

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Present: Anaya, Bender, Nickerson, Purdum, Reisbig, Rinkevich, Ruchala, Schubert, Woodman, Wysocki, Zoubek

Absent: Guevara, LaCost, Purdum

Date: Wednesday, July 25, 2012

Location: 201 Administration Building

Note: These are not verbatim minutes. They are a summary of the discussions at the Executive Committee meeting as corrected by those participating.

1.0 Call to Order

Schubert called the meeting to order at 3:03 pm.

2.0 Chancellor Perlman

2.1 Plans for Searches for Dean of Journalism and Dean of Libraries

Chancellor Perlman reported that a search for the Dean of Libraries will probably not take place this year. This will allow the faculty time to think about the future direction of the Libraries. He noted that there is confidence in the Interim Dean and that she will handle the position well.

Chancellor Perlman stated that it is not clear where we want to go with the Journalism College and the faculty would benefit in having time to think about what direction it wants to take. He pointed out that Interim Dean O'Hanlon has experience in helping colleges go through this process and will be very helpful to the Journalism College.

2.2 Fall Enrollment Figures

Chancellor Perlman stated that enrollment figures are likely to be slightly down this fall although he does not have the exact figures at this time. He noted that the consequences of the decreased enrollment are mostly financial.

2.3 Update on UNL Oversight/Policies to Monitor Athletics - Possible Big Ten Fallout from Penn State Scandal

Chancellor Perlman noted that Penn State has accepted the Freeh report, although he is not sure whether they have accepted the characterization of university officials. He pointed out that there are always risks with intercollegiate athletics, but it is not a risk that we don't have institutional control over. He noted that athletics is a very visible and sometimes controversial enterprise, with a lot of money going towards it which creates great disparity between athletics and the academic side of the institution. He pointed out that having 95,000 people in one place at a given time creates considerable risks.

Chancellor Perlman reported that he believes we have as much oversight over athletics that we can have. He noted that we have a very strong and experienced faculty athletic

representative in Professor Jo Potuto and as much as there is discussion about the Chancellors and Presidents having control over athletics, the faculty athletic representative plays a significant role in the process as well.

Chancellor Perlman stated that six or seven years ago he created an intercollegiate athletics review committee and this committee, which includes the faculty athletic representative, an outside lawyer appointed by the General Counsel, the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, and others appointed by the Chancellor and can be called if there is an issue that arises in athletics that needs to be resolved. He pointed out that this review committee is designed to create an independent oversight of athletics and would have full authority to investigate any issue in athletics. He stated that he believes the university is set up well to handle any problems and that we have a good history with athletics. He believes there is also a good culture in athletics at UNL.

Chancellor Perlman reported that the Presidents and Chancellors of the Big Ten schools are considering a document that would assure greater degree of institutional control over athletics. He noted that the one aspect of the draft document that received so much attention would be the ability of the Big Ten Athletic Commissioner to fire a football coach, but this will not be included in the policy. He pointed out that a conference can now provide some indirect control of athletics at member institutions. For instance, a majority of the schools in a conference could state that they will leave a conference if a particular university does not address a problem. He noted the effort of creating the document is to ask the Boards of the institutions to create a policy with respect to the chain of command of intercollegiate athletics. He reported that the policy would list the responsibilities of the various individuals that control athletics and who they report to. This would include the coaches, the faculty athletic representative, the Chancellor, and the President. He stated that the question is how prescriptive the policy should be and whether each of the Big Ten universities should develop their own policy. He stated that he is inclined to think that each school should develop its own policy but all of the policies would be made public. He stated that the policy would be required for all Big Ten universities and would show how decisions are made at each institution. He pointed out that he thinks the Big Ten will be the leader in this initiative which is appropriate since two of the major universities in the conference are on probation. Nickerson asked if the Intercollegiate Athletics Committee would be involved in any way. Chancellor Perlman noted that this is an active committee that already is involved in overseeing schedules and some athletics policies. He stated that from the Board's perspective their audit committee, which has overseen the financial aspects of athletics, might be involved.

Woodman asked if compliance officers have to report to the coaches or to someone else. Chancellor Perlman stated that they do not report to the coaches. The compliance staff reports to the athletics director and the faculty athletics representative.

Nickerson asked if head coaches have faculty status. Chancellor Perlman stated that they are not considered faculty members. Nickerson asked if the coaches' position description state that they are faculty members. Chancellor Perlman indicated he didn't think so.

Chancellor Perlman stated that the Freeh report contains a long list of recommendations and Penn State has agreed to adopt all of them. He stated that the Big Ten Chancellors and Presidents are looking at the recommendations and will systematically go through each one to see if there are things that are relevant to the other Big Ten schools. He noted that the report is very prescriptive as it relates specifically to Penn State and the recommendations are appropriate for a university that has violations. He stated that he is inclined to think that not all of the recommendations are needed at UNL and perhaps some of the other Big Ten universities.

