

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Present: Anaya, Bender, Guevara, Konecky, Nickerson, Purcell, Rinkevich, Sollars, Steffen, Sollars, Woodman, Wysocki

Absent: Joeckel, Rudy

Date: Tuesday, April 7, 2015 (immediately following the Faculty Senate meeting)

Location: East Campus Union, Arbor Suite

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

Nickerson called the meeting to order at 4:32.

2.0 Approval of April 1, 2015 Minutes

Guevara moved for approval of the minutes as revised. Purcell seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

3.0 Unfinished Business

3.1 Report on the Information Technologies Services Committee's findings on the Vice Chancellor for Information Services and CIO Position (Woodman)

Woodman reported that the ITSC recently met and was in agreement with the Chancellor's request to elevate CIO Askren's position to Vice Chancellor for Information Services and Chief Information Officer. He pointed out that the ITSC felt that this change would give CIO Askren a more visible seat, not only within the UNL administration, but also in the CIC. He noted that in terms of spending for information technology UNL is at the bottom of the Big Ten. Purcell asked if this is because all of our funding comes from student fees. Woodman stated that this is correct and a reason why the fees continue to increase.

Wysocki stated that he is really against giving a Vice Chancellor title to non-academics. Woodman pointed out that there is a trend at universities to move the CIO's into a Vice Chancellor position and half of the Big Ten have already made this change. He stated that he believes there is a solid argument justifying the change. He pointed out that information technology is a strategy that needs to be addressed and changing CIO Askren's position to Vice Chancellor gives him a seat at the meetings of the upper administration. Wysocki argued that there is nothing in place that would prevent the Chancellor from inviting the CIO to any of the Chancellor's meetings. Steffen noted that the Chancellor can have anyone at the meeting whenever he wants, but the advantage to the change would be that CIO Askren is always included in the discussions. Woodman agreed and pointed out that information technologies is an integral part of the university. Wysocki stated that he does not buy the argument that there needs to be a change in the

title for the person to be at the table. Griffin noted that VC Jackson is a non-academic, but has been Vice Chancellor of Business and Finance for many years. Sollars pointed out that the argument that this change would set a precedent cannot be used.

Steffen asked if the faculty has an interest in having the CIO at the table. Konecky stated that functionally she thinks the change needs to be made. She pointed out that not only does the CIO interact with the campus, the person frequently will be meeting with people in similar positions in the CIC. Guevara noted that information technology has expanded tremendously over the years and he thinks that CIO Askren needs to be at the same level as information officers are other universities, although he is concerned with the increase in administration. Nickerson stated that he supports the change because of how large the information technology enterprise is becoming. Woodman stated that CIO Askren's pay will probably be affected, but he thinks the change is mostly the Chancellor recognizing the importance and need of information technology.

Bender moved that the Executive Committee recommend to the full Senate that the change be approved as recommended by the Chancellor. Motion seconded by Purcell. The motion was approved: 9 in favor, 2 against.

Nickerson reported that the Chancellor would like to present the change in title to the Board of Regents at the June 12 meeting. Since April 28 is the last meeting of the full Senate until September, he wants to present the motion to the Senate as an emergency motion.

Woodman reported that Unizen, the new learning management system company, is being proposed for the June 12th meeting. He noted that there is a time limit for when we can sign up with them as a founding member which will provide us with more benefits. Woodman stated that the ITSC also had no objection to the threat warning system being tested in the School of Natural Resources.

5.2 Executive Committee Nominees

Griffin reported that another candidate is needed to run for election to the Executive Committee. The Committee discussed possible nominees.

6.0 New Business

No new business was discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:44 p.m. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be on Wednesday, April 15, 2015 at 3:00 pm. The meeting will be held in the Faculty Senate Office. The minutes are respectfully submitted by Karen Griffin, Coordinator and Tad Wysocki, Secretary.