

University of Nebraska – Lincoln
Academic Planning Committee

Approved Minutes
May 2, 2007

Members Present

F. Edwin Harvey	Robert S. Haller	Dwayne Ball
Barbara Couture	David Fowler	David Solheim
William J. Nunez	Mary K. Bolin	Jeffrey F. Keown

Members Absent

Craig Eckhardt	M. Susan Hallbeck	Sarah Morris
Steven S. Waller	Prem Paul	
Giacomo M. Oliva	John C. Owens	

Others Present

Susan M. Fritz, Associate Vice Chancellor, IANR, and Associate Dean, College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, for John Owens
Andrew John (Jamie) Radcliffe, Member-elect, Associate Professor, Mathematics

Harvey called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

Minutes

Approval of the Minutes from the April 18, 2007 meeting was moved by Ball. Haller seconded and the Minutes were approved without dissent.

Introduction of New Members [Handout attached to permanent record]

Nunez reviewed the academic year 2007-2008 APC membership list and introduced the four new members to the Academic Planning Committee. [Solheim arrived] [Radcliffe arrived] The new members are as follows:

Faculty Representation

John Bender, College of Journalism and Mass Communication (representing Arts and Humanities)
Jamie Radcliff, College of Arts and Sciences (representing Physical Sciences)

Academic Dean Representation

David Allen, College of Engineering

ASUN (the Association of Students of the University of Nebraska) Representative

Sarah Morris, ASUN Graduate.

Acknowledgement of Members Departing APC

Harvey acknowledged and thanked the following members for their service:

M. Susan Hallbeck, College of Engineering (representing Physical Sciences)
Robert S. Haller, College of Arts and Sciences (representing Arts and Humanities)

APR Monitor Appointment – Computer and Electronic Engineering in Omaha

Harvey indicated to APC that a member was needed as an APR (Academic Program Review) monitor to the department of Computer and Electronic Engineering and asked for a volunteer. Nunez reminded members that this review would be held in Omaha, Nebraska and there might possibly be an overnight stay. Ball stated that this would be during classes. Keown tentatively volunteered to serve as the APR monitor depending on his re-appointment to APC. The appointment was supported by APC membership.

Update on University Academy [Handout attached to permanent record]

Harvey informed APC that he received an email from Oliva, who was unable to attend the meeting, to update APC members concerning steps taken during the Spring 2007 term with respect to the formation of a University Academy at UNL.

The following is an excerpt from this email:

“Based on the positive response and enthusiasm that was evident when the University Academy concept was presented at the APC meeting this past November, the following conversations have taken place or have been scheduled:

- Meeting with SVCAA to discuss strategies regarding next steps;
- Meeting with the Academic Deans to confirm a) their continuing support for the plan; b) their willingness to assist with support resources for releasing faculty; and c) their assistance with our efforts to develop a process for soliciting proposals and selecting courses during the trial period;
- Meeting with David Wilson, Associate VCAA, to identify other groups that should be included in the conversation;
- Meeting with Teaching Council;
- Meeting with Senate Executive Committee (*planned and arranged for May 16, 2007*); and
- Meeting with GEAC (*TBA in early summer*)

Harvey said that once in place, they envision turning over to a faculty group. Harvey noted that he will send this email to Nunez for posting on the APC Blackboard site.

Diversity Committee Appointment

Harvey informed APC that an appointment was needed to the Diversity Committee as Haller's term on this committee had come to an end. Ball volunteered serve on this committee. His appointment was supported by APC membership.

APC Representative APR Report for Statistics [Report attached to permanent record]

Harvey noted that in addition to this Department reporting to deans for the agricultural experiment station (Agricultural Research Division, ARD), the College of Agricultural Science and Natural Resources, and CAS, this department is part of the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) program. For this reason USDA is listed on the review. Harvey stated that the review went very well though there were a few concerns such as: 1) departmental leadership is too involved in day-to-day operations and 2) the department needs to focus more on envisioning the future. Harvey indicated that he believed the department is moving forward on the review teams list of recommendations. Fritz concurred with Harvey stating that the Department of Statistics is following through on the recommendations made by the review team.