Chancellor Perlman pointed out that currently there is a draft policy on campus pertaining to youth camps and activities on campus. He suspects that by September we will be in a position to finalize and accept the policy. He noted that although we are already doing the things outlined in the policy to insure protection of youths on campus, the document will be a policy statement that must be followed.

2.4 Senate Efforts to Encourage Faculty Members to Apply for Nationally Recognized Faculty Awards

Schubert reported that the Executive Committee discussed at its annual retreat how to help the campus achieve the Chancellor's goal of increasing national and international awards for faculty members. He stated that the Executive Committee thought it might be useful to have faculty members who have achieved these awards, or are members of prestigious organizations, to identify faculty members who have the qualifications to attain these awards and to encourage them to apply for them. He noted that some of the mid-level faculty members might find it difficult to ask people who already have achieved these awards for a recommendation. He asked if the Chancellor would like to be involved in this effort. Nickerson pointed out that the Executive Committee does not want to interfere with any efforts that the Chancellor might be working on.

Chancellor Perlman stated that SVCAA Weissinger, Vice Chancellor Paul, and Vice Chancellor of the Institute Ronnie Green, are working on this effort but he accepts the Executive Committee's offer to help and as we move forward he will certainly take advantage of this help. He stated that we need to develop a list of faculty members that have achieved awards and we need to create a culture where these people are respected for their achievements. The amount of assistance that can be given depends on the award. He noted that for some awards people have to go to the conferences and the applications for the awards can be lengthy and tedious to complete, adding additional work to a faculty member's workload. However, experience with the student awards show that with the encouragement of others, we can be successful.

Griffin noted that the Executive Committee discussed having Associate Vice Chancellor Brian Larkins speak to the Senate. Chancellor Perlman thought this is a good idea and pointed out that one of Associate VC Larkins' tasks is to be alert for faculty members who could be in contention for these prestigious awards.

Chancellor Perlman stated that he will address the goals in his State of the University Address this September. He noted that in the next year or two we will need to produce

success with some of the goals. He believes that the deans have bought into the goals and pointed out that it would be helpful if the faculty did as well. He stated that he might ask the Senate to assist with this.

Woodman asked if there has been an increase in enrollment with students from targeted cities where investments have been made in recruiting. Chancellor Perlman stated that the figures have not come in yet. He does know there will be some decline in Nebraska students because of the demographics of the state. He stated that he thinks non-resident and international student numbers are up but not as drastically as they need to be. He stated that Archrival has been hired as an advertising consulting. He noted that they excel in advertising in young markets. He reported that Archrival has UNL alumni working there and they are currently working on a major campaign for Lincoln and the university is going to tie into this campaign. He stated that with the younger generation, where you live is the primary interest and where you work is the secondary interest. He stated that there will be advertisements for UNL during nationally aired football games and pointed out that these advertisements will be geared to a younger generation.

Wysocki asked if the Chancellor plans on utilizing the UNL departments located in Omaha more for recruiting students. Chancellor Perlman noted that this is a very hard question because he would like nothing better than to increase enrollments in these units, but it is difficult to figure out an effective recruiting strategy because the agreement that was made when these units were moved to Omaha is that the UNO recruitment office would handle recruiting efforts. He stated that he believes the Vice Chancellors from UNL and UNO met this summer and have made an agreement on how to handle the recruitment for these programs.

Nickerson suggested that an effective recruiting tool could be comparing UNL rates with other universities. He noted that he recently returned from a sabbatical where he was in Seattle, and the University of Washington had a 16% increase in tuition rates this year and had at least a 10% increase in tuition rates for the past several years.

2.5 Issues on the Horizon

Chancellor Perlman reported that he recently reviewed possible budget scenarios for the 2013 fiscal year. He noted that if there is another tuition shortfall for this coming year, we could be facing nearly a \$6 million deficit but if .5% of salary increases and benefits are held back it would reduce the deficit to approximately \$4,400,000. If there is no additional tuition shortfall the deficit would be about \$5,000,000 and with .5% of salary increases and benefits held back this figure could be reduced to about \$3,400,000. He reported that these figures include UNL's share of the University-wide deficit reallocation of \$1,915,000. He stated that he does not know at this time how we will address this shortfall and whether the budget cutting process will need to be invoked. He stated that he hopes to have a better handle on this before his State of the University Address.

Chancellor Perlman pointed out that the campus is trying to produce revenue streams but the major revenue stream is tuition. He noted that UNL is seeking a developer for the

parking garage east of the 17th and R Street garage that could produce some revenue, possibly in the form of having rental units for housing on the top of the garage, similar to the new building constructed downtown at 14th and Q streets. He noted that Ohio State University recently sold its parking to a private developer which brought in significant funds to the university.

