

**UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA – LINCOLN
ACADEMIC PLANNING COMMITTEE
FINAL MINUTES
May 3, 2006**

Members Present

Mary K. Bolin	Jeffrey K. Keown	David Solheim
Barbara Couture	Richard M. Kettler	Steven S. Waller
M. Susan Hallbeck	Nancy Mitchell	Nathan M. Walters
Robert S. Haller	William J. Nunez	
F. Edwin Harvey	Giacomo M. Oliva	

Members Absent

Prem Paul	John Owens	Ellen M. Weissinger
Curtis A. Wray		

Others Present

Susan M. Fritz, Associate Vice Chancellor, IANR, and Associate Dean, College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, for John Owens
David Fowler, Member-elect, Associate Professor, Teaching Learning and Teacher Education
Pamela F. Starr, Member-elect, Professor, School of Music
Donald H. Beermann, Department Head and Professor, Animal Science
Roger W. Mandigo, Professor, Animal Science
Barry Shull, Director, Facilities, Office of the Vice President/Vice Chancellor for IANR
Douglas R. Beals, Facilities Planner, Facilities Management and Planning
Margaret K. Miller, Manager, Facilities Planning and Construction
Roger D. Kirby, Chair and Professor, Physics and Astronomy

Mitchell called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Introductions

Members-elect Starr and Fowler introduced themselves. Their terms start August 1. They were present as observers at the meeting. Solheim, the new Undergraduate Student Representative, introduced himself. Mitchell said Curtis Wray, who was not able to attend, is the new Graduate Student Representative. Craig Eckhardt will be rejoining the APC in the fall, representing the Physical Sciences faculty.

Minutes

Minutes from the April 19 meeting were approved without dissent.

Project Initiation Request (PIR) for the Animal Science Complex Renovation

Beermann, Mandigo, Shull and Beals appeared in support of the PIR. Nunez said the PIR

Subcommittee discussed the project with Beermann and Beals. Bolin said they were given a tour of the Animal Science Complex.

Beermann outlined UNL's new cooperative program in Veterinary Medical Education with the Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine (ISU-CVM). New and expanded courses will be taught at UNL. Additional faculty and support staff will be hired. Facilities on a level with those at ISU-CVM are needed to accommodate the expanded teaching and research activities.

Beermann described the current facilities and explained the proposed changes. He said a new

HVAC system and other essential repairs would be funded through LB605, a deferred-maintenance bill. Funds for the renovation project would come from internal IANR sources. [Miller arrived.]

Motion

Support by the PIR Subcommittee served as motion and second for its endorsement. The APC voted unanimously to recommend approval. [Beals, Beermann, Mandigo and Shull left.]

Discussion of the J. D. Edwards Program

Couture responded to questions raised in previous APC meetings about the sustainability of the J. D. Edwards Program. She said it was not necessary for David Keck, director of the program, to come to the meeting because the questions were institutional rather than programmatic.

Couture distributed the program's budget analysis for fiscal years 2006 through 2009 [attached to the permanent record]. She reviewed funding, expenditures, potential economies and possible sources of new revenues. She said room and board scholarships are an expensive aspect of the program. They are important because they bring female students into a discipline that is typically male.

Couture said the program was very successful in terms of attracting highly qualified students.

Solheim asked whether there had been a drop in retention. Couture said no and added that students were especially satisfied with the Design Studio portion of the program. The Design Studio contracts with industries to work on real-life problems. In the process of learning to apply their skills students earn money for the program.

Haller said he expected more CBA faculty to be involved in the program. Hallbeck said the J. D.

Edwards Program was oriented toward Computer Science and Engineering majors and erected barriers against some other majors.

Oliva commented that a large endowment in one discipline affects opportunities for students in other disciplines. He said a nationwide conversation was going on about the choice of funding a few students with 34 to 36 ACT scores at the expense of other students who have scores of 32 to 33. There is growing resentment of the focus on high-powered programs. Couture said Strategic Planning addresses some of those issues. The J. D. Edwards Program is making new efforts to recruit a wider range of students. Haller asked about the recruitment of minority students to the program. Couture responded that Dr. David Keck and the staff of J.D. Edwards are also working hard to increase student diversity while maintaining the program's high academic standards.

Mitchell said the discussion helped the committee find the truth under the rumors about the program.

Mitchell invited Oliva to go next, as Kirby had not arrived.

Long-Range Planning Subcommittee Proposal for a University Academy

Oliva handed out a draft of the subcommittee's proposal [attached to the permanent record].

Couture had asked them to refine their November proposal for a non-traditional, collaborative, interdisciplinary approach to teaching. Main points of the proposal were:

1. A structure that enables cross-disciplinary faculty, faculty-student, and university-public interactions for research and teaching.
2. Learning objectives that would include development of critical thinking skills, exploration from multiple points of view, and synthesis of a product.
3. A timeline for development of pilot courses.

