EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

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

Absent: Wysocki

Date: Wednesday, January 21, 2015

Location:

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 3:05 pm.

2.0 Proposed University Health Center and College of Nursing Building – Jill Lynch, Nebraska Medicine, Brian Larson, UNL Facilities, and Jim Yankech, University Health Center

Nickerson stated that the Executive Committee has the opportunity to contribute input into the services and design of the proposed UHC/College of Nursing facility. Lynch stated that she definitely wants the Committee members to know that she, Larson, and Yankech are interested in their input and would like them to share the information from this meeting with their colleagues. She stated that she is from Nebraska Medicine which is taking over the operation of the University Health Center (UHC). She pointed out that UHC is still for UNL and Nebraska Medicine wants to build collaborations with the campus. She noted that the UHC is for the students, but one of the things they would like to learn is whether to expand some services to faculty and staff members.

Woodman asked if Nebraska Medicine is the same as UNMC. Lynch stated that Nebraska Medicine is a non-profit organization that is not a federal or state agency. She stated that the Nebraska Medical Center, Bellevue Medical Center, and UNMC Physicians were once separate but inter-connected organizations. Nebraska Medicine now oversees all three. Woodman asked if it is a private organization. Lynch stated that it is, but it is operated by the Board of Regents and the Clarkson Board. She pointed out that UNMC Chancellor Gold is president of Nebraska Medicine. She stated that many things can be gained with UNL’s UHC being operated by Nebraska Medicine, such as more medical expertise.

Nickerson asked if the UHC is being designed for use by students, faculty, and staff. Lynch stated that it is moving into this area. She noted that Chancellors Gold and Perlman want to know about involving faculty and staff members to a certain degree with the UHC. She stated that the idea is not to provide primary care for faculty/staff, but there might be more opportunities that the pharmacy can offer and possibly a minute clinic for small medical emergencies. Joeckel asked if wellness efforts would be included. Lynch stated that she wants to gather information from the faculty and staff
whether they want increased wellness services and how the UHC can better serve the faculty and staff.

Rudy reported that he is a member of the Chancellor’s Committee for Wellness. He stated that most people just think of the UHC for flu shots and a blood draw once a year. He asked if other services are being considered. Lynch stated that there could be a lot of collaboration with the existing wellness services and she believes the UHC has done a great job of outreach this year. Rudy noted that Kimberly Barrett, Assistant Director for Wellness Services and Fitness Programs, would probably like to collaborate with the UHC. Lynch noted that she has already had some communications with Barrett.

Joeckel asked how much feedback the group is looking for and whether there is information that can be easily circulated. Lynch stated that a small information presentation could be created. She stated that there could be more forums and noted that there have been several with students. She stated that more feedback will be solicited as the building process progresses.

Larson reported that he will be the project manager. He noted that UNMC is heading up the program statement and currently efforts are in place to pull all of the plans together so the program statement can be presented to the Board of Regents at their June 5 meeting. He stated that once the program statement is approved design and architectural firms will be hired. Yankech noted that the hope is to have the facility completed by 2017/2018 and the proposed location is the parking lot to the south of the Beadle Center. Nickerson asked if an alternate parking location is being considered. Larson noted that they will be meeting with Director of Parking & Transit Services Dan Carpenter next week. He pointed out that the problem is that wherever the building is put it will be further from the center of campus and parking and transit issues need to be considered. Joeckel suggested that the facility be closer to where the students live. Steffen pointed out that patient parking by the health center is important. Larson noted that this issue was also raised by the students.

Woodman stated that the loss of the Beadle surface parking could mean increased parking costs for faculty, staff, and students as there will be pressure to build another parking garage. He pointed out that the cost of parking is already difficult for many staff members and asked if there is any assurance that our parking fees will not be affected by the construction of this building. Konecky stated that in the past construction did not pay for parking, although that has changed with some buildings. She asked if the loss of parking will be included in with the cost of the facility. Larson stated that this typically occurs on a case-by-case basis and he does not know if this has been determined yet.

Guevara asked if the parking lot south of Beadle is the only location that is being considered. Larson stated that it is the primary location. Lynch stated that there will be a meeting next week to look at other possibilities, but the Chancellors seem pretty set on this location. Woodman noted that East Campus has been talked about for the Nursing College because it would be close by the Dentistry College and separating the Nursing College from the UHC would require less space on City Campus. Lynch stated that
Chancellor Gold was very interested in putting the two facilities together because not only would it be less costly, but there could be opportunities for learning facilities. Woodman asked if there will be beds at UHC. Lynch stated that there would not be, but simulation labs are being planned for the nursing students. She stated that UHC will still be a health center, but there could be opportunities to help nursing students do a lot of outreach with the UHC. She noted that they are still exploring and looking at opportunities that could be shared.

