

**University of Nebraska – Lincoln
Academic Planning Committee**

**Approved Minutes
February 7, 2007**

Members Present

F. Edwin Harvey	Robert S. Haller	Prem Paul
Craig Eckhardt	M. Susan Hallbeck	Barbara Couture
Jeffrey K. Keown	David Fowler	
David Solheim	Steven S. Waller	
William J. Nunez	Dwayne Ball	

Members Absent

Mary K. Bolin	Giacomo M. Oliva	Curtis A. Wray
John C. Owens		

Others Present

Amy Goodburn, Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
Steven Willborn, Dean, College of Law

Harvey called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Minutes

Approval of the Minutes from the January 24, 2007 meeting was moved by Ball. Haller seconded and the Minutes were approved without dissent. [Fowler arrived]

Subcommittee Appointment – Program Proposal for Professional LL.M. Degree in Space and Telecommunications Law

Harvey introduced guest, Steven Willborn, Dean of the Law College, and indicated to APC members that subcommittee members were needed and asked for volunteers. Ball, Haller, and Eckhardt volunteered to serve on this Review Subcommittee. Harvey asked Eckhardt to serve as the Chair of this committee. The appointments were supported by APC membership. Willborn informed the subcommittee members that he was very willing to meet with them. Eckhardt asked when the Review Subcommittee's report was due. Nunez informed him that generally proposals are reviewed during the two week period between meetings. If proposal approval is not urgent, additional time may be taken as needed. [Copy of full proposal attached to permanent record] [Willborn left]

Process for Textbook Orders

Nunez indicated that he inquired about the process for textbook ordering as requested by the committee from a previous discussion regarding the student referendum for tax-free textbooks in Nebraska. To date, he heard back from two of the three contacted – the Registrar Earl Hawkey and the Nebraska Bookstore. However, he did not receive a response from the textbook manager at the University bookstore.

According to the Registrar, the course schedule and instructor names are provide to the university bookstore each semester. The university bookstore then receives the textbook requests from the colleges and departments. In turn, the university bookstore provides this information to the Nebraska Bookstore. [Paul arrived]

What is still not clear is the process for obtaining textbook information and if that information is accessible to other stores in the state that may sell university textbooks. Nunez indicated that he will continue to try to get feedback from the textbook manager.

Project Initiation Request - Kiem Hall [Report attached to permanent record]

Nunez indicated that 3 years ago Institutional Research and Planning submitted a Capital Plan priority list on behalf of the University of Nebraska - Lincoln. The top priority was the Physical Science Complex. Also listed as the top project priorities were Animal Science, Sheldon, and Kiem Hall. [Couture arrived]

Nunez indicted UNL sought funding for deferred maintenance and the amount requested and provided is \$14 million. Nunez indicated that the project will essentially replace building mechanical and electrical systems and address the fire, life safety, and accessibility deficiencies. In addition, it will eliminate the presence of asbestos containing materials. With the large amount of demolition and replacement required for these renovations to take place, some internal building reconfigurations may occur to better meet the present and further programmatic needs of building occupants.

Paul spoke to say that he thinks that this renovation is a great idea and needed.

Hallbeck asked where the renovations fit into the hierarchy of needed repairs. Nunez answered that this particular renovation was a top priority identified in 2003-04. Hallbeck also asked if the USDA could in some capacity contribute to the cost of the project? Paul answered that the USDA does not generally provide funds for this kind of repair and is unaware of any sources of funds.

Eckhardt reiterated his concern about ensuring quality design for the project and accountability for the architect and contractor for a quality "end-product." He referenced new ventilation work in Hamilton Hall which makes building spaces very loud and people could hardly hear each other talking.

Harvey asked if there were any additional questions. There were none. Harvey called for a vote and APC members unanimously approved.

Issues from Vice Chancellors

Couture said that this is old news but regarding the NCA (North Central Association) Site Visit last November 6, 7 and 8, 2006, the Chancellor and Vice Chancellors now have seen the first draft of the report written by the external review team. The process now is that UNL will correct any errors on this report, the NCA will make the corrections, and then send the report back to UNL.

Couture said the first draft was very positive and assured that the Chancellor will share the report in the near future.