APC Representative APR Report for Physics and Astronomy [Report attached to permanent record]

Harvey indicated that this review went very smoothly with no major problems. He mentioned a couple of specific concerns identified by the review team, which are: 1) work on improving the flow of information for graduate students as at times there is uncertainty and 2) work on the timing of the comprehensive exam procedure for graduate students. Harvey noted that the exam procedure issue has been addressed and the testing is more systematic. No further follow-up or hearings are required.

Harvey asked if there were any questions or comments and there were none.

APC Representative APR Report for Educational Psychology [Report attached to permanent record]

Bolin stated that she enjoyed participation on this review team and noted the self-study went very well. She agreed with the assessment that the department is outstanding. Bolin mentioned some specific recommendations from the APR team:

- Consider QQPM (Quantitative, Qualitative, and Psychometric Methods) program directions, using a “window of opportunity” (caused by the departure of some faculty and new leadership at the Buros Institute) to collaborate with others;
- Explore expansion of online courses, considering quality, student feedback, and so on

Bolin thought that staff worked well together and believes that good progress has been made since its last APR. Bolin said there is no need for a hearing.

Bolin asked if there were any questions or comments and there were none.

Issues from Vice Chancellors

Couture stated that she would update on three topics.

Salary Process

Couture informed members there was no news to date on the salary process. Couture stated she will meet with Chancellor Perlman soon and noted that a decision will be forthcoming as it is “getting late in the season.”

PoE Funding

Couture advised members that she received no response to date on the PoE funding recommendations. They were submitted to Provost Linda Pratt and we are waiting for a response. PoE funding for AY2007-08 will be dedicated to funding initiatives in the Life Sciences.

Incoming Freshmen

Couture reported that enrollment numbers for freshman this coming fall term are expected to be up from last year. Couture said the early projections indicate several hundred more students which would bring the incoming 2007-2008 freshmen class to 4,000 students. Couture stated that this will bring us closer to the Strategic Plan and Board of Regents Strategic Framework which targets a 1.5% enrollment increase for all NU institutions.

Harvey asked if there were any questions for Couture and there were none.

Fritz informed members that she and David Wilson attended a meeting of the North Central Higher Learning Commission Spring Meeting in Chicago. She indicated that many individuals who either had reviewed UNL's accreditation document or were members of the review team approached them about the

high quality report and overall process. The response to the report was overwhelmingly positive and was informed that several institutions were following UNL's example.

Harvey conveyed Oliva's email message. In this email, Oliva apologized for not being able to attend the last APC meeting as he was traveling with the Chiara String Quartet but expressed his appreciation of serving on APC and what a pleasure it has been.

Nunez informed new members that packets were prepared and will be received via campus mail within the week. Nunez pointed out that Blackboard, as well as the Academic Planning Committee website, is an excellent resource for all APC documents.

Fowler conveyed that he likes Blackboard, not only as a resource for APC documents, but also for the links to APR (Academic Program Review) documents.

Harvey asked if there were any questions or further comments. There were none.

Introduction of new APC Chair

Harvey expressed that he greatly enjoyed serving as the Chair of APC and has learned a great deal from this experience. Harvey stated that looking back over this past term, he feels good about what this committee has done and how quickly this committee completed important university business.

Harvey introduced Bolin as the new APC Chair and introduced a gavel that he had prepared for the new Chair and all subsequent APC Chairs. Harvey read the engraving from Justin Smith Morrill, "I have aimed only to promote the greatest good for the greatest number. Harvey said this quote embodies what this committee is about.

Bolin thanked Harvey for his introduction and the gavel. Bolin stated that Harvey would be a "hard act to follow".

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle (Shelly) Green
APC Coordinator