EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Present: Bender, Dawes, Fech, Hanrahan, Konecky, Lee, Leiter, Purcell, Rudy, Woodman

Absent: Purdum, Steffen, Vakilzadian

Date: Tuesday, February 7, 2017

Location: City Campus Union, Auditorium

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 (Woodman)
Woodman called the meeting to order at 3:44 p.m.

2.0 Announcements
No announcements were made.

3.0 Approval of January 31, 2017 Minutes
Approval of minutes were postponed until VC Boehm and EVC Plowman have the chance to submit revisions.

4.0 Unfinished Business
No unfinished business was discussed.

5.0 New Business
5.1 Possible Resolution of the Big Ten Academic Alliance Regarding Ban of Immigrants
Woodman noted that the Faculty Senate of some of the other Big Ten universities are creating a resolution opposing the immigration ban and asked if we wanted to sign on to the resolution. Leiter pointed out that this is such a thorny issue that has not really been resolved yet. He recommends that we wait to see what the courts have to say about the ban. Rudy stated that there is some language in the resolution that he does not agree with. Dawes stated that she is sure the Executive Committee can come up with language that we feel support our students because we see this ban as discriminatory. Woodman suggested that we capture the essence of what President Bounds and Chancellor Green wrote in response to the ban.

Leiter noted that the a very likely scenario is that we will hear from the 9th Circuit Appeals Court and the issue will go to the Supreme Court by next week. He suggested in the meantime the Executive Committee could say that we support the University’s statement. If the ban should hold he is all for taking stronger measures.
Hanrahan noted that the ban could impact some of our students from not being able to complete their degrees and suggested that the Executive Committee call on the faculty to not let the ban be held against those students impacted by it.

Woodman pointed out that this issue goes beyond the specific countries identified but also affects anyone with different skin color or accent, creating an insecure and unwelcoming climate. Konecky noted that the rulings of the President are creating a climate of intolerance.

The Executive Committee agreed to put the issue on the agenda for further discussion next week.

5.2 Athletics
Rudy reported that there has been a recent incident at Baylor University involving a recruitment hostess and alleged rape that has resulted in a Title IX complaint. He wondered if we still have a Huskers Hostess program here, how it works and who supervises it. Woodman suggested that Athletic Director Shawn Eichorst be invited to speak to the Executive Committee. Dawes suggested asking Eichorst about our recruitment program and how it works at UNL.

Bender suggested having Professor Jo Potuto, our NCAA faculty representative, come to speak to the full Senate to report on what is happening with athletics at the NCAA level.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m. The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be on Tuesday, February 14, 2017 at 2:30 pm. The meeting will be held in 203 Alexander. The minutes are respectfully submitted by Karen Griffin, Coordinator and Sheila Purdum, Secretary.