

University of Nebraska – Lincoln
Academic Planning Committee

Approved Minutes
October 17, 2012

Members Present

Miles Taft Bryant	Stephen Lahey	Donde Plowman
Archie Clutter	Jared Leighton	Linda Shipley
Gerard Harbison, Chair	Christopher Marks	Ellen Weissinger
Mike Hoffman	Jack Morris	Curtis Weller
Libby Jones	William Nunez	

Members Absent

Ronnie Green	Martha McCollough
Eric Kamler	Prem S. Paul

Others Attending

Christine Jackson, Vice Chancellor, Business and Finance
Lance Perez, Associate Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs
Michael Zeleny, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Research
Dennis Molfese, Professor, Psychology; Director, Neuroimaging Center

Harbison stated a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

Proposed Privatization of University Health Center Discussion

Harbison indicated at APC's last meeting, the consensus of APC membership was to invite Vice Chancellor Christine Jackson to a meeting for discussion on the privatization of the University Health Center (UHC). He then welcomed Vice Chancellor Jackson.

Jackson said she would talk briefly about what is happening in this process, and then would answer any questions. [Clutter arrived] Jackson said in 2009 the students held a referendum regarding whether or not they would want a new health center. In the end, students were unwilling to pay for it by raising student fees. [Plowman arrived]

Jackson said the UHC has been challenged with how to stretch its budget and student fees. She noted the facility is outdated and the university does not have the money to replace it. She said Chancellor Harvey Perlman announced in his State of the University address the intent to investigate privatization with the goal of a new building for the UHC at 21st and Vine Streets. A request for proposal (RFP) was subsequently sent to outside health care providers.

Jackson said the RFP was due October 5 and only one medical provider, Bryan LGH Health System, responded to the University's request for proposal. She indicated UNL chose not to integrate CAPS (Counseling and Psychological Services) into the RFP as this will be maintained by UNL if we move forward. There is an RFP evaluation committee in the process of reviewing

Bryan's proposal now to determine if it is responsive. She explained if the committee determines it is responsive, then there will be a public presentation to the students, faculty and staff.

Jackson noted the University has been working closely with UHC Director Jim Guest and there is an undergraduate and a graduate student on the evaluation committee. She stated the current plan is this proposal will go before the Board of Regents at its January 25, 2013 meeting for review and approval as a proposed contract and business plan.

Harbison asked if there were any questions or comments.

Lahey inquired if the provider will own the building and do they pay the utilities, maintenance, taxes, etc. Jackson replied the provider will own the building under a long term ground lease and they are responsible to pay all costs associated with that building.

Bryant wondered in this process, if we were reaching out to see what other universities are doing. Jackson responded that some institutions maintain their own health centers, some partner with their Medical Center, some have outsourced successfully, while some have outsourced unsuccessfully then reverted to maintaining it themselves. She commented we are at the front end of this discussion and believes we will learn a lot more as we get through the RFP process. She noted the RFP contains a list of services currently offered that need to continue.

Hoffman wondered if the selected vendor provided sub-par health care, what is "plan B?" Jackson replied she doesn't know exactly what a plan B would look like at this point. She said there would be an advisory committee and a medical board that would oversee and noted this is a very standard practice and configuration.

Leighton asked if the RFP committee meetings were open to the students and if there will be a student referendum. Jackson replied no, the RFP committee meetings are not open to anyone; the RFP process is a confidential process and reminded there are students, staff, and faculty members on the advisory committee. She said there will not be a student referendum.
[Weissinger, Perez and Molfese arrived]

Weller said he was curious if the APC will play a role in this transition. Weissinger answered this is a reasonable question and she believes ultimately this is a question for the Chancellor. She said her understanding on this position, and in previous APC conversations, it was determined that this is not an academic matter thus the APC would not be involved in any formalized review. She stated as this process moves forward, either Jackson, her, or perhaps Nunez could brief the APC on the resolution.

Harbison asked if there were further comments, questions, or discussion and there was none. Harbison thanked Jackson and she thanked the APC. [Jackson left]

Digital Measures Discussion

Harbison welcomed Perez, who had been asked to speak to the APC on Digital Measures.

Perez stated to clarify Digital Measures is the company and Activity Insight™ is the product. He communicated information on this product is located on the SVCAA web page under Programs and Initiatives.

Perez said Activity Insight™ is a software program that allows faculty to record their research, teaching, and service activities so, in a sense, a digital CV (curriculum vitae) tool. He said this program has been on campus for approximately 6 years.

Perez told the College of Business Administration has used the program extensively for some time and recently used during its reaccreditation process. He conveyed the College of Journalism and Mass Communications and the College of Architecture have now adopted this program, and that this program currently is being implemented in the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources (IANR). The Hixson-Lied College of Fine and Performing Arts will begin implementation this spring.

Perez communicated this program has matured a lot in the last 5 years. He said, for example, now this program can generate CV's in different styles as well as generate reports and white papers and publications and can automatically populate a web page.

Perez asked if there were any questions or comments.

Morris commented that the College of Arts and Sciences was not mentioned for implementation. Perez replied, that is correct and added there is a lot of complexity to have an entire campus adopt at once and this College is a very complex college. Weissinger added the adoption of the product is a college decision, it is not mandated.