Konecky suggested that anything that could be done to eliminate the quick trips to the UHC would be helpful with traffic flow. For instance, conducting vaccination drives at various locations on campus similar to the blood drives could help eliminate some traffic in the Health Center. It would also be beneficial to employees and students who are located far from the UHC.

Nickerson noted that the economic benefits of combining the UHC and College of Nursing into one facility was mentioned. He asked if this information could be quantified to show how much money would be saved by having a combined building. Lynch stated that she does not have the final numbers but having one structure with several floors saves a lot of money. Also there could be shared space such as meeting rooms. Nickerson asked if there will be classrooms in the building and whether there will be sufficient space. Larson reported that the size and shape of the building is still being considered, but it is estimated to have about 110,000 square feet of space and be three or four stories tall. He noted that the building cannot block the greenhouses of the Beadle Center. Lynch stated that approximately 45,000 square feet is being considered for the nursing program.

Woodman asked how many students are projected for the College of Nursing. Yankech stated that there would be roughly 400 students in the nursing program. Lynch noted that there will be both undergraduate and graduate level nursing degrees offered. Nickerson pointed out that it would be great to have a large lecture hall in the building that could be used by other colleges and departments. Joeckel suggested that some of the meeting rooms be able to subdivide into smaller spaces. Larson stated that this is a possibility. Lynch noted that there is some good space for a multi-purpose types of rooms. Konecky pointed out that these could work well with healthy lifestyles skills. Larson stated that one consideration is to have rooms that are available during the day but could be used as a yoga studio at night.

Rudy asked if there has been any interaction with the Chancellor’s Commission on the Status of Women and whether there is any desire to offer OB/GYN and pediatric services. He pointed out that these services could be helpful in recruiting faculty and staff members. Konecky noted that it could be helpful for graduate students too.

Nickerson suggested that the hours be extended to weekends and evenings. Larson stated that they are trying to determine what the ideal working hours would be for urgent care and pharmacy needs. Konecky pointed out that the evenings may also be a better time for students to go for regular appointments, not just urgent care. Woodman stated that it
would be helpful if the UHC had an urgent health care clinic that faculty and staff could use.

Guevara asked what services the faculty and staff get now. Yankech stated that basically they are eligible for most services except primary care. He noted that they can use the dental services, pharmacy, and immunization clinic. He pointed out that the UHC has been restricted on how much they can market these services because the UHC does not want to appear to be in competition with the private sector. Guevara asked if the prescriptions are any cheaper for faculty and staff at UHC than at drugstores. Yankech stated that the co-pay and deductibles would be the same, although there could be times when it might be cheaper to pay for a prescription with cash. Joeckel asked what would be unique about UHC pharmacy. Lynch noted that the pharmacy used to make deliveries on City Campus.

Rudy asked what the rationale is for not providing primary care for faculty and staff. Yankech stated that it is primarily a staffing issues and the philosophy behind the funding of the UHC. He noted that 60% of their funding comes from student fees. Nickerson asked if the ratio of funding would change with expanded services. Yankech stated that expanding the services to faculty and staff may be something that Nebraska Medicine wants to do.

Joeckel asked if counseling services are provided for faculty and staff, although he believes that the Employee Assistance Program (EAP) on campus does a good job. Konecky stated that EAP and the Psychological Counseling Center on campus might be another group that should be talked to.

Joeckel noted that the Senate recently worked with the UHC to create a student absence form so students did not have to go into the Health Center where they could spread germs to get an excused absence. He asked if the design of the building could be arranged to minimize the risk of students cross-contaminating others.

Purcell noted that when she was a student she had to rush a student down to the Health Center and luckily they were still open. She asked if most students are aware that the UHC closes at 6:00. Yankech stated that they have not heard that this is an issue. He noted that anyone with an emergency should go to an ER. He reported that during the holiday shut down there are physicians in town associated with the Health Center who will see students. Konecky pointed out that Lincare and other urgent care facilities are also available around town that can be used. Lynch noted that students may choose to go to another physician and when they are sick they usually call their parents asking where they should go. Most parents are not aware of the Health Center so they tell them to go elsewhere. She stated that insurance for the students has been a concern and there are things that still need to get addressed.

Woodman asked if students are charged when they come in to see a doctor. Yankech stated that full-time students pay a student fee for the Health Center and there is no charge to see a primary care physician for these students and charges for x-rays and other
services are less. Konecky asked about graduate students and their families. Yankech reported that the UHC generally does not see family members. He noted that the Dental College will see children that are 13 or older. Lynch stated that offering services to family members of graduate students would need to be assessed. She pointed out that taking care of spouses would not be difficult, but taking care of children is more difficult because it is a specialty and requires a lot of different equipment. Konecky asked if there are any pediatric wellness or immunization services. Yankech stated that immunizations are only given for travel. He stated that if an entire family of a faculty or staff member is traveling with them they can receive vaccinations. Woodman asked if visiting scholars have access to the UHC. Yankech stated that they do and in some cases they can even enroll in the student health insurance.