Oliva said the University Academy proposal was appropriate to the Chancellor's call for increased cross-disciplinary work, to campus strategic planning and to discussions about general education requirements. [Kirby arrived.]

Questions that remained to be answered were how departments could support faculty who wished to participate in the Academy, how many students would be interested, and how to involve the wider campus population. Patrice Berger, director of the Honors Program, had agreed to help develop the Academy. He knew faculty and students who might be interested. [Keown left.]

Responses from APC members:

- Hallbeck - The Academy would be most appropriate for juniors and seniors.
- Mitchell - The General Education Committee should see the proposal.
- Starr - Graduate students should be included. The Academy would be a forum to bring people from the sciences and the humanities together.
- Haller - The idea of producing artistic works rather than term papers is intriguing.
- Hallbeck - Board games and movies could express a variety of ideas.

- Oliva - Getting ideas from rural communities, developing them and taking the results back to the people would be an exciting extension of the land-grant mission.
- Walters - The Academy might attract students and faculty away from traditional classes and reduce the need for graduate teaching assistants.
- Hallbeck - The Academy would appeal to students who don't enjoy traditional classes.
- Oliva - Faculty and students should choose their own involvement in the Academy.
- Couture - There was a relevant article in the *Chronicle* about characteristics of a creative campus.

Oliva asked the APC to send him comments within two weeks. He said the subcommittee would like to present the idea at an upcoming Deans' retreat and produce a final proposal to SVCAA

Couture by June 1. The goal is to start pilot courses in the Fall of 2007. [Starr left.]

Project Initiation Request (PIR) for the Physical Sciences Building

Miller and Kirby were present to answer questions. The PIR subcommittee had met with them previously. Nunez said the three buildings used by Physics and Astronomy were considered for LB 605 deferred maintenance funding. The expense to renovate Brace and Behlen would approach or exceed their replacement cost. Ferguson Hall will be demolished. Kirby said there is a movement to save Brace because of its historical interest.

Kirby said the replacement building will be about 100,000 gross square feet with about 65,000 assignable square feet for offices, research and teaching labs and classrooms. The building will be located west of the Engineering complex, convenient for the joint projects between Engineering and Physics.

Solheim commented that the building would displace recreation fields. The ASUN passed a bill [attached to the permanent record] requesting reimbursement for displaced recreation fields. Miller said project funds could not be used for that purpose but a possible alternate area would be opened by the demolition of the Reunion Building. Nunez said the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs would discuss the issue with ASUN.

Motion

The subcommittee's positive recommendation for the PIR served as motion and second. The APC voted unanimously to endorse it. [Miller and Kirby left.]

Issues from the Vice Chancellors

For APC's information Couture handed out a proposed revision of the Bylaws of the Board of

Regents [attached to the permanent record]. It adds a new Section 4.4.8 providing for the establishment of Faculty Practice and Faculty Research Appointments at UNL. The

amendment will go to the Academic Senate Executive Committee and then to the Regents for consideration at their June meeting.

Couture distributed tables tracking progress on the accreditation self-study and showing the number of meetings by the Steering Committee and the Task Forces [attached to the permanent record]. She said drafts of some chapters and appendices of the self-study were posted on the website <www.unl.edu/svcaa/accreditation>. Questions should be directed to the Chair of the Steering Committee, Jim O'Hanlon. Comments are invited before the end of May.

Couture gave the APC an update [attached to the permanent record] on the proposed General Education requirements. The first of four proposals has been completed for achieving the Institutional Objectives for Undergraduate General Education. It is posted on the web at <www.unl.edu/svcaa/gened>. Comments should be made to John Janovy, Chair of the General Education Planning Team.

Couture said the salary adjustment process has been initiated. There is money available to address salary inequities between UNL and its peers. The Chancellor solicited suggestions from the Deans and Chairs. Salary directives from Central Administration need to be clarified.

Fritz said Owens is on his way back from Washington, DC. He had no comments for the APC.

Other Business

Nunez said that Kramer was going to another position at UNL and this was her final APC meeting. He thanked her for her good work and service to the committee.

Mitchell thanked the members for serving on subcommittees and giving their time and talents to the APC. She particularly acknowledged Kettler's contributions. Kettler said it was a pleasure to be a member of the committee in a time without budget cuts.

Mitchell wished incoming APC Chair Ed Harvey well. She gave certificates of appreciation to those who were leaving the APC.

Nunez expressed the committee's appreciation for Mitchell's leadership during the year. The committee heartily agreed.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lona Kramer
APC Coordinator