Chancellor Perlman reported that September 28 is a big day for agriculture and all land grant universities because it is when UNL will celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Morrill Act. He stated that IANR wants to celebrate this and will be having numerous events throughout the week including having former Secretaries of Agriculture coming to speak and possibly the ground breaking of Innovation Campus.

Chancellor Perlman reported that we are in the planning stages to do something with the Brace and Behlen buildings on city campus. He noted that Brace is the second oldest building on campus and has a historical attraction to it, but it is an unusual building in that it has no restrooms unless it is connected to Behlen. He reported that the Board approved a national defense initiative that would secure funding from the Department of Defense. If Defense funding is received we may need a secure facility to conduct classified research and Behlen is already somewhat of a secure facility. He stated that there is some one-time funding available from the Jorgenson project that can be used for the renovations. He stated that with the renovations Brace would become a teaching facility. He noted that introduction to the life sciences classes could be held there, thus taking pressure off of Manter Hall. He pointed out that with the Brace renovation we could get a 160 seat classroom and the educational technology units that are currently housed in Architecture could be moved to Brace. He stated that Brace could be a hub for teaching enterprises.

Nickerson asked if the renovation of Brace would be an alternative to the proposed addition to Manter Hall. Chancellor Perlman stated that it wouldn't be an alternative but it would be a stop gap measure that would allow us more time to raise funds for the Manter addition.

3.0 Announcements

3.1 No Executive Committee Meeting on August 8

The Executive Committee meeting for August 8 is cancelled because many of the members will be out of town.

4.0 Approval of 7/11/12 Minutes

Ruchala called for approval of the minutes as revised. The motion was seconded by Nickerson. Rinkevich called the question. The motion to approve the minutes was approved.

5.0 Unfinished Business

5.1 Survey of Non-tenured Faculty Members

Schubert stated that after reading the minutes from the last meeting he realized the Executive Committee cannot compile a list of recommendations in time for the

September Senate meeting because the topic needs more discussion and agreement. He stated that he thinks the Executive Committee should compile a list of recommendations regarding what rights the non-tenure track faculty members should have, even if the recommendation is just making them aware of their rights.

Woodman suggested breaking down the recommendations into a few categories specifically for each meeting so discussion is more focused. Wysocki agreed and stated that currently the same topics are being discussed each week. He suggested that the Committee come to agreement on the topics to be discussed and then look at existing policies in the departments to see which have the best practices.

Bender suggested that a subcommittee be appointed to develop a list of topics. The subcommittee could then review the college and department bylaws to identify which have the best practices. Schubert asked what the composition of the subcommittee would be. Bender suggested two or three Executive Committee members. He volunteered to serve on the subcommittee as did Woodman and Ruchala. Reisbig stated that she would be glad to help with the qualitative data of the survey.

Schubert reported that he is planning to give a summary of the survey to the Senate.

5.2 Draft of Executive Committee Goals

The Executive Committee reviewed and made further revisions to the goals. The final revisions will be reviewed at the August 22 Executive Committee meeting.

5.3 Follow up on Meeting with Information Services

Woodman reported that he received a follow-up letter on his meeting with Todd Jensen of Information Services regarding classroom administrative rights for faculty members. He stated that identified faculty members will be able to install software, updates, etc. on classroom computers but in order to provide security and protection of other instructors using the computers the changes will be temporary and will be lost after rebooting the system. He noted that currently the privileges are only on windows computers, but Information Services is looking into a similar solution for MacOS machines.

Woodman reported that in addition to the administrative rights, by the fall semester IS will be regularly updating computers at specific intervals: security updates will occur within 24 hours of release; browser plugin updates will occur weekly; and all other updates will occur quarterly to allow for verification of compatibility and institutional systems. Furthermore, IS and Academic Affairs will collaborate to develop a communication plan that informs the Senate about changes in classrooms and other general purpose learning spaces. He stated that IS is willing to meet one-on-one with faculty in a classroom to address individual needs prior to the beginning of the fall semester.

6.0 New Business

Schubert noted that he received an email message regarding health concerns of faculty members working in research labs. He pointed out that we have an environmental

protection office on campus but he is not sure whether regular testing is done for dangerous materials. Woodman noted that the Environmental Health and Safety Office will come out and conducts tests if you request it. Ruchala suggested that the Executive Committee ask facilities if they do systematic tests for radon and other hazardous chemicals. Schubert suggested that the Executive Committee look further into this issue as it affects faculty members across campus.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be on Wednesday, August 22 at 3:00 pm. The meeting will be held in 201 Administration. The minutes are respectfully submitted by Karen Griffin, Coordinator and David Woodman, Secretary.