Rudy asked if there has been any thought of offering health clinics addressing diabetes, heart disease, and smoking cessation. Lynch stated that it would be worth exploring these from an educational standpoint and she thinks the Nursing College could be interested in this as well. Yankech noted that there is a program focusing on drug abuse and alcohol abuse.

Joeckel pointed out that the landscape of medicine has changed markedly over the years and will continue to do so. He stated that he is concerned with obsolescence and is wondering whether part of the argument for the colocation of the UHC/Nursing facilities has to do with some insight they may have of the trajectory of health care. Lynch stated that she has not been privy to any conversations or concerns. She pointed out that the UHC sees a totally different population than is seen in regular medical clinics. She stated that most of what the UHC deals with is a minute clinic and students will come to the facility only once or twice a year. She stated that from a university standpoint they have an obligation to provide medical services for students. She noted that services to faculty and staff are additional, but the whole goal is to do what is in the best interest of the students.

Purcell asked how the Lincoln hospitals feel about Nebraska Medicine coming to Lincoln. Lynch stated that they are tolerant because Nebraska Medicine is not taking away their business.

Woodman asked if there are any plans to provide diagnostic services. Lynch stated that this has recently been discussed and it could be a good service to add. Woodman wondered if it would be possible to tie the UHC in with the Center for Brain, Biology, and Behavior since they have MRI equipment. Rudy asked if there is the possibility of offering other medically related training such as physical therapy. Larson pointed out that the footprint of the facility is limited with the greenhouses and the Antelope Valley Parkway. He believes there is a real advantage to having two units occupying the building. He stated that in the future if one of the units should grow and the other decreases it would be much easier to remodel one facility.

Nickerson asked if there has been any consideration for programmatic interactions between the Nursing College and the School of Biological Sciences since it has all of the
microbiology teaching facilities located in Beadle. Konecky suggested that nursing students could get supervised practice by being associated with the UHC. Larson stated that a pre-med student he spoke with stated that he would like to shadow a doctor at the UHC and this could be a great opportunity to expose students to what it is like to be a doctor or nurse.

Rudy asked if there is any consideration of having training for health technicians. Lynch stated that this is a good idea because there is a huge need for medical assistants. Rudy noted that the need for these technicians is expanding and UNL could be in the forefront of an education program in this area. Nickerson noted that he has heard that only 30% of students applying get into a nursing program. He wondered if those who don’t get in could be introduced to other health care professions. Konecky noted that there are a lot of health care professions beyond doctors and nurses and students could be exposed to other opportunities. Woodman asked if the decision by the legislature has already been made that this will only be a nursing school. Nickerson pointed out that the legislature has only provided funding for a nursing college. Woodman noted that training for some of the other health care professions are already being offered at UNK.

Joeckel asked if there will be any provisions in non-emergency situations to physically transport students to the health center. Lynch stated that this has been mentioned several times. She stated that a small vehicle could possibly do this and be used by the UHC’s outreach to promote education. Larson noted that Athletics uses these golf-cart like vehicles. Anaya stated that the University of Arizona has them and they can be used to take someone to class if they should have an injury that impedes their mobility.

Yankech noted that urgent care has been discussed and if this is a bona fide concept it would direct the designing of the building. He asked if the faculty and staff would be interested in urgent care and if faculty and staff would mind sitting with students in an urgent care facility. Woodman pointed out that the current reception area has faculty, staff, and students sitting together. Steffen noted that it would be good to have urgent care for faculty and staff who may be injured at work.

Larson noted that we want to make sure that we design the facility for future expansion and changes and it is much easier to make plans now than later. Guevara asked if the building will be owned by UNL. Larson stated that it will be built on UNL property, but the building will be owned by Nebraska Medicine. Lynch noted that there is still discussion going on about this issue. Larson pointed out that there are very similar building standards between UNL and UNMC and he will be the project manager for the construction of the facility. Woodman asked if the classrooms in the Nursing College will be general purpose classrooms that would be available to other departments. If Nebraska Medicine owns the building they might restrict use.