Harbison inquired if the Colleges were using this product for things like compiling reports for annual evaluations. Plowman replied yes, we use Digital Measures extensively and we will continue to improve how we use it. She commented this really can reduce for the faculty the effort involved in the annual review and it is very useful.

Clutter commented the response from faculty during the trial in IANR and in some Arts and Sciences departments was positive. [Zeleny arrived]

Marks remarked the APC has had previous discussion on possibly looking at the promotion and tenure process to see if this process could be streamlined and that this product seems to be of great benefit to the productivity of the university. Weissinger said maybe sometime next spring, after additional colleges are live, Perez could return to the APC with potentially a faculty unit representative to discuss again.

Lahey asked if there was a cost to the College for this product. Perez replied no, this has already been purchased at the university level.

Harbison asked if there were further comments or questions. He commented the APC may revisit this topic in the spring. Weissinger remarked that Academic Affairs is happy to facilitate in the process of building. Harbison thanked Perez.

[For reference Digital Measures Activity Insight™ is located at the following URL:
http://www.unl.edu/svcaa/priorities/digital_measures.shtml]

Proposal on Center for Brain, Biology and Behavior

Harbison introduced the proposal [attached to permanent record] and acknowledged guests Michael Zeleny and Dennis Molfese. He stated Hoffman and Marks were the subcommittee that reviewed this proposal and asked Hoffman to further discuss this agenda item.

Hoffman informed they had reviewed the proposal to establish the Center for Brain, Biology and Behavior (CB3) and had concerns and questions and had contacted Zeleny and Molfese. He said this subcommittee recommends further discussion before they recommend approval.

Weller noted there were two proposals posted on Blackboard. Hoffman informed the proposal had been revised. Zeleny stated the changes are in response to the subcommittee concerns and questions.

Hoffman stated at the risk of oversimplifying, this proposal is for five years of support for a cross-disciplinary center focusing on getting people from different academic units to work together in a focused way by reaching to different fields including social sciences, biological, behavioral and engineering sciences. He said the proposal essentially asks for support for a cluster of new faculty and research staff positions and, besides the personnel, there is also a request for the equipment itself, which is a major component in the early years and then support for that equipment for years 1-5. [Perez left]

Brief discussion ensued. Molfese expressed this is a very unique facility with a unique collaboration with Athletics and brings together some of the most distinguished faculty. He believes there are endless opportunities for collaborations. He said this Center is planned as a broadly based interdisciplinary research center, whose principal goal is to become internationally recognized and competitive in the area of the biological basis of social behavior.

Harbison stated he would entertain a motion to approve.

Approval of the proposal from the Office of Research and Economic Development to establish the University of Nebraska–Lincoln Center for Brain, Biology and Behavior was moved by Bryant and seconded by Jones.

Harbison inquired if there was any other discussion, comments or questions and there were none. He called for a vote. The APC voted unanimously to approve this proposal.

Harbison thanked and congratulated Zeleny and Molfese and they thanked the APC. [Zeleny and Molfese left]

Approval of October 3, 2012 Meeting Minutes

Approval of the Minutes from the October 3, 2012 general meeting was moved by Jones and seconded by Marks.

Harbison asked if there were any questions or comments and there were none. The Minutes were approved without dissent.

Academic Program Review Monitor Appointment – Department of Physics and Astronomy

Harbison indicated that a member was needed as an Academic Program Review (APR) monitor to the Department of Physics and Astronomy from March 3-6, 2013.

Harbison asked for a volunteer. Lahey volunteered to serve as the ARP monitor. The appointment was supported by APC membership.

Academic Program Review Monitor Appointment – Department of Computer Science and Engineering

Harbison indicated that a member was needed as an APR monitor to the Department of Computer Science and Engineering from March 24-27, 2013.

Harbison asked for a volunteer. Hoffman volunteered to serve as the ARP monitor. The appointment was supported by APC membership.

Matters from Vice Chancellors - Academic Affairs, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources (IANR), and Research and Economic Development

Harbison asked Weissinger or Clutter (on behalf of Green) if they had any matters to share.

Weissinger stated that she had no matters to share.

Clutter stated that Vice Chancellor Green was out of town and that he did not have any matters to convey on behalf of Green; however he would like to mention a couple of items. These items are: 1) a new Dean of Extension, Chuck Hibbard, who started October 1st and, 2) a new Department Head in Biological Systems Engineering, Mark Riley, who started two days ago. He said IANR is also moving forward on the previously announced faculty positions. He indicated he is communicating with Associate Vice Chancellor Sunil Narumalani in Academic Affairs in order to work across campus and to improve internal practices for searches.

Other Business

Bryant indicated he and Lahey were the subcommittee reviewing the proposal on Juridical Sciences Doctor in Space Law. He stated this subcommittee is prepared to bring this proposal back to the full APC for its consideration at the next meeting. He expressed this is an interesting proposal. He asked that the Dean or appropriate representative be invited to this meeting. Coordinator Green will send this invitation.

Harbison asked if there was any other business and there was none.

There being no other business, Marks and Jones seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m. The next meeting of the Academic Planning Committee will be held on Wednesday, November 7, 2012, at 3:00 p.m. in the City Campus Union.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle (Shelly) Green
APC Coordinator