Couture spoke of the General Education Reform Initiative program and the status of support for the proposals. Couture stated the following colleges support the proposal, either in full or in part: Arts and Sciences (full); Architecture (part- yes on the first and no on the second; as of this date, Architecture is continuing discussion of the second proposal). In addition, Education and Human Science were in the process of a faculty vote and Engineering will be voting before the end of this month.

Couture reviewed the Program of Excellence (PoE) initiative. She indicated that past PoE recipients in the first round of funding were invited to submit proposals for renewed funding. Couture mentioned that more PoE money could be available next year, but we are waiting for next year's final budget from Central Administration.

Couture brought attention to the 2015 Vision sessions and said that various UNL faculty and staff had attended to date. Couture said these sessions were very interesting and invited faculty and staff to attend the final session at Scott Middle School as the university is a major stakeholder in the outcomes of the 2015 Vision plans.

Paul informed the group of two open meetings for faculty February 8th and 13th with NASA and the Department of Energy - Basic Energy Science program. Paul said the intent of the meetings is to inform faculty of opportunities with these agencies and for faculty to learn from each other.

Other Business

Eckhardt spoke of the remodel of two of the four floors of Hamilton Hall. Eckhardt said the difference between the remodeled versus the current floors is "like the ghetto versus park avenue apartments." Eckhardt believes attention should be given to the fact that the building occupants are distinguished people who might leave due to look of the building; additionally UNL might not be able to recruit. Eckhardt said this is a very serious problem that needs to be looked at.

Couture thanked Eckhardt for his comment. Couture indicated a process is now in place with the intent "bringing to light" these types of issues. The process steps include: 1) bringing the issue to the attention to the cognitive Dean; then to the Vice Chancellor; 2) if the request is approved by the cognizant chancellor, the request goes to SAT (Senior Administrative Team), who discuss priorities for fulfilling capital requests. Couture said that once the request is on the priority list, then programming occurs for an approved project when the source of funding is determined.

Couture asked Nunez if Chemistry was "on the radar?" Nunez replied that Hamilton Hall is on the capital projects plan but funding has not been identified.

Paul said that there is a huge need to address deferred maintenance all over the campus. Nunez indicated that the total amount of current deferred maintenance is well over \$300 million. Prem stated that the university needs good facilities to retain faculty and suggested that it is often easier to come up with money for a new building than to repair and remodel existing. [Guest, Amy

Goodburn arrives] Paul also indicated that Animal Research needs \$15 to \$20 million or runs the risk of a shutdown. Nunez confirmed there is a very extensive list. Couture agreed and said she is very aware of these many issues. She also indicated she would discuss the issue of Hamilton Hall with Dean Richard Hoffmann.

Proposal for a BS in Ethnic Studies [Report attached to permanent record]

Harvey introduced guest, Associate Dean Amy Goodburn. Goodburn stated that when the Ethnic Studies major was originally proposed in 2002, the designation of a BS degree option was accidentally omitted. This omission has caused problems with students wanting to double-major. This proposal will rectify this problem.

Eckhardt asked if there would be a difference in college requirements. Goodburn replied that will not require any changes to the current Ethnic Studies program as the addition of this degree option will “simply allow students to receive a BS degree instead of a BA degree, depending upon their completion of College of Arts and Sciences course requirements for each degree.”

Harvey called for a vote and APC members unanimously approved.

Proposal for a BS in Film Studies [Report attached to permanent record]

Goodburn indicated that the same oversight as Ethnic Studies was made on Film Studies that the designation of a BS degree option was accidentally omitted. This omission has caused problems with students wanting to double major. This proposal will rectify the problem.

Harvey read a handout from Oliva regarding a request to: 1) Correct proposal references to "The Johnny Carson School of Theatre and Film" and not the "Department of Theatre and Dance" and, 2) to see more specific references to the ways in which programs in Fine and Performing Arts “have collaborated successfully with Film Studies and specific ways which this BS (as well as the existing BA) in Film Studies might be enhanced in the future as a result of the interdisciplinary relationship that exists as those two programs continue to grow.” [handout attached to permanent record]

Fowler asked if the proposal could be changed to reflect Dean Oliva’s suggestions. Goodburn said she would do this and submit a revised proposal.

Eckhardt moved to accept the proposal with the changes as suggested by Dean Oliva applied. Ball seconded and the motion passed without dissent.

Harvey congratulated and thanked Goodburn. [Goodburn left]

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelly Green
APC Coordinator