Larson asked what the Executive Committee members see as the vision for the Health Center. Nickerson stated that he would like to see the UHC available on weekends and for faculty and staff to have access to it. Yankech asked what kind of hours would be considered for the weekend. Steffen stated that the hours would have to be driven by use.
He suspects that 10:00 am – 7:00 pm might work since most of those using it would be students. Konecky suggested asking the students this question. Guevara noted that some faculty and staff might choose to use the UHC urgent care on the weekend. Griffin suggested having a drive through pick-up for the pharmacy. She pointed out that could alleviate some parking needs around the facility. Joeckel stated that he thinks weekend hours would be used primarily by students and it would be helpful if the ill students could be separated from those that have an injury. He asked if all of the services are available on the UHC website. Yankech stated that there are as well as services available for faculty and staff (http://health.unl.edu/).

Bender asked if it is possible for the university to use that triangular strip of land that is just south of the Beadle parking lot. Larson stated that it is UNL land and this possibility is going to be looked into.

Steffen suggested that the Health Center survey the faculty and staff to see if they would use the facility more. This would provide broader input. Lynch stated that this could definitely be done. Konecky asked if the students have been surveyed. Lynch stated that random surveys have been sent out and small forums of students have been held. She stated that they have also targeted students that do not live on campus and may not be as involved with campus activities. She pointed out that the students seem to have a lot of the same sentiments and they are very interested in improving the technology of the UHC such as scheduling appointments online.

Lynch stated that they could come back in a couple of months to provide an update to the Executive Committee. She stated that anyone who would like to provide additional input can contact her at jlynch-sosa@nebraskamed.com, Larson at brian.larson@unl.edu, or Yankech at jyankech1@unl.edu.

3.0 Announcements
3.1 Guidance Document for Extension Professionals
Nickerson reported that he sent the revisions on the Guidance Document to Dean Hibberd who accepted the proposed changes. He understands that the document has been sent to the university lawyers for review. He noted that this is probably not the final step for the document but he believes the document has been greatly improved by the Executive Committee.

3.2 New University President
Nickerson noted that the new University President, Hank Bounds, is scheduled to start on April 13. He stated that he and the other Senate Presidents will be having breakfast with him on January 30 and President Bounds has asked to meet with each of the Faculty Senates this spring. He noted that President Bounds will tentatively speak to the Senate at the April 28 meeting.

4.0 Approval of January 14, 2015 Minutes
Bender moved for approval of the minutes as revised. The motion was seconded by Anaya. The motion was approved with one abstention.
5.0 Unfinished Business
No unfinished business was discussed.

6.0 New Business
6.1 Agenda Items for Chancellor Perlman, VC Green, and SVCAA Weissinger
The Executive Committee identified the following agenda items for the administrators:
- January Faculty Salary Increase – Even distribution or will it all go into the merit pool?
- Should the Guidance for Extension Professionals Document Cover all Faculty members?
- CYT Renovation and Plans
- Update on Searches: SVCAA and Director of Equity and Compliance
- Diversity of the Faculty Council of the Chancellor’s Commission on the Status of People of Color
- Update on the Merger of Architecture and Fine Arts
- How has merger been going for Electrical Engineering and Computers and Electronics Engineering
- Any upcoming legislative initiatives that could affect the university?
- Report on HLC Retreat. Feelings on perception that the next President Elect of the Senate needs to actively involved in the reaccreditation process.
- Updates on Love Renovation
- Update on Sigma Nu Fraternity
- Reports of Sexual Assaults on Campus?

6.2 February Faculty Senate Meeting
Nickerson noted that the EAP has requested a presentation to the Senate. He asked whether a presentation should be scheduled. The Executive Committee agreed to have a presentation at either the February meeting or an upcoming meeting.

Joeckel noted that he suggested some time ago to have an open mic session regarding academic freedom and the state of the academy. The Executive Committee agreed to have this discussion at either the March or first April meeting.

Rudy suggested having Michelle Waite, Assistant to the Chancellor – Community Relations and Ron Withem, Senior Associate Vice President of University Affairs speak to the Senate about how best to address the legislative process to change the state statute regarding travel expenses. Nickerson stated that he will contact them and invite them to the February 3 meeting.

6.3 Report on the Enrollment Management Council
Sollars reported that the EMC is looking at new course assessment software. Three products had been reviewed in the fall, and another will be reviewed at a presentation on February 4. She believes that the presentation is open to anyone that is interested in attending.
Sollars stated that at the most recent meeting of the EMC there was extensive discussion about issues of payment from students, budgetary holds, and student finances. She noted that there was also a presentation showing that the metrics being used to predict course enrollments is working fairly well.

Sollars stated that there was supposed to be discussion on the best practices for course scheduling, but time was limited. She reported that the EMC is very interested in seeing the feedback from the faculty and she will be sending them all of the feedback that she received. She stated that the EMC and ASPAG are good channels to open communications with this level of administration.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:03 p.m. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be on Wednesday January 28, 2015 at 3:00 pm. The meeting will be held in 201 Administration. The minutes are respectfully submitted by Karen Griffin, Coordinator and Tad Wysocki, Secretary.