said the data from other universities could be no more accurate than definitions of graduate assistantships within NU, which are different in each department. Paul said practices at other universities depend partly on the amounts of other benefits, such as tuition remission, that graduate assistants receive.

Brinkerhoff asked whether there was agreement on the reason for collecting data on graduate assistants. He said he had heard several possible reasons: (1) competition with peer institutions, (2) quality indicators, and (3) changes in the composition of faculty as more graduate assistants are hired. He said it would be helpful to know what APC is looking for in order to frame the questions to be answered. Data collection is not helpful if you don’t know what the questions are. Rosson asked the Long Range Planning Subcommittee to redo their report and submit it again May 12 after they have had time to address the issues raised.

- **Recommendation on Tenure Home**
  Keown distributed a draft of a paper [Attachment A] proposing that tenure location is not the same as tenure home, and that the University be designated the tenure home. Kettler said he thought tenure location should be consistent with tenure home. Keown said the Academic Senate wants APC to make a recommendation on the definition of tenure home. Milligan said the logical conclusion of the new definition would be that the entire University, not UNL, would be the tenure home. Keown said faculty would oppose that interpretation. He asked the members to give him feedback by email on the proposed definition of tenure home.

- **Resolution on Budget Reduction Procedures and Dismissal of Tenure-Track and Tenured Faculty**
  Lee introduced a draft resolution on budget reduction procedures and dismissal of tenure-track and tenured faculty. Rosson asked why the resolution was concerned only with tenured and tenure-track faculty. Lee said the commitment to tenured faculty is central to the University. He said there must be some flexibility for staff to be laid off in case of budget reductions. Staff do not have to be given a year’s notice, as with the faculty. Rosson asked Lee if he wished to have the resolution on the May 12 agenda. Lee said yes.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lona Kramer, APC Coordinator
April 28, 2004

The Academic Planning Committee feels that there should be a distinction made between where tenure resides and the tenure home. Tenure should reside within the institution as is addressed in paragraph two. The “tenure home” should be the Department or College or Program in which the faculty has academic preparation and performance. In order to provide input into academic programs and courses, research endeavors and out-reach programs, the faculty member needs to have a tenure home that is not the tenure granting institution.

Considering the current dynamics of the University community in dealing with budget reductions and the changing roles of faculty, the Academic Planning Committee feels that a determination should be made designating the Institution, for example, UNL, UNO and UNK and the Medical Center, as the tenure home. This designation will give faculty more security when departments or colleges are merged or transfer from one college to another is in the best interest of the University and faculty member. This designation will also help faculty in determining their future research, teaching or outreach responsibilities. Universities will undergo major reorganizations and reallocations of funds in the future and this policy will put the best interests of the faculty and students in a more constructive light.

A survey report was sent by the Long Range Planning Committee of APC requesting information from our peer institutions on where they designated a tenure home. Purdue, Colorado State, University of Missourri, University of Colorado and Iowa State all indicated that tenure resided at the departmental level. Ohio State indicated that tenure resided at the college level. The University of Kansas and the University of Iowa have tenure within the University. The University of Illinois and University of Minnesota did not respond to the survey.

Attachment A